

Good Shepherd Sunday

(4th Sunday of Easter)

St Raphael's

2020

In the name of the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit

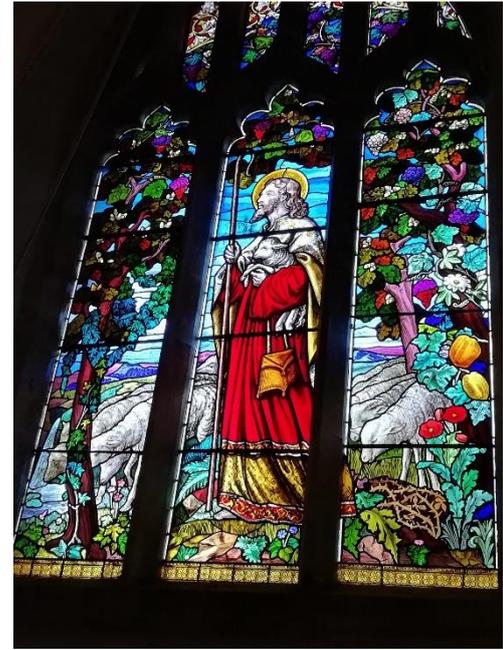
Amen

The Lord is here

His Spirit is with us

Alleluia! Christ is risen.

He is risen indeed. Alleluia!



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

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

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

**4 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.**

**5 Thou spreadst a table in my sight;
thy unction grace bestoweth;
and oh, what transport of delight
from thy pure chalice floweth!**

**6 And so through all the length of days,
thy goodness faileth never;
Good Shepherd, may I sing thy praise
within thy house forever.**



We are standing at the gate, O loving Shepherd, unsure about the journey.
But you have called our names, and in your voice we hear such love and assurance.
Bring us safely on the journey and strengthen us that we may serve you in all that we do.
Amen

The Confession.

**Patient and loving God, we stand at the gate and peer through.
We keep creating our own ways,
believing that we know what is in our own best interest,
and we ignore the voice of the one Shepherd
who will guide us to peace and hope.
We wander aimlessly and find ourselves lost.
Help us stop and listen to the Shepherd's voice.
Let us place our trust in the Shepherd who has never failed us,
who loves and guides our lives.
Forgive us our stubbornness and foolishness.
For we ask this in Christ's Name. Amen.**

Words of Assurance and Absolution

Even though we have wandered and have become lost,
the shepherd calls to us.
We can place our trust in his loving care.
For we are the sheep of his pasture, blessed and given hope.

May the God of love
bring *us* back to himself,
forgive *us our* sins,
and assure *us* of his eternal love
in Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen

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The Gloria

Refrain: *Gloria, Gloria, in excelsis Deo, Gloria, Gloria, in excelsis Deo.*

- 1. Lord God heavenly King, peace you bring to us, we worship you, we give you thanks, we sing our song of praise.**
- 2. Jesus, saviour of all, Lord God, Lamb of God, you take away our sins, O Lord, have mercy on us all.**
- 3. At the Father's right hand, Lord, receive our prayer. For you alone are the Holy One and you alone are Lord.**



4. Glory Father and Son, glory Holy Spirit! To you we raise our hands up high! We glorify your name

Risen Christ,
Faithful shepherd of your Father's sheep,
Teach us to hear your voice
And to follow your command
That all your people may be gathered into one flock
To the glory of God the Father.

Amen

We hear the first reading

Acts 2: 42-47

The believers devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching and fellowship, to the breaking of bread and the prayers.

⁴³ Awe came upon everyone, because many wonders and signs were being done by the apostles. ⁴⁴ All who believed were together and had all things in common; ⁴⁵ they would sell their possessions and goods and distribute the proceeds^[a] to all, as any had need. ⁴⁶ Day by day, as they spent much time together in the temple, they broke bread at home^[b] and ate their food with glad and generous^[c] hearts, ⁴⁷ 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.

This is the word of the Lord

Thanks be to God

**Dear Lord and Father of mankind,
forgive our foolish ways!
Re-clothe us in our rightful mind,
in purer lives thy service find,
in deeper reverence, praise;
in deeper reverence, praise.**

**In simple trust like theirs who heard,
beside the Syrian sea,
the gracious calling of the Lord,
let us, like them, without a word,
rise up and follow thee;
rise up and follow thee.**

**O Sabbath rest by Galilee!
O calm of hills above,
where Jesus knelt to share with thee
the silence of eternity**

interpreted by love!
interpreted by love!

