

# Morning Prayer

## Fourth Sunday of Easter

St. James' Episcopal Church, Skaneateles

April 25, 2021, 9:00 a.m.

*Bishop's Visitation & Celebration of Earth Day*

*Please keep your microphones muted unless otherwise noted. A designated responder will lead the congregational responses highlighted in bold.*

**Organ Prelude**      *The King of love my shepherd is (St. Columba)*      *arr. Healey Willan*

**Welcome**      *The Rev. Rebecca Coerper*

**Opening Hymn**      *Psalm 23*      *M. Larkin*

### Invitatory and Psalter

*Bishop*      Lord, open our lips.

*People*      **And our mouth shall proclaim your praise.**

**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.**

**Christ our Passover** (*said by all, led by Bishop*)

Alleluia.

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.

**Psalm 23** (*said by all, led by reader*)

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.

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 Reading**

*Acts 4:5-12*

A Reading from the Acts of the Apostles.

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."

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

### **A Song of Creation** (*said by all, led by reader*)

#### *Invocation*

Glorify the Lord, all you works of the Lord, \*  
sing praise and give honor for ever.  
In the high vault of heaven, glorify the Lord, \*  
sing praise and give honor for ever.

I      *The Cosmic Order*

Glorify the Lord, you angels and all powers of the Lord, \*  
O heavens and all waters above the heavens.  
Sun and moon and stars of the sky, glorify the Lord, \*  
sing praise and give honor for ever.

Glorify the Lord, every shower of rain and fall of dew, \*  
all winds and fire and heat.  
Winter and Summer, glorify the Lord, \*  
sing praise and give honor for ever.

Glorify the Lord, O chill and cold, \*  
drops of dew and flakes of snow  
Frost and cold, ice and sleet, glorify the Lord, \*  
sing praise and give honor for ever.

Glorify the Lord, O nights and days, \*  
O shining light and enfolding dark.  
Storm clouds and thunderbolts, glorify the Lord, \*  
sing praise and give honor for ever.

II      *The Earth and its Creatures*

Let the earth glorify the Lord, \*  
sing praise and give honor for ever.  
Glorify the Lord, O mountains and hills, and all that grows upon the earth, \*  
sing praise and give honor for ever.

Glorify the Lord, O springs of water, seas, and streams, \*  
O whales and all that move in the waters.  
All birds of the air, glorify the Lord, \*  
sing praise and give honor for ever.

Glorify the Lord, O beasts of the wild, \*  
and all you flocks and herds.  
O human beings everywhere, glorify the Lord, \*  
sing praise and give honor for ever.

III      *The People of God*

Let the people of God glorify the Lord, \*  
sing praise and give honor for ever.  
Glorify the Lord, O priests and servants of the Lord, \*  
sing praise and give honor for ever.  
Glorify the Lord, O spirits and souls of the righteous, \*  
sing praise and give honor for ever.  
You that are holy and humble of heart, glorify the Lord, \*  
sing praise and give honor for ever.

*Doxology*

Let us glorify the Lord: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit; \*  
sing praise and give honor for ever.  
In the firmament of his power, glorify the Lord, \*  
sing praise and give honor for ever.

## The Second Reading

1 John 3:16-24

A Reading from the First Letter of John.

We 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.**

### Hymn #645

*The King of love my shepherd is  
verses 1-2, 5-6*

*The Hymnal 1982*

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

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

Thou spread’st a table in my sight; thy unction grace bestoweth;  
and oh, what transport of delight from thy pure chalice floweth!

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

## The Third Reading

John 10:11-18

A Reading from the Gospel According to John.

“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.**

## The Sermon

*Bishop DeDe Duncan-Probe*

**The Apostles' Creed** *(said by all, led by Bishop)*

I believe in God, the Father almighty,  
creator of heaven and earth.  
I believe in Jesus Christ, his only son, our Lord.  
He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit  
and born of the Virgin Mary.  
He suffered under Pontius Pilate,  
was crucified, died, and was buried.  
He descended to the dead.  
On the third day he rose again.  
He ascended into heaven,  
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.  
He will come again 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 Prayers

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

**The Lord's Prayer** *(said by all, led by Bishop)*

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,  
and the power, and the glory,  
for ever and ever. Amen.

## Suffrages

V. Save your people, Lord, and bless your inheritance;  
R. **Govern and uphold them, now and always.**  
V. Day by day we bless you;  
R. **We praise your name for ever.**

V. Lord, keep us from all sin today;  
R. **Have mercy on us, Lord, have mercy.**  
V. Lord, show us your love and mercy;  
R. **For we put our trust in you.**  
V. In you, Lord, is our hope;  
R. **And we shall never hope in vain.**

### **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.**

### **A Collect for the Stewardship of Creation**

O merciful Creator, your hand is open wide to satisfy the needs of every living creature: Make us always thankful for your loving providence; and grant that we, remembering the account that we must one day give, may be faithful stewards of your good gifts; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who with you and the Holy Spirit lives and reigns, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

### **A Prayer for Mission**

Almighty 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.**

### **The Prayers of the People**

Let us pray for the Church and for the world.

