

A Service of Morning Prayer
May 11, 2025
Fourth Sunday of Easter



Christ Healing the Blind Man
 Oil on canvas painting, by Italian artist Sebastian Ricci ((1659-1734)
 on display in the Scottish National Gallery

I am the good shepherd, says the Lord: I know my own and my own know me. *John 10:14*

CP 528 O God Our Help in Ages Past

1 O God, our help in ages past,
 our hope for years to come,
 our shelter from the stormy blast,
 and our eternal home.

2 under the shadow of thy throne
 thy saints have dwelt secure;
 sufficient is thine arm alone,
 and our defence is sure.

3 Before the hills in order stood,
 or earth received its frame,
 from everlasting thou art God,
 to endless years the same.

4 A thousand ages in thy sight
 are like an evening gone,
 short as the watch that ends the night
 before the rising sun.

5 Time like an ever-rolling stream
 bears all our years away;
 they fly forgotten, as a dream
 dies at the opening day.

6 O God, our help in ages past,
 our hope for years to come,
 be thou our guard while troubles last,
 and our eternal home.

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ,
 And the love of God,
 And the fellowship of the Holy Spirit,
 Be with you all.

And also with you.

May his grace and peace be with you.

May he fill our hearts with joy.

Almighty God,

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.

Psalm 114*Refrain: The Lord is my shepherd; I shall not be in want.*

- ¹ When Israel went out from Egypt, the house of Jacob from a people of strange language,
² Judah became God's sanctuary, Israel his dominion.
³ The sea looked and fled; Jordan turned back.
⁴ The mountains skipped like rams, the hills like lambs.
⁵ Why is it, O sea, that you flee? O Jordan, that you turn back?
⁶ O mountains, that you skip like rams? O hills, like lambs?
⁷ Tremble, O earth, at the presence of the LORD, at the presence of the God of Jacob,
⁸ who turns the rock into a pool of water, the flint into a spring of water.

A Reading from Isaiah 53:1-6

- ¹ Who has believed what we have heard? And to whom has the arm of the LORD been revealed?
² For he grew up before him like a young plant, and like a root out of dry ground; he had no form or majesty that we should look at him, nothing in his appearance that we should desire him.
³ He was despised and rejected by others; a man of suffering and acquainted with infirmity; and as one from whom others hide their faces he was despised, and we held him of no account.
⁴ Surely he has borne our infirmities and carried our diseases; yet we accounted him stricken, struck down by God, and afflicted.
⁵ But he was wounded for our transgressions, crushed for our iniquities; upon him was the punishment that made us whole, and by his bruises we are healed.
⁶ All we like sheep have gone astray; we have all turned to our own way, and the LORD has laid on him the iniquity of us all.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

CP 519 The Lord's My Shepherd

- 1 The Lord's my shepherd, I'll not want: he makes me down to lie
 In pastures green; he leadeth me the quiet waters by.
- 2 My soul he doth restore again, and me to walk doth make
 Within the paths of righteousness, even for his own name's sake.
- 3 Yea, though I walk through death's dark vale, yet will I fear no ill;
 For thou art with me, and thy rod and staff me comfort still.
- 4 My table thou hast furnished in presence of my foes;
 My head thou dost with oil anoint, and my cup overflows.
- 5 Goodness and mercy all my life shall surely follow me,
 And in God's house for evermore my dwelling place shall be.

A Reading from Revelation 7:9-17

7:9 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.

7:10 They cried out in a loud voice, saying, "Salvation belongs to our God who is seated on the throne and to the Lamb!"

7:11 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 worshiped God,

7:12 singing, "Amen! Blessing and glory and wisdom and thanksgiving and honor and power and might be to our God forever and ever! Amen."

7:13 Then one of the elders addressed me, saying, "Who are these, robed in white, and where have they come from?"

7:14 I said to him, "Sir, you are the one who 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.

7:15 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.

7:16 They will hunger no more and thirst no more; the sun will not strike them, nor any scorching heat,

7:17 for the Lamb at the center 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."

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

CP 444 Your Hand O God Has Guided

1 Your hand, O God, has guided your flock from age to age
the wondrous tale is written, full clear, on every page.
Our forebears owned your goodness and we their deed record,
and both of this bear witness: one church, one faith, one Lord.

2 Your heralds brought glad tidings to greatest as to least;
they bade them rise, and hasten to share the royal feast;
and this was all their teaching, in every deed and word,
to all alike proclaiming one church, one faith, one Lord.

3 When shadows, thickly falling, engulfed the world in night,
you summoned forth your servants, your messengers of light.
On them and on your people your plenteous grace was poured,
and this was still their message: one church, one faith one Lord.

4 And we, shall we be faithless, shall hearts fail, hands hang down?
Shall we evade the struggle and cast away the crown?
Not so; in God's deep counsels some better gift is stored:
the covenant of promise – one church, one faith, one Lord.

5 Your mercy will not fail us, nor leave your work undone;
with your right hand to help us your people shall be one;
and then, by all creation, your name shall be adored,
and this shall be their anthem: one church, one faith, one Lord.

The Gospel

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according John

Glory to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

John 10:22-30

10:22 At that time the Festival of the Dedication took place in Jerusalem. It was winter,

10:23 and Jesus was walking in the temple, in the portico of Solomon.

