



Fourth Sunday of Easter

The Shepherd

St. MARY'S



**April 30, 2023**

**Prelude**

**Bell calling us together**

**Opening Hymn**

Alleluia. Christ is risen.

**The Lord is risen indeed, Alleluia**

**The Collect for Purity – 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 Gloria**

**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 Lord be with you. **And also with you**

### **The Collect**

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 Lesson**

#### **Acts 2:42-47**

A Reading from the Acts of the Apostles: 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   **Thanks be to God**

## **The Psalm    Psalm 23**

### ***Dominus regit me***

- 1 The LORD is my shepherd; \*  
    I shall not be in want.
- 2 He makes me lie down in green pastures \*  
    and leads me beside still waters.
- 3 He revives my soul \*  
    and guides me along right pathways for his Name's sake.
- 4 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.
- 5 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.
- 6 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.

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

A reading from the First Letter of Peter: 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   **Thanks be to God**

## **The Gospel**

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

The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to John

### **Glory to you, Lord Christ**

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."

The Gospel of the Lord

### **Praise to you, Lord Christ**

Sermon

### **The Nicene Creed**

**the Father, the Almighty,  
maker of heaven and earth,  
of all that is, seen and unseen.  
the only Son of God,**

**We believe in one God,**

**We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ,**

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 Confession** At times we have turned a deaf ear to the Lord, our Shepherd  
calling us. We ask God now to forgive us. *Silence may be kept.*

God of all mercy, we confess that we have sinned against you, opposing your  
will in our lives. We have denied your goodness in each other, in ourselves, and  
in the world you have created. We repent of the evil that enslaves us, the evil  
we have done, and the evil done on our behalf. Forgive, restore, and strengthen

**us through our Savior Jesus Christ, that we may abide in your love and serve only your will. Amen.**

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

### **Prayers of the People**

Let us pray with the fullest trust to Jesus, our Good Shepherd, for he takes care of the needs of all who follow him. Let us say: *R/ Lord, guide us in right paths.*

- For the Church, especially for Sarah, the Archbishop of Canterbury; Sean our Presiding Bishop; Lawrence, Geralyn, , and William our Bishops, and for our new Bishop-elect\_\_\_\_\_ We give thanks for all the people and parishes of the Diocese of Long Island, and for Charles our Priest. We pray in thanksgiving for Mother B's presence here this morning

In our Diocesan Cycle of Prayer we give thanks this week for St.Paul's, Glen Cove St.George's, Flushing and for the communities of our deanery.

Lord Jesus, journey with the Churches that claim you as their Lord; Lead them to one another that you may be their one Lord and shepherd, we pray:

***R/ Lord, guide us in right paths.***

– For all Christians everywhere, that they may become one holy people of God; for those who have lost their faith, that our Christian living may be so credible as to inspire them to return to Christ, let us pray:

***R/ Lord, guide us in right paths.***

– For those in tasks of Christian formation, that they themselves may know where they are going and lead those entrusted to them on roads of life and commitment to God and to their brothers and sisters, let us pray:

***R/ Lord, guide us in right paths.***

– For the leaders of nations, that they may promote the freedom and dignity of people, and place justice and the quality of life above personal gain and power, let us pray:

***R/ Lord, guide us in right paths.***

– For our youth and young adults, that they may have the courage to make themselves totally free for the work of the Lord if he calls them to special tasks in the Church, let us pray:

***R/ Lord, guide us in right paths.***

- For all those whose names appear on our parish's prayer list. Shepherd those who have departed this life, especially all who rest in our cemetery. I now invite you to share any prayers you may have with the community gathered this morning.....pause..... we pray:

***R/ Lord, guide us in right paths.***

Priest: Lord Jesus Christ, we entrust all these cares to you. And do not forget us, for we rely on you. our shepherd and our Lord. **R/ Amen.**

### **The Peace**

Hear your people's plea for peace and unity in the Church and in the world.  
Be the Good Shepherd of all,  
that there may be only one flock and one shepherd, now and for ever.

### **The Doxology at the Preparation of the Gifts**

#### ***Eucharistic Prayer A***

*The people remain standing. The Celebrant, whether bishop or priest, faces them and sings or says*

The Lord be with you.

