Holy Eucharist

The Fourth Sunday of Easter

Sunday, April 25, 2021

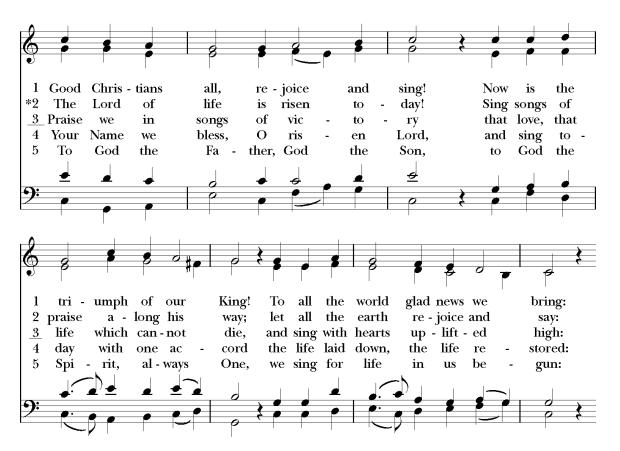
Liturgy of the Word

Entrance Rite

At the sound of the bell, all stand for the Entrance of the Ministers into the church.

Hymn

Good Christians all, rejoice and sing





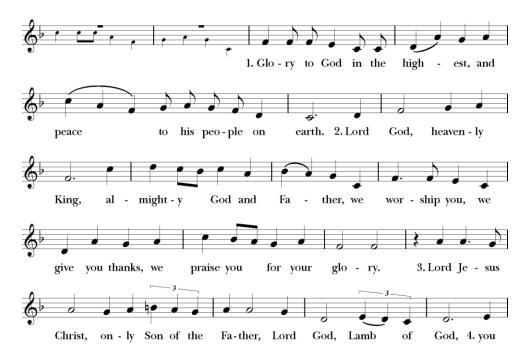
All standing, the Celebrant says

PeopleAlleluia. Christ is risen.PeopleThe Lord is risen indeed. Alleluia.

The Celebrant says 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 following is sung, all standing





Collect of the Day

Celebrant	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.*

First Reading

Acts 4:5-12

All sit.

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.
People	Thanks be to God.

Psalm

Remain seated.

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

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of my life, * and I will dwell in the house of the LORD for ever.

Second Reading

1 John 3:16-24

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.

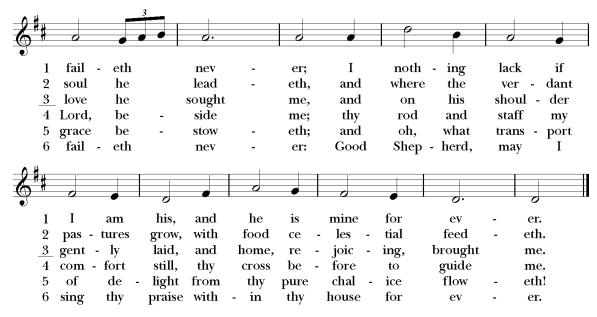
Reader	The Word of the Lord.
People	Thanks be to God.

Sequence

All stand.

The King of love my shepherd is





Words: Henry Williams Baker (1821-1877); para. of Psalm 23 Music: St. Columba, Irish mlody; harm. Hymnal 1982



Holy Gospel

John 10:11-18

All stand.

PriestThe Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to John.PeopleGlory 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."

Priest	The Gospel of the Lord.
People	Praise to you, Lord Christ.

Sermon

Nicene Creed

All stand.

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.

Prayers of the People

All remain standing.

Let us pray for the Church and for the world.

The Presider:	Let us pray to God with the confidence of baptismal daughters and sons who stand in the light of the resurrection calling upon God through the power of the Holy Spirit.
The Leader:	Let us pray for the Church throughout the world in all its many expressions that it may be filled with the new life of the Risen Crucified Christ. We pray especially for the Anglican Communion, for our own Episcopal Church, for our own diocese of Indianapolis, its people, parishes, and programs, and for our companion dioceses of Bor and Brasilia. Lord in your mercy,
The People:	Hear our prayer.
The Leader:	We pray for all the newly baptized who have been united to us in the one body of Christ that transcends boundaries of time, social status, and denomination. Help each individual Christian to give witness to the unity of the Church in Jesus Christ in how they treat one another in the love Jesus commanded us to share. Lord, in your mercy,
The People:	Hear our prayer.

