

FOURTH SUNDAY OF EASTER – MAY 3, 2020

PNCC SUNDAY WORSHIP FOR THOSE UNABLE TO ATTEND HOLY MASS DUE TO COVID 19

HYMN – GENTLE SHEPHERD

Gentle Shepherd, come and lead us,
For we need You to help us find our way.
Gentle Shepherd, come and feed us,
For we need Your strength from day to day.
There's no other we can turn to
Who can help us face another day;
Gentle Shepherd, come and lead us,
For we need You to help us find our way.



In the name of the ✠ Father and of the Son of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

Blessed be the Holy and Undivided Trinity, now and forever. Amen.

Dear Father in heaven, thank You for bringing me safely to the beginning of a new day. Keep me safe throughout the day from temptation, sin and evil. O Lord, by Your help and guidance may my thoughts, words and all that I do be in accordance with Your holy will. Amen.

ACT OF CONTRITION

O God, from the depth of my heart I am sorry for sinning against You. Through my sins I have turned away from You, displeased You and offended You. I promise to confess my sins, to do penance and with Your grace to amend my life by following You closely and keeping Your commandments.

ENTRANCE HYMN

V. You, My sheep, you are the sheep of My pasture, and I am your God, says the Lord God.
Alleluia.

R. Then we, Your people and the sheep of Your pasture, will give thanks to You forever;
through all generations we will declare Your praise. Alleluia.

V. Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit,

R. As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.

THE KYRIE

Lord, have mercy.

Christ, have mercy.

Lord, have mercy.

THE GLORIA

Glory to God in the Highest, and peace to His people on earth.

Lord God, heavenly King, almighty God and Father, we worship You, we give You thanks, we praise You for Your glory.

Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father, Lord God, Lamb of God, You take away the sins of the world: have mercy on us. You are seated at the right hand of the Father: receive our prayer.

For You alone are the Holy One, You alone are the Lord, You alone are the Most High, Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit, in the glory of ☩ God the Father. Amen.

OPENING PRAYER

Let us pray.

Lord Jesus Christ, Shepherd of Your people; strengthen us through Your risen presence.

May we walk with You each day and follow You in humble trust
for You are the Good Shepherd, You call us by name and lead us.

For You live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. Amen.

FIRST READING: Acts 2:14, 36-41

Then Peter stood up with the Eleven, raised his voice, and proclaimed:

“Let the whole house of Israel know for certain that God has made both Lord and Christ, this Jesus whom you crucified.”

Now when they heard this, they were cut to the heart, and they asked Peter and the other apostles, “What are we to do, my brothers?”

Peter said to them, “Repent and be baptized, every one of you, in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of your sins; and you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit.

For the promise is made to you and to your children and to all those far off, whomever the Lord our God will call.”

He testified with many other arguments, and was exhorting them, “Save yourselves from this corrupt generation.”

Those who accepted his message were baptized, and about three thousand persons were added that day.

This is the Word of the Lord. *Thanks be to God.*

RESPONSORIAL PSALM: Psalm 23

The Lord is my shepherd; I shall not want. In verdant pastures he gives me repose; beside restful waters he leads me; he refreshes my soul.

The Lord is my shepherd; there is nothing I shall want. Alleluia.

He guides me in right paths for his name’s sake.

Even though I walk in the dark valley I fear no evil; for you are at my side.

With your rod and your staff that give me courage.

The Lord is my shepherd; there is nothing I shall want. Alleluia.

You spread the table before me in the sight of my foes;

you anoint my head with oil; my cup overflows.

The Lord is my shepherd; there is nothing I shall want. Alleluia.

Only goodness and kindness follow me all the days of my life;

and I shall dwell in the house of the Lord for years to come.

The Lord is my shepherd; there is nothing I shall want. Alleluia.

SECOND READING: 1 Peter 2:20-25

Beloved: If you are patient when you suffer for doing what is good, this is a grace before God. For to this you have been called, because Christ also suffered for you, leaving you an example that you should follow in his footsteps. He committed no sin, and no deceit was found in his mouth. When he was insulted, he returned no insult; when he suffered, he did not threaten; instead, he handed himself over to the one who judges justly. He himself bore our sins in his body upon the cross, so that, free from sin, we might live for righteousness. By his wounds you have been healed. For you had gone astray like sheep, but you have now returned to the shepherd and guardian of your souls.

This is the Word of the Lord. *Thanks be to God.*

ALLELUIA VERSE: John 10:14

Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!

I am the good shepherd, says the Lord;
I know my sheep, and mine know me.

Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!

THE GOSPEL: - Luke 10:1-10

Jesus said: “Amen, amen, I say to you, whoever does not enter a sheepfold through the gate but climbs over elsewhere is a thief and a robber. But whoever enters through the gate is the shepherd of the sheep. The gatekeeper opens it for him, and the sheep hear his voice, as the shepherd calls his own sheep by name and leads them out. When he has driven out all his own, he walks ahead of them, and the sheep follow him, because they recognize his voice. But they will not follow a stranger; they will run away from him, because they do not recognize the voice of strangers.” Although Jesus used this figure of speech, the Pharisees did not realize what he was trying to tell them. So Jesus said again, “Amen, amen, I say to you, I am the gate for the sheep. All who came before me are thieves and robbers, but the sheep did not listen to them. I am the gate. Whoever enters through me will be saved, and will come in and go out and find pasture. A thief comes only to steal and slaughter and destroy; I came so that they might have life and have it more abundantly.”

