



Worship Booklet for Sheltering-in-Place
=== Morning Prayer ===
The Fourth Sunday of Easter: April 25, 2021
The Season of Easter
THE ORDER OF SERVICE

Introduction – Rev. Dr. Lois Williams

Opening Hymn – Gather #443, "Where Charity and Love Prevail," v. 1, 2 & 3

Verse 1:

Where charity and love prevail,
There God is ever found;
Brought here together by Christ's love,
By love are we thus bound.

Verse 2:

With grateful joy and holy fear
God's charity we learn;
Let us with heart and mind and soul
Now love him in return.

Verse 3:

Forgive we now each other's faults
As we our faults confess;
And let us love each other well
In Christian holiness.

Officiant Christ has entered, not into a sanctuary made with hands, a copy of the true one, but into heaven itself, now to appear in the presence of God on our behalf.
Hebrews 9:24

Officiant Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

All ***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.***

Priest 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.*

Officiant Lord, open our lips.
Response And our mouth shall proclaim your praise.

*All Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit:
as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be for ever. Amen.*

Officiant Alleluia. The Lord is risen indeed: Come let us adore him. Alleluia.

Christ our Passover *Pascha nostrum*
1 Corinthians 5:7-8; Romans 6:9-11; 1 Corinthians 15:20-22

A Reader leads the recitation

Reader and People together

Alleluia.
*Christ our Passover has been sacrificed for us; **
therefore let us keep the feast,
*Not with the old leaven, the leaven of malice and evil, **
but with the unleavened bread of sincerity and truth. Alleluia.

*Christ being raised from the dead will never die again; **
death no longer has dominion over him.
*The death that he died, he died to sin, once for all; **
but the life he lives, he lives to God.
*So also consider yourselves dead to sin, **
and alive to God in Jesus Christ our Lord. Alleluia.

*Christ has been raised from the dead, **
the first fruits of those who have fallen asleep.
*For since by a man came death, **
by a man has come also the resurrection of the dead.
*For as in Adam all die, **
so also in Christ shall all be made alive. Alleluia.

Psalm *Psalm 23 Dominus regit me*

A Reader leads the recitation

Reader and People together

*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.*

*Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit: *
as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be for ever. Amen.*

The New Testament – Acts 4:5-12

Reader: 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."

Reader: The Word of the Lord.

Response Thanks be to God.

The Epistle – 1 John 3:16-24

Reader: A reading from the first letter of John.

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.

Reader: The Word of the Lord.

Response Thanks be to God.

*Gradual -- Celtic Alleluia

After a brief introduction, sing two times through

Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!
Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!

Text: Fintan O'Carroll and Christopher Walker
Music: Fintan O'Carroll and Christopher Walker
© 1985, Fintan O'Carroll and Christopher Walker. Published by OCP Publications.

The Gospel – John 10:11-18

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

Response *Glory to you, Lord 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.”

Officiant The Gospel of our Savior.

Response *Praise to you, Lord Christ.*

A Reflection – Rev. Lois

12 The Song of Creation *Benedicite, omnia opera Domini*

Song of the Three Young Men, 35-65

Reader and People together

Invocation

*Glorify the Lord, all you works of the Lord, *
praise him and highly exalt him for ever.*

*In the firmament of his power, glorify the Lord, *
praise him and highly exalt him for ever.*

III The People of God

*Let the people of God glorify the Lord, *
praise him and highly exalt him for ever.*

*Glorify the Lord, O priests and servants of the Lord, *
praise him and highly exalt him for ever.*

*Glorify the Lord, O spirits and souls of the righteous, *
praise him and highly exalt him for ever.
You that are holy and humble of heart, glorify the Lord, *
praise him and highly exalt him for ever.*

Doxology

*Let us glorify the Lord: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit; *
praise him and highly exalt him for ever.
In the firmament of his power, glorify the Lord, *
praise him and highly exalt him for ever.*

The Apostles' Creed

A Reader leads the recitation

Reader and People together

*We believe in God, the Father almighty,
creator of heaven and earth;
We believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.
He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit
and born of the Virgin Mary.
He suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried.
He descended to the dead.
On the third day he rose again.
He ascended into heaven,
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.
He will come again to judge the living and the dead.
We believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy catholic Church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins
and the life everlasting. Amen.*

Officiant The Lord be with you.

