

A Service of Morning Prayer
Fourth Sunday of Easter, April 26, 2026



The Good Shepherd
 attributed to Franch painter Philippe de Champaigne (1602-1694)

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

CP 658 Filled With the Spirit's Power

1 Filled with the Spirit's power, with one accord
 the infant church confessed its risen Lord.
 O Holy Spirit, in the church today
 no less your power of fellowship display.

2 Now with the mind of Christ set us on fire,
 that unity may be our great desire.
 Give joy and peace; give faith to hear your call,
 and readiness in each to work for all.

3 Widen our love, good Spirit, to embrace
 in your strong care people of every race.
 Like wind and fire with life among us move,
 till we are known as Christ's, and Christians prove.

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

23:1 The LORD is my shepherd; I shall not want.

23:2 He makes me lie down in green pastures; he leads me beside still waters;

23:3 he restores my soul. He leads me in right paths for his name's sake.

23:4 Even though I walk through the darkest valley, I fear no evil, for you are with me; your rod and your staff, they comfort me.

23:5 You prepare a table before me in the presence of my enemies; you anoint my head with oil; my cup overflows.

23:6 Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life, and I shall dwell in the house of the LORD my whole life long.

A Reading from Acts 2:42-47

2:42 They devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching and fellowship, to the breaking of bread and the prayers.

2:43 Awe came upon everyone because many wonders and signs were being done through the apostles.

2:44 All who believed were together and had all things in common;

2:45 they would sell their possessions and goods and distribute the proceeds to all, as any had need.

2:46 Day by day, as they spent much time together in the temple, they broke bread at home and ate their food with glad and generous hearts,

2:47 praising God and having the goodwill of all the people. And day by day the Lord added to their number those who were being saved.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.CP 564 Lead Us, Heavenly Father, Lead Us

1 Lead us, heavenly Father, lead us
o'er the world's tempestuous sea;
guard us, guide us, keep us, feed us,
for we have no help but thee;
yet possessing every blessing
if our God our Father be.

3 Spirit of our God, descending,
fill our hearts with heavenly joy,
love with every passion blending,
pleasure that can never cloy;
thus provided, pardoned, guided,
nothing can our peace destroy.

2 Saviour, breathe forgiveness o'er us;
all our weakness thou dost know;
thou didst tread this earth before us,
thou didst feel its keenest woe;
lone and dreary, faint and weary,
through the desert thou didst go.

A Reading from 1 Peter 2:19-25

2:19 For it is a commendable thing if, being aware of God, a person endures pain while suffering unjustly.

2:20 If you endure when you are beaten for doing wrong, what credit is that? But if you endure when you do good and suffer for it, this is a commendable thing before God.

2:21 For to this you have been called, because Christ also suffered for you, leaving you an example, so that you should follow in his steps.

2:22 "He committed no sin, and no deceit was found in his mouth."

2:23 When he was abused, he did not return abuse; when he suffered, he did not threaten, but he entrusted himself to the one who judges justly.

2:24 He himself bore our sins in his body on the cross, so that, having died to sins, we might live for righteousness; by his wounds you have been healed.

2:25 For you were going astray like sheep, but now you have returned to the shepherd and guardian of your souls.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

CP 349 All People That on Earth Do Dwell

1 All people that on earth do dwell,
sing to the Lord with cheerful voice;
him serve with mirth, his praise forth tell;
come ye before him, and rejoice.

3 O enter then his gates with praise,
approach with joy his courts unto;
praise, laud, and bless his name always,
for it is seemly so to do.

2 Know that the Lord is God indeed;
without our aid he did us make;
we are his folk, he doth us feed,
and for his sheep he doth us take.

4 For why, the Lord our God is good;
his mercy is forever sure;
his truth at all times firmly stood,
and shall from age to age endure.

The Gospel

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to John

Glory to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

John 10:1-10

10:1 Very truly, I tell you, anyone who does not enter the sheepfold by the gate but climbs in by another way is a thief and a bandit.

10:2 The one who enters by the gate is the shepherd of the sheep.

10:3 The gatekeeper opens the gate for him, and the sheep hear his voice. He calls his own sheep by name and leads them out.

10:4 When he has brought out all his own, he goes ahead of them, and the sheep follow him because they know his voice.

10:5 They will not follow a stranger, but they will run from him because they do not know the voice of strangers."

10:6 Jesus used this figure of speech with them, but they did not understand what he was saying to them.

10:7 So again Jesus said to them, "Very truly, I tell you, I am the gate for the sheep.

10:8 All who came before me are thieves and bandits, but the sheep did not listen to them.

10:9 I am the gate. Whoever enters by me will be saved and will come in and go out and find pasture.

10:10 The thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy. I came that they may have life and have it abundantly."

