

Order of the Holy Communion– The Fourth Sunday of Easter

Organ Prelude “Christ Jesus Lay in Death's Strong Bands” J. Walter

Chancel Bells “God Whose Giving Knows No Ending”

Lee J. Afdah

OPENING HYMN 710 The Lord's My Shepherd, I'll Not Want

- 1 The Lord's my shepherd, I'll not want;
He makes me down to lie
In pastures green; He leadeth me
The quiet waters by.
- 2 My soul He doth restore again
And me to walk doth make
Within the paths of righteousness,
E'en for His own name's sake.
- 3 Yea, though I walk in death's dark vale,
Yet will I fear no ill;
For Thou art with me, and Thy rod
And staff me comfort still.
- 4 My table Thou hast furnishèd
In presence of my foes;
My head Thou dost with oil anoint,
And my cup overflows.
- 5 Goodness and mercy all my life
Shall surely follow me;
And in God's house forevermore
My dwelling place shall be.

Pastor: In the name of the Father, and of the Son † and of the Holy Spirit.

The Congregation Shall Chant:

A - - - men.

Then shall be said

The Confession of Sins

V: Beloved in the Lord! Let us draw near with a true heart and confess our sins unto God, our Father, beseeching Him in the name of our Lord, Jesus Christ, to grant us forgiveness.

V: Our help is in the name of the Lord.

R: Who made heaven and earth. (Chanted)

V: I said I will confess my transgressions unto the Lord.

R: And you forgave the iniquity of my sin. (Chanted)

Then the Pastor and the Congregation shall say:

O almighty God, merciful Father, I, a poor, miserable sinner, confess unto You all my sins and iniquities with which I have ever offended You and justly deserved Your temporal and eternal punishment. But I am heartily sorry for them and sincerely repent of them, and I pray You of Your boundless mercy and for the sake of the holy, innocent, bitter sufferings and death of Your beloved Son, Jesus Christ, to be gracious and merciful to me, a poor sinful being.

Then, the Pastor shall pronounce the Absolution:

Upon this your confession, I, by virtue of my office as a called and ordained servant of the Word, announce the grace of God unto all of you, and in the stead, and by the command of my Lord, Jesus Christ, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father, and of the Son ☩ and of the Holy Spirit.

The Congregation Shall Chant:

A - - - men.

The Gloria Patri

Chanted by the Pastor and the Congregation

Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Ghost; As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.

The Kyrie

Chanted by the Pastor and the Congregation

Lord, have mercy upon us. Christ have mercy upon us. Lord, have mercy upon us.

Then shall be chanted

The Gloria in Excelsis

Glory be to God on high: And on earth, peace, good will toward men. We praise Thee, we bless Thee, we worship Thee. We glorify Thee, we give thanks to Thee for Your great glory.

O Lord God, Heav'nly King, God the Father Almighty.

O Lord, the only-begotten Son, Jesus Christ;

O Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Father,

that takest away the sins of the world, have mercy upon us.

Thou that takest away the sins of the world, receive our prayer.

Thou that sittest at the right hand of God the Father,

have mercy upon us.

For Thou only art holy; Thou only art the Lord.

Thou only, O Christ, with the Holy Ghost art most high in the glory of God, the Father. A-men.

V: The Lord be with you.

R. And with your spirit. (*Chanted*)

V: Let us pray.

The Pastor shall say

The Collect for the Day

The Lessons for the Fourth Sunday of Easter

The First Lesson – Acts 4:1-12

¹As they were speaking to the people, the priests and the captain of the temple and the Sadducees came upon them, ²greatly annoyed because they were teaching the people and proclaiming in Jesus the resurrection from the dead. ³And they arrested them and put them in custody until the next day, for it was already evening. ⁴But many of those who had heard the word believed, and the number of the men came to about five thousand.

⁵On the next day their rulers and elders and scribes gathered together in Jerusalem, ⁶with Annas the high priest and Caiaphas and John and Alexander, and all who were of the high-priestly family. ⁷And when they had set them in the midst, they inquired, "By what power or by what name did you do this?" ⁸Then Peter, filled with the Holy Spirit, said to them, "Rulers of the people and elders, ⁹if we are being examined today concerning a good deed done

to a crippled man, by what means this man has been healed, ¹⁰let it be known to all of you and to all the people of Israel that by the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth, whom you crucified, whom God raised from the dead—by him this man is standing before you well. ¹¹This Jesus is the stone that was rejected by you, the builders, which has become the cornerstone. ¹²And there is salvation in no one else, for there is no other name under heaven given among men by which we must be saved.”

Pastor: *This is the Word of the Lord.*

Congr: **Thanks be to God.**

The Epistle – 1 John 3:16-24

¹⁶By this we know love, that he laid down his life for us, and we ought to lay down our lives for the brothers. ¹⁷But if anyone has the world's goods and sees his brother in need, yet closes his heart against him, how does God's love abide in him? ¹⁸Little children, let us not love in word or talk but in deed and in truth.

