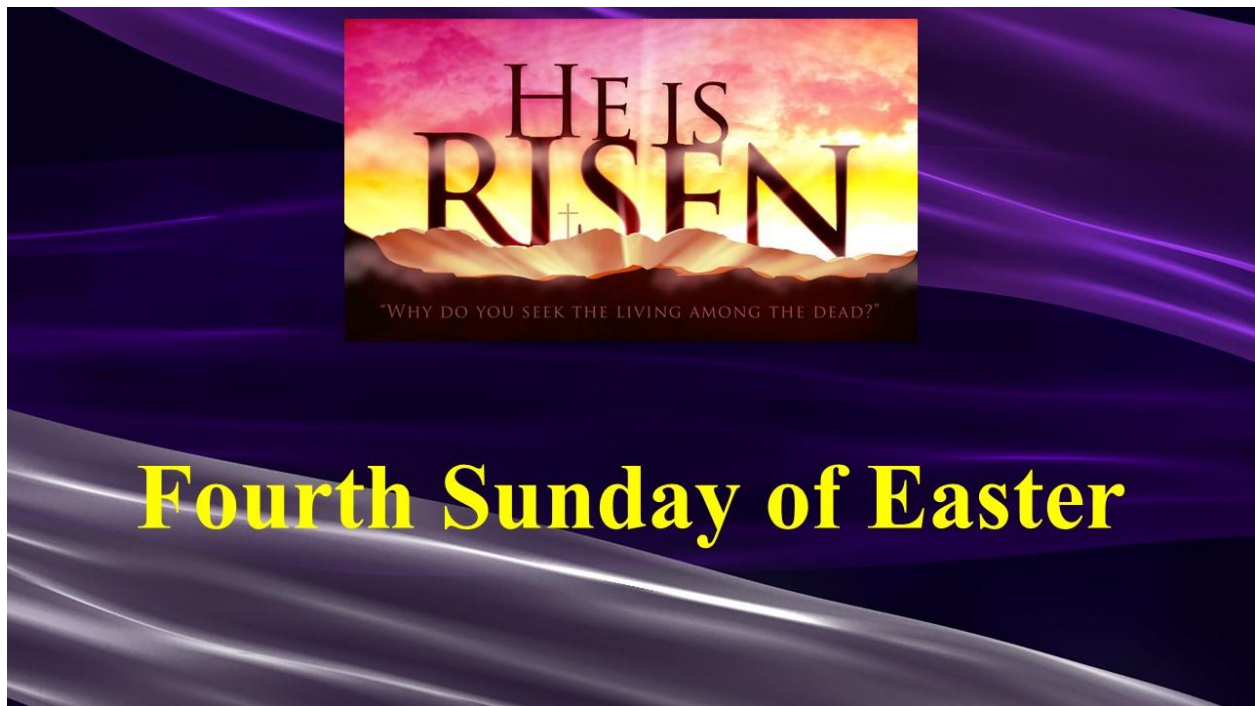




Old St. Paul's
Anglican Church



Fourth Sunday of Easter

May 11, 2025

Holy Eucharist

Organ Prelude

- 1. The Lord's My Shepherd (Hustad)**
- 2. Sheep May Safely Graze (Bach)**

THE GATHERING OF THE COMMUNITY

Opening Hymn

Welcome & Opening Remarks

CP 520 The King of Love My Shepherd Is (Vs 1, 2, 5 & 6)

Opening Greeting

Celebrant Alleluia! Christ is risen.

People **The Lord is risen indeed. Alleluia!**

Celebrant May his grace and peace be with you.

People **May he fill our hearts with joy.**

Celebrant The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit, be with you all.

People **And also with you.**

Words of Welcome & Introduction

This morning, on this Fourth Sunday of Easter we continue to celebrate and give thanks for the hope and promise of the resurrection. We remember that Easter isn't about one day at it's very least it is a season that lasts until the Ascension but truly Easter is a faith we hold on to and proclaim every day of our lives.

