

# Fourth Sunday of Easter

## INTRODUCTION

INTROIT HYMN— **491**

*Hymns Old & New*

In the name of the Father,  
and of ✠ the Son,  
and of the Holy Spirit.

*All respond: Amen.*

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

Alleluia. Christ is risen.  
**He is risen indeed. Alleluia.**

*The PRAYERS OF PENITENCE are introduced.*

Lord Jesus, you have shown us the way to the  
Father.

Lord, have mercy.  
R. **Lord, have mercy.**

Lord Jesus, your word is a light to our path.  
Christ, have mercy.  
R. **Christ, have mercy.**

Lord Jesus, you are the Good Shepherd, lead-  
ing us into everlasting life.  
Lord, have mercy.  
R. **Lord, have mercy.**

May almighty God have mercy on us,  
forgive us ✠ our sins,  
and bring us to everlasting life.  
**Amen.**

*GLORIA IN EXCELSIS is sung.*

**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.**

*All remain standing for the COLLECT.*

Almighty God, whose Son Jesus Christ is the  
resurrection and the life: raise us, who trust  
in him, from the death of sin to the life of  
righteousness, that we may seek those things  
which are above, where he reigns with you in  
the unity of the Holy Spirit, God, for ever and  
ever. **Amen.**

## LITURGY OF THE WORD

Readings for Year A

FIRST READING

*Acts 2.42-47*

A reading from the Acts of the Apostles.

All the baptized devoted themselves to the  
apostles' teaching and the fellowship, to the  
breaking of bread and the prayers. And awe  
came upon every soul, and many wonders  
and signs were being done through the  
apostles. And all who believed were together  
and had all things in common. And they were  
selling their possessions and belongings and  
distributing the proceeds to all, as any had  
need. And day by day, attending the temple  
together and breaking bread in their homes,  
they received their food with glad and  
generous hearts, praising God and having  
favour with all the people. And the Lord  
added to their number day by day those who  
were being saved.

This is the word of the Lord.  
**Thanks be to God.**

℟. His goodness shall follow me always, to the end of my days. (*All repeat*)

The Lord is my shepherd;  
there is nothing I shall want.  
Fresh and green are the pastures  
where he gives me repose. ℟.

Near restful waters he leads me,  
to revive my drooping spirit.  
He guides me along the right path;  
he is true to his name. ℟.

If I should walk in the valley of darkness,  
no evil would I fear.  
You are there with your crook and your staff;  
with these you give me comfort. ℟.

You have prepared a banquet for me  
in the sight of my foes.  
My head you have anointed with oil;  
my cup is overflowing. ℟.

Surely goodness and kindness shall follow me  
all the days of my life.  
In the Lord's own house shall I dwell  
for ever and ever. ℟.

## SECOND READING

1 Pet 2.19–25

A reading from the first letter of Peter.

This is a gracious thing, when, mindful of God, one endures sorrows while suffering unjustly. For what credit is it if, when you sin and are beaten for it, you endure? But if when you do good and suffer for it you endure, this is a gracious thing in the sight of God. For to this you have been called, because Christ also suffered for you, leaving you an example, so that you might follow in his steps. He committed no sin, neither was deceit found in his mouth. When he was reviled, he did not revile in return; when he suffered, he did not threaten, but continued entrusting himself to him who judges justly. He himself bore our sins in his body on the tree, that we might die to sin and live to righteousness. By his wounds you have been healed. For you were

straying like sheep, but have now returned to the Shepherd and Overseer of your souls.

This is the word of the Lord.  
**Thanks be to God.**

GRADUAL HYMN—**316**

## GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Jn 10.14

**Alleluia.**

I am the good shepherd, says the Lord:  
I know my own sheep and my own know me.  
**Alleluia.**

## GOSPEL READING

Jn 10.1–10

The Lord be with you.

**And also with you.**

Hear the Gospel ✠ of our Lord Jesus Christ  
according to John.

**Glory to you, O Lord.**

Jesus said to the Pharisees:—

“Truly, truly, I say to you, he who does not enter the sheepfold by the door but climbs in by another way, that man is a thief and a robber. But he who enters by the door is the shepherd of the sheep. To him the gatekeeper opens. The sheep hear his voice, and he calls his own sheep by name and leads them out. When he has brought out all his own, he goes before them, and the sheep follow him, for they know his voice. A stranger they will not follow, but they will flee from him, for they do not know the voice of strangers.” This figure of speech Jesus used with them, but they did not understand what he was saying to them.