¹⁹By this we shall know that we are of the truth and reassure our heart before him; ²⁰for whenever our heart condemns us, God is greater than our heart, and he knows everything. ²¹Beloved, if our heart does not condemn us, we have confidence before God; ²²and whatever we ask we receive from him, because we keep his commandments and do what pleases him. ²³And this is his commandment, that we believe in the name of his Son Jesus Christ and love one another, just as he has commanded us. ²⁴Whoever keeps his commandments abides in him, and he in them. And by this we know that he abides in us, by the Spirit whom he has given us.

Pastor: *This is the Word of the Lord.*

Congr: **Thanks be to God.**

Congregation stands for the Gospel – “Alleluia. Alleluia. Alleluia.”

The Gospel – John 10:11-18

Congr: **"Glory be to Thee, O Lord!"**

¹¹[Jesus said:] “I am the good shepherd. The good shepherd lays down his life for the sheep. ¹²He who is a hired hand and not a shepherd, who does not own the sheep, sees the wolf coming and leaves the sheep and flees, and the wolf snatches them and scatters them. ¹³He flees because he is a hired hand and cares nothing 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. ¹⁶And I have other sheep that are not of this fold. I must bring them also, and they will listen to my voice. So there will be one flock, one shepherd. ¹⁷For this reason the Father loves me, because I lay down my life that I may take it up again. ¹⁸No one takes it from me, but I lay it down of my own accord. I have authority to lay it down, and I have authority to take it up again. This charge I have received from my Father.”

Congr: **"Praise be to Thee, O Christ!"**

Pastor: **We confess our holy Christian faith in the words of the Nicene Creed.**

The Nicene Creed

I believe in one God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth and of all things visible and invisible.

And in one Lord Jesus Christ, the only-begotten Son of God, begotten of His Father

before all worlds, God of God, Light of Light, very God of very God, begotten, not made, being of one substance with the Father, by whom all things were made; who for us men and for our salvation came down from heaven and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the virgin Mary and was made man; and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate.

He suffered and was buried. And the third day He rose again according to the Scriptures and ascended into heaven and sits at the right hand of the Father.

And He will come again with glory to judge both the living and the dead, whose kingdom will have no end.

And I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord and giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped and glorified, who spoke by the prophets.

And I believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church, I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins, and I look for the resurrection of the dead and the life † of the world to come. Amen.

SERMON HYMN 709 The King of Love My Shepherd Is

- 1 The King of love my shepherd is,
Whose goodness faileth never;
I nothing lack if I am His
And He is mine forever.
- 2 Where streams of living water flow,
My ransomed soul He leadeth
And, where the verdant pastures grow,
With food celestial feedeth.
- 3 Perverse and foolish oft I strayed,
But yet in love He sought me
And on His shoulder gently laid
And home rejoicing brought me.
- 4 In death's dark vale I fear no ill
With Thee, dear Lord, beside me,
Thy rod and staff my comfort still,
Thy cross before to guide me.
- 5 Thou spreadst a table in my sight;
Thine unction grace bestoweth;
And, oh, what transport of delight
From Thy pure chalice floweth!
- 6 And so through all the length of days
Thy goodness faileth never;
Good Shepherd, may I sing Thy praise
Within Thy house forever!

SERMON: "God's Word Overrides Your Feelings" 1 John 3:19-20

The Sermon ended, the congregation shall rise and the Pastor shall say:

Pastor: The peace of God, which passeth all understanding, keep your hearts and minds through Christ Jesus.

The Offertory

The Congregation chants:

Create in me a clean heart, O God, and renew a right spirit within me. Cast me not away from Your presence, and take not Your Holy Spirit from me. Restore unto me the joy of Your salvation; and uphold me with Your free spirit. Amen.

Organ Voluntary *"Victimae Paschali Laudes"* Wipo, 11th Cent.

The General Prayer

The Preface

V: The Lord be with you.

R. And with your spirit. (Chanted)

V: Lift up your hearts.

R: We lift them up unto the Lord. (Chanted)

V: Let us give thanks unto the Lord, our God.

R. It is meet and right so to do. (Chanted)

Pastor: It is truly meet, right, and salutary that we should at all times and all places give thanks unto Thee, O Lord, holy Father, almighty, everlasting God - - Therefore, with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising Thee and saying:

The Congregation Chants:

The Sanctus

Holy, holy, holy, Lord God of Sabaoth; Heav'n and earth are full of Your glory; Hosanna, Hosanna, Hosanna in the highest. Blessed is He, Blessed is He, Blessed is He that cometh in the name of the Lord. Hosanna, Hosanna, Hosanna in the highest.

The Lord's Prayer

Our Father who art in heaven, Hallowed be Your name; Your kingdom come; Your 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 forever and ever. Amen.

The Words of Institution

Pastor: Our Lord Jesus Christ, the same night in which He was betrayed, took bread; and when He had given thanks, He brake it and gave it to His disciples, saying, "Take, eat; this is My body, which is given for you. This do in remembrance of Me."

