

Fourth Sunday of Easter

The image of the good shepherd shows us how the risen Christ brings us to life. It is the relationship between the shepherd and the sheep, one of mutual knowledge and love, that gives the shepherd authority. The shepherd's willingness to lay down his life for the sheep shows his love. First John illustrates what it means to lay down our lives for one another by the example of sharing our wealth with any sibling in need.



WELCOME!

Announcements



Check out
this week's
bulletin



NOISY OFFERING

Thanksgiving for Baptism

P: Blessed be the holy Trinity, ✚ one God, the wellspring of grace, our Easter and our joy.

C: Amen.

P: Look, here is water!

C: Here is our water of life! Alleluia!

P: Immersed in the promises of baptism, let us give thanks for what God has done for us. We give you thanks, O God, for in the beginning your voice thundered over the deep and water became the essence of life. Adam and Eve beheld Eden's verdant rivers. The ark carried your creation through the flood into a new day.

P: Miriam led the dancing as your people passed through the sea into freedom's land.

In a desert pool the Ethiopian official entered your boundless baptismal life.

Look, here is water!

C: Here is our water of life! Alleluia!

P: At the river your beloved Son was baptized by John and anointed with the Holy Spirit.

By the baptism of Jesus' death and resurrection you opened the floodgates of your reconciling love, freeing us to live as Easter people.

We rejoice with glad hearts, giving all honor and praise to you, through the

risen Christ, our source of living water,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit, now and forever.

C: Amen.

P: Look, here is water!

C: Here is our water of life! Alleluia!



Gather Us In

Hymn 532 (vs. 1-4)

Here in this place the new light is streaming. Now is the darkness vanished away; See in this space our fears and our dreamings, brought here to you in the light of this day. Gather us in, the lost and forsaken, gather us in, The blind and the lame; Call to us now, and we shall awaken; We shall arise at the sound of our name.

We are the young, our lives are a mystery,
We are the old who yearn for your face;
We have been sung throughout all of
history, Called to be light to the whole
human race. Gather us in, the rich and the
haughty, Gather us in, the proud and the
strong; Give us a heart, so meek and so
lowly, Give us the courage to enter the
song.

Here we will take the wine and the water,
Here we will take the bread of new birth,
Here you shall call your sons and your
daughters,
Call us anew to be salt for the earth.
Give us to drink the wine of compassion,
Give us to eat the bread that is you;
Nourish us well, and teach us to fashion
Lives that are holy and hearts that are true.

Not in the dark of buildings confining,
Not in some heaven, light years away,
Here in this place the new light is shining,
Now is the kingdom and now is the day.
Gather us in and hold us forever, gather us
in

And make us your own;

Gather us in, all peoples together,

Fire of love in our flesh and our bone.



Text: Marty Haugen, b. 1950

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P: Allelujah! Christ is risen.

C: Christ is risen indeed! Alleluia!

Allelujah! Christ is risen.

Christ is risen indeed! Alleluia!

Allelujah! Christ is risen.

Christ is risen indeed! Alleluia!

Greeting

P: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ
the love of God and the communion of
the Holy Spirit be with you all.

C: And also with you.

Canticle of Praise

This is the Feast

p187

This is the feast of vict'ry for our God, for the Lamb who was slain has begun his reign. Alleluia.

1 Worthy is Christ, the Lamb who was slain, whose blood set us free to be people of God.

Power, riches, wisdom and strength, and honor, blessing and glory are his.

This is the feast of vict'ry for our God, for the Lamb who was slain has begun his reign. Alleluia

2 Sing with all the people of God,
and join in the hymn of all creation:
Blessing and honor, glory and might
be to God and the Lamb forever. Amen.
This is the feast of vict'ry for our God, for
the Lamb who was slain has begun his
reign. Alleluia

The Prayer of the Day

AM: The Lord be with you.

All: And also with you

AM: Let us pray



All: O Lord Christ, good shepherd of the sheep, you seek the lost and guide us into your fold. Feed us, and we shall be satisfied; heal us, and we shall be whole. Make us one with you, for you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.
Amen



The First Reading

Acts 4:5-12

The next day [the] rulers, elders, and scribes assembled in Jerusalem, with Annas the high priest, Caiaphas, John, and Alexander, and all who were of the high-priestly family. When they had made the prisoners stand in their midst, they inquired, “By what power or by what name did you do this?” Then Peter, filled with the Holy Spirit, said to them, “Rulers of the people and elders, if we are questioned today because of a good deed done to

someone who was sick and are asked how this man has been healed, let it be known to all of you, and to all the people of Israel, that this man is standing before you in good health by the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth, whom you crucified, whom God raised from the dead. This Jesus is 'the stone that was rejected by you, the builders; it has become the cornerstone.'

