HOLY EUCHARIST

The Fourth Sunday of Easter

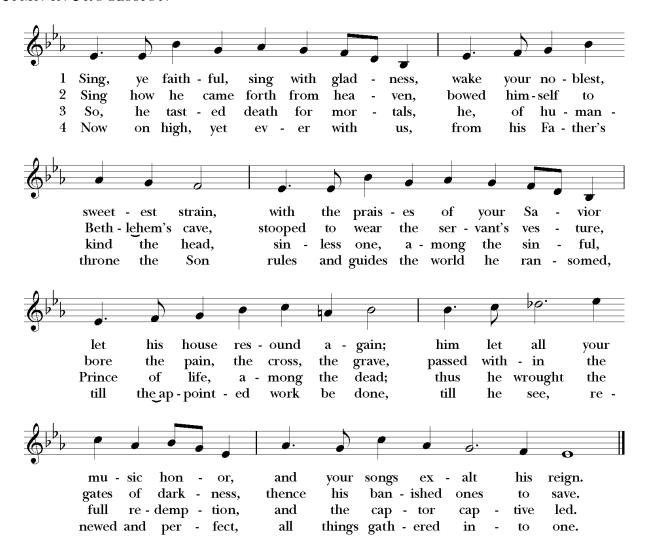
ST. PAUL'S ON THE GREEN | APRIL 30, 2023 - 9:00AM & II:00AM

PRELUDE

Melody – Samuel Coleridge-Taylor (1875-1912)

Please stand as the bell sounds.

HYMN IN PROCESSION



Words: John Ellerton (1826–1893), alt. Music: Finnian, Christopher Dearnley (b. 1930)

THE OPENING ACCLAMATION

The Celebrant intones

Alleluia. Christ is Risen.

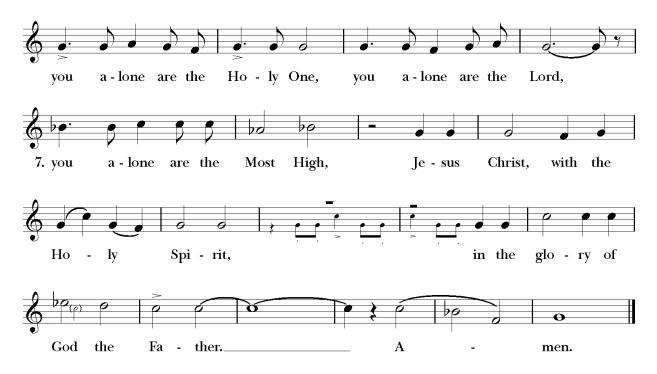
The People respond



The Lord is risen indeed. Al-le-lu-ia.







Setting: William Mathias (1934-1992)

THE COLLECT OF THE DAY

The Celebrant intones

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Let us pray.

O God, you never cease to call even those far away, for it is your will that all be drawn into one fold. Attune our ears to the voice of the Good Shepherd, who leads us always to you, that we may find under your tender protection life in all its fullest. We ask this through Jesus Christ, the resurrection and the life, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, God for ever and ever.

Amen.

THE LESSON seated Acts 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.

Hear what the Spirit is saying to the People.

Thanks be to God.

PSALM Psalm 23

At 9:00am, the first verse is intoned by the Cantor, then by all on this tone



At 11:00am, the Psalm is sung by the Choir

O God, you are my <u>shepherd</u>; * I shall not be in want.

You make me lie down in green <u>pastures</u> * and lead me beside still waters.

You revive my <u>soul</u> * and guide me along right pathways for the sake of your <u>Name</u>.

Though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I shall fear no <u>evil</u>; * for you are with me; your rod and your staff, they <u>comfort me</u>.

You spread a table before me in the presence of those who <u>trouble me</u>; * you have anointed my head with oil, and my cup is running <u>over</u>.

Surely your goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my <u>life</u>, * and I will dwell in the house of God for <u>ever</u>.

(at 11:00am) Anglican Chant: John Goss

THE EPISTLE 1 Peter 2:19-25

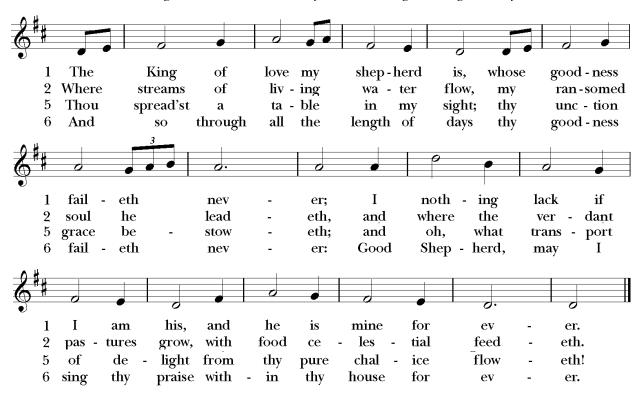
It is a credit to you if, being aware of God, you endure pain while suffering unjustly. If you endure when you are beaten for doing wrong, what credit is that? But if you endure when you do right and suffer for it, you have God's approval. For to this you have been called, because Christ also suffered 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.

