

Eucharist for the Fourth Sunday of Easter



*'I am the good shepherd.
The good shepherd lays down his life for the sheep.'* John 10:11

**The Parishes of
St Paul's Clifton and Cotham**

The Gathering

Introit: Psalm 23

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

Amen.

Alleluia! Christ is risen!

He is risen indeed! Alleluia!

Words of introduction and invitation

Penitence

What God has prepared for those who love him, he has revealed to us through the Spirit; for the Spirit searches everything.

Therefore, in penitence let us open our hearts to the Lord, who has prepared good things for those who love him.

Pause for silent reflection

Like Mary at the empty tomb,
we fail to grasp the wonder of your presence.

Lord, have mercy.

Lord, have mercy.

Like the disciples behind locked doors,
we are afraid to be seen as your followers.

Christ, have mercy.

Christ, have mercy.

Like Thomas in the upper room,
we are slow to believe.

Lord, have mercy.

Lord, have mercy

May the God of love and power
forgive you and free you from your sins
heal and strengthen you by his Spirit
and raise you to new life in Christ our Lord

Amen.

The Gloria

Glory to God, glory to God,
glory to the Father

**Glory to God, glory to God,
glory to the Father**

To God be glory for ever.

To God be glory for ever.

Alleluia, Amen **Alleluia, Amen**

Glory to God, glory to God,
glory to Christ Jesus

**Glory to God, glory to God,
glory to Christ Jesus**

To God be glory for ever.

To God be glory for ever.

Alleluia, Amen **Alleluia, Amen**

Glory to God, glory to God,
glory Holy Spirit

**Glory to God, glory to God,
glory Holy Spirit**

To God be glory for ever.

To God be glory for ever.

Alleluia, Amen **Alleluia, Amen**

The Collect

Let us pray.

Lord of the sheepfold,
whose love is not for hire,
who calls to himself
the victims of the world:
we thank you that Christ
laid down his life for us
when we could not help ourselves;
in the weakness of his love
give us strength to work for peace
in the world he came to serve,
through Jesus Christ, the good shepherd.
Amen.

The Liturgy of the Word

New Testament Reading: Acts 4: 5-12

The next day their 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.”

This is the word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Hymn: Breathe on Me

1 Breathe on me, Breath of God,
fill me with life anew,
that I may love what thou dost love,
and do what thou wouldst do.

2 Breathe on me, Breath of God,
until my heart is pure;
until with thee I will one will,
to do and to endure.

3 Breathe on me, Breath of God,
till I am wholly thine;
until this earthly part of me
glows with thy fire divine.

4 Breathe on me, Breath of God:
so shall I never die,
but live with thee the perfect life
of thine eternity.

Edwin Hatch

Gospel Reading: John 10: 11-18

Alleluia! Christ is risen!

He is risen indeed! Alleluia!

Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to John

Glory to you, O Lord.

“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.”

This is the Gospel of the Lord

Praise be to you, O Christ.

Reflection: Ginny Royston

Profession of faith

Do you believe and trust in God the Father, source of all being and life, the one for whom we exist?

I believe and trust in him.

Do you believe and trust in God the Son, who took our human nature, died for us and rose again?

I believe and trust in him.

Do you believe and trust in God the Holy Spirit, who gives life to the people of God and makes Christ known in the world?

I believe and trust in him.

This is the faith of the Church.

This is our faith:

**We believe and trust in one God,
Father, Son and Holy Spirit.**

The Intercessions

The Liturgy of the Sacrament

The Peace

Jesus says: 'Peace I leave with you; my peace I give to you.
If you love me, rejoice because I am going to the Father'.

Alleluia! The peace of the risen Christ
be always with you
and also with you. Alleluia!

Let us offer one another a sign of God's peace

Offertory Anthem: A New Commandment

A new commandment I give unto you
that you love one another as I have loved you
that you love one another as I have loved you.
By this shall all know that you are my disciples
if you have love one for another;
by this shall all know that you are my disciples:
if you have love one for another

Arr. Esther Bersweden

Preparation of the table

Be present, be present,
Lord Jesus Christ,
our risen high priest;
make yourself known in the breaking of bread.
Amen

The Eucharistic Prayer

The Lord is here

God's Spirit is with us

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give thanks and praise.