There is salvation in no one else, for there is no

other name under heaven given among mortals by which we must be saved.”

Word of Wisdom, Word of life

All: Thanks Be to God

Psalm

Psalm 23

The Second Reading

1 John 3:16-24

We know love by this, that [Jesus Christ] laid down his life for us—and we ought to lay down our lives for one another. How does God's love abide in anyone who has the world's goods and sees a brother or sister in need and yet refuses help?

Little children, let us love, not in word or speech, but in truth and action. And by this we will know that we are from the truth and will reassure our hearts before him whenever our hearts condemn

us; for God is greater than our hearts, and he knows everything. Beloved, if our hearts do not condemn us, we have boldness before God; and we receive from him whatever we ask, because we obey his commandments and do what pleases him.

And this is his commandment, that we should believe in the name of his Son Jesus Christ and love one another, just as he has commanded us. All who obey his commandments abide in him,

and he abides in them. And by this we know that
he abides in us, by the Spirit that he has given us..

Word of Wisdom, Word of life

All: Thanks Be to God

All: Alleluia. Lord, to whom shall we go?

You have the words of eternal life.

Alleluia.

Alleluia, alleluia. Alleluia.

Alleluia, alleluia.

The Holy Gospel
According to John
the tenth chapter

All: Glory to you, O Lord.

[Jesus said:] “I am the good shepherd. The good shepherd lays down his life for the sheep. The hired hand, who is not the shepherd and does not own the sheep, sees the wolf coming and leaves the sheep and runs away—and the wolf snatches them and scatters them. The hired hand runs away because a hired hand does not care for the sheep. I am

the good shepherd. I know my own and my own know me, just as the Father knows me and I know the Father. And I lay down my life for the sheep. I have other sheep that do not belong to this fold. I must bring them also, and they will listen to my voice. So there will be one flock, one shepherd. For this reason the Father loves me, because I lay down my life in

order to take it up again. No one takes it from me, but I lay it down of my own accord. I have power to lay it down, and I have power to take it up again. I have received this command from my Father.”

The Gospel of Our Lord

All: Praise to You, O Christ



Fourth Sunday of Easter



*My Shepherd You Supply
My Need*

H782 (v 1-3)

1 My Shepherd, you supply my need;
most holy is your name.

In pastures fresh you make me feed,
beside the living stream.

You bring my wand'ring spirit back
when I forsake your ways,
and lead me, for your mercy's sake,
in paths of truth and grace.

2 When I walk through the shades of death,

your presence is my stay;

one word of your supporting breath drives all my fears away.

Your hand, in sight of all my foes,

does still my table spread;

my cup with blessings overflows,

your oil anoints my head.

3 The sure provisions of my God
attend me all my days;
oh, may your house be my abode
and all my work be praise.
Here would I find a settled rest,
while others go and come;
no more a stranger or a guest,
but like a child at home.



Text: Isaac Watts, 1674-1748, alt., based on Psalm 23

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Our Prayers



Peace

Is with
you



Tithes & Offerings



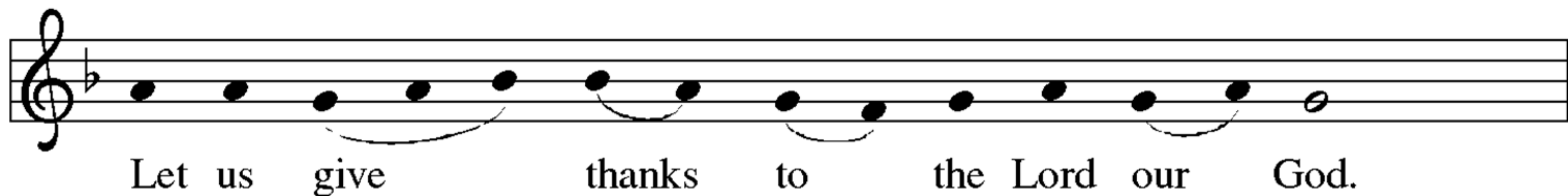
Resignation
-arr. Dale Wood

AM: Risen One,
you call us to believe and bear fruit.
May the gifts that we offer here
be signs of your abiding love.
Form us to be your witnesses in the world,
through Jesus Christ, our true vine.

C: Amen.

Dialogue

Maybe sung or chanted



P: It is indeed right, our duty, and our joy...

