

Liturgy of the Word

Rite II



Fourth Sunday of Easter
Liturgy of the Word
April 26, 2026

Jeremy Cole, Officiant

The Word of God

Opening Hymn

Before the Lord's eternal throne 391

1 Be - fore the Lord's e - ter - nal throne, ye
2 His sov - ereign Power with - out our aid formed
3 We are his peo - ple, we his care, our
4 We'll crowd thy gates with thank - ful songs, high
5 Wide as the world is thy com - mand, vast

1 na - tions, bow with sa - cred joy; know that the Lord is
2 us of clay and gave us breath; and when like wan - dering
3 souls, and all our mor - tal frame: what last - ing hon - ors
4 as the heavens our voic - es raise; and earth, with her ten
5 as e - ter - ni - ty thy love; firm as a rock thy

1 God a - lone; he can cre - ate, and he des - troy.
2 sheep we strayed, he saved us from the power of death.
3 shall we rear, al - might - y Ma - ker, to thy Name?
4 thou - sand tongues, shall fill thy courts with sound - ing praise.
5 truth must stand, when roll - ing years shall cease to move.

Words: Isaac Watts (1674-1748), alt.; para. of Psalm 100. Music: *Winchester New*, melody from *Musicalishes Hand-Buch*, 1690; harm. William Henry Monk (1823-1889).

The people standing, the Officiant says

Bless the Lord who forgives all our sins.

People

His mercy endures for ever.

Confession of Sin

The Officiant says the following.

Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.
Silence may be kept.

Officiant and People

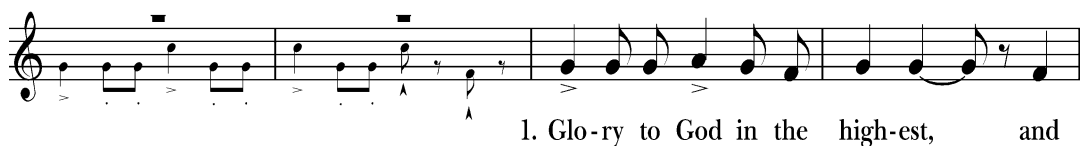
Most merciful God,
we confess that we have sinned against you
in thought, word, and deed,
by what we have done,
and by what we have left undone.
We have not loved you with our whole heart;
we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves.
We are truly sorry and we humbly repent.
For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ,
have mercy on us and forgive us;
that we may delight in your will,
and walk in your ways,
to the glory of your Name. Amen.

The Officiant says

Almighty God have mercy on us, forgive us all our sins through our Lord Jesus Christ, strengthen us in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep us in eternal life. *Amen.*

Gloria

Hymnal S-280





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.

Music: William Mathias (1934-1992). Copyright © 1976 Oxford University Press.

The Collect of the Day

Officiant The Lord be with you.

People And also with you.

Officiant Let us pray.

The Officiant says the Collect.

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.*

First Lesson

Act 2:42-47

Those who had been baptized devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching and fellowship, to the breaking of bread and the prayers. Awe came upon everyone, because many wonders and signs were being done by the apostles. All who believed were together and had all things in common; they would sell their possessions and goods and distribute the proceeds to all, as any had need. Day by day, as they spent much time together in the temple, they broke bread at home and ate their food with glad and generous hearts, praising God and having the goodwill of all the people. And day by day the Lord added to their number those who were being saved.

After the reading, the lector says

The Word of the Lord.

People Thanks be to God.

Psalm 23

- 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.
- 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.

Second Lesson

1 Peter 2:19-25

It is a credit to you if, being aware of God, you endure pain while suffering unjustly. If you endure when you are beaten for doing wrong, what credit is that? But if you endure when you do right and suffer for it, you have God's approval. For to this you have been called, because Christ also suffered for you, leaving you an example, so that you should follow in his steps. "He committed no sin, and no deceit was found in his mouth." When he was abused, he did not return abuse; when he suffered, he did not threaten; but he entrusted himself to the one who judges justly. He himself bore our sins in his body on the cross, so that, free from sins, we might live for righteousness; by his wounds you have been healed. For you were going astray like sheep, but now you have returned to the shepherd and guardian of your souls.

