

Sunday 26th April 2026

4th Sunday of Easter

Collect

Almighty God,  
whose Son Jesus Christ is the resurrection and the life:  
raise us, who trust in him,  
from the death of sin to the life of righteousness,  
that we may seek those things which are above,  
where he reigns with you  
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,  
one God, now and for ever.

or

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.

Readings

Psalm 23

1 The Lord is my shepherd;

therefore can I lack nothing.

2 He makes me lie down in green pastures

and leads me beside still waters.

3 He shall refresh my soul

and guide me in the paths of righteousness for his names sake.

4 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, 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 shall be full.

6 Surely goodness and loving mercy shall follow me

all the days of my life, and I will dwell in the house of the Lord for ever.

## Gospel Reading

Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to John.

All: Glory to you, O Lord.

John 10.1–10

10 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.

2 The one who enters by the gate is the shepherd of the sheep.

3 The gatekeeper opens the gate for him, and the sheep hear his voice. He calls his own sheep by name and leads them out.

4 When he has brought out all his own, he goes ahead of them, and the sheep follow him because they know his voice.

5 They will not follow a stranger, but they will run from him because they do not know the voice of strangers.

6 Jesus used this figure of speech with them, but they did not understand what he was saying to them.

7 So again Jesus said to them, Very truly, I tell you, I am the gate for the sheep.

8 All who came before me are thieves and bandits; but the sheep did not listen to them.

9 I am the gate. Whoever enters by me will be saved, and will come in and go out and find pasture.

10 The thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy. I came that they may have life, and have it abundantly.

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

All: Praise to you, O Christ.

## Post Communion

Merciful Father,  
you gave your Son Jesus Christ to be the good shepherd,  
and in his love for us to lay down his life and rise again:  
keep us always under his protection,  
and give us grace to follow in his steps;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

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