Collect for Purity

Celebrant Almighty God,

All **to you all hearts are open,**

all desires known,

and from you no secrets are hidden.

Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts

by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit,

that we may perfectly love you,

and worthily magnify your holy name;

through Christ our Lord. Amen.

Gloria (Sung)

The Collect of the Day

O God of peace, who brought again from the dead our Lord Jesus Christ, that great shepherd of the sheep, by the blood of the eternal covenant, make us perfect in every good work to do your will, and work in us that which is well-pleasing in your sight; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Family Hymn

God is So Good (Video)

THE PROCLAMATION OF THE WORD

First Reading

First Reading: Acts 9: 36 – 43

A Reading from the Book of Acts

³⁶ Now in Joppa [which today is called **Tel Aviv**] there was a disciple whose name was Tabitha, which in Greek is Dorcas. She was devoted to good works and acts of charity. ³⁷ At that time she became ill and died. When they had washed her, they laid her in a room upstairs. ³⁸ Since Lydda was near Joppa, the disciples, who heard that Peter was there, sent two men to him with the request, “Please come to us without delay.” ³⁹ So Peter got up and went with them; and when he arrived, they took him to the room upstairs. All the widows stood beside him, weeping and showing tunics and other clothing that Dorcas had made while she was with them. ⁴⁰ Peter put all of them outside, and then he knelt down and prayed. He turned to the body and said, “Tabitha, get up.” Then she opened her eyes, and seeing Peter, she sat up. ⁴¹ He gave her his hand and helped her up. Then calling the saints and widows, he showed her to be alive. ⁴² This became known throughout Joppa, and many believed in the Lord. ⁴³ Meanwhile he stayed in Joppa for some time with a certain Simon, a tanner.

Reader The word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God**

Psalm 23 - CP 519 (Sung)

Second Reading

Second Reading: Revelation 7: 9 – 17

A Reading from the Book of Revelation

⁹ After this I looked, and there was a great multitude that no one could count, from every nation, from all tribes and peoples and languages, standing before the throne and before the Lamb, robed in white, with palm branches in their hands. ¹⁰ They cried out in a loud voice, saying, “Salvation belongs to our God who is seated on the throne, and to the Lamb!” ¹¹ And all the angels stood around the throne and around the elders and the four living creatures, and they fell on their faces before the throne and worshipped God, ¹² singing, “Amen! Blessing and glory and wisdom and thanksgiving and honour and power and might be to our God forever and ever! Amen.” ¹³ Then one of the elders addressed me, saying, “Who are these, robed in white, and where have they come from?” ¹⁴ I said to him, “Sir, you are the one that knows.” Then he said to me, “These are they who have come out of the great ordeal; they have washed their robes and made them white in the blood of the Lamb. ¹⁵ For this reason they are before the throne of God, and worship him day and night within his temple, and the one who is seated on the throne will shelter them. ¹⁶ They will hunger no more, and thirst no more; the sun will not strike them, nor any scorching heat; ¹⁷ for the Lamb at the centre of the throne will be their shepherd, and he will guide them to springs of the water of life, and God will wipe away every tear from their eyes.”

Reader The word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God**

Gospel Acclamation CP 715

Holy Gospel

Reader The Lord be with you.

People **And also with you.**

Reader The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to John.

People **Glory to you, Lord Jesus Christ.**

John 10: 22 – 30

²² At that time the festival of the Dedication took place in Jerusalem. It was winter, ²³ and Jesus was walking in the temple, in the portico of Solomon. ²⁴ So the Jews gathered around him and said to him, “How long will you keep us in suspense? If you are the Messiah, tell us plainly.” ²⁵ Jesus answered, “I have told you, and you

do not believe. The works that I do in my Father' name testify to me; ²⁶ but you do not believe, because you do not belong to my sheep. ²⁷ My sheep hear my voice. I know them, and they follow me. ²⁸ I give them eternal life, and they will never perish. No one will snatch them out of my hand. ²⁹ What my Father has given me is greater than all else, and no one can snatch it out of the Father's hand. ³⁰ The Father and I are one."

