

# FOURTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

April 25, 2021



ST MARY'S  
IN-THE-HILLS  
Episcopal Church

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# M O R N I N G P R A Y E R

## R I T E I I A C C O R D I N G T O T H E B O O K O F C O M M O N P R A Y E R

{WELCOMING PRAYER}

**H**OLY SPIRIT living within us, guide our hearts and minds as we welcome today all those who worship *with* St. Mary's. Give us discerning hearts so that everyone who crosses our threshold feels welcomed in the spirit of your love. Help us to recognize each person as an individual sent by you who will enrich our lives. And most of all, O God, let this be a *community* of love and acceptance for all your children; in the name of your Son, our Savior, Jesus Christ. **Amen.**

{OPENING SENTENCE & CONFESSION}

Book of Common Prayer, p. 78

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

*Officiant* If then you have been raised with Christ, seek the things that are above, where Christ is, seated at the right hand of God.

{THE INVITATORY AND PSALTER}

Book of Common Prayer, p. 80

*Officiant* Lord, open our lips.  
*People* **And our mouth shall proclaim your praise.**  
*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. Alleluia.**

{PASCHA NOSTRUM}

Book of Common Prayer, p. 83

*Antiphon:* Alleluia. The Lord is risen indeed: **Come let us adore him. Alleluia.**

*Officiant and People*

**A** LLELUIA.  
**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 man came death, \*  
by a man has come also the resurrection of the dead.  
For as in Adam all die, \*  
so also in Christ shall all be made alive. Alleluia.**

*Antiphon:* Alleluia. The Lord is risen indeed: **Come let us adore him. Alleluia.**

THE PSALM: PSALM 23

The LORD is my shepherd; \*  
I shall not be in want.

He makes me lie down in green pastures \*  
and leads me beside still waters.

He revives my soul \*  
and guides me along right pathways for his 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.

*After the Reading of the Psalm:*

*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.**

{THE LESSONS}

THE FIRST LESSON: ACTS 4:5-12

**T**HE RULERS, ELDERS, AND SCRIBES assembled in Jerusalem, with Annas the high priest, Caiaphas, John, and Alexander, and all who were of the high-priestly family. When they had made the prisoners stand in their midst, they inquired, "By what power or by what name did you do this?" Then Peter, filled with the Holy Spirit, said to them, "Rulers of the people and elders, if we are questioned today because of a good deed done to someone who was sick and are asked how this man has been healed, let it be known to all of you, and to all the people of Israel, that this man is standing before you in good health by the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth, whom you crucified, whom God raised from the dead. This Jesus is

the stone that was rejected by you, the builders;  
it has become the cornerstone.'

There is salvation in no one else, for there is no other name under heaven given among mortals by which we must be saved."

The Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

*then follows*

*Canticle G, A Song of Ezekiel, from Enriching Our Worship*

**I will take you from among the nations; \*  
and gather you from all lands to bring you home.  
I will sprinkle clean water upon you; \*  
and purify you from false gods and uncleanness.  
A new heart I will give you \*  
and a new spirit put within you.  
I will take the stone heart from your chest \*  
and give you a heart of flesh.  
I will help you walk in my laws \*  
and cherish my commandments and do them.  
You shall be my people, \*  
and I will be your God.**

**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.**

THE SECOND LESSON: 1 JOHN 3:16-24

**W**E KNOW LOVE BY THIS, that he laid down his life for us-- and we ought to lay down our lives for one another. How does God's love abide in anyone who has the world's goods and sees a brother or sister in need and yet refuses help?

Little children, let us love, not in word or speech, but in truth and action. And by this we will know that we are from the truth and will reassure our hearts before him whenever our hearts condemn us; for God is greater than our hearts, and he knows everything. Beloved, if our hearts do not condemn us, we have boldness before God; and we receive from him whatever we ask, because we obey his commandments and do what pleases him.

And this is his commandment, that we should believe in the name of his Son Jesus Christ and love one another, just as he has commanded us. All who obey his commandments abide in him, and he abides in them. And by this we know that he abides in us, by the Spirit that he has given us.

