THE FOURTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

April 17, 2016

<u>Worship Focus</u> Jesus Is the Good Shepherd



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THE ORDER OF SERVICE

Common Service with Communion

Christian Worship, p. 15

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OPENING HYMN

239 - Glory Be to God the Father



Text: Horatius Bonar, 1808-89, alt.

Tune: WORCESTER (87 87 47) Walter G. Whinfield, 1865-1919.

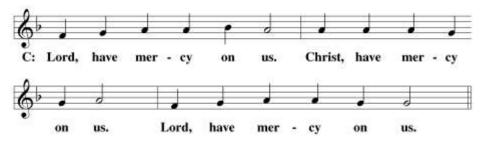
INVOCATION

Minister In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.



- **M** Beloved in the Lord: Let us draw near with a true heart and confess our sins to God our Father, asking him in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ to grant us forgiveness.
- C Holy and merciful Father, I confess that I am by nature sinful and that I have disobeyed you in my thoughts, words, and actions. I have done what is evil and failed to do what is good. For this I deserve Your punishment both now and in eternity. But I am truly sorry for my sins, and trusting in my Savior Jesus Christ, I pray: Lord have mercy on me a sinner.

LORD HAVE MERCY (Kyrie)



ABSOLUTION

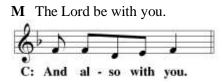
M God, our heavenly Father, has been merciful to us and has given His only Son to be the atoning sacrifice for our sins. Therefore, as a called servant of Christ and by his authority, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father, and of the + Son, and of the Holy Spirit.



M In the peace of forgiveness, let us praise the Lord:

Yours forever! Shepherd, keep All your weak and trembling sheep Safely in your tender care; Let us all your goodness share. (426:4)

PRAYER OF THE DAY



M Let us pray.

O Lord Jesus Christ, you are the Good Shepherd who laid down your life for the sheep. Lead us now to the still waters of your life-giving Word that we may abide in your Father's house forevermore; for you live and reign with him and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.







THE WORD

FIRST LESSON Acts 13:15-16a, 26-33

Paul preaches Good Friday and Easter in his sermon to the Christians in Pisidian Antioch.

^{ACTS 13:15} After the reading from the Law and the Prophets, the synagogue rulers sent word to them, saying, "Brothers, if you have a message of encouragement for the people, please speak."

¹⁶ Standing up, Paul motioned with his hand and said: "Men of Israel and you Gentiles who worship God, listen to me!

²⁶ "Brothers, children of Abraham, and you God-fearing Gentiles, it is to us that this message of salvation has been sent. ²⁷ The people of Jerusalem and their rulers did not recognize Jesus, yet in condemning him they fulfilled the words of the prophets that are read every Sabbath. ²⁸ Though they found no proper ground for a death sentence, they asked Pilate to have him executed. ²⁹ When they had carried out all that was written about him, they took him down from the tree and laid him in a tomb. ³⁰ But God raised him from the dead, ³¹ and for many days he was seen by those who had traveled with him from Galilee to Jerusalem. They are now his witnesses to our people.

³² "We tell you the good news: What God promised our fathers ³³ he has fulfilled for us, their children, by raising up Jesus. As it is written in the second Psalm:

"You are my Son; today I have become your Father."

CHOIR ANTHEM

Brother James's Air

The Lord's my Shepherd, I'll not want, He makes me down to lie In pastures green; he lead-eth me The quiet waters by. He lead-eth me, he lead-eth me The quiet water by.

My soul he doth restore again, And me to walk doth make Within the paths of righteousness E'en for his own name's sake, Within the paths of righteousness E'en for his own name's sake.

Yea, though I pass thro' death's dark vale, Yet will I fear no ill; For thou art with me, And thy rod and staff me comfort still. Thy rod and staff me comfort still, me comfort still.

My table thou hast furnished In presence of my foes; My head thou dost with oil anoint, And my cup overflows.

Goodness and mercy all my life shall surely follow me; And in God's house forevermore My dwelling place shall be. And in God's house for evermore My dwelling place shall be.

SECOND LESSON Revelation 7:9-17

In vision God gives John a glimpse of heaven. In it John sees the Lamb who is also our Shepherd.

^{REVELATION 7:9} After this I looked and there before me was a great multitude that no one could count, from every nation, tribe, people and language, standing before the throne and in front of the Lamb. They were wearing white robes and were holding palm branches in their hands. ¹⁰ And they cried out in a loud voice:

"Salvation belongs to our God, who sits on the throne, and to the Lamb."