After the same manner also He took the cup when He had supped, and when He had given thanks, He gave it to them, saying, "Drink ye all of it; this cup is the new testament in My blood, which is shed for you for the remission of sins. This do, as oft as ye drink it, in remembrance of Me."

The Pax Domini

Pastor: The peace of the Lord be with you always!

The Congregation Shall Chant:

A - - - men.

The Congregation Shall Chant:

The Agnus Dei

O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that takest away the sin of the world, have mercy upon us. O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that takest away the sin of the world, have mercy upon us. O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that takest away the sin of the world, grant us Your peace. Amen.

The Distribution

HYMNS DURING DISTRIBUTION

623 Lord Jesus Christ, We Humbly Pray

1 Lord Jesus Christ, we humbly pray
That we may feast on You today;
Beneath these forms of bread and wine
Enrich us with Your grace divine.

2 Give us, who share this wondrous food,
Your body broken and Your blood,
The grateful peace of sins forgiv'n,
The certain joys of heirs of heav'n.

3 By faith Your Word has made us bold
To seize the gift of love retold;
All that You are we here receive,
And all we are to You we give.

4 One bread, one cup, one body, we,
Rejoicing in our unity,
Proclaim Your love until You come
To bring Your scattered loved ones home.

5 Lord Jesus Christ, we humbly pray:
O keep us steadfast till that day
When each will be Your welcomed guest
In heaven's high and holy feast.

599 O Gracious Lord, with Love Draw Near

1 O gracious Lord, with love draw near
To these, Your children gathered here;
The Spirit's gift in them renew:
The gift of faith that clings to You.

2 Sustain the work You have begun
In these united to Your Son,
For in that pure baptismal flood
They have been cleansed by Jesus' blood.

3 Deliver them from ev'ry wile,
From all that would their hearts beguile,
From worldly ways and Satan's lies,
That they may not Your Word despise.

4 Lord, keep them firm in their intent
To You, Your Word and Sacrament.
O make them bold, their faith to share
And make them strong, each cross to bear.

5 O Father, grant that by Your grace
They may Your will each day embrace;
With fruits of faith their lives now bless,
Till they at death Your name confess.

6 Then robed in white before Your throne,
Your holy saints, by You foreknown—
Predestined, called, and justified,
Shall, crowned in light, be glorified.

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774 Feed Thy Children, God Most Holy

1 Feed Thy children, God most holy;
Comfort sinners poor and lowly.
O Thou Bread of Life from heaven,
Bless the food Thou here hast given!
As these gifts the body nourish,
May our souls in graces flourish
Till with saints in heav'nly splendor
At Thy feast due thanks we render.

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The Distribution Completed, the Congregation Shall Rise and Chant:

The Nunc Dimittis

Lord, now lettest Thou Your servant depart in peace according to Your word, For mine eyes have seen Your Salvation: which Thou hast prepared before the face of all people, a Light to lighten the Gentiles and the Glory of Your people Israel. Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Ghost; As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.

The Thanksgiving

Pastor: We give thanks to You, Almighty God, that You have refreshed us through this salutary gift; and we beseech You that of Your mercy Thou wouldst strengthen us through the same in faith toward You and in fervent love toward one another, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who liveth and reigneth with You and the Holy Spirit, ever one God, world without end.

The Congregation Shall Chant:

A - - - men.

V: The Lord be with you.

R. And with your spirit. (Chanted)

V: Bless we the Lord.

R: Thanks be to God. (Chanted)

The Benediction

Pastor: The Lord bless You and keep You. The Lord make His face shine upon You and be gracious unto You. The Lord lift up His countenance upon You and give You peace.

The Congregation Shall Chant:

A - - - men, A - - - men, A - - - men.

CLOSING HYMN 819 Sing Praise to God, the Highest Good

- 1 Sing praise to God, the highest good,
The author of creation,
The God of love who understood
Our need for His salvation.
With healing balm our souls He fills
And ev'ry faithless murmur stills:
To God all praise and glory!

- 2 What God's almighty pow'r has made,
In mercy He is keeping.
By morning glow or evening shade
His eye is never sleeping.
Within the kingdom of His might
All things are just and good and right:
To God all praise and glory!

- 3 We sought the Lord in our distress;
O God, in mercy hear us.
Our Savior saw our helplessness
And came with peace to cheer us.
For this we thank and praise the Lord,
Who is by one and all adored:
To God all praise and glory!

- 4 He never shall forsake His flock,
His chosen generation;
He is their refuge and their rock,
Their peace and their salvation.
As with a mother's tender hand,
He leads His own, His chosen band:
To God all praise and glory!

- 5 All who confess Christ's holy name,
Give God the praise and glory.
Let all who know His pow'r proclaim
Aloud the wondrous story.
Cast ev'ry idol from its throne,
For God is God, and He alone:
To God all praise and glory!

SILENT PRAYER

ANNOUNCEMENTS

POSTLUDE *"Come, Ye Faithful, Raise the Strain"*

J. Horne

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