

**MAY 3**  
**THE FOURTH SUNDAY OF EASTER**  
**10 AM**

Alleluia. Christ is risen.

*People* The Lord is risen indeed. Alleluia.

*The Celebrant reads the following*

Almighty God, to you all hearts are open, all desires known, and from you no secrets are hid: Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you, and worthily magnify your holy Name; through Christ our Lord.

**Amen.**

*The following is said*

**Glory to God in the highest, and peace to his people on earth. Lord God, heavenly King, almighty God and Father, we worship you, we give you thanks, we praise you for your glory. Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father, Lord God, Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world: have mercy on us; you are seated at the right hand of the Father: receive our prayer. For you alone are the Holy One, you alone are the Lord, you alone are the Most High, Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit, in the glory of God the Father. Amen.**

**The Collect of the Day**

*The Celebrant says to the people*

The Lord be with you.

*People* **And also with you.**

*Celebrant* 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 Lessons**

**Acts 2:42-47**

Those who had been baptized devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching and fellowship, to the breaking of bread and the prayers. Awe came upon everyone, because many wonders and signs were being done by the apostles. All who believed were together and had all things in common; they would sell their possessions and goods and distribute the proceeds to all, as any had need. Day by day, as they spent much time together in the temple, they broke bread at home and ate their food with glad and generous hearts, praising God and having the goodwill of all the people. And day by day the Lord added to their number those who were being saved.

The Word of the Lord.

*Response* Thanks be to God.

## **Psalm 23**

The Lord is my shepherd; \*

I shall not be in want.

He makes me lie down in green pastures \*

and leads me beside still waters.

He revives my soul \*

and guides me along right pathways for his Name's sake.

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 the Lord for ever.

## **1 Peter 2:19-25**

It is a credit to you if, being aware of God, you endure pain while suffering unjustly. If you endure when you are beaten for doing wrong, what credit is that? But if you endure when you do right and suffer for it, you have God's approval. For to this you have been called, because Christ also suffered for you, leaving you an example, so that you should follow in his steps. "He committed no sin, and no deceit was found in his mouth."

When he was abused, he did not return abuse; when he suffered, he did not threaten; but he entrusted himself to the one who judges justly. He himself bore our sins in his body on the cross, so that, free from sins, we might live for righteousness; by his wounds you have been healed. For you were going astray like sheep, but now you have returned to the shepherd and guardian of your souls.

The Word of the Lord.

*Response*    **Thanks be to God.**

## **The Holy Gospel**

*Response at the beginning of the Gospel:*

**Glory to you, Lord Christ.**

## **John 10:1-10**

Jesus said, "Very truly, I tell you, anyone who does not enter the sheepfold by the gate but climbs in by another way is a thief and a bandit. The one who enters by the gate is the shepherd of the sheep. The gatekeeper opens the gate for him, and the sheep hear his voice. He calls his own sheep by name and leads them out. When he has brought out all his own, he goes ahead of them, and the sheep follow him because they know his voice.

They will not follow a stranger, but they will run from him because they do not know the voice of strangers.” Jesus used this figure of speech with them, but they did not understand what he was saying to them. So again Jesus said to them, “Very truly, I tell you, I am the gate for the sheep. All who came before me are thieves and bandits; but the sheep did not listen to them. I am the gate. Whoever enters by me will be saved, and will come in and go out and find pasture. The thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy. I came that they may have life, and have it abundantly.”

*Response*    **Praise to you, Lord Christ.**

**The Sermon**

The Rev. Bruce Jackson

*Our True Shepherd*

**The Nicene Creed**

We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one Being with the Father. Through him all things were made. For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven: by the power of the Holy Spirit he became incarnate from the Virgin Mary, and was made man. For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate; he suffered death and was buried. On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures; he ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son. With the Father and the Son he is worshiped and glorified. He has spoken through the Prophets. We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church. We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins. We look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. **Amen.**

**The Prayers of the People** (p. 385)

The Rev. Chuck Milhoan

In the course of the silence after each bidding, the People offer their own prayers, either silently or aloud.

I ask your prayers for God’s people throughout the world; for our Bishop Jennifer; for this gathering; and for all ministers and people.

Pray for the Church.

*Silence*

I ask your prayers for peace; for goodwill among nations; and for the well-being of all people.

Pray for justice and peace.

*Silence*

I ask your prayers for the poor, the sick, the hungry, the oppressed, and those in prison.  
Pray for those in any need or trouble.

*Silence*

I ask your prayers for all who seek God, or a deeper knowledge of him.  
Pray that they may find and be found by him.

*Silence*

I ask your prayers for the departed.  
Pray for those who have died.

*Silence*

I ask your prayers for Alan; Maxine; Lorraine; Steve.  
I ask your thanksgiving (for \_\_\_\_\_).

*Silence*

Praise God for those in every generation in whom Christ has been honored especially  
Blessed John the Baptist.

Pray that we may have grace to glorify Christ in our own day.

*Silence*

*The Celebrant says the following Collect.*

**Prayer for Peace** (p. 815)

Eternal God, in whose perfect kingdom no sword is drawn but the sword of  
righteousness, no strength known but the strength of love; So mightily spread abroad  
your Spirit, that all peoples may be gathered under the banner of the Prince of Peace, as  
children of one Father; to whom be dominion and glory, now and for ever. **Amen.**

*Then is said*

Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

*Silence may be kept.*

*Minister and People*

**Most merciful God, we confess that we have sinned against you in thought, word,  
and deed, by what we have done, and by what we have left undone. We have not  
loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We  
are truly sorry and we humbly repent. For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ, have  
mercy on us and forgive us; that we may delight in your will, and walk in your  
ways, to the glory of your Name. Amen.**

*The Priest stands and says*

Almighty God have mercy on you, forgive you all your sins through our Lord Jesus  
Christ, strengthen you in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep you in  
eternal life. **Amen.**

## **Easter Blessing**

The God of peace, who brought again from the dead our Lord Jesus Christ, the great Shepherd of the sheep, through the blood of the everlasting covenant, make you perfect in every good work to do his will, working in you that which is well-pleasing in his sight; and the blessing of God Almighty, ✠the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be among you, and remain with you always. **Amen.**

## **The Peace** (p. 360)

*All stand. The Celebrant says to the people*

The peace of the Lord be always with you.

*People* **And also with you.**