Drop thy still dews of quietness,
till all our strivings cease;
take from our souls the strain and stress,
and let our ordered lives confess
the beauty of thy peace;
the beauty of thy peace.

Breathe through the heats of our desire
thy coolness and thy balm;
let sense be dumb, let flesh retire;
speak through the earthquake, wind, and fire,
O still, small voice of calm;
O still, small voice of calm.

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We hear the Gospel reading

Alleluia, alleluia.
Jesus said, 'All who see the Son and believe in him may
have eternal life; and I will raise them up on the last day.'
Alleluia

Hear the gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to John
Glory to you Oh Lord

John 10:1-10 New Revised Standard Version, Anglicised (NRSVA)

Jesus the Good Shepherd

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.

⁷So 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.

This is the Gospel of the Lord

Praise to you Oh Christ

We hear a reflection for the Fourth Sunday of Easter (Easter 3)

We confirm our faith together in the words of the creed:

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 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 worshipped 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

In the power of the Spirit and in union with Christ, let us pray to the Father...

Good shepherd, inspire in us faith, hope, and love, that we may follow you every day of our lives.

Lord in your mercy,
Hear our prayer

Good Shepherd, we pray for all those who you have called to be shepherds of others:
for Church leaders around the world and especially in our own Diocese,
for political leaders and leaders of unions,
for those in positions of authority in the health service, social services, and the emergency

services,
for teachers, carers and leaders and decision makers everywhere

Lord in your mercy,
Hear our prayer

Good Shepherd, lead us to pools of healing water. Refresh those who are tired and stressed. Bring hope to those who are despairing. Give courage to those who are anxious or depressed. Bring meaning to those who feel without purpose.

Lord in your mercy,
Hear our prayer

Good Shepherd, each one of your flock is precious to you. Bring comfort to all those who suffer in body mind and spirit, and especially to all who grieve this weekend. We pray especially for the families and friends of Les Pratt, Ruth Bland, Sue-Sue and Adrian and Alice Warmsley. Give us assurance, by your spirit, that all those we have loved and lost dwell safely with you in green and pleasant pastures.

Lord in your mercy,
Hear our prayer

Merciful Father,
You gave your Son Jesus Christ to be the Good Shepherd,
And in his love for us to lay down his life and rise again,
Keep us always under his protection,
And give us grace to follow in his steps;
Through Jesus Christ our Lord
Amen.



We worship with Christians across the globe, and so we pray for one another in the words of the peace...

The risen Christ came and stood among his disciples and said,
'Peace be with you.'
Then were they glad when they saw the Lord. Alleluia.
The peace of the risen Christ be always with you
and also with you. Alleluia!

**Will you come and follow me
If I but call your name?
Will you go where you don't know
And never be the same?
Will you let my love be shown,
Will you let my name be known,**

**Will you let my life be grown
In you and you in me?**

**Will you leave yourself behind
If I but call your name?
Will you care for cruel and kind
And never be the same?
Will you risk the hostile stare
Should your life attract or scare?
Will you let me answer prayer
In you and you in me?
Verse 3**

**Will you let the blinded see
If I but call your name?
Will you set the prisoners free
And never be the same?
Will you kiss the leper clean
And do such as this unseen,
And admit to what I mean
In you and you in me?**

**Will you love the 'you' you hide
If I but call your name?
Will you quell the fear inside
And never be the same?
Will you use the faith you've found
To reshape the world around
Through my sight and touch and sound
In you and you in me?**

**Lord, your summons echoes true
When you but call my name.
Let me turn and follow you
And never be the same.
In your company I'll go
Where your love and footsteps show.
Thus I'll move and live and grow
In you and you in me.**

Let us pray together as our Saviour taught us
**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.**

God the Father,
by whose love Christ was raised from the dead
open to you who believe the gate of everlasting life..

Amen

God the Son,
who in bursting from the grave has won a glorious victory,
give you joy as you share the Easter faith.

Amen.

God the Holy Spirit,
who filled the disciples with the life of the risen Lord,
empower you and fill you with Christ's peace.

Amen.

And the blessing of God almighty,
Father, Son and Holy Spirit,
Be among you and remain with you always

Amen.

With the risen life of Christ within us
Let us live our lives in the peace of Christ. Alleluia. Alleluia.
Thanks be to God. Alleluia. Alleluia.