Response *And also with you.*

Officiant Let us pray.

All *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.*

Officiant Let us now pray:

Suffrage A

A Reader leads each versicle (V.) and the People respond (R.):

- V. Show us your mercy, O Lord;
R. *And grant us your salvation.*
- V. Clothe your ministers with righteousness;
R. *Let your people sing with joy.*
- V. Give peace, O Lord, in all the world;
R. *For only in you can we live in safety.*
- V. Lord, keep this nation under your care;
R. *And guide us in the way of justice and truth.*
- V. Let your way be known upon earth;
R. *Your saving health among all nations.*
- V. Let not the needy, O Lord, be forgotten;
R. *Nor the hope of the poor be taken away.*
- V. Create in us clean hearts, O God;
R. *And sustain us with your Holy Spirit.*

The Doxology

All *Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;
Praise God, all creatures here below;
Praise God above, ye heavenly host;
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.*

Reader: O Lord, you are the good shepherd. Your son Jesus laid down his life for all who belong to you. Thank you for nurturing our life and sustaining our faith. In gratitude, we want to help others to know your love. May our offerings to Christ the Lord Church give voice to Christ's love for all people, especially those who have gone astray. **Amen.**

At this time, please add your prayers for yourself and the world, and thanks for God's blessings, out loud or in the chat.

The Collect of the Day

Officiant: 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.**

A Prayer for Saint Mark

Reader: Almighty God, by the hand of Mark the evangelist you have given to your Church the Gospel of Jesus Christ the Son of God: We thank you for this witness, and pray that we may be firmly grounded in its truth; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

A Prayer for Sundays

Reader: Heavenly Father, you make us glad with the weekly remembrance of the glorious resurrection of your Son our Lord: Give us this day such blessing through our worship of you, that the week to come may be spent in your favor; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

A Collect for Mission

Reader: Lord Jesus Christ, you stretched out your arms of love on the hard wood of the cross that everyone might come within the reach of your saving embrace: So clothe us in your Spirit that we, reaching forth our hands in love, may bring those who do not know you to the knowledge and love of you; for the honor of your Name. *Amen.*

The General Thanksgiving

Officiant and People together

*Almighty God, Father of all mercies,
we your unworthy servants give you humble thanks
for all your goodness and loving-kindness
to us and to all whom you have made.
We bless you for our creation, preservation,
and all the blessings of this life;
but above all for your immeasurable love
in the redemption of the world by our Lord Jesus Christ;
for the means of grace, and for the hope of glory.*

*And, we pray, give us such an awareness of your mercies,
that with truly thankful hearts we may show forth your praise,
not only with our lips, but in our lives,
by giving up ourselves to your service,
and by walking before you
in holiness and righteousness all our days;
through Jesus Christ our Lord,
to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit,
be honor and glory throughout all ages. Amen.*

A Prayer of St. Chrysostom [KRIS-us-tum]

Reader: Almighty God, you have given us grace at this time with one accord to make our common supplication to you; and you have promised through your well-beloved Son that when two or three are gathered together in his Name you will be in the midst of them: Fulfill now, O Lord, our desires and petitions as may be best for us; granting us in this world knowledge of your truth, and in the age to come life everlasting. *Amen.*

Officiant Let us bless the Lord.

Response *Thanks be to God.*

Closing Hymn – Hymnal #645, “The King of Love My Shepherd Is,” v. 1, 4 & 6

Verse 1:

The King of love my shepherd is,
whose goodness faileth never;
I nothing lack if I am his,
and he is mine for ever.

Verse 4:

In death’s dark vale I fear no ill
with thee, dear Lord, beside me;
thy rod and staff my comfort still,
thy cross before to guide me.

Verse 6:

And so through all the length of days
thy goodness faileth never:
Good Shepherd, may I sing thy praise
within thy house for ever.

Officiant The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit, be with us all evermore. *Amen.* *2 Corinthians 13:14*

Announcements

Don’t forget to join us for virtual coffee hour after the service through Zoom!
Check your email from Sandy for details.

