

# A Service of Morning Prayer for the Fourth Sunday of Easter

## Sunday, May 3, 2020

*With the Parish of the Valley Clergy Team  
and Participants from Across the Parish  
[www.valleyanglicans.ca](http://www.valleyanglicans.ca)*

**Bell Ringer** – Alice Ferguson at St Paul’s, Cobden

**Words of Welcome** – Canon Susan

*A candle may be lit, to set apart this time of prayer.*

Rev Matthew: Alleluia! Christ is risen.

All:                   **The Lord is risen indeed. Alleluia!**

Rev Matthew: Praise the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ.

All:                   **He gave us new life and hope by raising Jesus from the dead.**

Rev Matthew: Rejoice, then, even in your distress.

All:                   **We shall be counted worthy when Christ appears.**

Rev Matthew: God has claimed us as his own.

All:                   **He called us from our darkness into the light of his day.**

**Christ our Passover**                   *(1 Corinthians 5.7–8; Romans 6.9–11; 1 Corinthians 15.20–22)*

All:                   **Alleluia!**

Christ our Passover has been sacrificed for us;  
therefore let us keep the feast,  
Not with the old leaven, the leaven of malice and evil,  
but with the unleavened bread of sincerity and truth.

**Alleluia!**

Christ being raised from the dead will never die again;  
death no longer has dominion over him.

The death that he died, he died to sin, once for all;  
but the life he lives, he lives to God.

So also consider yourselves dead to sin,  
and alive to God in Jesus Christ our Lord.

**Alleluia!**

Christ has been raised from the dead,  
the first fruits of those who have fallen asleep.  
For since by a human came death,  
by a human has come also the resurrection of the dead.

**For as in Adam all die,  
so also in Christ shall all be made alive.  
Alleluia!**

Rev Matthew: Alleluia! The Lord is risen indeed: O come, let us worship.

### **The Proclamation of the Word**

Marilyn Hill: A reading from the book of Acts (2:42-47)

They 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.

Marilyn: The Word of the Lord

All: **Thanks Be to God.**

### **Psalm 23 – Inclusive Language Psalter**

The Lord is my shepherd; I shall not be in want.

**You make me lie down in green pastures and lead me beside still waters.**

You revive my soul and guide me along right pathways for your name's sake.

**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.

**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.

**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.**

Maggie Jacques: A reading from the First Letter of Peter (2:19-25)

For it is to your credit if, being aware of God, you endure pain while suffering unjustly. If you endure when you are beaten for doing wrong, where is the credit in 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.

Maggie: The Word of the Lord

All: **Thanks Be to God.**

Rev Rachael: The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to John (10:1-10)

All: **Glory to you, Lord Jesus Christ.**

'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.'

Rev Rachael: The Gospel of Christ

All: **Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.**

**Sermon – Rev Gillian**

## Affirmation of Faith

All: **I believe in God,  
the Father almighty,  
creator of heaven and earth.**

**I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.  
He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit  
and born of the Virgin Mary.**

**He suffered under Pontius Pilate,  
was crucified, died, and was buried.  
He descended to the dead.  
On the third day he rose again.  
He ascended into heaven,**

**and is seated at the right hand of the Father.  
He will come again  
to judge the living and the dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Spirit,  
the holy catholic Church,  
the communion of saints,  
the forgiveness of sins,  
the resurrection of the body,  
and the life everlasting. Amen.**

### **Intercessions and Thanksgivings**

*Led by Bishop Michael*

**Response: Hear Our Prayer**

### **The Collect**

Rev Matthew: O God of peace,  
who brought again from the dead our Lord Jesus Christ,  
that great shepherd of the sheep,  
by the blood of the eternal covenant,  
make us perfect in every good work to do your will,  
and work in us that which is well-pleasing in your sight,  
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

**All:** Amen.

Rev Matthew: And now, as our Saviour Christ has taught us, we are bold to say,

**All:** 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,  
the power and the glory,  
for ever and ever. Amen.

Rev Matthew: Glory to God

**All:** whose power, working in us,  
can do infinitely more

**than we can ask or imagine.  
Glory to God from generation to generation,  
in the Church and in Christ Jesus,  
for ever and ever. Amen.**

Rev Matthew: Let us bless the Lord.

**All:** **Thanks be to God.**

Closing Blessing: Rev Matthew

**All:** **Amen.**

**Closing Hymn** – Paula Lundrigan with Hannah Lundrigan at Holy Trinity, Pembroke

**Rejoice, the Lord is King (Common Praise #379)**

Rejoice, the Lord is King! Your Lord and King adore!  
Rejoice, give thanks and sing and triumph evermore.  
Lift up your heart, lift up your voice:  
rejoice; again I say, rejoice!

Jesus the Saviour reigns, the God of truth and love;  
when he had purged our stains, he took his seat above.  
Lift up your heart, lift up your voice:  
rejoice; again I say, rejoice!

His Kingdom cannot fail; he rules o'er earth and heaven;  
the keys of death and hell are to our Jesus given.  
Lift up your heart, lift up your voice:  
rejoice; again I say, rejoice!

He sits at God's right hand till all his foes submit,  
and bow to his command, and fall beneath his feet.  
Lift up your heart, lift up your voice:  
rejoice; again I say, rejoice!

Rejoice in glorious hope; Jesus, the judge, shall come  
and take his servants up to their eternal home.  
We soon shall hear the archangel's voice;  
the trump of God shall sound, rejoice!

*If a candle was lit, it is extinguished now.*

**Acknowledgments:**

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<https://www.anglican.ca/wp-content/uploads/Alternative-RCL-Collects-Final-2019.pdf>*

*The Psalms are drawn from the Inclusive Language Psalter, commended for use by the Council of General Synod, March 2019 and found online at <https://www.anglican.ca/wp-content/uploads/GS2016-Liturgical-Psalter-2016-05-04.pdf>*

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