¹¹ All the angels were standing around the throne and around the elders and the four living creatures. They fell down on their faces before the throne and worshiped God, ¹² saying:

"Amen! Praise and glory and wisdom and thanks and honor and power and strength be to our God for ever and ever. Amen!"

¹³ Then one of the elders asked me, "These in white robes--who are they, and where did they come from?"

¹⁴ I answered, "Sir, you know."

And he said, "These are they who have come out of the great tribulation; they have washed their robes and made them white in the blood of the Lamb.¹⁵ Therefore,

"they are before the throne of God and serve him day and night in his temple; and he who sits on the throne will spread his tent over them.

¹⁶ Never again will they hunger; never again will they thirst.The sun will not beat upon them, nor any scorching heat.

¹⁷ For the Lamb at the center of the throne will be their shepherd; he will lead them to springs of living water. And God will wipe away every tear from their eyes."

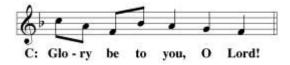
VERSE OF THE DAY

M Alleluia. Alleluia. Christ is risen! He is risen indeed! Alleluia. I am the good shepherd; I know my sheep and my sheep know me. Alleluia.



GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

After the announcement of the Gospel the congregation responds:



GOSPEL John 10:22-30

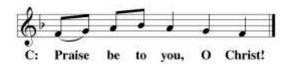
Jesus answers, "Are you the Christ?" with the picture of his work as the Shepherd.

^{JOHN 10:22} Then came the Feast of Dedication at Jerusalem. It was winter, ²³ and Jesus was in the temple area walking in Solomon's Colonnade. ²⁴ The Jews gathered around him, saying, "How long will you keep us in suspense? If you are the Christ, tell us plainly."

²⁵ Jesus answered, "I did tell you, but you do not believe. The miracles I do in my Father's name speak for me, ²⁶ but you do not believe because you are not my sheep. ²⁷ My sheep listen to my voice; I know them, and they follow me. ²⁸ I give them eternal life, and they shall never perish; no one can snatch them out of my hand. ²⁹ My Father, who has given them to me, is greater than all; no one can snatch them out of my Father's hand. ³⁰ I and the Father are one."

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

After the reading of the Gospel the congregation responds:



CONFESSION OF FAITH – THE NICENE CREED

C 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, was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the virgin Mary, and became fully human. 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 in unity with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified,

- who has spoken through the prophets.
- We believe in one holy Christian 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.

HYMN OF THE DAY



6 And so through all the length of days Your goodness fails me never. Good Shepherd, may I sing your praise Within your house forever!

Text: Henry W. Baker, 1821–77, alt. Tune: ST. COLUMBA (87 87 lambic) Irish melody, c. 18th century, alt.

SERMON

Revelation 7:13-17

Heaven is Worth Dying For

- 1. Because of what the Lamb has done
- 2. Because of what the Shepherd will do

[10]

PRAISE AND PRAYER



RESPONSE TO THE WORD

FRIENDSHIP REGISTER

GATHERING OF OFFERINGS

MUSICAL OFFERTORY

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

- **M** In peace, let us pray to the Lord:
- C Lord, have mercy.
- **M** For the gift of divine peace and of pardon, with all our hearts and with all our minds, let us pray to the Lord:
- C Lord, have mercy.
- **M** For the renewal of the Church, that the heavenly Father would make all the baptized joyful witnesses of the Savior's resurrection victory, let us pray to the Lord:
- C Lord, have mercy.
- **M** For the government and those who protect us, that they may be upheld and strengthened in every good deed, let us pray to the Lord:
- C Lord, have mercy.
- **M** For all who do not know the Good Shepherd, that they be brought to faith and come to experience the joy of living under His watchful eye, let us pray to the Lord:
- C Lord, have mercy.
- **M** For the lonely, the afflicted, those in prison, those persecuted for the faith and all the sick [*especially*...], that the Holy Spirit comfort them and grant them strength and healing, let us pray to the Lord:
- C Lord, have mercy.
- **M** For all who pass through the valley of the shadow of death, that in the companionship of their Good Shepherd and in the confidence of His victory over death and the grave, they may fear no ill, let us pray to the Lord:
- C Lord, have mercy.

- **M** For all who come today to the table of Christ's body and blood, that through a faithful participation in His holy Supper they may be delivered from all enemies, let us pray to the Lord:
- C Lord, have mercy.
- **M** For the faithful who have gone before us and who dwell in the house of the Lord forevermore, let us give thanks and praise. That we may together with them look forward to the joy of our resurrection, let us pray to the Lord:
- C Lord, have mercy.
- **M** Into Your hands, O Lord, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in Your mercy; through Your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord.