**People** And also with you.

**Celebrant** Lift up your hearts.

**People** We lift them to the Lord.

**Celebrant** Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**People** It is right to give God thanks and praise.

*Then, facing the Holy Table, the Celebrant proceeds*

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:

*Celebrant and People*

**Holy, Holy, Holy Lord, God of power and might,  
heaven and earth are full of your glory.**

**Hosanna in the highest.**

**Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.**

**Hosanna in the highest.**

Holy and gracious Father: In your infinite love you made us for yourself, and, when we had fallen into sin and become subject to evil and death, you, in your mercy, sent Jesus Christ, your only and eternal Son, to share our human nature, to live and die as one of us, to reconcile us to you, the God and Father of all.

He stretched out his arms upon the cross, and offered himself, in obedience to your will, a perfect sacrifice for the whole world.

On the night he was handed over to suffering and death, 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 of wine; 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 and for all for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me."

Therefore we proclaim the mystery of faith:

**Christ has died.**

**Christ is risen.**

**Christ will come again.**

We celebrate the memorial of our redemption, O Father, in this sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving. Recalling his death, resurrection, and ascension, we offer you these gifts.

Sanctify them by your Holy Spirit to be for your people the Body and Blood of your Son, the holy food and drink of new and unending life in him. Sanctify us also that we may faithfully receive this holy Sacrament, and serve you in unity, constancy, and peace; and at the last day bring us with all your saints into the joy of your eternal kingdom.

All this we ask through your Son Jesus Christ: By him, and with him, and in him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit all honor and glory is yours, Almighty Father, now and for ever. AMEN

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

**All: Our Father...**

*This setting is not used in Lent.*

Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.  
Christ our Pass - o - ver is sac - ri - ficed for us;  
there - fore let us keep the feast.  
Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

## **Gifts of God.....**

### **Musical Meditation after all have received**

#### **"Shepherd" by Amanda Cook**

In the process, in the waiting  
You're making melodies over me  
And Your presence is the promise  
For I am a pilgrim on a journey

You will lift my head above the mighty waves  
You are able to keep me from stumbling  
And in my weakness  
You are the strength that comes from within  
Good Shepherd of my soul  
Take my hand and lead me on

You make my footsteps and my path secure  
So walking on water is just the beginning  
Cause my faith to arise, stand at attention  
For You are calling me to greater things

Oh how I love You, how I love You

You have not forsaken me  
Oh how I love You, how I love You  
With You is where I want to be

### **Prayer after Communion**

**Eternal God, heavenly Father, 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.**

### **Blessing**

God the Father, by whose love Christ was raised from the dead, open to you who believe the gates of everlasting life.

**Amen.**

God the Son, who in bursting from the grave has won a glorious victory, give you joy as you share the Easter faith.

**Amen.**

God the Holy Spirit, who filled the disciples with the life of the risen Lord, empower you and fill you with Christ's peace.

**Amen.**

And the blessing ...

**Closing hymn**

We are raised to new life with Christ. Go in his peace. Alleluia, alleluia.

Thanks be to God. Alleluia, alleluia.



**We Pray for the Healing & Support:**

**We pray for the repose of the soul of Gayle Gurney, we pray for the Labrozzi family and their recovery from the fire**

**We pray for Judy Hoffman who has been diagnosed with advanced abdominal cancer.**

**For the continuing recovery of Mary Ann Blados, Andy Visconti, Gail Gurney, Margaret MacLean, Joanne Calabro, Joe Canning, John Stadenraus, Walter Brigham, Steve Giannitelli, Betianne Morritt, Mark Capellino's Parents, Cindy Belt's mother, Lois Corbett, Barbara Brigham for continued recovery, for Bob Fisher, Sharon Gibbs, Barbara Allen Lieblein Kathryn James, Peter Gulluscio, Bob and Virginia Springsteen, Ethan Pae, Valerie Capon, Louie Cicero, Linda Armbruster, Andrew Kuhn, Sr. Joy Wright**

**We pray for, Ukraine, the Sudan, Syria and the countries of the Middle East for peace and for safety. For all those suffering from extreme weather in our country and around the world.**

**We pray for peace and the end of divisions in our own country**

**For those grieving loved ones, especially those interred in our cemetery, for those who are ill, for all those who serve the sick, the needy and those in prison, for those who are anxious or fearful. For all those in the midst of war or natural disasters.**

**For all our parishioners living with cancer, known or undetected & for all those who participate in a 12 step group here at St. Mary, and those who have visited our Prayer Wall.**

**Email any requests or corrections to [FrMcCarron@aol.com](mailto:FrMcCarron@aol.com)**