After the reading, the lector says

The Word of the Lord.

People *Thanks be to God.*

Sequence Hymn

*The King of love my shepherd is 645
Vs. 1-3, Gospel, vs. 4*



- 1 The King of love my shep-herd is, whose good-ness
- 2 Where streams of liv-ing wa-ter flow, my ran-somed
- * 3 Per-verse and fool-ish oft I strayed, but yet in
- * 4 In death's dark vale I fear no ill with thee, dear
- 5 Thou spread'st a ta-ble in my sight; thy unc-tion
- 6 And so through all the length of days thy good-ness



1 fail - eth nev - er; I noth - ing lack if
 2 soul he lead - eth, and where the ver - dant
 3 love he sought me, and on his shoul - der
 4 Lord, be - side me; thy rod and staff my
 5 grace be - stow - eth; and oh, what trans - port
 6 fail - eth nev - er: Good Shep - herd, may I



1 I am his, and he is mine for ev - er.
 2 pas - tures grow, with food ce - les - tial feed - eth.
 3 gent - ly laid, and home, re - joic - ing, brought me.
 4 com - fort still, thy cross be - fore to guide me.
 5 of de - light from thy pure chal - ice flow - eth!
 6 sing thy praise with - in thy house for ev - er.

Words: Henry Williams Baker (1821-1877); para. Psalm 23. Music: *St. Columba*, Irish melody, harm. *Hymnal 1982*.

Then, all standing, the Deacon or Celebrant reads the Gospel, first saying

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

People Glory to you, Lord Christ.

The Gospel Lesson

John 10:1-10

Jesus said, “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. The one who enters by the gate is the shepherd of the sheep. The gatekeeper opens the gate for him, and the sheep hear his voice. He calls his own sheep by name and leads them out. When he has brought out all his own, he goes ahead of them, and the sheep follow him because they know his voice. They will not follow a stranger, but they will run from him because they do not know the voice of strangers.” Jesus used this figure of speech with them, but they did not understand what he was saying to them. So again Jesus said to them, “Very truly, I tell you, I am the gate for the sheep. All who came before me are thieves and bandits; but the sheep did not listen to them. I am the gate. Whoever enters by me will be saved, and will come in and go out and find pasture. The thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy. I came that they may have life, and have it abundantly.”

After the Gospel, the Deacon or Celebrant says

The Gospel of the Lord.

People Praise to you, Lord Christ.

The Sermon – Sermons that Work

The Nicene Creed

The Officiant says to the people

Let us stand as able and say the Nicene Creed together.

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.

Prayers of the People VI

The Leader and People pray responsively

In peace, we pray to you, Lord God.
Silence

For all people in their daily life and work;
For our families, friends, and neighbors, and for those who are alone.

For this community, the nation, and the world;
For all who work for justice, freedom, and peace.

For the just and proper use of your creation;
For the victims of hunger, fear, injustice, and oppression.

For all those who are in danger, sorrow, or any kind of trouble;
For those who minister to the sick, the friendless, and the needy.

For the peace and unity of the Church of God;
For all who proclaim the Gospel, and all who seek the Truth.

For Sean, our Presiding Bishop, for Andy, Jeff, Kai, Hector, and Brian, our bishops, for our supply priests, for our candidate Sheila, and for all bishops and other ministers,
For all who serve God in his Church.

For the special needs and concerns of this congregation.
Silence

Hear us, Lord;
For your mercy is great.

We thank you, Lord, for all the blessings of this life (including the birthdays of [_____] and the anniversaries of [_____].)
Silence

We will exalt you, O God our King;
And praise your Name for ever and ever.

We pray for all who have died, [especially _____,] that they may have a place in your eternal kingdom.
Silence

Lord, let your loving-kindness be upon them;
Who put their trust in you.