The Leader:	We pray for all the people of this world for whom our Savior gave up his life that we might know the peace, justice, forgiveness, and love of God. Help the peoples and nations of the world commit themselves to turn from the ways of war, cruelty, oppression, and prejudice. Guide the leaders of all nations toward dialogue and away from confrontation, toward reconciliation and away from violence, toward inclusion and away from exclusion. And reshape the hearts of all people everywhere who see some group as their enemies to recognize in these enemies the same humanity God has given to all of us. Lord, in your mercy,
The People:	Hear our prayer.
The Leader:	We pray for all who suffer in any way, especially the sick, the homeless, the dying, and those who are alone. We remember especially, and all others we might name Give all those who suffer healing in the resurrection power of Christ Jesus our Lord. Lord, in your mercy,
The People:	Hear our prayer.
The Leader:	We pray for all who have died and now rest with God in eternity. We remember especially those whom we hold close to our hearts Give them peace and give us hope through the resurrection of Jesus, that the freedom of new eternal life given to us as baptized might even now penetrate and pervade our lives with faith, hope, and love. Lord, in your mercy
The People:	Hear our prayer.
The Presider:	All these things, O God, we bring before you as your children committed to the world for whom your son gave his life and rose again. This we pray through the power of the Holy Spirit.
The People:	Amen.

Confession of Sin

All kneel.

The Celebrant says

Let us confess our sins to God.

Silence.

Minister and People

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.

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*.

Peace

All stand.

Celebrant	The peace of the Lord be always with you.
People	And also with you.

Then the Ministers and the People may greet one another in the name of the Lord.

Announcements

Announcements may be made at this point in the service.

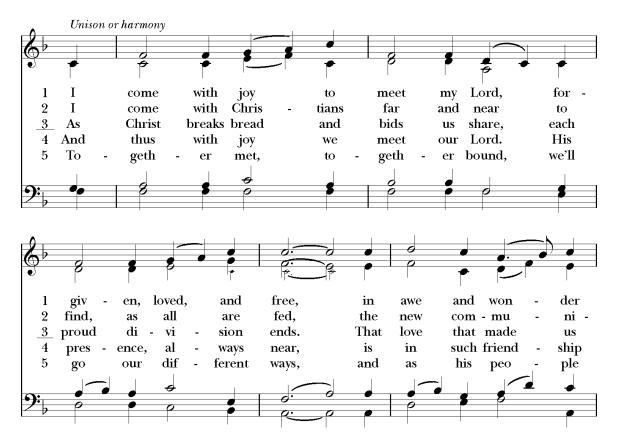
Holy Communion

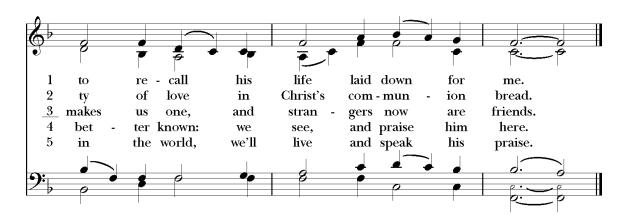
The Celebrant says

Through Christ let us continually offer to God the sacrifice of praise, that is, the fruit of lips that acknowledge his Name. But do not neglect to do good and to share what you have, for such sacrifices are pleasing to God. *Hebrews* 13:15, 16

Offertory Hymn

I come with joy to meet my Lord

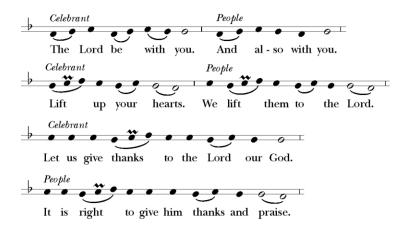




Representatives of the congregation bring the people's offerings of bread and wine, and money or other gifts, to the deacon or celebrant. The people stand while the offerings are presented and placed on the Altar.

Great Thanksgiving

The people remain standing.



