



Fourth Sunday of Easter ☩ April 21, 2024
Holy Eucharist: Rite Two ☩ 10 a.m.

PRELUDE "Sheep May Safely Graze"

J.S. Bach/arr. E. Power Biggs

PROCESSIONAL HYMN 205 Good Christians all, rejoice and sing!
Please stand.

Gelobt sei Gott

The people's responses are in bold.

THE WORD OF GOD

THE ACCLAMATION

Please remain standing.

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

HYMNAL S 236 Canticle 13, A Song of Praise *Benedictus et Domine*

John Rutter

Glory to you, Lord God of our fathers;
you are worthy of praise; glory to you.
Glory to you for the radiance of your holy Name;
we will praise you and highly exalt you for ever.

Glory to you in the splendor of your temple;
on the throne of you majesty, glory to you.
Glory to you, seated between the Cherubim;
we will praise you and highly exalt you for ever.

Glory to you, beholding the depths;
in the high vault of heaven, glory to you.
Glory to you, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit;
we will praise you and highly exalt you for ever.

THE COLLECT OF THE DAY

Please stand.

The Lord be with you.
And also with you.
Let us pray.

Silence is kept.

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.**

THE LESSON Acts 4:5-12

Please be seated.

A Reading from the Book of Acts.

The 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.

PSALM 23

Please remain seated. Read responsively by whole verse.

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.**

HYMN 708 Savior, like a shepherd lead us (stanza 1)

Sicilian Mariners

Please stand and face the reader of the Gospel.

THE GOSPEL John 10:11-18

Please stand.

The Holy Gospel of our Savior Jesus Christ according to John.

Glory to you, Lord Christ.

Jesus said, "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 Gospel of our Savior.

Praise to you, Lord Christ.

THE REFLECTION

Please be seated.

The Rev. Amy Feins

THE NICENE CREED

Said by all, standing.

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 truly 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, who with the Father and the Son is worshiped 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.

THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE HONORING GOD IN CREATION *Please remain standing.*

The Leader and the People pray responsively.

Blessed God, whose love calls the whole creation into covenant with you, and who puts in our hands responsibility for the care of the earth and its creatures: we pray for all to whom you have given life and being, saying, "Merciful God, keep your planet and people in peace."

For the well-being of the earth; for its resources of water, air, light, and soil, that they may be tended for the good of all creatures, we pray:

Merciful God, keep your planet and people in peace.

For the waters of the earth; for their careful use and conservation, that we may have the will and the ability to keep them clean and pure, we pray:

Merciful God, keep your planet and people in peace.

For the mineral and energy resources of the planet, that we may learn sustainable consumption and sound care of the environment from which they come, we pray:

Merciful God, keep your planet and people in peace.

For the animals of the earth, wild and domestic, large and very small, that they may know the harmony of relationship that sustains all life, we pray:

Merciful God, keep your planet and people in peace.

For the creatures of the earth who do us harm and those whose place in your creation we do not understand or welcome, that we may see them as beloved creatures of God, we pray:

Merciful God, keep your planet and people in peace.

For all who shape public policies affecting the planet and its creatures, that they may consider wisely the well-being of all who come after us, we pray:

Merciful God, keep your planet and people in peace.

For all those engaged in conservation, in agriculture and ranching, in aquaculture and fishing, in mining and industry, and in forestry and timber-harvesting, that the health, fruitfulness, and beauty of the natural world may be sustained alongside human activity, we pray:

Merciful God, keep your planet and people in peace.

For the creatures and the human beings of your world who are ill, or in danger, pain, or special need, remembering especially Natalie Blumenthal, Morgan and Monet Duval, who are expecting a child, Foster Nichols, Brian Ward and the needs and concerns of others on our parish prayer list, and for all who suffer from the unjust, violent, or wasteful use of the earth's resources or their devastation by war, that all may one day live in communities of justice and peace, we pray:

Merciful God, keep your planet and people in peace.

