



Apostles

Anglican Church

The Fourth Sunday of Easter
Good Shepherd

April 21, 2024

Liturgy for the Contemporary Service
The Anglican Church of North America

This altar is God's altar. This is a family table. All baptized Christians are invited to come forward to receive the Sacrament. If you are not baptized you are still invited to the table for prayer.

We believe in something called "the real presence of Christ" which means that we know he is present in communion, but we aren't going to require you to speculate on exactly how he does that.

To receive, come forward to the rail, and kneel to receive unless you are unable. Kneeling or standing, place your hands flat, and in a cruciform shape, palms up. The clergy will place the bread on your palm.

A chalice bearer will follow with a small cup with the wine. At present we are not drinking from the chalice but "intincting" from the small cup. You take the bread between your fingers, and dip it slightly into the wine, before placing it in your mouth.

If you only take the bread and want to by-pass the wine, that is still a valid sacrament. You don't need to wait for the cup to come by but you may remain at the rail as long as you want.

Adults who are not baptized, or who are not going to receive, can come forward to receive a blessing. If you would like to do so, as you are kneeling, cross your arms over your chest, hands by your shoulder and the clergy will pray for you.

Baptized children are welcomed to receive communion, but parents can choose to allow their child to receive. If your children are not baptized, or will not be receiving, they can receive a blessing, by crossing their arms.

THE HOLY EUCHARIST

THE BELL

OPENING SONGS

10,000 Reasons

(Chorus)

*Bless the Lord, O my soul
Oh my soul, worship His holy name
Sing like never before, O my soul
I'll worship Your holy name*

(Verse 1)

*The sun comes up, it's a new day dawning;
It's time to sing Your song again.
Whatever may pass and whatever lies before me,
Let me be singing when the evening comes.*

(Verse 2)

*You're rich in love and You're slow to anger,
Your Name is great and Your heart is kind;
For all Your goodness I will keep on singing,
Ten thousand reasons for my heart to find.*

(Verse 3)

*And on that day when my strength is failing,
The end draws near and my time has come;
Still my soul sings Your praise unending,
Ten thousand years and then forevermore.*

Tis So Sweet to Trust in Jesus

(Verse 1)

*Tis so sweet to trust in Jesus,
Just to take Him at His word;
Just to rest upon His promise;
Just to know, thus saith the Lord*

(Chorus)

*Jesus, Jesus, how I trust Him,
How I've proved Him o'er and o'er,
Jesus, Jesus, precious Jesus
O for grace to trust Him more*

(Verse 2)

*O how sweet to trust in Jesus
Just to trust His cleansing blood;
Just in simple faith to plunge me,
'Neath the healing, cleansing flood.*

(Verse 3)

*I'm so glad I learned to trust Thee,
Precious Jesus, Savior, Friend;
And I know that Thou art with me,
Will be with me to the end.*

Minister: Alleluia! Christ is risen!

People: The Lord is risen indeed! Alleluia!

THE COLLECT OF THE DAY

O God, whose Son Jesus Christ 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 LESSONS *(congregation seated)*

Acts 4:32-37

³² Now the whole group of those who believed were of one heart and soul, and no one claimed private ownership of any possessions, but everything they owned was held in common. ³³With great power the apostles gave their testimony to the resurrection of the Lord Jesus, and great grace was upon them all. ³⁴There was not a needy person among them, for as many as owned lands or houses sold them and brought the proceeds of what was sold. ³⁵They laid it at the apostles' feet, and it was distributed to each as any had need. ³⁶There was a Levite, a native of Cyprus, Joseph, to whom the apostles gave the name Barnabas (which means 'son of encouragement'). ³⁷He sold a field that belonged to him, then brought the money, and laid it at the apostles' feet.

Reader: The Word of the Lord.

People: *Thanks be to God.*

Psalm 23

¹ The LORD is my shepherd; *
therefore I can lack nothing.

² He shall feed me in green pastures *
and lead me forth beside the waters of comfort.

³ He shall refresh my soul *
and bring me forth in the paths of righteousness for his Name's sake.

⁴ Even though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil, *
for you are with me; your rod and your staff comfort me.

⁵ You shall prepare a table before me, in the presence of those who trouble me; *
you have anointed my head with oil, and my cup shall be full.

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.

