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The Fourth Sunday of Easter
April 21, 2024
10 AM Holy Eucharist Rite //

Text written in bold in this bulletin is to be spoken or sung by all.



The Collect of the Day

Presider God be with you.
People **And also with you.**
Presider Let us pray.

O God, whose Son Jesus is the good shepherd of your people: Grant that when we hear his voice we may know him who calls us each by name, and follow where he leads; who, with you and the Holy Spirit, lives and reigns, one God, for ever and ever. Amen.

The First Reading *Acts 4:5-12*

NRSV

A reading from the Acts of the Apostles.

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."

A period of silence follows the reading

Reader Hear what the Spirit is saying to God's people.
People **Thanks be to God.**

A period of silence follows

The Psalm

Psalm 23

St. Helena's Breviary

The Holy One is my shepherd; *

I shall not be in want.

You make me lie down in green pastures *

and lead me beside still waters.

— You revive my soul *

and guide me along right pathways for the sake of your Name.

Though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death,

I shall fear no evil; *

for you are with me;

your rod and your staff, they comfort me.

You spread a table before me in the presence of those who trouble me; *

you have anointed my head with oil,

and my cup is running over.

Surely your goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life, *

and I will dwell in the house of God for ever.

The Second Reading

1 John 3:16-24

NRSV

A reading from John's First Letter.

We know love by this, that he 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.

A period of silence follows the reading

Reader Hear what the Spirit is saying to God's people.

People

Thanks be to God.

A period of silence

Sequence Hymn 664

My Shepard Will Supply my Needs

The Hymnal 1982

Gospel

John 10:11-18

NRSV

remain standing as you are able

Reader

The Holy Gospel of our Savior Jesus Christ according to John.

People

Glory to you, O Christ.

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.”

A period of silence follows the reading

Reader The Gospel of Christ.

People **Praise to you, O Christ.**

A period of silence follows

The Homily

The Rev. Scott B. Neal

A period of silence follows

Profession of Faith²

Presider

Where the Spirit of the Lord is, there is the one true church, apostolic and universal, whose holy faith let us now declare.

We believe in God the Creator,

² Profession of Faith provided by the Rt. Rev. Stew Wood. Source unknown.

**infinite in wisdom, power and love,
whose mercy is over all that is,
and whose will is ever directed to creation's good.**

**We believe in Jesus Christ,
Son of God and born of a woman,
the gift of the Creator's unfailing grace,
the ground of our hope,
and the promise of our deliverance from sin
and death.**

**We believe in the Holy Spirit as the divine presence
in our lives,
whereby we are kept in perpetual remembrance of the
truth of Christ
and find strength and help in time of need.**

**We believe that this faith should manifest itself in
the service of love
as set forth in the example of our blessed Savior
to the end that the kingdom of God may come
upon the earth. Amen.**

Prayers of the People³

Let us pray.

Creator God, by the mercies of your son, our Lord, Jesus, compel us to TURN our hearts to his Way of Love. That we might follow Jesus together as your faithful people, we pause, listen, and respond in prayer, saying:
Jesus, guide us in your way.

Jesus, your life, death, resurrection, and ascension inspire the church to continue in the apostles' teaching and fellowship. Guide your people to LEARN your Word, that we might see God's story unfolding in our midst. We pray together, **Jesus, guide us in your way.**

Son of God, you responded to your Father in PRAYER and pleaded that we might all be one. Guide the leaders and faithful citizens of this nation to respond to God and to one another in compassion — in thought and deed, with or without words — that the people of every country might live in unity and peace. We pray together, **Jesus, guide us in your way.**

³ THE WAY OF LOVE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE Composed by the Reverend Allison English, Calvary Episcopal Church, Cincinnati, Ohio https://www.episcopalchurch.org/wp-content/uploads/sites/2/2020/06/wol_prayers_of_the_people_final.pdf

Light of the World, you taught us to WORSHIP in spirit and in truth. Lead us to join with others to acknowledge the holiness of God, that the whole world might be united in the truth of your love. We pray together,
Jesus, guide us in your way.