Hear what the Spirit is saying to the People.

Thanks be to God.

As the Gospel procession gathers, children ages 5-12 (and parents) are invited to join the procession at the center. They will then leave for their own lesson and will rejoin us at the passing of the Peace.

GOSPEL HYMN standing, all turn toward the Gospel as it is brought among the People

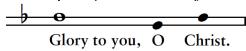


Words: Henry Williams Baker (1821–1877); para. Psalm 23 Music: St. Columba, Irish melody, harm. Hymnal 1982

THE GOSPEL The Deacon or Priest intones

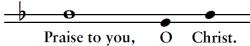
Iohn 10:1-10

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



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."

The Gospel of the Lord.



SERMON The Rev. Daniel Simons

A period of silent reflection follows the sermon.

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

During the season of Eastertide we will use the Affirmation of Faith (Creed) from one of our companion churches in the Anglican Communion, the Church of New Zealand. The prayers of this branch of the church are beloved throughout the Communion for their simple, direct, and creation-centered language in liturgy.

You O God, are supreme and holy. You create our world and give us life. Your purpose overarches everything we do. You have always been with us. You are God.

You, O God, are infinitely generous, good beyond measure. You came to us before we came to you. You have revealed and proved your love to us in Jesus Christ, who lived and died and rose again. You are with us now. You are God.

You, O God, are Holy Spirit.
You empower us to be your gospel in the world.
You reconcile and heal.
You overcome death.
You are our God.
We worship you.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

God of new creation, you promise to hear and answer when we pray to you in faith.

We pray now for the world:

Lead us and every people into ways of justice and peace.

That we may respect one another in freedom and truth.

Awaken in us a sense of wonder for the earth and all that is in it.

Teach us to care creatively for its resources.

We pray for the Church:

Enliven the Church for its mission

that we may be salt of the earth and light to the world.

Breathe fresh life into your people.

Give us power to reveal Christ in word and action.

We pray for this community:

Inspire with your wisdom those whose decisions affect the lives of others, that all may act with integrity and courage.

Give grace to all whose lives are linked with ours.

May we serve Christ in one another, and love as he loves us.

We pray for those in need, and especially those who have asked for our prayers...

Please add your own prayers, aloud or silently.

Comfort and restore all who suffer in body, mind or spirit.

May they know the power of your healing love.

Make us willing agents of your compassion.

Strengthen us as we share in making people whole.

We remember those who have died and those who mourn: [especially for...]

Please add your own prayers, aloud or silently.

Give comfort, O God, to those who grieve.

Bring them peace in their time of loss.

We give thanks for the faithful in every generation.

May their example inspire our witness in our own day.

The Celebrant concludes

Almighty God, through your Son Jesus Christ you overcame death and opened to us the gate of everlasting life; grant us so to die daily to sin, that we may evermore live with him in the joy of his resurrection; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God now and for ever.

Amen.

THE PEACE

The peace of the Risen Christ be always with you. And also with you.

Please share a sign of peace with those around you.

Announcements

seated

Giving to St. Paul's

The work and mission of St. Paul's is fully supported by the generous contributions of its members and friends.

You can make a one-time offering or a sustaining gift to St. Paul's by visiting stpaulsnorwalk.org/givebycard, or text to give at 855-934-1074 For other means of giving, visit stpaulsnorwalk.org/support.



Thank you for your support!

MUSIC AT THE OFFERTORY sung by the Choir at 11:00am

We shall walk through the valley

Afro-American Spiritual, arr. Undine Smith Moore (1904-1989) Words: from Psalm 23

We shall walk through the valley in peace, If Jesus himself will be our leader, We shall walk through the valley in peace.

There will be no trials there, If Jesus himself will be our leader, There will be no trials there.

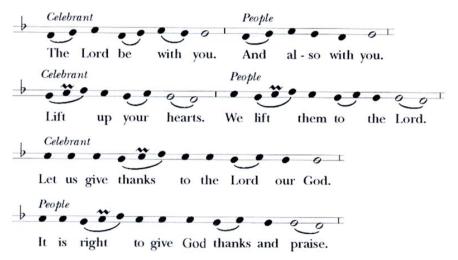
HYMN AT THE OFFERTORY standing



Words: William Kethe (d. 1608?); para. of Psalm 100

Music: Old 100th, melody from Pseumes octante trois de David, 1551, alt.; harm. after Louis Bourgeois (1510?–1561?)

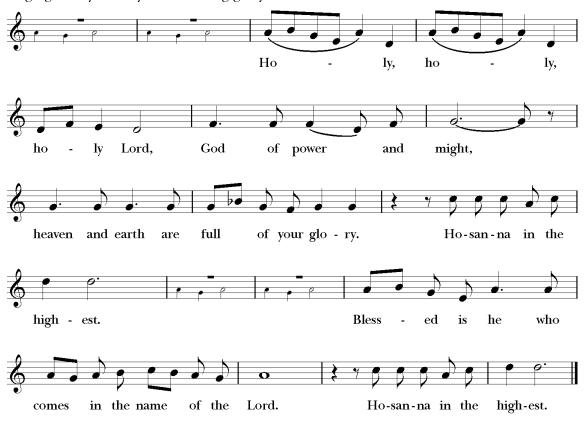
THE GREAT THANKSGIVING



Worship and praise belong to you, author of all being. Your power sustains, your love restores our broken world. You are unceasingly at work bringing order from chaos and filling emptiness with life.