The Word of the Lord.  
**Thanks be to God.**

*then follows*

Canticle 21, *Te Deum laudamus*, BCP p. 95

**You are God: we praise you;  
You are the Lord; we acclaim you;  
You are the eternal Father:  
All creation worships you.  
To you all angels, all the powers of heaven,  
Cherubim and Seraphim, sing in endless praise:  
Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,  
heaven and earth are full of your glory.  
The glorious company of apostles praise you.  
The noble fellowship of prophets praise you.  
The white-robed army of martyrs praise you.  
Throughout the world the holy Church acclaims you;  
Father, of majesty unbounded,  
your true and only Son, worthy of all worship,  
and the Holy Spirit, advocate and guide.  
You, Christ, are the king of glory,  
the eternal Son of the Father.  
When you became man to set us free  
you did not shun the Virgin's womb.  
You overcame the sting of death  
and opened the kingdom of heaven to all believers.**

**You are seated at God's right hand in glory.  
We believe that you will come and be our judge.  
Come then, Lord, and help your people,  
bought with the price of your own blood,  
and bring us with your saints  
to glory everlasting.**

THE GOSPEL: JOHN 10:11-18

**J**ESUS SAID, "I am the good shepherd. The good shepherd lays down his life for the sheep. The hired hand, who is not the shepherd and does not own the sheep, sees the wolf coming and leaves the sheep and runs away—and the wolf snatches them and scatters them. The hired hand runs away because a hired hand does not care for the sheep. I am the good shepherd. I know my own and my own know me, just as the Father knows me and I know the Father. And I lay down my life for the sheep. I have other sheep that do not belong to this fold. I must bring them also, and they will listen to my voice. So there will be one flock, one shepherd. For this reason the Father loves me, because I lay down my life in order to take it up again. No one takes it from me, but I lay it down of my own accord. I have power to lay it down, and I have power to take it up again. I have received this command from my Father."

The Word of the Lord.  
**Thanks be to God.**

*A homily or reflection may be presented here.*

{THE NICENE CREED}

Book of Common Prayer, p. 358

**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 and the Son;  
who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified;  
who 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.

{THE PRAYERS}

Book of Common Prayer, p. 97

*Officiant*           The Lord be with you.  
*People*             **And also with you.**  
*Officiant*           Let us pray.

*Officiant and People*

**O**UR 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,  
and the power, and the glory,  
for ever and ever. Amen.

{SUFFRAGES A}

Book of Common Prayer, p. 97

Show us your mercy, O Lord;  
**And grant us your salvation.**  
Clothe your ministers with righteousness;  
**Let your people sing with joy.**



Give peace, O Lord, in all the world;  
**For only in you can we live in safety.**

Lord, keep this nation under your care;  
**And guide us in the way of justice and truth.**

Let your way be known upon earth;  
**Your saving health among all nations.**

Let not the needy, O Lord, be forgotten;  
**Nor the hope of the poor be taken away.**

Create in us clean hearts, O God;  
**And sustain us with your Holy Spirit.**

{THE COLLECT OF THE DAY}

**O** GOD, whose Son Jesus is the good shepherd of your people: Grant that when we hear his voice we may know him who calls us each by name, and follow where he leads; who, with you and the Holy Spirit, lives and reigns, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

{COLLECT FOR MISSION}

**A**LMIGHTY AND EVERLASTING GOD, by whose Spirit the whole body of your faithful people is governed and sanctified: Receive our supplications and prayers which we offer before you for all members of your holy Church, that in their vocation and ministry they may truly and devoutly serve you; through our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. **Amen.**

{INTERCESSIONS}

In peace, let us pray to Jesus our Lord, raised in power so that he might intercede for us at the very Throne of Grace.

**S**AVIOR OF THE WORLD, be present in all places of suffering, violence, and pain, especially all those whose suffering is most acutely felt in this time of pandemic, and bring hope even in the darkest night. Inspire us to continue your work of reconciliation and mercy today.

**Hear us, Lord.**

**L**ORD OF THE CHURCH, empower by your Spirit all your holy people, especially +Bonnie (Perry), our Bishop; +Michael (Curry), our Presiding Bishop; +Justin (Welby), the Archbishop of Canterbury; +Moises (Quezada Mota), Bishop of the Diocese of the Dominican Republic; +Elizabeth (Eaton), +Donald (Kreiss), and +Craig (Satterlee), our Lutheran Bishops in Common Mission; +Wendell (Gibbs) and +Stewart (Wood), our retired Bishops; and Andy+ (Guffey), our priest; and especially for the people of St. Mary's. Give us grace to proclaim the gospel joyfully in word and deed.

