



The Fourth Sunday of Easter

Church of the Holy Comforter – Vienna, Virginia
The Holy Eucharist Rite II

April 21, 2024 at 9:30 A.M.

The liturgy follows the Book of Common Prayer, beginning at page 355.

OPENING VOLUNTARY: Prelude on *St. Columba* (Hymn 645), Op. 101, No. 6

Charles Villiers Stanford

THE ENTRANCE

AT THE PROCESSION, HYMN 205 (stanzas 1, 3-5) “Good Christians all, rejoice and sing!”
Sung by all, standing.

Gelobt sei Gott

Presider Alleluia. Christ is risen.

People **The Lord is risen indeed. Alleluia.**

The Presider 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.**

GLORIA IN EXCELSIS, HYMNAL, S 278

William Mathias

Sung by all.

1. Glo-ry to God in the high-est, and
peace to his peo-ple on earth. 2. Lord God, heaven-ly King, al-
might-y God and Fa-ther, we wor-ship you, we give you thanks, we
praise you for your glo-ry. 3. Lord Je-sus Christ,
on-ly Son of the Fa-ther, Lord God, Lamb of God, 4. you
take a-way the sin of the world: have mer-cy on us;
5. you are seat-ed at the right hand of the Fa-ther: re-



ceive our prayer. 6. For
 you a-lone are the Ho - ly One, you a-lone are the Lord,
 7. you a - lone are the Most High, Je - sus Christ, with the
 Ho - ly Spi - rit, in the glo - ry of
 God the Fa - ther. A - men.

THE COLLECT OF THE DAY

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

THE WORD OF GOD

THE FIRST LESSON *[The people are seated.]*

Acts 4:5-12

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."

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

PSALM 23 *Dominus regit me*

David Kelley

The cantor sings the refrain, which is then repeated by all. Thereafter, the cantor sings the verses, and all join on the refrain, as indicated.



I will dwell in the house of the LORD, for ev - er, hal-le-lu - jah.

- 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. *[Ref.]*
- 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. [Ref.]

THE SECOND LESSON

1 John 3:16-24

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.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

AT THE SEQUENCE, HYMN 645 (stanzas 1-2, 5-6) “The King of love my shepherd is”

St. Columba

Sung by all, standing. During the singing of the Sequence Hymn, children through second grade may follow the Dove Cross to Children’s Chapel.

THE HOLY GOSPEL

John 10:11-18

The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to John.

Glory 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.”

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, Lord Christ.

THE SERMON The Rev. Ann Gillespie

A brief period of silence is observed for reflection on the sermon. The people stand for the Creed.

THE NICENE CREED [Said by all.]

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.

THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE *[All remain standing.]*

The leader of the Prayers will begin with prayers for the church and the world. Throughout you are invited to add your own petitions either silently or aloud.

Intercessor Heavenly Father, you have promised to hear when we pray in the name of your Son.
We pray for the Church: Father, enliven the church for its mission;

People **That we may be salt of the earth and light to the world.**

Intercessor Breathe fresh life into your people;

People **Give us power to reveal Christ in word and action.**

Intercessor We pray for the world: Creator of all, lead us and all people into the ways of justice and peace;

People **That we may respect one another in freedom and truth.**

Intercessor Awaken in us a sense of wonder for the earth and all that is in it;

People **Teach us to care creatively for its resources.**

Intercessor We pray for every city, community, and nation:

God of truth, inspire with your wisdom those whose decisions affect the lives of others;

People **That all may act with integrity and courage.**

Intercessor Give grace to all whose lives are closely linked with ours.

We pray especially for the sick, the hungry, and those in any kind of need;

People **May we serve Christ in one another, and love as he loves us.**

Intercessor We pray for all those whom we love but see no longer;

People **Grant them eternal rest and a place in your everlasting kingdom.**

Particular prayers may be offered at this time, adding

Intercessor Lord, in your mercy.

People **Hear our prayer.**

THE PEACE

The peace of the Lord be always with you.

And also with you. *[The people greet one another with a sign of God's peace and are then seated.]*

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

THE HOLY COMMUNION

THE OFFERTORY SENTENCE

The people remain seated while an offering is received to support Holy Comforter's work of sharing God's love with the world. As the offering is brought forward to the altar, all stand.

AT THE OFFERTORY, ANTHEM: "Loving Shepherd of thy sheep"

Philip Ledger

Loving Shepherd of thy sheep,
Keep thy lamb, in safety keep;
Nothing can thy power withstand,
None can pluck me from thy hand.

Loving Shepherd, ever near,
Teach thy lamb thy voice to hear;
Suffer not my steps to stray
From the straight and narrow way.

I would bless thee every day,
Gladly all thy will obey,
Like thy blessed ones above,
Happy in thy precious love.

Where thou leadest I would go,
Walking in thy steps below,
Till before my Father's throne
I shall know as I am known.

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING *[The people stand.]*

Prayer B, Book of Common Prayer, p. 367

Celebrant *People*
The Lord be with you. And al - so with you.

Celebrant *People*
Lift up your hearts. 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.

The Presider 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. [*The Presider continues.*]

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:

SANCTUS, HYMNAL, S 128

William Mathias

Sung by all.

Ho - ly, ho - ly,
 ho - ly Lord, God of power and might,
 heaven and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho-san-na in the
 high - est. Bless - ed is he who
 comes in the name of the Lord. Ho-san-na in the high-est.

The Presider continues and gives thanks to God for the reconciling work of Christ and prays over the bread and wine.

MEMORIAL ACCLAMATION

Presider Therefore, according to his command, O Father,

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

The Presider 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.

Celebrant *People*
 A-men.

THE LORD'S PRAYER

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

People **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, and the power, and the glory, for ever and ever. Amen.**

THE BREAKING OF THE BREAD, HYMNAL, S 154

David Hurd

Sung by all.

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.

INVITATION [The People are seated.]

As Jesus welcomed all to his table, so do we at Holy Communion. The bread and the wine are the central symbols of God's presence and we invite you to share in the Eucharist in whatever way feels comfortable to you, regardless of age or tradition. We also offer gluten-free bread and unfermented grape juice as alternatives—just let the priest know. If you prefer to receive a blessing, cross your arms in front of your chest. The Holy Eucharist is an outward and visible sign of an inward and spiritual grace, a mutual indwelling of Christ in us and us in him. Come to the table and be joined into Christ's ministry of love and reconciliation.

COMMUNION MUSIC [Sung by all.]

HYMN 304 "I come with joy to meet my Lord"

Land of Rest

HYMN 343 "Shepherd of souls, refresh and bless"

St. Agnes

SENDING OF EUCHARISTIC VISITORS

Presider In the name of God and of this congregation, I send you forth bearing these holy gifts, that those to whom you go may share with us in the Communion of Christ's Body and Blood.

People **We who are many are one body because we share one bread, one cup.**

THE POSTCOMMUNION PRAYER [Said by all.]

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.

THE EASTER BLESSING

AT THE CLOSING, HYMN 594 "God of grace and God of glory"

Cwm Rhondda

Sung by all, standing.

DISMISSAL IN EASTER SEASON, HYMNAL, S 175

Deacon
Go in peace to love and serve the Lord, al - le - lu - ia,
al - le - lu - ia.

People



Thanks be to God, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

CLOSING VOLUNTARY: Prelude in G Major

Johann Sebastian Bach