THE FOURTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

- Good Shepherd Sunday -3 May 2020

WELCOME

ORGAN PRELUDE

Chorale Prelude on "Nun bitten wir den Heil'gen Geist" Dietrich Buxtehude (c. 1637/39–1707)

Alleluia. Christ is risen.

He is risen indeed. Alleluia.

Praise the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ.

He has given us new life and hope.

He has raised Jesus from the dead.

God has claimed us as his own.

He has brought us out of darkness.

He has made us light to the world.

Alleluia. Christ is risen.

He is risen indeed. Alleluia.

COLLECT FOR PURITY

Almighty God, to whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hidden: 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.

HYMN 794

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

Where streams of living water flow my ransomed soul he leadeth; and where the verdant pastures grow, with food celestial feedeth.

Thou spread'st a table in my sight; thy unction grace bestoweth; and O what transport of delight from thy pure chalice floweth!

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

PRAYER OF PENITENCE

Christ died to sin once for all, and now he lives to God. Let us renew our resolve to have done with all that is contrary to God's will and confess our sins in penitence and faith.

cf Romans 6.10

(Tune: Dominus regit me)

Most merciful God,
Father of our Lord Jesus Christ,
we confess that we have sinned
in thought, word and deed.
We have not loved you with our whole heart.
We have not loved our neighbours as ourselves.

In your mercy
forgive what we have been,
help us to amend what we are,
and direct what we shall be;
that we may do justly,
love mercy,
and walk humbly with you, our God. Amen.

ABSOLUTION

May the God of love and power forgive you and free you from your sins, heal and strengthen you by his Spirit, and raise you to new life in Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

THE COLLECT FOR THE FOURTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

Risen Christ, faithful shepherd of your Father's sheep: teach us to hear your voice and to follow your command, that all your people may be gathered into one flock, to the glory of God the Father. Amen.

A READING FOR THE ACTS OF THE APOSTLES

Many were baptized and were added to the community. They 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.

(Acts 2.42-end)

This is the word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

PSALM 23

The Lord is my shepherd:

therefore can I lack nothing.

He will make me lie down in green pastures:

and lead me beside still waters.

He will refresh my soul:

and guide me in right pathways for his name's sake.

Though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death

I will fear no evil:

for you are with me your $rod \cdot and$ your staff they comfort me.

You spread a table before me in the face of

those who trouble me:

you have anointed my head with oil

and my cup will be full.

Surely your goodness and loving-kindness will follow me all the days · of my life:

and I shall dwell in the house \cdot of the Lord for ever.

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son:

and to the Holy Ghost;

As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be: world without end. Amen.

Now is eternal life,
If ris'n with Christ we stand,
in him to life reborn,
and held within his hand;
no more we fear death's ancient dread,
in Christ arisen from the dead.

Man long in bondage lay, brooding o'er life's brief span; was it, O God, for naught, for naught thou madest man? Thou art our hope, our vital breath; shall hope undying end in death?

And God, the living God, stooped down to man's estate; by death destroying death, Christ opened wide life's gate: He lives, who died; he reigns on high; who lives in him shall never die.

Unfathomed love divine, reign thou within my heart; from thee nor depth nor height, nor life nor death can part; my life is hid in God with thee, now and through all eternity.

Alleluia, alleluia. (John 11.25, 26) Jesus said, 'I am the resurrection and the life. Those who believe in me, even though they die, will live, and everyone who lives and believes in me will never die.'

Alleluias are sung before and after the Gospel.

Glory to you, O Lord.

(Tune: Christchurch)

Jesus said to the Pharisees: '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.'

(John 10.1-10)

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

THE SERMON



ORGAN INTERLUDE

Chorale Prelude on "Ich ruf' zu Dir, Herr Jesu Christ" Johannes Sebastian Bach (1685-1750)

THE TE DEUM

We praise you, O God,
we acclaim you as the Lord;
all creation worships you,
the Father everlasting.
To you all angels, all the powers of heaven,

the cherubim and seraphim, sing in endless praise:
Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,
heaven and earth are full of your glory.

The glorious company of apostles praise you.

The noble fellowship of prophets praise you.

The white-robed army of martyrs praise you.

Throughout the world the holy Church acclaims you:

Father, of majesty unbounded,

your true and only Son, worthy of all praise, the Holy Spirit, advocate and guide.

You, Christ, are the King of glory, the eternal Son of the Father.

When you took our flesh to set us free you humbly chose the Virgin's womb.

You overcame the sting of death

and opened the kingdom of heaven to all believers. You are seated at God's right hand in glory.

We believe that you will come and be our judge.

Come then, Lord, and help your people,

bought with the price of your own blood, and bring us with your saints to glory everlasting.

Save your people, Lord, and bless your inheritance.

Govern and uphold them now and always.

Day by day we bless you.

We praise your name for ever.

Keep us today, Lord, from all sin.

Have mercy on us, Lord, have mercy.

Lord, show us your love and mercy,

for we have put our trust in you.

In you, Lord, is our hope:

let us never be put to shame.

INTERCESSIONS

THE PEACE

The risen Christ came and stood among his disciples and said, 'Peace be with you.' Then were they glad when they saw the Lord. Alleluia. Alleluia.

The peace of the risen Christ be always with you and also with you. Alleluia.

Let us offer one another a sign of peace.

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.

BLFSSING

The God of peace, who brought again from the dead our Lord Jesus, that great shepherd of the sheep, through the blood of the eternal covenant, make you perfect in every good work to do his will, working in you that which is well-pleasing in his sight...

HYMN 207 (Tune: St Albinus)

Jesus lives! thy terrors now can, O death, no more appal us;
Jesus lives! by this we know thou, O grave, cannot enthral us. Alleluia!

Jesus lives! henceforth is death but the gate to life immortal: This shall calm our trembling breath, when we pass its gloomy portal. Alleluia!

Jesus lives! for us He died; Then, alone to Jesus living, pure in heart may we abide, glory to our Saviour giving. Alleluia!

Jesus lives: our hearts know well naught from us his love shall sever; life nor death nor powers of hell tear us from his keeping ever. Alleluia! Jesus lives! to him the throne over all the world is given: may we go where he is gone, rest and reign with him in heaven. Alleluia!

NOTICES

DISMISSAL

Praise the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ. He has given us new life and hope by raising Jesus from the dead.

God has claimed us as his own. He has brought us out of darkness. He has made us light to the world.

Alleluia. Christ is risen.

He is risen indeed. Alleluia.

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