For the gifts of science and technology and for those who practice these skills, that they may be wise, visionary, and compassionate in their work, we pray:

Merciful God, keep your planet and people in peace.

For the creatures and the people of the earth whose lives and deaths have contributed to the fruitful abundance of this planet;

Merciful God, keep your planet and people in peace.

Silence is kept. The people may add their own petitions.

THE CONCLUDING COLLECT

Gracious God: Grant that your people may have in them the same mind that was in Christ Jesus, and guide us into harmony of relationship through loving-kindness and the wise use of all that you have given; for you are drawing all things into communion with you and with each other by the power of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

THE PEACE

The peace of Christ be always with you.

And also with you.

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS *Please be seated.*

THE HOLY COMMUNION

OFFERTORY SENTENCE

Walk in love, as Christ loved us and gave himself for us, an offering and sacrifice to God. *Ephesians 5:2*

Having listened to the Word of God, affirmed our faith, confessed our sins, received forgiveness, and shared in the peace, we are prepared for the drama and miracle of Holy Communion. At the offertory, we gratefully offer back to God some of what God has given us, symbolically in the bread and wine, and in the money we give toward the continuing work of Ascension as the Body of Christ in the world.

In addition to giving in the offering plate, you can make a gift by texting "AscensionDenver" to 73256 or visit www.ascensiondenver.org/give. Thank you for your generosity!

OFFERTORY ANTHEM "The Lord's My Shepherd"

arr. Roger Price

Please stand as the offering is presented.

PRESENTATION HYMN 210 The day of resurrection! (stanza 3)

Ellacombe

**Now let the heavens be joyful, let earth her song begin,
The round world keep high triumph, and all that is therein;
Let all things seen and unseen their notes together blend,
For Christ the Lord is risen, our joy that hath no end.**

Children are invited to gather around the altar.

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING Eucharistic Prayer B

The Lord be with you.
And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.
We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
It is right to give our thanks and praise.

It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Almighty God, Creator of heaven and earth. But chiefly are we bound to praise you for the glorious resurrection of your Son Jesus Christ our Lord; for he is the true Paschal Lamb, who was sacrificed for us, and has taken away the sin of the world. By Christ's death he has destroyed death, and by Christ's rising to life again he has won for us everlasting life.

Therefore we praise you, joining our voices with Angels and Archangels and with all the company of heaven, who for ever sing this hymn to proclaim the glory of your Name:

THE HYMNAL S 125 Holy, holy, holy Lord *Sanctus*

Richard Proulx

**Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,
heaven and earth are full of your glory.**

Hosanna in the highest.

Hosanna in the highest.

Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.

Hosanna in the highest.

Hosanna in the highest.

Please kneel or remain standing.

We give thanks to you, O God, for the goodness and love which you have made known to us in creation; in the calling of Israel to be your people; in your Word spoken through the prophets; and above all in Jesus Christ, the Word made flesh. For in these last days you sent Jesus to be incarnate from the Virgin Mary, to be the Savior and Redeemer of the world.

In Christ, you have delivered us from evil, and made us worthy to stand before you. In Christ, you have brought us out of error into truth, out of sin into righteousness, out of death into life.

On the night before he died for us, our Savior Jesus Christ took bread; and when he had given thanks to you, he broke it, and gave it to his disciples, and said, "Take, eat: This is my Body, which is given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me."

Bells are rung.

After supper Jesus took the cup of wine; and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, and said, "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. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me."

Bells are rung.

Therefore, according to his command, O Father,

**We remember Christ's death,
We proclaim Christ's resurrection,
We await Christ's coming in glory;**

And we offer our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving to you, O Savior of all; presenting to you, from your creation, this bread and this wine. We pray you, gracious God, to send your Holy Spirit upon these gifts that they may be the Sacrament of the Body of Christ and his Blood of the new Covenant. Unite us in the sacrifice of Jesus Christ, through whom we are acceptable to you, being sanctified by the Holy Spirit. In the fullness of time, put all things in subjection under your Christ, and bring us to that heavenly country where, with the Blessed Virgin Mary and all your saints, we may enter the everlasting heritage of your children; through Jesus Christ our Savior, the firstborn of all creation, the head of the Church, and the author of our salvation.