Lord, you came not to be served but to serve. Empower us to BLESS one another and our neighbors in this town and the entire Upper Valley Community, that your spirit of generosity, compassion, and selfless action transform us and the people in our midst. We pray together, **Jesus, guide us in your way.**

Savior, you came into our midst that we might know life. Embolden us to GO among those who are weary, burdened, sick, or imprisoned, _____ that we might live like you, crossing the boundaries that divide rich from poor, sick from well, and sinner from saint. We pray together, **Jesus, guide us in your way.**

Lamb of God, in your death you destroyed death and taught us the way to eternal life. Compel us to daily die to self and REST in your grace. May all who have died, _____, rest in peace and rise in glory. We pray together, **Jesus, guide us in your way.**

Lord Jesus Christ, who gave your life for the life of all, we commit our lives to following you. Continually guide us in your way and draw us into life as your Beloved Community in this age and in age to come; for you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

The Peace *We greet one another in the name of the Lord.*

Presider The peace of Christ be always with you.

People **And also with you.**

The Holy Communion

Offertory Music

Offertory Hymn *The king of Love My Shephard Is*

The Hymnal 1982

The people remain standing as you are able.

The Great Thanksgiving

Form B, BCP,

p. 367

Presider God be with you.
People **And also with you.**
Presider Lift up your hearts.
People **We lift them to the Lord.**
Presider Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
People **It is right to give God thanks and praise.**

It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth.

But chiefly are we bound to praise you for the glorious resurrection of your Son Jesus Christ our Lord; for he is the true Paschal Lamb, who was sacrificed for us, and has taken away the sin of the world. By his death he has destroyed death, and by his rising to life again he has won for us everlasting life.

Therefore we praise you, joining our voices with Angels and Archangels and with all the company of heaven, who for ever sing this hymn to proclaim the glory of your Name:

Sanctus and Benedictus *Holy, Holy, Holy*

WLP, #858

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of power and

might, heaven and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho -

san - na in the high - est. Bless'd is the one who comes

The image shows a musical score for the hymn "Hosanna in the Highest". It consists of three systems of music. Each system has a vocal line in the treble clef and a piano accompaniment in the bass clef. The lyrics are: "in the name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est. Ho - san - na in the high - est." The music is in a simple, homophonic style with a key signature of one flat (B-flat major or D minor).

We give thanks to you, O God, for the goodness and love which you have made known to us in creation; in the calling of Israel to be your people; in your Word spoken through the prophets; and above all in the Word made flesh, Jesus, your Son. For in these last days you sent him to be incarnate from the Virgin Mary, to be the Savior and Redeemer of the world. In him, you have delivered us from evil, and made us worthy to stand before you. In him, you have brought us out of error into truth, out of sin into righteousness, out of death into life.

On the night before he died for us, our Lord Jesus Christ took bread; and when he had given thanks to you, he broke it, and gave it to his disciples, and said,

**“Take, eat:
This is my Body, which is given for you.
Do this for the remembrance of me.”**

After supper he took the cup; and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, and said,

**“Drink this, all of you:
This is my Blood of the new Covenant,
which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins.
Whenever you drink it,
do this for the remembrance of me.”**

Therefore, according to his command, O Father,

**We remember his death,
We proclaim his resurrection,
We await his coming in glory;**

And we offer our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving to you, O Lord of all; presenting to you, from your creation, this bread and this juice.

We pray you, gracious God, to send your Holy Spirit upon these gifts that they may be the Sacrament of the Body of Christ and his Blood of the new Covenant. Unite us to your Son in his sacrifice, that we may be acceptable through him, being sanctified by the Holy Spirit. In the fullness of time, put all things in subjection under your Christ, and bring us to that heavenly country where, with the Blessed Mary, Mary Magdalene, Paul, our Patron, and all your saints, we may enter the everlasting heritage of your sons and daughters; through Jesus Christ our Lord, the firstborn of all creation, the head of the Church, and the author of our salvation.