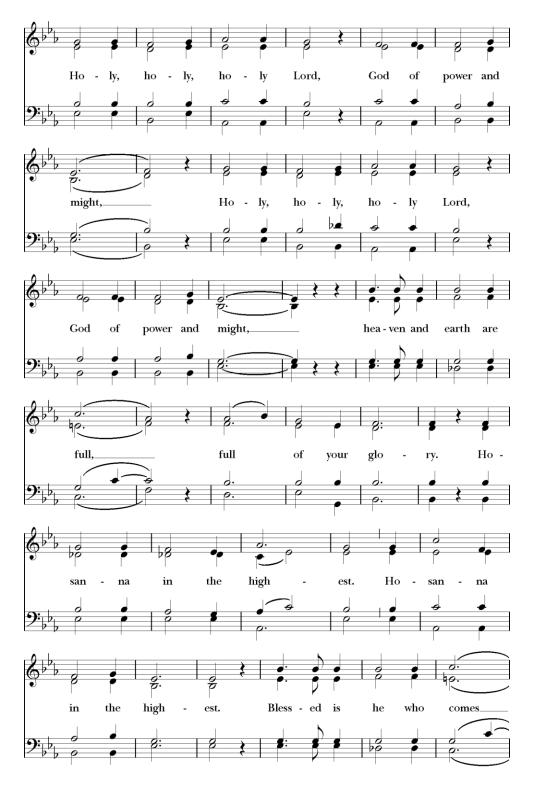
The Celebrant proceeds

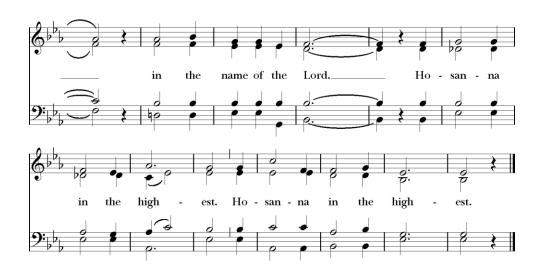
It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth.

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:





The people stand or kneel.

The Celebrant continues

We give thanks to you, O God, for the goodness and love which you have made known to us in creation; in the calling of Israel to be your people; in your Word spoken through the prophets; and above all in the Word made flesh, Jesus, your Son. For in these last days you sent him to be incarnate from the Virgin Mary, to be the Savior and Redeemer of the world. In him, you have delivered us from evil, and made us worthy to stand before you. In him, you have brought us out of error into truth, out of sin into righteousness, out of death into life.

On the night before he died for us, 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 many for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me." Therefore, according to his command, O Father,

Celebrant and People

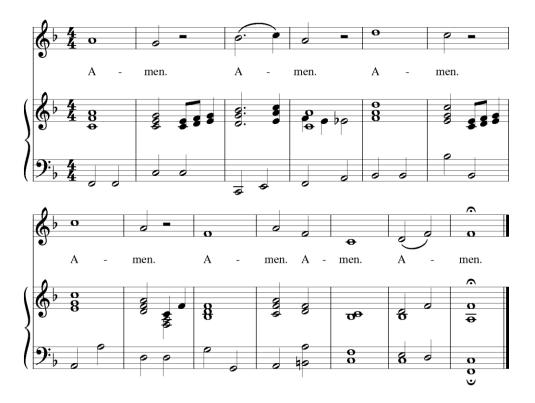
We remember his death, We proclaim his resurrection, We await his coming in glory;

The Celebrant continues

And we offer our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving to you, O Lord of all; presenting to you, from your creation, this bread and this wine.

We pray you, gracious God, to send your Holy Spirit upon these gifts that they may be the Sacrament of the Body of Christ and his Blood of the new Covenant. Unite us to your Son in his sacrifice, that we may be acceptable through him, being sanctified by the Holy Spirit. In the fullness of time, put all things in subjection under your Christ, and bring us to that heavenly country where, with all your saints, we may enter the everlasting heritage of your sons and daughters; through Jesus Christ our Lord, the firstborn of all creation, the head of the Church, and the author of our salvation.

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.



The Celebrant then continues

As our Savior Christ has taught us, we now pray,

People and Celebrant

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.

Breaking of the Bread

A period of silence is kept.

Then may be sung or said

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

In Lent, Alleluia is omitted, and may be omitted at other times except during Easter Season.

Prayer of Spiritual Communion

(Those joining virtually should join with the Celebrant saying these words, those gathered inperson will not say these words):

In union, O Lord, with your faithful people at every altar of your Church, where the Holy Eucharist is now being celebrated, I desire to offer to you praise and thanksgiving. I remember your death, Lord Christ; I proclaim your resurrection; I await your coming in glory. Since I cannot receive you today in the Sacrament of your Body and Blood, I beseech you to come spiritually into my heart. Cleanse and strengthen me with your grace, Lord Jesus, and let me never be separated from you. May I live in you, and you in me, in this life and in the life to come. Amen.