By Christ, and with Christ, and in Christ, in the unity of the Holy Spirit all honor and glory is yours, Almighty God, now and for ever. **AMEN.**

Bells are rung.

And now, as our Savior Christ has taught us, we are bold to say,

THE LORD'S PRAYER

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.

THE BREAKING OF THE BREAD

Silence is kept.

HYMNAL S 164 FRACTION ANTHEM: **Lamb of God** *Agnus Dei*

Franz Peter Schubert; arr. Richard Proulx

**Jesus, Lamb of God: have mercy on us.
Jesus, bearer of our sins: have mercy on us.
Jesus, redeemer, redeemer of the world:
Give us your peace, give us your peace.**

THE INVITATION

The Gifts of God for the People of God. Take them in remembrance that Christ died for you, and feed on him in your hearts by faith, with thanksgiving.

Please be seated.

All are welcome to receive the Sacrament. When you come forward to the altar rail, you may kneel or stand. You will receive the consecrated bread, followed by the consecrated wine if you choose to receive it. At this time, we offer wine for sipping from the chalice only. Please remember that you may choose to receive Communion in one kind, which is full communion.

If you would prefer to receive a blessing, please cross your arms over your chest.

Please indicate if you would like to receive a gluten-free wafer.

HYMN 645 The King of love my shepherd is *Sung by all, seated.* *St. Columbia*

HYMN 581 Where charity and love prevail *Sung by all, seated.* *Cheshire*

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING *Please stand or kneel.*

Let us pray.

Almighty and everliving God, we thank you for feeding us with the spiritual food of the most precious Body and Blood of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ; and for assuring us in these holy mysteries that we are living members of the Body of Christ, and heirs of your eternal kingdom. And now, send us out to do the work you have given us to do, to love and serve you as faithful witnesses of Christ our Savior. To him, to you, and to the Holy Spirit, be honor and glory, now and for ever. Amen.

THE EASTER BLESSING

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 Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be upon you and remain with you for ever. **Amen.**

RECESSIONAL HYMN 304 I come with joy to meet my Lord *Land of Rest*

DISMISSAL

Go in peace to love and serve Jesus Christ our Savior. Alleluia, alleluia.
Thanks be to God. Alleluia, alleluia.

POSTLUDE "The Rejoicing" Charles Callahan

The Altar flowers are given to the glory of God.



PARTICIPANTS IN THIS MORNING'S SERVICE

Celebrant: The Rev. Garrison L. Horle

Preacher and Deacon: The Rev. Amy M. Feins

Crucifer: Chuck Macdonald; **Torchbearers:** Davy Ferguson and Adair Shannon;

Eucharistic Ministers: Jan Douglas and Chuck Macdonald; **Lector:** Julie Mahoney;

Intercessor: John Douglas; **Musicians:** Dr. Cindy Lindeen-Martin, *Organist and Director of Music*, Ascension Parish Choir, and Eric Hammerberg, *flautist*; **Ushers:** Lorie Amass and Chris Miller; **Livestream Assistant:** Seth Wiggins

Altar Guild: Stephanie Johnson, Jedeane Macdonald, Sherry McGinnis, and Marilyn Smith

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This service conforms to *Holy Eucharist: Rite Two*, which begins on page 355 of the *Book of Common Prayer (BCP)*. *Scripture readings* are appointed by the *Revised Common Lectionary* (Episcopal) and are taken from the New Revised Standard Version Bible. Psalm texts are taken from the *BCP*. *Hymns* are from *The Hymnal 1982*. *Other liturgical elements* may include materials compiled from publications, including *Enriching Our Worship*, the *Book of Occasional Services 2022*, *Lesser Feasts and Fasts 2018*, *A New Zealand Prayer Book*, the prayer books of other member churches of the Anglican Communion, and other contemporary liturgical resources. All used by permission. All rights reserved. *Other Music* from St. James Music Press License No. 17150. All rights reserved. OneLicense.net (text and streaming) No. A-720857. All rights reserved.