It is indeed right, our duty and our joy,
always and everywhere to give you thanks,
almighty and eternal Father,
and in these days of Easter
to celebrate with joyful hearts
the memory of your wonderful works.
And now we give you thanks
because in his victory over the grave a new age has
dawned, the long reign of sin is ended,
a broken world is being renewed
and humanity is once again made whole.
And so, in the joy of this Passover,
earth and heaven resound with gladness,
while angels and archangels and the powers of all creation
sing for ever the hymn of your glory.

**Holy, holy, holy Lord,
God of power and might,
heaven and earth are full of your glory.
Hosanna in the highest.
Blessed is he who comes in the name of the
Lord. Hosanna in the highest.**

Lord God, you are the most holy one,
enthroned in splendour and light,
yet in the coming of your Son Jesus Christ
you reveal the power of your love
made perfect in our human weakness.

Embracing our humanity,
Jesus showed us the way of salvation;
loving us to the end,
he gave himself to death for us;
dying for his own,
he set us free from the bonds of sin,
that we might rise and reign with him in glory.

On the night he gave up himself for us all
he took bread and gave you thanks;
he broke it and gave it to his disciples, saying:
Take, eat; this is my body which is given for
you; do this in remembrance of me.

In the same way, after supper
he took the cup and gave you thanks;
he gave it to them, saying:
Drink this, all of you; this is my blood of the new covenant
which is shed for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins.
Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me.

Therefore we proclaim the death that he suffered on the cross,
we celebrate his resurrection, his bursting from the tomb, we
rejoice that he reigns at your right hand on high and we long
for his coming in glory.

Great is the mystery of faith:

Christ has died:

Christ is risen:

Christ will come again.

As we recall the one, perfect sacrifice of our redemption,
Father, by your Holy Spirit let these gifts of your creation
be to us the body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ;
form us into the likeness of Christ
and make us a perfect offering in your sight.
Look with favour on your people
and in your mercy hear the cry of our hearts.
Bless the earth,
heal the sick,
let the oppressed go free
and fill your Church with power from on high.

Gather your people from the ends of the
earth to feast with all your saints
at the table in your kingdom,
where the new creation is brought to
perfection in Jesus Christ our Lord;
by whom, and with whom, and in
whom, in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
all honour and glory be yours, almighty
Father, for ever and ever.

Amen.

The Lord's Prayer

In the power of the Spirit, let us pray to the Father, in the words of the Son

**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.**

Jesus says, I am the bread of life,
whoever eats this bread will live for ever.
**Lord, our hearts hunger for you;
give us this bread always.**

Agnus Dei

**Lamb of God,
you take away the sin of the
world, have mercy on us.
Lamb of God,
you take away the sin of the
world, have mercy on us.
Lamb of God,
you take away the sin of the
world, grant us peace.**

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Come, when you are fearful, to be made new in love.
Come, when you are doubtful, to be made strong in
faith. Come, when you are regretful, and be made whole.
Come, there is room for all.

Alleluia. Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us.
Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia.

Communion Anthem: The Lord's My Shepherd

The Lord is my shepherd
I shall not want
He maketh me to lie down in green pastures
He leadeth me beside the still waters.

Yea though I walk
Through the valley
Of the shadow of death
I will fear no evil:

For you are with me
You will comfort me.

Surely goodness and mercy
Shall follow me
All the days of my life

And I will dwell in the house
Of the Lord forever.

Setting: Howard Goodall

Post Communion 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.

Blessing and Dismissal

The Blessing

Alleluia. Christ is risen.
He is risen indeed. Alleluia.

God the Father,
by whose glory Christ was raised from the dead,
strengthen you to walk with him in his risen life;
and the blessing of God, Father, Son and Holy
Spirit be with you now and always. **Amen.**

Dismissal

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord. Alleluia, alleluia!
In the name of Christ, Amen. Alleluia, alleluia!

Hymn: Great is Thy Faithfulness

1 Great is thy faithfulness O God my Father.
There is no shadow of turning with thee.
Thou changest not thy compassions they fail not.
As thou hast been thou forever wilt be.

*Refrain: Great is thy faithfulness!
Morning by morning new mercies I see.
All I have needed thy hand hath provided.
Great is thy faithfulness Lord unto me!*

2 Summer and winter and springtime and harvest
sun moon and stars in their courses above
join with all nature in manifold witness
to thy great faithfulness mercy and love.
[Refrain]

3 Pardon for sin and a peace that endureth
thine own dear presence to cheer and to guide
strength for today and bright hope for tomorrow;
blessings all mine with ten thousand beside!
[Refrain]

Thomas O. Chisholm

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