All: *Glory to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit, as it was in the beginning is now and will be forever. Amen.*

1 John 3:1-10

³See what love the Father has given us, that we should be called children of God; and that is what we are. The reason the world does not know us is that it did not know him. ²Beloved, we are God's children now; what we will be has not yet been revealed. What we do know is this: when he is revealed, we will be like him, for we will see him as he is. ³And all who have this hope in him purify themselves, just as he is pure. ⁴ Everyone who commits sin is guilty of lawlessness; sin is lawlessness. ⁵You know that he was revealed to take away sins, and in him there is no sin. ⁶No one who abides in him sins; no one who sins has either seen him or known him. ⁷Little children, let no one deceive you. Everyone who does what is right is righteous, just as he is righteous. ⁸Everyone who commits sin is a child of the devil; for the devil has been sinning from the beginning. The Son of God was revealed for this purpose, to destroy the works of the devil. ⁹Those who have been born of God do not sin, because God's seed abides in them; they cannot sin, because they have been born of God. ¹⁰The children of God and the children of the devil are revealed in this way: all who do not do what is right are not from God, nor are those who do not love their brothers and sisters.

Reader: The Word of the Lord.

People: *Thanks be to God.*

The Gospel (*congregation standing*)

*In Christ alone my hope is found
He is my light, my strength, my song
This cornerstone, this solid ground
Firm through the fiercest drought and storm
What heights of love, what depths of peace
When fears are stilled, when strivings cease
My comforter, my all in all
Here in the love of Christ I stand*

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

People: *Glory to you, Lord Christ.*

John 10:11-16

¹¹ 'I am the good shepherd. The good shepherd lays down his life for the sheep. ¹²The 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. ¹³The hired hand runs away because a hired hand does not care for the sheep. ¹⁴I am the good shepherd. I know my own and my own know me, ¹⁵just as the Father knows me and I know the Father. And I lay down my life for the sheep. ¹⁶I 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.

Minister: The Gospel of the Lord.

People: *Praise to you, Lord Christ.*

*There in the ground His body lay
Light of the world by darkness slain
Then bursting forth in glorious day
Up from the grave He rose again*

*And as He stands in victory
Sin's curse has lost its grip on me
For I am His and He is mine
Bought with the precious blood of Christ*

THE SERMON

THE NICENE CREED *(congregation stand)*

***We believe in one God,
the Father, the Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth,
of all that is, visible and invisible.***

***We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ,
the only-begotten 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,
was incarnate from the Holy Spirit and 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,
who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified,
who 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 *(congregation standing or kneeling)*

Let us pray for the Church and for the world, saying, "hear our prayer."

For the peace of the whole world, and for the well-being and unity of the people of God.

Reader: Lord, in your mercy:

People: Hear our prayer.

For Foley, our Archbishop, and Mark, our Bishop, and for all the clergy and people of our Diocese and Congregation. We pray for the election of a new Archbishop, for his family and for his diocese.

Reader: Lord, in your mercy:

People: Hear our prayer.

For all those who proclaim the Gospel at home and abroad; and for all who teach and disciple others.

Reader: Lord, in your mercy:

People: Hear our prayer.

For our brothers and sisters in Christ who are persecuted for their faith.

Reader: Lord, in your mercy:

People: Hear our prayer.

For our nation, for those in authority, and for all in public service especially Joe, our president, Andy, our governor, and Linda, our mayor.

Reader: Lord, in your mercy:

People: Hear our prayer.

For all those who are in trouble, sorrow, need, sickness, or any other adversity.

Reader: Lord, in your mercy:

People: Hear our prayer.

For all those who have departed this life in the certain hope of the resurrection, in thanksgiving let us pray.

Reader: Lord, in your mercy:

People: Hear our prayer.

Heavenly Father, grant these our prayers for the sake of Jesus Christ, our only Mediator and Advocate, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

THE PEACE (*congregation standing*)

Celebrant: The Peace of the Lord be always with you.

People: And with your spirit.

THE OFFERTORY

The Doxology (*congregation standing*)

***Praise God from whom all blessings flow;
Praise Him, all creatures here below;
Praise Him above, ye heavenly host;
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost! Amen.***

THE SURSUM CORDA

Celebrant: The Lord be with you.

People: And with your spirit.

Celebrant: Lift up your hearts.

People: We lift them up to the Lord.

Celebrant: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People: It is right to give him thanks and praise.

It is right, our duty and our joy, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth.

But chiefly are we bound to praise you for the glorious resurrection of your Son Jesus Christ our Lord; for he is the true Paschal Lamb, who was offered for us, and has taken away the sin of the world; who by his death has destroyed death, and by his rising to life again has won for us everlasting life.

