

Morning Prayer

Sunday, May 3, 2020 – Fourth Sunday of Easter

Officiant: The Rev'd Fr. Benjamin Gillard
Preacher: The Rev'd Fr. Jeffry Kennedy
Organist & Cantor: Damien Macedo

Prelude **Stile Brisé on S. Wesley's 43rd (improvisation)**

The Gathering of the Community

Officiant Alleluia! Christ is risen.
People **The Lord is risen indeed. Alleluia!**

Officiant May his grace and peace be with you.
People **May he fill our hearts with joy.**

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 for ever. Amen.**

Officiant Alleluia! The Lord is risen indeed.
People **O come, let us worship. Alleluia!**

Venite *Psalm 95.1–7*

Officiant Come, let us sing to the Lord;
All **let us shout for joy to the rock of our salvation. Let us come before his presence with thanksgiving, and raise a loud shout to him with psalms. For the Lord is a great God, and a great king above all gods. In his hand are the caverns of the earth, and the heights of the hills are his also. The sea is his for he made it, and his hands have moulded the dry land. Come, let us bow down, and bend the knee, and kneel before the Lord our maker. For he is our God, and we are the people of his pasture and the sheep of his hand. Oh, that today you would hearken to his voice!**

Officiant Alleluia! The Lord is risen indeed.
People **O come, let us worship. Alleluia!**

Hymn: *The King of Love My Shepherd Is (520)*

The King of love my shepherd is, whose goodness faileth never;
I nothing lack if I am his and he is mine forever.

Where streams of living water flow, my ransomed soul he leadeth,
and where the verdant pastures grow, with food celestial feedeth.

Perverse and foolish oft I strayed, but yet in love he sought me,
and on his shoulder gently laid, and home rejoicing brought me.

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.

Thou spread'st a table in my sight; thy unction grace bestoweth;
and O what transport of delight from thy pure chalice floweth!

And so through all the length of days thy goodness faileth never;
good shepherd, may I sing thy praise within thy house forever!

The Liturgy of the Word

First Reading: Acts 2:42-47

Reader A reading from the acts of the apostles.

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.

Reader The word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

Psalm 23

Please join on the alternating (bolded) verses of the psalm.

¹ The Lord is my shepherd, I shall not want.

² **He makes me lie down in green pastures;
he leads me beside still waters;**

³ he restores my soul.

He leads me in right paths
for his name's sake.

⁴ **Even though I walk through the darkest valley,
I fear no evil;
for you are with me;
your rod and your staff—
they comfort me.**

⁵ You prepare a table before me
in the presence of my enemies;
you anoint my head with oil;
my cup overflows.

⁶ **Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me
all the days of my life,
and I shall dwell in the house of the Lord
my whole life long.**

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit;
as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be for ever. Amen.

Second Reading: 1 Peter 2:19-25

Reader A reading from the first letter of Peter.

For 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.

Reader The word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

Canticle: Glory to God

Officiant Alleluia! Glory to God in the highest,

All

**and peace to God’s people on earth.
Lord God, heavenly king, almighty God and Father,
we worship you, we give you thanks,
we praise you for your Glory.
Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father,
Lord God, Lamb of God,
you take away the sin of the world:
have mercy on us;
you are seated at the right hand of the Father:
receive our prayer.
For you alone are the Holy One,
you alone are the Lord,
you alone are the Most High,
Jesus Christ,
with the Holy Spirit,
in the Glory of God the Father. Amen.**

Gospel Reading: John 10:1-10

Reader The Lord be with you.

People **And also with you.**

Reader The Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ, according to John.

People **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.

Reader The Gospel of Christ.

People **Thanks be to God.**

Homily

The Rev’d Fr. Jeffrey Kennedy

The Nicene Creed

Officiant

Let us confess our faith as we say,

All

**We believe in one God,
the Father, the Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth,
of all that is, seen and unseen.
We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only 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:
by the power of the Holy Spirit
he became incarnate from 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.
With the Father and the Son
he is worshipped and glorified.
He 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.**

Intercessions and Prayers

Intercessions

Leader

In joy and hope let us pray to the source of all life, saying, "Hear us, Lord of glory!" That our risen Saviour may fill us with the joy of his holy and life-giving resurrection, let us pray to the Lord.