So Jesus again said to them, “Truly, truly, I say to you, I am the door of the sheep. All who came before me are thieves and robbers, but the sheep did not listen to them. I am the door. If anyone enters by me, he will be saved and will go in and 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.”

This is the Gospel of the Lord.  
**Praise to you, O Christ.**

*All stand to recite 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,**

*(all bow)* **was incarnate from the Holy Spirit and the Virgin Mary, and was made man.**

*(all rise)* **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, who with the Father and the Son is worshipped and glorified, who 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 INTERCESSIONS are introduced, and all kneel. One of these responses may be used:*

∇. Lord, hear us. R. Lord, graciously hear us.  
or ∇. Lord, in your mercy, R. Hear our prayer.

*At the Commemoration of the Departed:*

∇. Rest eternal ✠ grant unto them, O Lord;  
R. And let light perpetual shine upon them.

*The Intercessions may end:*

Merciful Father,  
Accept these prayers, for the sake of your  
Son, our Saviour Jesus Christ. Amen.

*All stand as the priest introduces the* PEACE.  
The peace of the Lord be always with you.  
**And also with you.**

OFFERTORY HYMN— **94**

*The people unite their prayers with the priest, who says the* PRAYER OVER THE OFFERINGS.

Pray, my brothers and sisters, that my sacrifice and yours may be acceptable to God, the almighty Father.

**May the Lord accept the sacrifice at your hands, for the praise and glory of his name, for our good, and the good of all his Church.**

Lord God, make the paschal mystery our constant joy: may it continue within us the work of redemption and be the cause of our unending delight; through Christ our Lord. Amen.

EUCCHARISTIC PRAYER

The Lord be with you.

**And also with you.**

Lift up your hearts.

**We lift them to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**It is right to give him thanks and praise.**

*The PREFACE follows.*

*All respond with the* SANCTUS & BENEDICTUS.

**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.**

*All kneel. After the Consecration, all acclaim:*

Praise to you, Lord Jesus:

**Dying, you destroyed our death;**

**rising, you restored our life.**

**Lord Jesus, come in glory.**

*The Eucharistic Prayer continues, and ends:*

... for ever and ever. Amen.

## RITE OF COMMUNION

*The priest introduces the LORD'S PRAYER.*

**Our Father, who art in heaven,  
hallowed be thy name;  
thy kingdom come;  
thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven.  
Give us this day our daily bread.  
And forgive us our trespasses,  
as we forgive those who trespass against us.  
And lead us not into temptation;  
but deliver us from evil.**

**For thine is the kingdom,  
the power and the glory,  
for ever and ever. Amen.**

*The priest breaks the Host; AGNUS DEI is sung.*

**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.**

*The priest gives the COMMUNION INVITATION.*

Alleluia. Christ our passover is sacrificed for us.  
**Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia.**

*Holy Communion is distributed.*

## COMMUNION HYMN—106

*The priest says the POST-COMMUNION prayer.*

Merciful Father, you gave your Son Jesus Christ to be the good shepherd, and in his love for us to lay down his life and rise again: keep us always under his protection, and give us grace to follow in his steps; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

## CONCLUSION

*The priest gives the BLESSING and DISMISSAL.*

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

... The blessing of God almighty, the Father, the Son, ✠ and the Holy Spirit, be among you, and remain with you always. **Amen.**

Go in the peace of Christ. Alleluia, alleluia.  
**Thanks be to God. Alleluia, alleluia.**

## RECESSIONAL HYMN—10

*The service may be followed by REGINA CÆLI.*

**Joy to thee, O Queen of Heaven, alleluia:  
He whom thou wast meet to bear, alleluia,  
As he promised hath arisen, alleluia.  
Pour for us to God thy prayer, alleluia.**

℣. Rejoice and be glad, O Virgin Mary, alleluia:  
℟. **For the Lord is risen indeed, alleluia.**

Let us pray. O God, who by the resurrection of your Son, our Lord Jesus Christ, brought joy to the whole world: grant, we pray, that through the intercession of his mother the Virgin Mary, we may lay hold of the joys of eternal life; through the same Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

26.4.26