

Fourth Sunday of Easter– May 3, 2020

GATHERING HYMN – Now All the Vault of Heaven Resounds (ELW 367)



Now all the vault of heav'n resounds
in praise of love that still abounds:

"Christ has triumphed! He is living!"

Sing, choirs of angels, loud and clear!

Repeat their song of glory here:

"Christ has triumphed! He is living!"

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

Eternal is the gift he brings,

therefore our heart with rapture sings:

"Christ has triumphed! He is living!"

Now still he comes to give us life

and by his presence stills all strife.

"Christ has triumphed! He is living!"

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

Oh, fill us, Lord, with dauntless love;
set heart and will on things above
that we conquer through your triumph;
grant grace sufficient for life's day
that by our lives we truly say:

"Christ has triumphed! He is living!"

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

Adoring praises now we bring
and with the heav'nly blessed sing:

"Christ has triumphed! Alleluia!"

Be to the Father, and our Lord,

to Spirit blest, most holy God,

all the glory, never ending!

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!



Text: Paul Z. Strodach, 1876-1947, alt.

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Christ is risen!

He is risen indeed! Hallelujah!

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ,

The love of God,

And the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

And also with you.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray:

O God our shepherd, you know your sheep by name and lead us to safety through the valleys of death. Guide us by your voice, that we may walk in certainty and security to the joyous feast prepared in your house, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen**

L Please join me in reading the Psalm responsively by verse, beginning and ending with the refrain.

Psalm 23

Refrain: The LORD is my shepherd; I shall not be in want. (Ps. 23:1)

¹The LORD | is my shepherd;
I shall not | be in want.

²**The LORD makes me lie down | in green pastures
and leads me be- | side still waters.**

³You restore my | soul, O LORD,
and guide me along right pathways | for your 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. R**

⁵You prepare a table before me in the presence | of my enemies;
you anoint my head with oil, and my cup is | running over.

⁶**Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days | of my life,
and I will dwell in the house of the | LORD forever. R**



Refrain: The LORD is my shepherd; I shall not be in want. (Ps. 23:1)

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION (ELW #173)

Hallelujah, Hallelujah Hallelujah, Hallelujah

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GOSPEL – John 10:1-10

The Holy Gospel according to St. John, the 10th chapter:

Glory to you, O Lord.

[Jesus said:] ¹“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. ²The one who enters by the gate is the shepherd of the sheep. ³The gatekeeper opens the gate for him, and the sheep hear his voice. He calls his own sheep by name and leads them out. ⁴When he has brought out all his own, he goes ahead of them, and the sheep follow him because they know his voice. ⁵They will not follow a stranger, but they will run from him because they do not know the voice of strangers.” ⁶Jesus used this figure of speech with them, but they did not understand what he was saying to them.

⁷So again Jesus said to them, “Very truly, I tell you, I am the gate for the sheep. ⁸All who came before me are thieves and bandits; but the sheep did not listen to them. ⁹I am the gate. Whoever enters by me will be saved, and will come in and go out and find pasture. ¹⁰The thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy. I came that they may have life, and have it abundantly.”



The Gospel of the Lord

Praise to you, O Christ.

HOMILY

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

Let us pray.

Mighty God of mercy, we thank you for the resurrection dawn, bringing the glory of our risen Lord who makes every day new.

Especially we thank you –

for the sustaining goodness of your creation, and the life all around us...

for the new creation in Christ and all gifts of healing and forgiveness...

God in your mercy,

Hear our prayer.

We thank you for the gifts of relationships with others...

for the generosity of those who work for our health and safety and daily needs...

for the people of your church, close to home and all around the world, and for our bishops - Jason and Susan...

God in your mercy,

Hear our prayer.

Merciful God of might, renew this weary world, heal the hurts of all your children, and bring about your peace for all people.

Especially we pray –

for those who govern our city, our province, our nation and the nations of the world...

for all who strive to save the earth from carelessness and destruction...

for all who work for peace and international harmony...

God in your mercy,

Hear our prayer.

We pray for the people in this and all nations who are in fear of illness and pandemic...

for all those who are sick, especially the ones we name before you now...

for all our sisters and brothers throughout the earth, for those with no homes, for refugees, and for those in prison...

God in your mercy,

Hear our prayer.

All these things and whatever else you see that we need, grant us O God, for the sake of Jesus Christ our Saviour, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, and who taught us to pray:

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 forever. AMEN.

*SENDING HYMN - Saviour, Like a
 Shepherd Lead Us (ELW 789)*

Savior, like a shepherd lead us;
 much we need your tender care.
 In your pleasant pastures feed us,
 for our use your fold prepare.
 Blessed Jesus, blessed Jesus,
 you have bought us; we are yours.
 Blessed Jesus, blessed Jesus,
 you have bought us; we are yours.

We are yours; in love befriend us,
 be the guardian of our way;
 keep your flock, from sin defend us,
 seek us when we go astray.
 Blessed Jesus, blessed Jesus,
 hear us children when we pray.
 Blessed Jesus, blessed Jesus,
 hear us children when we pray.

You have promised to receive us,
 poor and sinful though we be;
 you have mercy to relieve us,
 grace to cleanse, and pow'r to free.
 Blessed Jesus, blessed Jesus,
 early let us turn to you.
 Blessed Jesus, blessed Jesus,
 early let us turn to you.



Early let us seek your favor,
 early let us do your will;
 blessed Lord and only Savior,
 with your love our spirits fill.
 Blessed Jesus, blessed Jesus,
 you have loved us, love us still.
 Blessed Jesus, blessed Jesus,
 you have loved us, love us still.



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BLESSING

May the One who brought forth Jesus from the dead
 raise you to new life, fill you with hope,
 and turn your mourning into dancing.

Almighty God, Father, ✝ Son, and Holy Spirit,
 bless you now and forever.

Amen.

Go in peace. Serve your neighbour; serve the risen Lord!

Thanks be to God!

Thanks to Ken Mann for the music, Tobi and Karsten Dombrosky for assisting with readings and prayers, and Joey McCorrie for pulling the digital pieces together to prepare this worship for us.