Christ raised from the dead proclaims the dawn of hope. He lives in us that we may walk in light. Your Spirit is fire within us, your breath is power to purge our sin and warm our hearts to love.

As children of your redeeming purpose, freed by him who burst from the tomb and opened the gate of life, we offer you our praise, with angels and archangels and the whole company of heaven, singing the hymn of your unending glory:



Setting: William Mathias (1934-1992)

The Celebrant continues

Glory and thanksgiving be to you, Lord of all, for by the Cross eternal life is ours and death is swallowed up in victory. In the light of Easter, the disciples found new hope as the truth stirred among them that the one they had loved and lost was with them now in every place forever.

Making himself known in the breaking of the bread, speaking peace to the fearful disciples, he renewed the promise of his presence, and of new birth in the Spirit who sets the seal of freedom on your daughters and sons.

On the night when he was given up to death, knowing that his hour had come, having loved his own, he loved them to the end. At supper with his disciples he took bread and offered you thanks. He broke the bread, and gave it to them, saying: "Take, eat, this is my body: it is broken for you."

After supper, he took the cup, he offered you thanks, and gave it to them saying: "Drink this, all of you. This is my Blood of the new covenant; it is poured out for you, and for all, that sins may be forgiven. Do this in remembrance of me."

Alive in him, we proclaim the mystery of faith:



Made one with him, we offer you these gifts, and with them ourselves, a single, holy, living sacrifice. Hear us, most merciful Father, and send your Holy Spirit upon us and upon this bread and this wine, that, overshadowed by Christ's life-giving power, they may be the Body and blood of your Son, and we may be kindled with the fire of your love and renewed for the service of your Kingdom.

Help us who are baptized into the fellowship of Christ's Body to live and work for your praise and glory; that we may grow together in unity and love until at last, in your new creation, we enter into our heritage in the company of the blessed Virgin Mary, blessed Paul, the apostles and prophets, and of all our brothers and sisters, living and departed.

All this we pray through Jesus Christ our Lord, with whom and in whom, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, all honor and glory be to you, Lord of all ages, world without end.



Setting: Will Doreza

THE LORD'S PRAYER

As our Savior Christ has taught us, we now pray:



THE COMMUNION

The Celebrant breaks the bread and invites the People to Communion, saying

This is the Bread of Heaven.

Broken for the life of the world.

Everyone, without exception, is welcome to receive the bread and wine of Communion. Please follow the direction of the ushers. Gluten-free hosts are available upon request; grape juice is available in the blue-dot cups. Healing prayer is available in the side aisles for those wishing to pray with someone for any need in their lives.

All sing as the distribution of Communion begins:



Words: Herman G. Stuempfle Jr., (1923-2007) Music: Marty Haugen (b. 1950)

MUSIC AT COMMUNION sung by the choir at 11:00am

You hear the lambs a-cryin'

Words: Traditional, Negro Spiritual Music: harm. Verolga Nix (b. 1933)

THE PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

The People join in the final part of the prayer, in bold.

Ever-living God, we give you thanks and praise, that when we were still far off you met us in your Son and revealed the way to life in his name. Dying and rising, he declared your love, gave us grace, and opened the gate of glory.

May we who share Christ's body live his risen life; we who drink his cup bring life to others; we whom the Spirit lights give light to the world. Keep us firm in the hope that you have set before us, so that we and all your children shall be free, and the whole earth live to praise your name. Amen.

THE BLESSING

The wonder and wildness of God, who shakes heaven and earth, whom death could not contain, who lives to disturb and heal us, bless you with power to go forth and proclaim the Gospel. And the blessing of God Almighty: Eternal Majesty, Incarnate Word, and Abiding Spirit, be upon you and remain with you, now and always. **Amen.**

HYMN IN PROCESSION



Words: John of Damascus (8th cent.); tr. John Mason Neale (1818-1866), alt. Music: St. Kevin, Arthur Seymour Sullivan (1842-1900)

THE DISMISSAL

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

POSTLUDE

God of Grace – Paul Manz (1919-2009)

THE WORSHIP IS OVER - THE SERVICE BEGINS

ST PAUL'S ON THE GREEN - 60 EAST AVE., NORWALK, CT 06851

Contact us at: 203-847-2806 info@stpaulsnorwalk.org
The Rev. Daniel Simons Rector
The Rev. Louise Kalemkerian Priest Associate
The Rev. Paul Carling Priest Associate
Will Doreza Interim Director of Music
Josh Ehlebracht Interim Organist
Marsha Dunn Parish Administrator

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