The Gospel of Christ

Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

Sermon by the Rev. Alison Westervelt

CCLI 2151368 He Knows My Name

1 I have a Maker

He formed my heart

Before even time began

My life was in His hand

2 I have a Father

He calls me His own

He'll never leave me

No matter where I go

Chorus

He knows my name

He knows my every thought

He sees each tear that falls

And hears me when I call

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 the Rev. Alison Westervelt

Almighty and everlasting God, we come before your throne of grace to make known those issues and concerns which burden our hearts and those of your people this world over saying: Lord in Your mercy, Hear our prayer.

Hear our prayer

We come because our Saviour, Jesus, taught us that your love for us is unending and, by giving up his life for us, showed the way to a life everlasting. We bring our prayers not only because it is good to talk but also because it is good to listen – for your word and your will for us. Lord in Your mercy,

Hear our prayer

We pray for our church throughout the world and right here;

- for the Church of Nigeria
- for the Diocese of Quebec: the Rt. Rev. Bruce Myers, Bishop.
- St. Peter the Apostle, Edmonton: Eric Kregel, Rector.
- The retired pastors of Buyé: Osee Niyibizi.
- for the people and the communities of the Cold Lake First Nation.
- for our own spiritual home, St. Peter's; our ministry team: Arthur, Sandra, Alison, Nadine, our readers and intercessors, our lay readers, Emily and Jorge, and bless all who hold office in our church and have influence on decisions, and we pray for guidance and wisdom as the church encounters the many challenges in its work today.

We ask that as God is Lord of all and as Christ died for all, that we who confess 'Christ is Risen' may seek to build on those things which unite us in our desire to see the Kingdom of God strengthened here on Earth. Lord in Your mercy,

Hear our prayer

We pray for this your world, set like a jewel in the blackness of space, and home to all your children whom we are challenged to call our neighbours. As our loving God, support and strengthen your suffering people and give wisdom and courage to those involved in humanitarian relief and reconstruction. Bring to all world leaders a sense of justice and fairness and compassion and a true desire for world peace.

Let hearts, which have refused to listen to the cries of the people, be stirred into action to halt the wars and unfair practices and so bring peace and reconciliation in so many troubled and conflict torn regions of the world. Lord in Your mercy,

Hear our prayer

And so we continue to pray for the work of the United Nations as the only avenue through which the nations can be encouraged to work towards common goals of peace, justice and harmony. Lord in Your mercy,

Hear our prayer

We think now of those in need in our own community, and we bring them and their needs to you; the elderly, the housebound and those in care homes, hospital and hospice. Also we remember the rejected, the unloved, the rebellious and all those on the margins of what we term 'society'. And so we pray for all those who minister to so many different needs, both from within the family, the Churches and from the other professional and voluntary services. Lord in Your mercy,

Hear our prayer

Heavenly Father, help all those who are sick. Comfort them with your presence from day to day.

Be with those in hospital who suffer mentally and physically. Be with those who care for the sick, especially the nurses and doctors, every day of their working lives; and those who dedicate themselves to spending time with those who suffer. We bring to you our loved ones. We name those who have requested our prayers:

Sandra..... Merle..... Mary..... Irene Tony and Mary Jean..... Florence..... Lisa and Joe..... Marijke..... Diane..... Janelle..... Sandy..... Evelyn..... Sarah..... Terry..... Ken..... Monica..... Julie..... Lucas..... Helen..... Cody..... Judy..... Ruth..... Jody and Michael..... David L..... Kathy..... Joy..... Melody and her family..... Pauline.....Jorges and Janine..... Michael S..... Larry..... Christena..... Elsie..... Irvin and Margaret..... Ashley..... Emily..... Zaldy..... Louise A..... Sandra A..... And, as we share a moment of silence together, we bring before you those known only to ourselves as we name them in our hearts and commit them to your loving care. Lord in your mercy,

Hear our prayer

We now remember before God those who are near their journey's end and those who have already completed their journey. We remember that you turn our darkness into light, and in your light we shall see light.

May the souls of all the faithful departed through the mercy of God, rest in peace and rise in glory. Lord in your mercy,

Hear our prayer

The Light of God surrounds us;
 The Love of God enfolds us;
 The Power of God protects us;
 The Presence of God watches over us;
 Wherever we are, God is.

Merciful Father, accept these prayers for the sake of your Son, our Saviour, Jesus Christ. 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 552 My Heart Looks in Faith

1 My heart looks in faith
 to the Lamb divine;
 his precious blood flows down
 for these sins of mine.

2 My heart looks in hope
 to the Son of God;
 he saves me, he leads me
 on the road he trod.

3 My heart looks in love
 to Jesus my friend;
 he does my soul strengthen
 and my life defend.

4 Faith and hope and love,
 all to Christ I give;
 his servant I will be
 so long as I live.

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.