Therefore we praise you, joining our voices with Angels and Archangels and with all the company of heaven, who forever sing this hymn to proclaim the glory of your Name:

THE SANCTUS

***Holy, Holy, Holy, Lord God of power and might,
heaven and earth are full of your glory.***

Hosanna in the highest.

Blessed is he who comes in the Name of the Lord.

Hosanna in the highest.

Holy and gracious Father: In your infinite love you made us for yourself; and when we had sinned against you and become subject to evil and death, you, in your mercy, sent your only Son Jesus Christ into the world for our salvation. By the Holy Spirit and the Virgin Mary he became flesh and dwelt among us. In obedience to your will, he stretched out his arms upon the Cross and offered himself once for all, that by his suffering and death we might be saved. By his resurrection he broke the bonds of death, trampling Hell and Satan under his feet. As our great high priest, he ascended to your right hand in glory, that we might come with confidence before the throne of grace.

On the night that he was betrayed, our Lord Jesus Christ took bread; and when he had given thanks, he broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying, "Take, eat; this is my Body, which is given for you: Do this in remembrance of me."

Likewise, after supper, Jesus took the cup, and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, saying, "Drink this, all of you; for this is my Blood of the New Covenant, which is shed for you, and for many, for the forgiveness of sins: Whenever you drink it, do this in remembrance of me."

Therefore we proclaim the mystery of faith:

Christ has died.

Christ is risen.

Christ will come again.

We celebrate the memorial of our redemption, O Father, in this sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving, and we offer you these gifts.

Sanctify them by your Word and Holy Spirit to be for your people the Body and Blood of your Son Jesus Christ. Sanctify us also, that we may worthily receive this holy Sacrament, and be made one body with him, that he may dwell in us and we in him. In the fullness of time, put all things in subjection under your Christ, and bring us with all your saints into the joy of your heavenly kingdom, where we shall see our Lord face to face.

All this we ask through your Son Jesus Christ: 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 forever.
Amen.

THE LORD'S PRAYER

*Our Father in heaven,
hallowed be your Name,
your kingdom come,
your will be done,
on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us today our daily bread.
And 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.*

THE FRACTION

Celebrant: Alleluia. Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us.

People: *Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia.*

THE MINISTRATION OF COMMUNION

The gifts of God for the people of God. Take them in remembrance that Christ died for you and feed on him in your hearts by faith, with thanksgiving.

THE PRAYER FOR SPIRITUAL COMMUNION

Dear Jesus, I believe that you are truly present in the Holy Sacrament. I love you above all things, and I desire to possess you within my soul. And since I cannot now receive you sacramentally, I beseech you to come spiritually into my heart. I unite myself to you, together with all your faithful people gathered around every altar of your Church, and I embrace you with all the affections of my soul. Never permit me to be separated from you.
Amen.

THE PRAYER OF CHRISTIAN DISCIPLESHIP

Heavenly Father,

***We thank you for feeding us with the spiritual food
of the most precious Body and Blood
of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ;
and for assuring us in these holy mysteries
that we are living members of the body of your Son,
and heirs of your eternal kingdom.***

***And now, Father, send us out to do the work you have given us to do,
to love and serve you as faithful witnesses of Christ our Lord.***

***To him, to you, and to the Holy Spirit,
be honor and glory, now and for ever. Amen.***

THE BLESSING

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.**

THE RECESSIONAL *(congregation standing)*

CLOSING SONG

Reckless Love

(Verse 1)

*Before I spoke a word, You were singing over me
You have been so, so good to me
Before I took a breath, You breathed Your life in me
You have been so, so kind to me*

(Chorus)

*Oh, the overwhelming, never-ending, reckless love of God
Oh, it chases me down, fights 'til I'm found, leaves the ninety-nine
I couldn't earn it, I don't deserve it, still You give Yourself away
Oh, the overwhelming, never-ending, reckless love of God*

(Verse 2)

*When I was Your foe, still Your love fought for me
You have been so, so good to me
When I felt no worth, You paid it all for me
You have been so, so kind to me*

(Bridge)

There's no shadow You won't light up

Mountain You won't climb up

Coming after me

There's no wall You won't kick down

Lie You won't tear down

Coming after me

THE DISMISSAL

Minister: Let us go forth in the name of Christ. Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

People: *Thanks be to God. Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!*