Reader The Gospel of Christ.

People Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

Gospel Response

Sermon – Rev'd Canon Tony

Musical Presentation

My Sister's Hands (DeFord) Old St. Paul's Choir

The Apostles' Creed

Celebrant Let us confess the faith of our baptism, as we say,

All **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.**

Flowers on the Altar

The Flowers on the Altar today are dedicated to the Glory of God and in loving memory of loved ones; given by Shirley Woodall.

Prayers of the People

Today we pray For Todd, our Bishop, Anne, our Metropolitan and acting Primate; Chris, National Indigenous Bishop, and Marinez, Bishop of Amazonia, and for Tony our Interim Priest, the presbyters, the deacons and all who minister in Christ, and for all the holy people of God.

Let us Pray to the Lord

People: Hear our prayer and move our hearts to action

We thank you for the gift of rest. We pray for all those who are tired from work or worry. Grant rest to restore those who are exhausted by the challenges they face, and all those who are weary from the responsibilities they carry.

In the name of Christ our Risen Lord,

People: Hear our prayer and move our hearts to action.

God our Guide, thank you for the gifts of truth and wisdom. We pray for those who cannot discern truth in the midst of conspiracy theories, and for places where authorities distort reality for their own ends. Grant wisdom and common sense to all who make decisions in the midst of misinformation.

In the name of Christ our Risen Lord,

People: Hear our prayer and move our hearts to action

God our Strength, thank you for the ways you refresh our souls. We pray for those whose lives are burdened by economic challenges. We remember all in the midst of any sort of difficulty, those who are sick, in pain, or facing death, and those who are bereaved by the loss of someone dear.

We pray especially for:

and those we remember either silently or aloud.

In the name of Christ our Risen Lord,

People: Hear our prayer and move our hearts to action

God our Shield and Defender, thank you for staying with us when we face danger or death. We pray for all those who live in fear: prisoners, exiles and refugees, victims of oppression, racism, and hatred, and those who face the threat of violence day after day. Be their steady companion and source of courage.

In the name of Christ our Risen Lord,

People: Hear our prayer and move our hearts to action

God our Provider, thank you for all the ways you fill our cup to overflowing. Show us how we can be part of your redeeming work in caring for the earth and sharing what we have with those in any kind of need. Help us to be faithful stewards of the abundance you have blessed us with.

In the name of Christ our Risen Lord,

People: Hear our prayer and move our hearts to action

We pray for those times when we are not faithful to our calling as disciples of Jesus, You have promised us your forgiveness and the grace to follow you in who we are and in all we do.

In the name of Christ our Risen Lord,

People: Hear our prayer and move our hearts to action

Almighty God, you have given us grace to bring our prayers to you, and you promise that when two or three are gathered together in your name you will grant their requests. Fulfil now, Lord, our desires and prayers, as may be best for us and those for whom we have prayed. Grant us in this world knowledge of your truth, and in the world to come life everlasting. **Amen.**

Confession and Absolution

Celebrant Dear friends in Christ,
God is steadfast in love and infinite in mercy;
he welcomes sinners
and invites them to his table.
Let us confess our sins,
confident in God's forgiveness.

Silence is kept.

Celebrant Most merciful God,
**All we confess that we have sinned against you
in thought, word, and deed,
by what we have done,
and by what we have left undone.
We have not loved you with our whole heart;
we have not loved our neighbours as ourselves.
We are truly sorry and we humbly repent.
For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ,
have mercy on us and forgive us,
that we may delight in your will,
and walk in your ways,
to the glory of your name. Amen.**

Celebrant Almighty God have mercy upon you,
pardon and deliver you from all your sins,
confirm and strengthen you in all goodness,
and keep you in eternal life;
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

People **Amen.**

The Peace

Celebrant The peace of the Lord be always with you.