10:24 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."

10:25 Jesus answered, "I have told you, and you do not believe. The works that I do in my Father's name testify to me,

10:26 but you do not believe because you do not belong to my sheep.

10:27 My sheep hear my voice. I know them, and they follow me.

10:28 I give them eternal life, and they will never perish. No one will snatch them out of my hand.

10:29 My Father, in regard to what he has given me, is greater than all else, and no one can snatch them out of the Father's hand.

10:30 The Father and I are one."

The Gospel of Christ

Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

Sermon by the Rev. Alison WesterveltCCLI 1585970 Psalm 23

1 The Lord's my Shepherd I'll not want
He makes me lie in pastures green
He leads me by the still still waters
His goodness restores my soul

Chorus

***And I will trust in You alone
And I will trust in You alone
For Your endless mercy follows me
Your goodness will lead me home***

Descant

I will trust I will trust in You
I will trust I will trust in You
Endless mercy follows me
Goodness will lead me home

2 He guides my ways in righteousness
And He anoints my head with oil
And my cup it overflows with joy
I feast on His pure delights

3 And though I walk the darkest path
I will not fear the evil one
For You are with me
And Your rod and staff
Are the comfort I need to know

Affirmation of Faith (The Apostles' Creed)

**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.**

Prayers of the People compiled and led by Betty Johnson

For our intercessions today, we will use Litany 4 p.113

(In peace let us pray to the Lord, saying, "Lord, hear and have mercy.")

We pray for the church.

In the worldwide cycle of prayer, we pray for the Nippon Sei Ko Kai

In Canada we pray for the Diocese of Caledonia: the Rt. Rev. David Lehmann, Bishop.

In our Diocese we pray for the Diocese of Edmonton Cursillo Secretariat: Corinna Kubos, Lay Director.

In the Diocese of Buye, we pray for the Buyé Diocese Bible School: Simion Kinono, Director; Alfred Uwimanihayé, Daniel Bizimana, Teachers.

We pray for the community and people of the Whitefish Lake First Nation.

We pray for our own community of St Peter's for our clergy Arthur and Alison, our music ministry Nadine, our Vestry and wardens and for all the fellowship that we have been blessed to receive over the years.

Gracious God, you sent your Son Jesus to proclaim to all the good news of your Kingdom, and through him inspired individuals to sow the seeds of your Church: Help us as we begin this work of starting a new community of faith within our walls. Empower your servants and all who support us and give us the gifts to accomplish your will; all of which we ask through Jesus our Saviour. Amen.

We also pray for Charles our King, and for all who are in authority fill all of us with the power of your Holy Spirit.

Lord, hear and have mercy.

We pray for those whose lives are bound in mutual love, and for those who live in celibacy: be their joy and their strength.

Lord, hear and have mercy.

For all in danger, for those who are far from home, prisoners, exiles, victims of oppression, and for so many more Lord, for the homeless, for those affected by the coronavirus, and especially for all Christians throughout the world; grant them your salvation.

Lord, hear and have mercy.

For all who are facing trials and difficulties, for those who are sick and those who are dying and all others in need especially those for whom our prayers are requested: Sandra..... Merle..... Mary..... Irene Tony and Mary Jean..... Bill..... Florence..... Lisa and Joe..... Marijke..... Diane..... Janelle..... Sandy..... Evelyn..... Sarah..... Terry..... Ken..... Monica..... Julie..... Lucas..... Helen..... Cody..... Judy..... Skariah..... Ruth..... Jody and Michael..... David L..... Kathy..... Joy..... Melody and her family..... Pauline and Richard.....Jorges and Janine..... Michael S..... Larry..... Christena..... Elsie; those we hold close in our hearts and those known to you alone show them your kindness and mercy.

Lord, hear and have mercy.

We pray for the peaceful repose of the souls of those who have died and comfort for those who mourn.

Lord, hear and have mercy.

We pray for one another: especially our St. Peter's Family at this time, may we always be united in service and love.

Lord, hear and have mercy.

We pray to be forgiven our sins and set free from all hardship, distress, want, war, and injustice.

Lord, hear and have mercy.

May we discover new and just ways of sharing the goods of the earth, struggling against exploitation, greed, or lack of concern: may we all live by the abundance of your mercies and find joy together.

Lord, hear and have mercy.

May we be strengthened by our communion with all Christ's saints.

Lord, hear and have mercy.

Almighty and eternal God, ruler of all things in heaven and earth: mercifully accept the prayers of your people and strengthen us to do your will; through Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen.

Collect

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.

**And now, as our Saviour Christ has taught us, we are bold to say,
 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.**

CP 520 The King of Love My Shepherd Is

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 spread'st a table in my sight;
 Thy unction grace bestoweth;
 And O 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!**

The Dismissal

I am the good shepherd, says the Lord: I know my own and my own know me. *John 10:14*

Let us bless the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

May the God of peace enable us to do His will in every kind of goodness
 working in us what pleases Him, through Jesus Christ, to whom be the glory for
 ever and ever. Amen.

My dear friends, be swift to love, make haste to be kind,
 and go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

Thanks be to God.