By him, and with him, and in him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit all honor and glory is yours, Almighty God, now and for ever. **AMEN.**

The Lord's Prayer

BCP, p. 364

And now, as our Savior Christ has taught us, we are bold to pray,

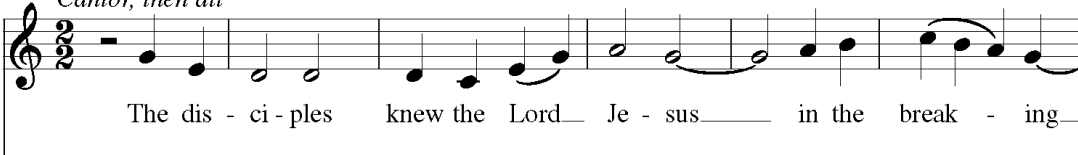
People and Presider

**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 for ever. Amen.**

The Breaking of the Bread

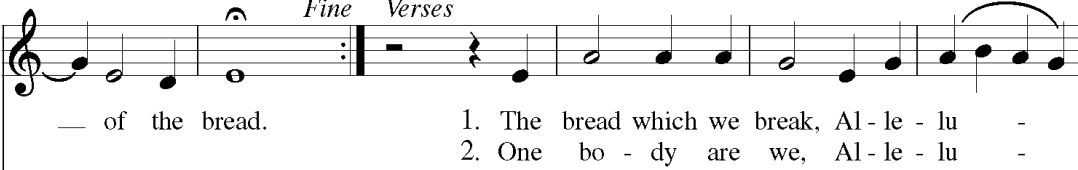
A period of silence follows.

Antiphon
Cantor, then all



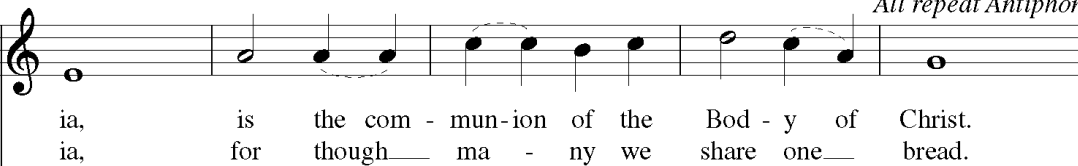
The dis - ci - ples knew the Lord Je - sus in the break - ing

Fine *Verses*



of the bread. 1. The bread which we break, Al - le - lu -
2. One bo - dy are we, Al - le - lu -

All repeat Antiphon



ia, is the com - munion of the Bod - y of Christ.
ia, for though ma - ny we share one bread.

Facing the people, the Presider says the following Invitation:

Invitation to Communion

The gifts of God for the people of God. Take them in remembrance that Christ died for you and feed on him in your hearts, with thanksgiving.
Holy Food for Holy People.

About Communion: *This is God's Altar - All are welcome.*

- *All who come to this place seeking God are welcome to receive Holy Communion. The bread is gluten-free and we use grape juice in individual cups in a celebration of radical hospitality.*
- *If you are unable to come forward for Communion, please let an usher know, and we will be happy to bring Communion to you in your seat.*
- *Those who do not wish to receive Communion are always welcome to come forward for a blessing, indicated by crossing your arms over your chest.*

This is God's altar, it is not the altar of the Episcopal Church or of St. Paul's.
This is God's table and all people are welcome to receive communion in this place.

*At this time, we invite all present to come forward to receive communion.
No matter who you are, you are a beloved Child of God and
are invited to receive either a blessing or communion.
The people receive communion first and then ministers at the altar.*

Communion Music

The Prayer after Communion

Presider Let us pray.

Presider and People

**Holy and Eternal God,
you have graciously accepted us as living members
of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ,
and you have fed us with spiritual food
in the Sacrament of his Body and Blood.
Send us now into the world in peace,
and grant us strength and courage
to love and serve you
with gladness and singleness of heart;
through Christ our Lord. Amen.**

The Blessing

Hymn 518

Christ is Made the Sure Foundation

The Hymnal 1982

The Dismissal

Deacon/Presider Let us go forth in the name of Christ. Alleluia. Alleluia.

People **Thanks be to God. Alleluia. Alleluia.**

Postlude

The Worship is over. Now the Service begins.

Coffee Hour and fellowship follow worship in the Parish Hall

St. Paul's Mission Statement – 2021-2022

Walking in Jesus' way of love we open ourselves to God's transforming work, that with our neighbors we might embody God's care for all, especially the poor, oppressed and marginalized, and thus foster Beloved Community and bring healing to an ailing world.

The Rt. Rev Dr. Shannon MacVean-Brown, Bishop of the Episcopal Church in Vermont
The Rev. Scott B. Neal, priest in partnership
Jeanne Chambers, Pianist
Bev Barton, Senior Warden
Jane Carroll, Junior Warden

St. Paul's Episcopal Church

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