THE PARISH PRAYER LIST

We pray for those for whom our prayers have been requested, remembering especially Diane Anderson, Natalie Blumenthal, Jean Brown, Julia Brown, Agostino Burzio, Lynne Chmelar, Paula Christopoulos, Michael Curry, Elinor Davis, Bill Dorn, Courtney Echerd, RJ Graham, Helen Gsheidle, Barry Hansen, David Johnson, John Klockentager, Gregory Lemos, Celeste Lythgoe, Chuck Macdonald, Jim Macdonald, Jim Menne, Lisa Mikolajchak, Helen Morrison, Mark Nachtigal, Foster Nichols, Meg Nichols, Jamie Ross, Buzz Schaumberg, James Sullivan, James Terrell, Bow Urbana, Michel Vallée, Betsy Wahlberg, Maura Walsh, Brian Ward, George Weaver, Peter Westwood, Bert, Juan, Nancy, and the victims of the turmoil in Haiti and the wars in the Holy Land and Ukraine. We pray for those who are expecting children, remembering especially Kelly and Charlie Blanchard, Kirsten and Misha Calkins, Carey Leigh and Dutch Crews, *Morgan and Monet Duval*, Amy and Mike Gentile, Catherine and Schuyler Grey, and Georgia and Paul Troy. We pray for those who have died, remembering especially Ron Fullmer, and the World Central Kitchen aid workers.

In the Parish cycle of prayer, we pray for those celebrating birthdays in April, remembering especially Anna Zumbahlen (April 1); Natalie Blumenthal (April 2); Charlotte Kundts (April 3); William Wetzell and Stone Whitcomb (April 4); Buzz Schaumberg (April 6); Teddy Cotter and Dorothy Wilson (April 7); Pierson Wiedenmayer (April 9); Tom Kanan and Mason Rice (April 10); Ben Stapleton (April 11); Cora Neslin (April 12); Peter Westwood and Lea VanSchaack (April 13); Seth Wiggins (April 15); Rob Brown (April 16); Arthur Pearson (April 18); Jan Douglas and Tom Shannon (April 20); Audrey Herman (April 23); John Murdock (April 24); Tyler Ray (April 25); Court Wold (April 29); Isabel Howard and Margaret Renick (April 30); *for all who help care for our buildings and grounds; and for all who work to end hunger, especially for the work of our mission partner Metro Caring.*

In the Anglican and Diocesan Cycles of Prayer, we pray for *The Anglican Church of Australia; St. Martin-in-the-fields, Aurora; St. Philip & St. James, Denver; Trinity Episcopal, Kremmling; The Colorado Episcopal Foundation; The Front Range Region of our Diocese and its Missioner, Bal Patterson; and St. Mark the Evangelist (April 25).*

Names in italics are new to the prayer list this week. Names which have appeared on the prayer list for three months will be removed unless otherwise requested. You are most welcome and encouraged to contact the Parish Office to request new prayers and earlier removal or extension of existing prayers.



CHURCH OF THE ASCENSION

CLERGY AND STAFF

The Reverend Amy M. Feins, *Associate Rector*
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The Reverend Garrison Horle, *Priest Associate*
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OFFICERS AND VESTRY

Chris Miller, *Senior Warden*
Lea VanSchaack, *Junior Warden*
Kim Conci, *Clerk*
Bill Howard, *Treasurer*

Charlie Antrim
Ellie Caulkins
Stephanie Johnson
Chad Nichols
Tim Shannon
Court Wold



*Where faith and real life intersect
and from where we are called to share God's love in the church and in the world*

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Office Hours: Tuesday through Friday, 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. and by appointment.