All

Hear us, Lord of glory!

Leader

That isolated and persecuted churches, and all peoples, may find fresh strength in the Easter gospel, let us pray to the Lord.

All

Hear us, Lord of glory!

Leader That God may grant us humility to be subject to one another in Christian love, let us pray to the Lord.
All **Hear us, Lord of glory!**

Leader That God may provide for those who lack food, work, or shelter, let us pray to the Lord.
All **Hear us, Lord of glory!**

Leader That by God's power, pandemics, wars, and famine may cease through all the earth, let us pray to the Lord.
All **Hear us, Lord of glory!**

Leader That God may reveal the light of his presence to the sick, the weak, the dying, and the bereaved, that they may be comforted and strengthened, let us pray to the Lord.
All **Hear us, Lord of glory!**

Leader That God may send the fire of the Holy Spirit upon the whole church, that we may bear faithful witness to Christ's resurrection, let us pray to the Lord.
All **Hear us, Lord of glory!**

Leader I invite you now to offer your own prayers and petitions to God.
All **Hear us, Lord of glory!**

Leader We commend ourselves, and all for whom we pray, to the mercy and protection of God. Merciful Father,
All **accept these prayers for the sake of your Son, our Saviour Jesus Christ. Amen.**

The Collect

Officiant Let us pray. O God of peace, who brought again from the dead our Lord Jesus Christ, the 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. **Amen.**

The Lord's Prayer

Officiant 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.**

Doxology

Officiant
All

Glory to God,
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.

Blessing

Officiant

May the God of peace who brought again from the dead our Lord Jesus, the great shepherd of the sheep, by the blood of the eternal covenant, equip you with everything good that you may do his will, working in you that which is pleasing in his sight, through Jesus Christ; to whom be glory for ever and ever. **Amen.**

Hymn:

Lead Us, Heavenly Father, Lead Us (564)

Lead us, heavenly Father, lead us o'er the world's tempestuous sea;
guard us guide, guide us, keep us, feed us, for we have no help but thee;
yes possessing every blessing if our God our Father be.

Saviour, breathe forgiveness o'er us; all our weakness thou dost know;
thou didst tread this earth before us, thou didst feel its keenest woe;
lone and dreary, faint and weary, through the desert thou didst go.

Spirit of our God, descending, fill our hearts with heavenly joy,
love with every passion blending, pleasure that can never cloy;
thus provided, pardoned, guided, nothing can our peace destroy.

Dismissal

Officiant
People

Alleluia! Go forth in the name of Christ.
Thanks be to God. Alleluia!

Postlude

Dominus Regit Me (Noel Rawsthorne, with improvisation)

Announcements

Ministries for Children and Youth

For children, our Sunday School coordinator Elisabeth Westberg is hosting weekly lessons on Zoom, beginning at 10:00 AM on Sunday mornings. For our youth, Elisabeth and Fr. Benjamin are hosting a weekly check-in over Zoom on Wednesday evenings from 7:00 – 7:30 PM. For information about how to connect over Zoom, please email Elisabeth directly at youth@stjohnsnorway.com.

Opportunities to Gather During the Week (note the time change for Thursday bible study)

We are offering two opportunities weekly to gather on Zoom for learning and fellowship. On Thursdays at 1:00 PM, Fr. Jeffrey and Fr. Benjamin are holding a bible study. All you need to participate is a bible. On Fridays at 5:00 PM, we are holding "Happy almost-an-Hour!" Grab some snacks, tune into Zoom, and catch up with other parishioners! Both events are being organized using Zoom and can be accessed online or on the phone. To join online, follow the link: <https://us04web.zoom.us/j/2035813958>. To dial in on the phone, first dial: 647-558-0588. When prompted, enter the meeting ID: 203 581 3958#. Please refer any questions to Fr. Benjamin (curate@stjohnsnorway.com, 647-608-5608).

Online Donations

Some of you have asked how to donate at this time. If you do not have pre-authorized payments in place, or would like to make an online donation, we have moved our online donation link to the front page of the website. Online donations to St John's Norway are done through CanadaHelps. (<http://canadahelps.org/en/charities/church-of-st-john-the-baptist-norway>).

To Reach Us

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