LEVAS 155

The Invitation to the Table

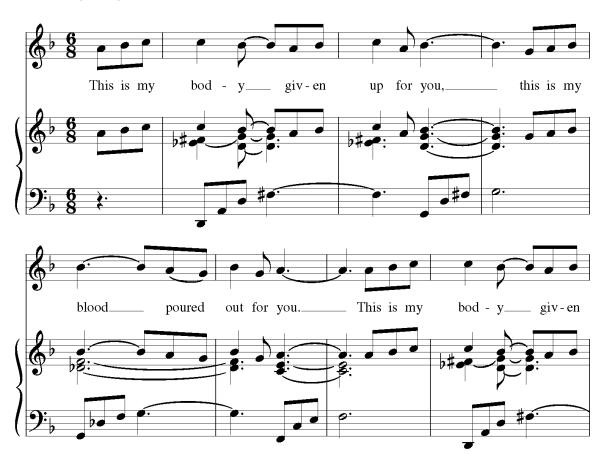
The Celebrant says

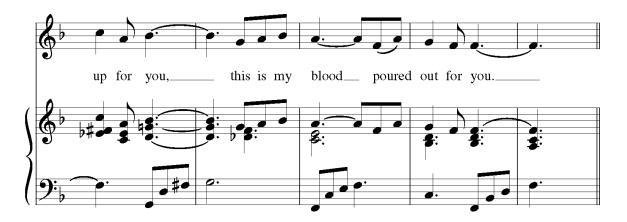
The Gifts of God for the People of God.

All baptized persons are welcome to receive Holy Communion.

Communion Hymn

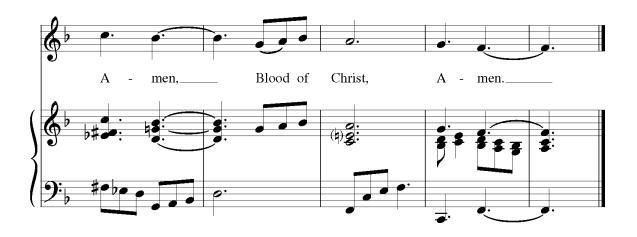
This Is My Body











After Communion, the Celebrant says

Let us pray.

Celebrant and People

Almighty and everliving God, we thank you for feeding us with the spiritual food of the most precious Body and Blood of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ; and for assuring us in these holy mysteries that we are living members of the Body of your Son, and heirs of your eternal kingdom. And now, Father, send us out to do the work you have given us to do, to love and serve you as faithful witnesses of Christ our Lord. To him, to you, and to the Holy Spirit, be honor and glory, now and for ever. Amen.

Blessing

The priest blesses the people, saying

May Almighty God, who has redeemed us and made us his children through the resurrection of his Son our Lord, bestow upon you the riches of his blessing. Amen.

May God, who through the water of baptism has raised us from sin into newness of life, make you holy and worthy to be united with Christ for ever. *Amen.*

May God, who has brought us out of bondage to sin into true and lasting freedom in the Redeemer, bring you to your eternal inheritance. *Amen.*

And the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be upon you and remain with you for ever. *Amen.*

Recessional Hymn

Savior, like a shepherd lead us





Dismissal

Celebrant Alleluia, alleluia. Let us go forth into the world, rejoicing in the power of the Spirit.People Thanks be to God. Alleluia, alleluia.

A Note on Today's Readings

The Fourth Sunday of Easter-Year B

Welcome to our parish. This Sunday of Easter is traditionally called "Good Shepherd Sunday." Each year we hear a part of Jesus' discourse on his relationship to us in the image of the Good Shepherd. The Good Shepherd loves his sheep so much that he lays down his life for them. We are called by him into his life, the life which he has given for us.

Today's reading from the Acts of the Apostles continues the story of the first days of the Church. Peter and the other Apostles are on trial before the rulers of the people because in spite of being commanded to speak no more of Jesus, they had continued to preach and to heal in his name. Today we hear portion of Peter's response.

The reading today from I John tells us that as God's children we are to reveal God's love by living in love with all other people. That love is to be more than a kind feeling. We cannot claim to have God's love if we do not care for the needs of our poor and neglected brothers and sisters. Our identity now comes from God and our lives are to reflect God's own nature and love. How we live reveals our relationship to God.

Thus the description of the Church as the Body of Christ is not merely an analogy. It describes our life together as the embodiment of Christ's love and mercy toward all people. We are not only "the sheep of his pasture," but we are to shepherd all his

people in his name.

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