**Hear us, Lord.**

**S**HEPHERD AND GUARDIAN OF OUR SOULS, guide and enable all who lead and serve our common life, and those on whom we depend for our daily needs. Watch over all those who keep watch for us in the armed forces, especially **Kevin** Tye, **Josh** Tindall, **Craig** Froehlich, **Justin** Briggs, **Josom** Alomran, **Jason** Kelly, **James** Monaghan, **Scott**, **Blake** Abel, **Joshua**, **Jerry** Holley, **Corbin**, **Nick** McKenna, **Sean** Kellogg, **Brandon** Jamison, **Patrick** Kline, **Anna** Whetstone, **Kyle** Sholos, and **Marcus** Powell. Grant that we may seek the peace and welfare of this place and of the world.

**Hear us, Lord.**

**G**REAT PHYSICIAN, stretch out your hand to bring comfort, wholeness, and peace to **Suzanne** LaBatt, **Linda & Al** Nielsen, **Sarah** DelCampo, **Christie** Rowden, **Carolyn** Birch, **Dan R.**, **Michael & Laura**, **Kim** Little, **Neil** King, **Jim**, **Irene** Howe, **Terry** Hart, **Michelle** Peasley, **Andrea** Barnett, **Jaime** Kinser, **Gloria** Hemingway, **Bill** Bissett, **Brian and the Kelly Family**, **Patti and the Lee Family**, **Janet** Spears, **Tyrell** Borgeson, **Mike** Sullivan, **Tony** Dulio, **Tim** Boldt, **Barb** Sheldrick, **Joe** Shively **Penny** Clay, **Beth** Shively, **Victoria** Shively, and **Owen** Fraley; and all who suffer in body, mind, or spirit. Fill us with compassion, that we may be channels of your healing love.

**Hear us, Lord.**

**C**ONQUEROR OF DEATH, remember for good those whom we love but see no longer, especially those we now name \_\_\_\_\_ (*please add your own names, silently or aloud*). Keep them, we pray, in your everlasting memory, and all those whose lives have been lost to illness or cruelty. Have mercy on us, Lord, have mercy, and help us to live this day in the sure and certain hope of your eternal victory.

**Hear us, Lord.**

Let us commend ourselves, and all for whom we pray to the mercy and protection of God.

*A moment of silence will be held for you to offer your own prayers and intentions.*

*Officiant and People*

**A**LMIGHTY GOD, Father of all mercies,  
we your unworthy servants give you humble thanks  
for all your goodness and loving-kindness  
to us and to all whom you have made.  
We bless you for our creation, preservation,  
and all the blessings of this life;  
but above all for your immeasurable love  
in the redemption of the world by our Lord Jesus Christ;  
for the means of grace, and for the hope of glory.  
And, we pray, give us such an awareness of your mercies,  
that with truly thankful hearts we may show forth your praise,  
not only with our lips, but in our lives,  
by giving up our selves to your service,  
and by walking before you  
in holiness and righteousness all our days;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord,  
to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit,  
be honor and glory throughout all ages. Amen.

{THE BLESSING & DISMISSAL}

*Officiant*

**M**AY THE LIVING GOD remove the suffocating shroud that lies upon our world;  
May the risen Savior draw the sting of death, bringing all to life in him;  
May the flowing Spirit set us and all creation free and seal our hearts with faith;  
and the blessing of God Almighty, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, be with us  
and remain with us always. **Amen.**

*Officiant* Let us bless the Lord.

*People* **Thanks be to God.**

*Officiant* 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.

*People* **Amen.**



## *St. Mary's In-The-Hills.*

*inspired by the Word and nurtured by the sacraments,  
promotes an active and community-conscious congregation  
supporting the mission and ministry of  
Jesus Christ.*



*Here at St. Mary's we believe we are blessed and strengthened by God's diverse creation of age, race, gender, gender identity, sexual orientation, ability, nationality, and spoken language. We welcome all who seek to follow Christ into the full life and service of the Church.*