C Amen.

THE LORD'S PRAYER

C 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.
Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.
For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours now and forever. Amen.



THE SACRAMENT

PREFACE and PROPER PREFACES



M It is truly good and right that we should at all times and in all places give you thanks, O Lord, holy Father, almighty and everlasting God, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, and we praise you especially for the glorious resurrection of your Son, the true Passover Lamb, who by his sacrifice took away the sins of the world and by his resurrection restored everlasting life. Therefore, with all the saints on earth and hosts of heaven, we praise your holy name and join their glorious song:



WORDS OF INSTITUTION

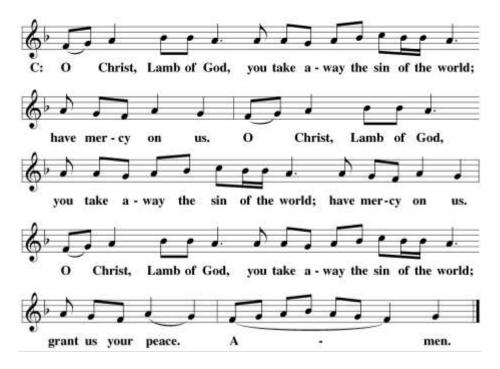
M Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night he was betrayed, took bread; and when he had given thanks, he broke it and gave it to his disciples, saying, "Take and eat; this is my body, which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me.

Then he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it to them, saying, "Drink from it, all of you; this is my blood of the new covenant, which is poured out for you for the forgiveness of sins. Do this, whenever you drink it, in remembrance of me."

M The peace of the Lord be with you always.



O CHRIST, LAMB OF GOD (Agnus Dei)



DISTRIBUTION

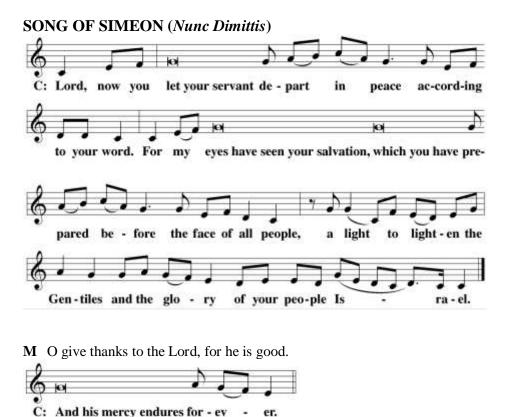
The Scriptures teach that the celebration of the Lord's Supper connects us intimately with Christ and with one another as Christians who are united around a common confession of faith. Therefore, we ask that only those who are members of Calvary or churches within our fellowship come forward to receive the Lord's Supper. **DISTRIBUTION HYMN**



Text: Rowland Hill, 1744-1833, abr., alt.

Tune: ROCKINGHAM OLD (LM) Second Supplement to Psalmody in Miniature, London, 1778, adapt.

THANKSGIVING



PRAYER AND BLESSING

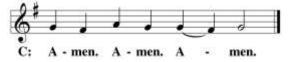
M O God the Father, source of all goodness, in your loving kindness you sent your Son to share our humanity. We thank you that through him you have given us pardon and peace in this sacrament. We also pray that you will not forsake us but will rule our hearts and minds by your Holy Spirit so that we willingly serve you day after day, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

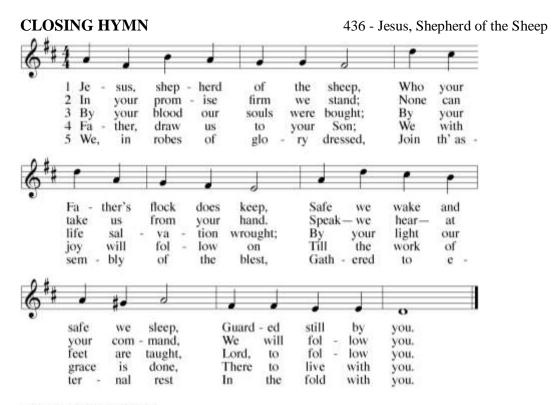


M The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord make his face shine on you and be gracious to you. The Lord look on you with four and (+) give you proceed.

The Lord look on you with favor and (+) give you peace.





Text: Henry Cook, 1788-1868, alt.

Tune: CAPETOWN (777 5) Friedrich Filitz, 1804-76, alt.

After worship, please feel free to stay and greet your neighbors.



GOP UPON THE THRONE AND FROM (THE LAMB