...join in their unending hymn:

Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of pow'r and
might, Heaven and earth are full of your
glory, full of your glory.

Hosanna, hosanna, hosanna in the
highest. Blessed is he who comes in the
name of the Lord. Hosanna, hosanna,
hosanna in the highest.



The Great Thanksgiving

Matthew 26; Mark 14;
Luke 22; 1 Corinthians 11

THE LORD'S PRAYER

Our Father in heaven,
hallowed be your name,
your kingdom come,
your will be done
on earth as in heaven.
Give us today our daily bread.
Forgive us our sins as we forgive
those who sin against us.



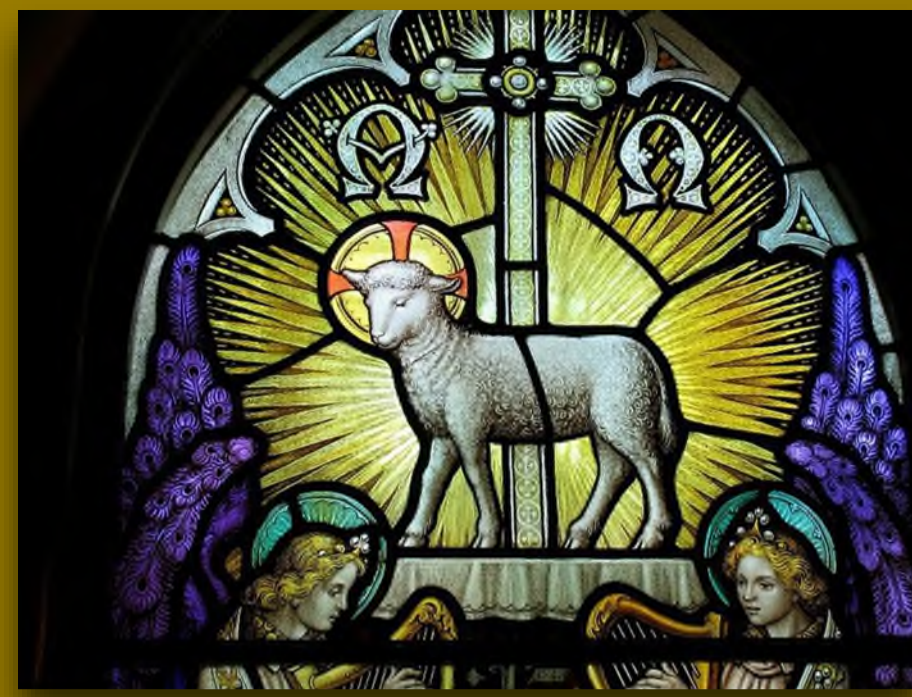
Save us from the time of trial
and deliver us from evil.
For the kingdom, the power,
and the glory are yours,
now and forever.
Amen.



Invitation to Communion

The risen Christ is made known to us
in the breaking of the bread.
Come and eat at God's table.





Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us.

Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us.

Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world; grant us peace, grant us peace, Lamb of God



for you.

Prayer After Communion





Blessing

*God Be With You Till We Meet
Again*

H 536 (vs. 1-3)

1 God be with you till we meet again;
by good counsels guide, uphold you,
with a shepherd's care enfold you;
God be with you till we meet again.
Till we meet, (till we meet,)
till we meet, (till we meet again,)
till we meet at Jesus' feet; (till we meet,)
till we meet, (till we meet,)
till we meet, (till we meet again.)
God be with you till we meet again.

2 God be with you till we meet again;
holy wings securely hide you,
daily manna still provide you;
God be with you till we meet again.
Till we meet, (till we meet,)
till we meet, (till we meet again,)
till we meet at Jesus' feet; (till we meet,)
till we meet, (till we meet,)
till we meet, (till we meet again.)
God be with you till we meet again.

3 God be with you till we meet again;
when life's perils thick confound you,
put unfailing arms around you;
God be with you till we meet again.
Till we meet, (till we meet,)
till we meet, (till we meet again,)
till we meet at Jesus' feet; (till we meet,)
till we meet, (till we meet,)
till we meet, (till we meet again.)
God be with you till we meet again.



Text: Jeremiah E. Rankin, 1828-1904, alt.

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A scenic landscape photograph featuring a dense forest of tall, green coniferous trees. In the middle ground, a calm pond reflects the surrounding greenery. The foreground is filled with vibrant yellow wildflowers and green foliage. The sky is a clear, bright blue. The entire image is framed by a solid olive-green border.

Rejoice

Go

Alleluia!

Postlude



March
- George F. Handel