

4th Sunday of Easter Sunday Morning Worship

Opening sentences

The sheep hear the voice of the Shepherd, Alleluia;
he calls his own sheep by name and leads them out. Alleluia!

Invocation

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

Hymn LHB 506 Jesus, where'er thy people meet

Confession and forgiveness

Let us confess our sins in the presence of God and of each other.

**We confess to you, almighty God,
before the whole company of heaven,
and to each other,
that we have sinned in thought, word, and deed,
by our own fault.
Have mercy on us, for Jesus' sake,
forgive us all our sins,
and bring us to eternal life. Amen.**

-Silent confession-

May the almighty and merciful Lord grant us pardon and forgiveness of all our sins.
Amen.

Restore us again, O God our Saviour.
Do not be angry with us any longer.

Hymn LHB 57 A lamb goes uncomplaining forth

Psalm 23 A PSALM OF DAVID.

- 1 The LORD is my shepherd; I shall not want.
- 2 He makes me lie down in green pastures.
He leads me beside still waters.
- 3 He restores my soul.
He leads me in paths of righteousness for his name's sake.
- 4 Even though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death,
I will fear no evil,
for you are with me;
your rod and your staff, they comfort me.
- 5 You prepare a table before me in the presence of my enemies;
you anoint my head with oil;
my cup overflows.
- 6 Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me
all the days of my life,
and I shall dwell in the house of the LORD forever.

Glory to the Father, and the Son, and the Holy Spirit; as it was in the beginning, is now and will be forever more. Amen.

Prayer of the day

The Lord be with you

And also with you

Let us pray,

Almighty and eternal God, you have brought back from the dead the great Shepherd of the sheep, to call us into his flock through his word. Send us your Holy Spirit, so that we may hear the voice of the good Shepherd and faithfully follow him.

We ask this through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

Readings

The First Reading: Acts 2:42-47

This is the word of the Lord

Thanks be to God

Epistle Reading: 1 Peter 2:19-25

This is the word of the Lord

Thanks be to God

Gospel: John 10:1-10

This is the Gospel of the Lord

Praise be to you O Christ

The Apostles' Creed

**I believe in God, the Father almighty,
maker of heaven and earth.**

**And in Jesus Christ, his only Son our Lord,
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,
born of the Virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, dead, and buried.
He descended into hell.**

The third day he rose again from the dead.

**He ascended into heaven,
and sits at the right hand of God, the Father almighty,
from thence he will come to judge the living and the dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy catholic* church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting. Amen**

*or: Christian; 'catholic' here means 'universal'

Address

Hymn LHB 387 The Lord's my shepherd

Prayer of the church

As sheep trust their shepherd for guidance and protection, let us turn to our God in prayer, certain that he hears our voice for the sake of Jesus Christ his Son.

Heavenly Father: thank you for calling us by the voice of Jesus, our Good Shepherd, in the scriptures. Help us listen to them properly and hear our Lord Jesus Christ in them.

Lord, in your mercy: **Hear our prayer.**

Guide all pastors as they shepherd the flock of Christ. Remove all false ways and false teaching from them. Give them the Holy Spirit that they may have passion for their service and encouragement when times are difficult.

Lord, in your mercy: **Hear our prayer.**

We pray for all who rule and govern, that they may be shepherds to their people, treating all with fairness and dignity.

Lord, in your mercy: **Hear our prayer.**

Help parents and teachers guide their children in right paths. And bring back those who have strayed from the faith.

Lord, in your mercy: **Hear our prayer.**

Have mercy on the dying and those who mourn, including (insert names here). Walk with them through the valley of the shadow of death. Watch over those undergoing or recovering from surgery at this time and help those we know in special need and whom we now name in our hearts...

Lord, in your mercy: **Hear our prayer.**

Shepherd God, you gather your sheep from all corners of the world, and do not allow even one of your flock to be lost. May we and all people hear your voice, and be gathered into the one flock of our Lord Jesus Christ, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

Lord's Prayer

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.

Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.

For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours now and forever.

Amen.

Blessing

May the God of peace, who raised from the dead our Lord Jesus, provide you with every good thing you need in order to do his will;

Go in peace. The Lord is your shepherd, who cares for his sheep.

Thanks be to God.

Hymn LHB 391 The King of love