God of love, we pray for your church: For Michael, our Presiding Bishop; DeDe our bishop; for all lay and ordained ministers; and for all who seek you in the community of the faithful. Equip us with compassion and love, to carry out your work of reconciliation in the world.

God of love,  
**Hear our prayers for the church.**

*Silence—Add your prayers.*

God of freedom, we pray for our nation and our leaders, and all the nations of the world: For peace and unity across barriers of language, color, and creed; for elected and appointed leaders, that they would serve the common good. Inspire all people with courage to speak out against hatred, to actively resist evil. Unite the human family in bonds of love.

God of freedom,  
**Hear our prayers for the world.**

*Silence—Add your prayers.*

God of justice, we pray for the earth, your creation entrusted to our care: For the animals and birds, the mountains and oceans, and all parts of your creation that have no voice of their own. Stir up in us a thirst for justice that protects all people and guards the earth and all its resources,

that we may leave to our children's children the legacy of beauty and abundance that you have given us.

God of justice,

**Hear our prayers for the earth.**

*Silence—Add your prayers.*

God of peace, we pray for this community: For our local leaders and public servants; for our schools, colleges and universities; for our hospitals, clinics, and eldercare facilities; for our neighborhoods, markets, and workplaces. Kindle in every heart a desire for equality, respect, and opportunity for all. Give us courage to strive for justice and peace among all people, beginning here at home.

God of peace,

**Hear our prayers for this community.**

*Silence—Add your prayers.*

God of mercy, we pray for all in any kind of need or trouble: For those whose lives are closely linked with ours, and those connected to us as part of the human family. For refugees and prisoners; for the sick and suffering, the lonely and despairing, and for those who mourn; for those facing violence; for all held down by prejudice or injustice. Awaken in us compassion and humility of spirit, as we seek and serve Christ in all persons.

God of mercy,

**Hear our prayers for all who are in need.**

*Silence—Add your prayers.*

God of grace, we pray for those who have died: For the 564,000 lost to the pandemic in this country; for the military personnel and public servants who have given their lives in service to our nation; for the faithful in every generation who have worked for justice; for prophets who called us to racial reconciliation; for martyrs who died because of hatred; and for all the communion of saints. Make us faithful to your call to proclaim your Good News, by word and example, and bring us at last into the glorious company of the saints in light.

God of grace,

**Hear our prayers for those who have died.**

*Silence—Add your prayers.*

*The Bishop offers a concluding prayer:*

Hear our prayers, Holy God. Breathe your Spirit over us and all the earth, that barriers would crumble and divisions cease. Make us more fully your co-healers of the broken world. Unite us with all people in bonds of love, that the whole earth and all its peoples may be at peace; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

### **Offertory Sentence**

*Bishop* Through Christ let us continually offer to God the sacrifice of praise, that is, the fruit of lips that acknowledge his Name. But do not neglect to do good and to share what you have, for such sacrifices are pleasing to God. *Hebrews 13:15,16*

You are invited to make an offering to the Bishop's Discretionary Fund at [cnyepiscopal.org/give](http://cnyepiscopal.org/give) or by check payable to "Diocese of CNY" and mailed to The Diocese of CNY, PO Box 3520, Syracuse, NY 13220.

## **Announcements**

*The Rev. Rebecca Coerper*

### **The General Thanksgiving** (*said by all, led by Bishop*)

Almighty 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.

### **A Prayer of St. Chrysostom**

Almighty God, you have given us grace at this time with one accord to make our common supplication to you; and you have promised through your well-beloved Son that when two or three are gathered together in his Name you will be in the midst of them: Fulfill now, O Lord, our desires and petitions as may be best for us; granting us in this world knowledge of your truth, and in the age to come life everlasting. **Amen.**

### **The Blessing**

*Bishop*        Our help is in the Name of the Lord;  
*People*        **The maker of heaven and earth.**

*Bishop*        Blessed be the Name of the Lord;  
*People*        **From this time forth for evermore.**

*Bishop*        The blessing, mercy, and grace of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be upon you, and remain with you for ever.  
*People*        **Amen.**



## **The Dismissal**

*Deacon* Alleluia! Alleluia! Let us bless the Lord.

*People* **Thanks be to God. Alleluia! Alleluia!**

**Postlude** *I know my redeemer liveth*

*M. Burkhardt*

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