



Worship for Sunday 25th April 2021

Good morning and welcome to our service on this the 4th Sunday of Easter. Welcome, it is lovely to have you with us as we gather to worship our loving God. Let us take a moment to still ourselves in the presence of God so that we are ready for worship this morning.

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. Alleluia.**

A prayer

As a shepherd gathers the flock, so the love of God has gathered us here today. Let us celebrate the fullness of life Jesus has won for us, and place all that we are, and all that we long to be, into his hands and give thanks. **Amen**

Hymn: Great is thy faithfulness:

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

Let us confess our sins in penitence and faith, firmly resolved to keep God's commandments and to live in love and peace with all. *Silence.*

Almighty God, our heavenly Father, we have sinned against you and against our neighbour in thought and word and deed, through negligence, through weakness, through our own deliberate fault. We are truly sorry and repent of all our sins. For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ, who died for us, forgive us all that is past and grant that we may serve you in newness of life to the glory of your name. Amen.

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

Collect for 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

Reading: Acts 4: 5-12

Hymn: The king of love my shepherd is

Reading: John 10: 11-18

Talk

I have made a video of the talk.

Creed

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: How sweet the name of Jesus sounds

Prayers

I have made a video of the prayers.

The Lord is our shepherd, and we are the sheep of his pasture. Let us bring to him our cares and concerns for the church and for the world. *Silence.* Let us pray

Good Shepherd of the sheep, we pray for the Church; for all congregations, for pastors and all who minister in word and sacrament; fill us with your wisdom, grace and love. We pray for clear guidance and direction as we seek to be your people in this place and in this time. Lord in your mercy. **Hear our prayer.**

Good Shepherd of the sheep, we pray for the world we inhabit - the world we inherited and will pass on to successive generations. Teach us to look after it carefully and wisely, to share its gifts more fairly, and work together to ease its sufferings. We pray for those around the world affected by the Coronavirus, we think particularly hospitals struggling to cope, for the sick, dying and bereaved and for those who love them and care for them, for those who are anxious and fearful, for those struggling with their mental health and wellbeing and for all those dealing with the economic impact. Surround them with the love and support they need. Lord in your mercy. **Hear our prayer.**

Good Shepherd of the sheep, we pray for our places of work, our colleagues, our friends and neighbours, and the members of our families. Give us the grace and courage to live lovingly and to show compassion and support to those in need. We pray for local business, shops and farms. We give you thanks for the work of charities both national and international and pray that you grant them the resources they need to carry on their good work. Lord in your mercy. **Hear our prayer.**

Good Shepherd of the sheep, we pray for the weak and vulnerable, for those who are bullied or constantly despised. We pray for a greater reverence, one for another, for greater willingness to uphold and encourage one another; we pray for healing and wholeness. We pray for all those who are suffering this day whether in body, mind or spirit, naming before you any known to us. *Silence.* Surround them and those who love and care for them with your healing, comfort and peace. Lord in your mercy. **Hear our prayer.**

Good Shepherd of the sheep, we pray for those who have died; we pray for those who ache with sorrow at their going; we commit them into your unfailing care which lasts throughout this life and on into eternity. Lord in your mercy. **Hear our prayer.**

Good Shepherd of the sheep, we bring before you our own prayers and concerns. *Silence.* Merciful Father **accept these prayers for the sake of your Son our saviour Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen**

The Lord's prayers

Peace

Let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts, since as members of one body you are called to peace. The peace of the Lord be always with you. **and also with you.** Let us offer one another a sign of 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: Praise my soul the king of heaven

We go out

Lord, send us out like sheep who know their shepherd well, with wisdom to follow in Christ's footsteps and obey his commands, and the power of his spirit to guide and bless us. **Amen**

The peace of God, which passes all understanding, keep your hearts and minds in the knowledge and love of God, and of his Son Jesus Christ our Lord; and the blessing of God almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be among you and remain with you always. **Amen.**

With the power that raised Jesus from the dead at work with in you, go in peace to love and service the Lord. Alleluia. Alleluia. **Thanks be to God Alleluia. Alleluia.**

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