

Fourth Sunday of Easter

3 May 2020 Morning Prayer, Second Order

A Prayer Book for Australia

[Video] Leader & Preacher: Dean Richard Humphrey

Reader: Bp Mervyn Stanton

Prayers: The Rev'd David Blyth & Regina Atkins (Parish of Ulverstone)

Gathering in God's name

'I am the good shepherd,' says the Lord. 'The good shepherd lays down his life for the sheep.'

John 10.11

Christ is risen. Alleluia.

He is risen indeed. Alleluia.

This is the day that the Lord has made;

Let us rejoice and be glad in it.

The Minister

Friends in Christ,

we come together to meet with God,

and to take our part in the building up of his Church.

We will lift up our hearts in thanks and praise,

hear from God's holy word,

and pray for this world, and for ourselves.

The Bible tells us to approach God confidently,
through our Lord Jesus Christ.

As we do so, we must confess our sins,
seeking forgiveness through God's boundless
goodness and mercy.

The risen Jesus said that the Scriptures had been fulfilled in his suffering and resurrection and now repentance and forgiveness was to be announced in his name to all nations in the power of the Spirit.

Luke 24: 47,49

Silence may be kept

The Minister continues

So let us draw near to God with sincerity and confidence, and pray together,

**God of all mercy,
we humbly admit that we need your help.
We have wandered from your way.
We have sinned in thought, word and deed,
and have failed to do what is right.
You alone can save us.
Have mercy on us,
wipe out our sins and teach us to forgive others.
Bring forth in us the fruit of your Spirit
that we may live the new life to your glory.
This we ask in the name of Jesus our Saviour. Amen.**

The Minister stands and declares God's forgiveness.

God desires that none should perish,
but that all should turn to Christ, and live.
In response to his call we acknowledge our sins.
God pardons those who humbly repent, and truly believe the gospel.
Therefore we have peace with God, through Jesus Christ. **Amen.**

Neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor rulers,
nor things present, nor things to come,
nor powers, nor height, nor depth,
nor anything in all creation,
will be able to separate us from the love of God
in Christ Jesus our Lord.

Romans 8.38–39

Give thanks to the Lord, for he is good.
His steadfast love endures for ever!
Grace and peace be with you
and also with you.
Come, let us sing to the Lord,
shout to the rock of our salvation.
Serve the Lord with gladness,
come before his face with songs of joy.

The Ministry of the Word

The Minister says

Heavenly Father,
 give us wisdom and understanding.
As we listen to your Word,
 may we know you better,
 love you more,
 and learn to please you in all we do;
through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

New Testament Reading: 1 Peter 2: 1 - 10

Rid yourselves, therefore, of all malice, and all guile, insincerity, envy, and all slander. ²Like newborn infants, long for the pure, spiritual milk, so that by it you may grow into salvation— ³if indeed you have tasted that the Lord is good.

⁴ Come to him, a living stone, though rejected by mortals yet chosen and precious in God's sight, and ⁵like living stones, let yourselves be built into a spiritual house, to be a holy priesthood, to offer spiritual sacrifices acceptable to God through Jesus Christ. ⁶For it stands in scripture:

'See, I am laying in Zion a stone,
 a cornerstone chosen and precious;
and whoever believes in him will not be put to shame.'

⁷To you then who believe, he is precious; but for those who do not believe, 'The stone that the builders rejected
 has become the very head of the corner',

⁸and
'A stone that makes them stumble,
 and a rock that makes them fall.'

They stumble because they disobey the word, as they were destined to do.

⁹ But you are a chosen race, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, God's own people, in order that you may proclaim the mighty acts of him who called you out of darkness into his marvellous light.

¹⁰ Once you were not a people,
 but now you are God's people;
once you had not received mercy,
 but now you have received mercy.

Hear the word of the Lord,
thanks be to God.

The Holy Gospel: John 10: 1-10

‘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. ²The one who enters by the gate is the shepherd of the sheep. ³The gatekeeper opens the gate for him, and the sheep hear his voice. He calls his own sheep by name and leads them out. ⁴When he has brought out all his own, he goes ahead of them, and the sheep follow him because they know his voice. ⁵They will not follow a stranger, but they will run from him because they do not know the voice of strangers.’ ⁶Jesus 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. ⁸All who came before me are thieves and bandits; but the sheep did not listen to them. ⁹I am the gate. Whoever enters by me will be saved, and will come in and go out and find pasture. ¹⁰The thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy. I came that they may have life, and have it abundantly.

Hear the Word of the Lord
Thanks be to God

The Sermon

The Apostles' Creed

**I believe in God, the Father almighty,
creator of heaven and earth.
I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord,
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,
born of the virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died, and was buried;
he descended to the dead.
On the third day he rose from the dead;
he ascended into heaven,
and is seated at the right hand of the Father;
from there he will come 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.**

The Ministry of Prayer

The Minister says

The Lord be with you.
And also with you.

Let us join together in the prayer which Jesus gave us.

**Our Father in heaven,
hallowed be your name,
your kingdom come,
your will be done,
on earth as in heaven.
Give us today our daily bread.
Forgive us our sins
as we forgive those who sin against us.
Save us from the time of trial
and deliver us from evil.
For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours
now and for ever. Amen.**

The Minister continues

Be exalted, Lord, above the heavens,
let your glory cover the earth.
Keep our nation under your care,
and guide us in justice and truth.
Let your way be known on earth,
your saving power among all nations.
Send out your light and your truth,
that we may tell of your saving works.
Have mercy on the poor and oppressed.
Hear the cry of those in need.
Hear our prayers, O Lord,
for we put our trust in you.

The Collect of the Day

God of all power,
you called from death our Lord Jesus,
the great shepherd of the sheep:
send us as shepherds to rescue the lost,
to heal the injured,
and to feed one another with understanding;
through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord,
who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

Prayers

A Minister

Let your requests be made known unto God.
In everything give thanks.

A Minister continues

Lord, you have given us grace to agree in these our prayers, and you have promised that when two or three ask together in your name you will grant their requests. Fulfil now, Lord, our desires and prayers as may be best for us. Grant us, in this life, knowledge of your truth and in the age to come, life eternal. **Amen.**

The Sending Out of God's People

Eternal God and Father,

**by whose power we are created,
and by whose love we are redeemed:
Guide and strengthen us by your Spirit,
that we may give ourselves to your service,
and live this day in love to one another
and to you;
through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

The Minister says one of the following

The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God,
and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit,
be with us all. **Amen.**

Or

May the Lord bless you and keep you;
May the Lord make his face to shine upon you,
and be gracious to you.
May the Lord lift up his countenance upon you,
and give you peace. **Amen.**

The Minister says

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord:
In the name of Christ. Amen.

Hymn: Christ is made the sure foundation

AHB 343ii Text: Anon. tr John Mason Neale Tune: Westminster Abbey

Christ is made the sure foundation,
Christ the head and cornerstone,
chosen of the Lord, and precious,
binding all the church in one,
holy Sion's help for ever,
and her confidence alone.

All that dedicated city,
dearly loved of God on high,
in exultant jubilation
pours perpetual melody,
God the One in Three adoring
in glad hymns eternally.

To this temple where we call you
come, O Lord of Hosts, today;
with your wonted loving kindness
hear your people as they pray,
and your fullest benediction
shed within its walls alway.

Here vouchsafe to all your servants
what they ask of you to gain,
what they gain of you for ever
with the blessed to retain,
and hereafter in your glory
evermore with you to reign.

Laud and honour to the Father,
laud and honour to the Son,
laud and honour to the Spirit,
ever Three and ever One,
consubstantial, co-eternal,
while unending ages run.

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