People **And also with you.**

THE CELEBRATION OF THE EUCHARIST

Offertory Hymn

Saviour Like A Shepherd Lead Us

Doxology

CP 666 Praise God from Whom All Blessings Flow

Praise God from whom all blessings flow;
praise Him, all creatures here below;
Praise Him above ye heavenly host;
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

Prayer over the Gifts

God of loving care, you spread before us the table of life, and give us the cup of salvation to drink. Keep us always in the fold of your Son Jesus Christ, our Saviour and our shepherd. Amen.

Eucharistic Prayer 3

Celebrant The Lord be with you.

People **And also with you.**

Celebrant Lift up your hearts.

People **We lift them to the Lord.**

Celebrant Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People **It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

Celebrant

Easter

Blessed are you, gracious God, creator of heaven and earth; we give you thanks and praise for the glorious resurrection of your Son Jesus Christ our Lord; for he is the true paschal lamb who has taken away the sin of the world.

By his death he destroyed death, and by his rising to life again he has won for us eternal life.

Therefore, joining our voices with the whole company of heaven, we sing our joyful hymn of praise to proclaim the glory of your name.

Sanctus & Benedictus CP 719 (Sung)

*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.
Hosanna in the highest.*

Celebrant We give thanks to you, Lord our God, for the goodness and love you have made known to us in creation; in calling Israel to be your people; in your Word spoken through the prophets; and above all in the Word made flesh, Jesus your Son.

For in these last days you sent him to be incarnate from the Virgin Mary, to be the Saviour and Redeemer of the world. In him, you have delivered us from evil, and made us worthy to stand before you. In him, you have brought us out of error into truth, out of sin into righteousness, out of death into life.

On the night he was handed over to suffering and death, a death he freely accepted, our Lord 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."

After supper he 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."

Therefore, Father, according to his command,

All *we remember his death,
we proclaim his resurrection,
we await his coming in glory;*

Celebrant and we offer our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving to you, Lord 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 to your Son in his sacrifice, that we, made acceptable in him, may be sanctified by the Holy Spirit.

In the fullness of time, reconcile all things in Christ, and make them new, and bring us to that city of light where you dwell with all your **children**; through Jesus Christ our Lord, the firstborn of all creation, the head of the Church, and the author of our salvation;

by whom, and with whom, and in whom, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, all honour and glory are yours, almighty Father, now and for ever.

People Amen (Sung)

The Lord's Prayer – (Sung)

Celebrant As our Saviour taught us, let us pray,

All 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.

Save us from the time of trial,

and deliver us from evil.

For the kingdom, the power,

and the glory are yours,

now and for ever. Amen.

The Breaking of Bread 8 Easter Season

Celebrant Lord, we died with you on the cross.

All **Now we are raised to new life.**

Celebrant We were buried in your tomb.

All **Now we share in your resurrection.**

Celebrant Live in us, that we may live in you.

Celebrant The gifts of God for the People of God.
People **Thanks be to God.**

The Communion

Agnus Dei

The introduction for the first Communion Hymn will play while Slides explaining Communion play while Choir receives their Communion.

Communion Music

*Hymns: CP 49 Draw Near and Take
CP 402 Come and Fill Our Hearts
CP 52 O God, Unseen Yet Ever Near*

Prayer After Communion

God of steadfast love, watch over the Church redeemed by the blood of your Son. May we who share in these holy mysteries come safely to your eternal kingdom, where there is one flock and one shepherd. We ask this in the name of Jesus Christ the risen Lord. **Amen.**

Doxology

Celebrant Glory to God,
All whose power, working in us,
can do infinitely more
than we can ask or imagine.
Glory to God from generation to generation,
in the Church and in Christ Jesus,
for ever and ever. **Amen.**

Benediction/The Blessing

Amen- Sung

Announcements

Benediction Song

My Peace

Closing Hymn

CP 521 Dear Shepherd of Your People, Hear (tune 620)

Choir and Clergy depart after singing completed

The Postlude

Postlude in C (Blake)

Dismissal

Leader Go in peace to love and serve the Lord, Alleluia!

All Thanks be to God, Alleluia!

CLOSING CREDITS