The Officiant says this or some other Collect

Almighty God, by your Holy Spirit you have made us one with your saints in heaven and on earth: Grant that in our earthly pilgrimage we may always be supported by this fellowship of love and prayer, and know ourselves to be surrounded by their witness to your power and mercy. We ask this for the sake of Jesus Christ, in whom all our intercessions are acceptable through the Spirit and who lives and reigns for ever and ever. *Amen.*

Offertory

The Officiant says

Walk in love, as Christ loved us and gave himself for us, an offering and sacrifice to God.

Doxology

*Praise God from whom all blessings flow.
Praise him all creatures here below.
Praise him above ye heavenly hosts.
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen*

The Lord's Prayer

The Officiant says

Let us pray together the Lord's Prayer.

People and Officiant

*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 Peace

All stand. The Officiant says to the people

The peace of the Lord be always with you.

People *And also with you.*

Then the Ministers and People may greet one another in the name of the Lord.

The Announcements

Sunday, 4/26

Liturgy of the Word

9:45a Adult Lectionary Discussion

Children's Sunday School on request

4:00p Tai Chi Basics Class

Wednesday, 4/29 12:00p Morning Prayer Service

12:30p Bible Study

2:00p Grief Support Group

7:00p Choir Practice

Thursday, 4/30 5:30p Handbell Practice

Saturday, 5/2 8:30a **Breakfast for All**

9:00a Men's Group Meeting

10:00a CUB Lunch Prep

3:00p **Marley Johnson Wedding Shower**

UPCOMING EVENTS

Sunday, 5/3 9:45a Adult Lectionary Discussion
Children's Sunday School on request

4:00p Tai Chi Basics Class

Monday, 5/4 6:30p **Book Club**

Wednesday, 5/6 12:00p Morning Prayer Service

12:30p Bible Study

2:00p Grief Support Group

7:00p Choir Practice

Thursday, 5/7 5:30p Handbell Practice

Saturday, 5/9 9:00a **DOK Meeting followed by Discernment**

SAVE THE DATE

Sunday, 5/10 **Liturgy of the Word**

Saturday, 5/16 6:00p Serendipity Dinner at the Barrons

Sunday, 5/17 12:00p Conversations Exploring Cultural Perspectives

Monday, 5/18 6:30p Book Club

Tuesday, 5/19 11:30a Out-to-Lunch Bunch

6:00p Vestry Meeting

Prayer for a New Rector

Almighty God, giver of every good gift: look graciously on St. Francis and so guide the minds of those who shall choose a rector for this parish, that we may receive a faithful pastor, who will care for your people and equip us for your ministries; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Prayer 51. For a Birthday

Watch over thy child, O Lord, as *his* days increase; bless and guide *him* wherever he may be. Strengthen *him* when *he* stands; comfort *him* when discouraged or sorrowful; raise *him* up if *he* fall; and in *his* heart may your peace which passes understanding abide all the days of *his* life; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen*.

The Prayer for St. Francis

Heavenly Father, we come to you at this time, seeking your perfect plan for St. Francis. We seek your wisdom, discernment, and guidance as to how we may serve you best and to your glory. Make us a church where your Son, Jesus, is lifted up as Lord and Savior and where the healing power and presence of the Holy Spirit is known. Even as your people trusted in you to bring them to the Promised Land, we look to you as God and Father to lead us in all things. We trust you to bring to us the people and resources to help us accomplish your work. Through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God forever and ever. Amen.

Closing Hymn

Savior, like a shepherd lead us 708

1 Sa - vior, like a shep - herd lead us; much we need thy
 2 Ear - ly let us seek thy fa - vor, ear - ly let us

ten - der care; in thy plea - sant pas - tures feed us;
 learn thy will; do thou, Lord, our on - ly Sa - vior,

for our use thy folds pre - pare. Bless - ed Je - sus!
 with thy love our bos - oms fill. Bless - ed Je - sus!

Bless - ed Je - sus! Thou hast bought us, thine we are.
 Bless - ed Je - sus! Thou hast loved us: love us still.

Words: *Hymns for the Young*, ca. 1830, alt. Music: *Sicilian Mariners*, Sicilian melody, from *The European Magazine and London Review*, 1792.

The Officiant dismisses them with these words

Let us go forth into the world, rejoicing in the power of the Spirit.
 People Thanks be to God.