



Worship for Sunday 3rd May

Welcome

Good morning everyone and welcome to our worship on this the 4th Sunday of Easter, it is lovely to have you with us. The lectionary readings set for this Sunday follows the theme of Jesus as shepherd and once again pick up the theme of God being with us. As we prepare for worship today let us take a few moments to be still in the presence of God as listen and follow the voice of Jesus.

Call to worship

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

The lord be with you **and also with you**

Alleluia! Christ is risen. **He is risen indeed. Alleluia!**

Jesus says, 'I am the gate.' Come, and be loved. Come and receive peace. Come, and find life.

Hymn: Great is thy faithfulness

All: 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.

Prayers of Penitence (taken from our Eastertide service sheet)

There is a video to go with this.

Jesus Christ, risen Master and triumphant Lord, we come to you in sorrow for our sins, and confess to you our weakness and unbelief.

Silence is kept

Like Mary at the empty tomb, we fail to grasp the wonder of your presence, Lord, have mercy.

Lord, have mercy.

Like the disciples behind locked doors, we are afraid to be seen as your followers. Christ, have mercy. **Christ, have mercy.**

Like Thomas in the upper room, we are slow to believe. Lord, have mercy. **Lord, have mercy.**

Almighty God, who forgives all who truly repent, have mercy upon us, pardon and deliver us from all our sins, confirm and strengthen us in all goodness, and keep us in eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Collect of the 4th 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

Read: Psalm 23

For your presence in our lives, great shepherd of the sheep: **we praise and adore.**
For security you offer us, great shepherd of the sheep: **we praise and adore.**
For your life that enriches our life, great shepherd of the sheep: **we praise and adore.**
For the sense of belonging, great shepherd of the sheep: **we praise and adore.**
For our place in your sheep fold, great shepherd of the sheep: **we praise and adore. Amen**

Hymn: I heard of voice of Jesus say

Read John 10:10

Talk

There is a video to go with this.

Declaring Our Faith

We believe in God the Father, from whom every family in heaven and earth is named.
We believe in God the Son, who lives in our hearts through faith and fills us with his love.
We believe in God the Holy Spirit, who strengthens us with power from on high.
We believe in one God: Father, Son and Holy Spirit. Amen

Hymn: The Lord's my Shepherd

Prayers

There is a video to go with this.

Let us pray.

God of our salvation, you open your life to our lives, and we rejoice in your hospitality. Keep your church abounding in this generous heart as we share your love and goodness with the world around us. We pray for the church throughout the world, for our Archbishops Justin and John and our Bishop Rachel and Robert and all church leaders. Guide and strengthen your church to follow where you lead and to shine out your light. Lord in your mercy, **hear our prayer**

God of our salvation inspire leaders to be true shepherds of your people; to exercise their power for the mutual benefit of all. Give them wisdom and a right discernment in all things as they seek to lead us at through the current pandemic. May the leaders of the nation's work together to protect the environment and help us to be better stewards of our beautiful world. We pray that you will bring your peace, justice, hope and light into the lives of those who live with the daily effect of war, violence and poverty. Lord in your mercy, **hear our prayer**

God of our salvation, your grace encourages us to share the fruits of your goodness. We pray for our community, giving thanks for all that is good and for the acts of kindness and compassion that are being shown at this time. We remember those affected by the coronavirus, for sick, the bereaved, the anxious, the lonely, the fearful, may they know your presence, love and peace at this time. We give thanks for hard work and dedication of our key workers and we pray that they have the resources they need to keep safe and to help others. Lord in your mercy, **hear our prayer**

God of our salvation, you still troubled waters and lead us to places of refreshment and tranquillity. Anoint with your peace all in need of your healing touch in silence we name before you those know to us. Lord in your mercy **hear our prayer**

God of our salvation, gather to your eternal sheepfold all who have died. We give thanks for the lives of those who have recently died naming before you those know to us. *Silence*. We pray for those who morn especially those who

are struggling with their grief and who have been unable to attend funerals. Grant that we have all dwell in your house forever. Lord in your mercy, **hear our prayer**

In a moment of silence, we offer our own prayers to God. Silence

Merciful Father, **accept these prayers for the sake of your son our saviour Jesus Christ. Amen**

The Lord's prayer

Peace (Taken from our Eastertide service sheet)

The risen Christ came and stood among his disciples and said, 'Peace be with you.' Then they were 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 God's peace.

I know that we are not together physically today and not able to share the peace in our normal way. However, this does not mean that we are not able to share the peace. Bring to mind members of our church family and as you do wish them God's peace. "..... (the name of a member of our church family) God's peace be with you.

Hymn: Thine be the glory

(This is one of the great Easter hymns and as we only really get to sing it once a year should be sung at least twice during Eastertide, so I thought that we would have sing it again this week as we continue to celebrate the resurrection of Jesus)

We go out (Taken from out Eastertide service sheet)

Go where God leads you. God that you may serve him. And wherever you go. Know hat God is with you. Amen

God the father, by whose glory Christ was raised from the dead, strengthen us to walk with him in his risen life; And the blessing of God almighty the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be among us and remain with us always. **Amen.**

With the risen life of Christ within you, go in the peace of Christ. Alleluia! Alleluia!

Thanks be to God. Alleluia! Alleluia!

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