This is the Gospel of the Lord. *Praise be to You Lord Jesus Christ.*

REFLECTION

On the Fourth Sunday of the Easter Season we focus on Jesus as the Good Shepherd, the One who calls us by name and leads us. Are we following the lead He gives us and shows us through His teachings and the Gospel of Salvation? We know that there are many in the world who compete for our time and attention and who would like to lead us in many different directions – Jesus warns of these bad shepherds, these strangers, as well.

It is important to note that during these days of pandemic we have come to realize just who is really important to us; haven't we? We have celebrities and famous athletes who market to us and try to lead us in certain directions many times for their own gain. But today during the Covid-19 outbreak we see who is most important. First and foremost, our crucified and risen Lord. Also our Nurses, Doctors, Health Care Workers, First Responders, Essential Workers who are providing for us during these days of social distancing and anxiety. They are putting others before themselves as they live and work caring for others, putting our Lord's teachings into practice in their lives. Our individual families and our parish/church families are also so important to us as we are separated from them, we realize just how important they are. As these days have given us time for pause and reflection, make sure that as we move forward we remember who was there for us and who is really important to us.

Our Lord Jesus Christ, we know, is the Good Shepherd who cares for His Sheep, who laid His life for His Sheep – who cares for us – for you and me. He loves us and calls us to follow Him on our earthly pilgrimage. May we do just that – during these anxious and concerning days let us continue to look to Jesus our Good Shepherd and follow His lead through this storm because He knows what we need and is there for us.

(A few moments for silent reflection)

NICENE CREED

I believe in One God, the Father, the Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth, of all that is seen and unseen.

I 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; by the power of the Holy Spirit He was born of the Virgin Mary, AND BECAME MAN.

For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate; He suffered death and was buried.

On the third day He rose again in fulfillment of 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.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord and giver of life who proceeds from the Father. With the Father and the Son, He is worshipped and glorified. He has spoken through the prophets.

I believe in one, holy, catholic and apostolic church. I acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins. I look for the resurrection of the dead and the life of the world to come.

Amen.

PRAYER

Almighty Father, grant a loving, wise and courageous spirit to all who pastor, minister and teach in Your name.

Through all their words and deeds

may they seek Your glory and the increase of Your kingdom.

We ask this in the name of Your Son, Jesus Christ, Who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. Amen.

OUR FATHER

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. Amen.

ACT OF SPIRITUAL COMMUNION

Most loving Jesus, I adore You in the Most Blessed Sacrament, in Which You are truly present. I love You above all things and I long for You in my soul. Since I cannot receive You sacramentally, I ask You to come spiritually into my heart and heal my soul. I embrace You and unite myself with You; may I never be separated from You. In flame my heart with the fire of Your love, my Lord and Savior.

COMMUNION VERSE

Let my soul live to praise You, and may Your ordinances help me. I have gone astray like a lost sheep; seek Your servant, because Your commands I do not forget. Alleluia.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Let us pray.

Lord Jesus Christ, You so shepherd Your people that they shall not want.

Lead us peacefully to Your green pastures and refresh us beside Your still waters.

For us who share in the Heavenly Banquet restore our souls when we go astray and always lead us in the paths of righteousness for Your name's sake.

For You live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. Amen.

PRAYER IN TIME OF NATIONAL ANXIETY

Let us pray.

I come to You, Lord, in this time of uncertainty and confusion that has gripped our nation and our world. I pray that our leaders and representatives in government are filled with Your peace, strength and courage. May your gifts of wisdom and understanding, fortitude and counsel be sought and utilized by them for the well-being of all. By their belief and trust in You may they provide capable leadership, promote unity and peace, and be attentive to the concerns of our people. May Your Church provide support and comfort; and help strengthen our hope for peace through our Lord Jesus Christ. Amen.

REGINA CAELI - ASKING THE INTERCESSION OF OUR BLESSED MOTHER

Queen of Heaven, rejoice. Alleluia.

For He, whom you did merit to bear. Alleluia.

Has risen as He said. Alleluia.

Pray for us to God. Alleluia.

V. Rejoice and be glad, O Virgin Mary. Alleluia

R. For the Lord has truly risen. Alleluia.

Let us pray.

O God, Who gave joy to the world through the Resurrection of Your Son, our Lord Jesus Christ, grant we humbly ask You, that through the intercession of the Blessed Virgin Mary, His mother, we may attain the joys of everlasting life. Through the same Christ our Lord. Amen.

In the name of the ☩ Father and of the Son of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

CLOSING HYMNS: *THE GOOD SHEPHERD HAS ARISEN*

The Lord has truly risen, The Lord has truly risen,
Arise, Arise, Good Shepherd has arisen.
Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia,
Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!

HAIL, DEAR MARY

Hail, dear Mary, praise and glory unto you we bring.
Sing, O child in exultation, of her virtues sing.

How her hands had served our Savior, Who this world had made.
Lo, the greatness of His glory, Mary's Son, our Lord.

As His Mother He did love her, honored every word,
In obedience to her guidance, though He was her Lord.

*Compiled from 2006 PNCC Missal and the 2010 PNCC Prayer Book
by Very Rev. Robert M. Nemkovich Jr.
Chairman, PNCC National Liturgical Commission
April 2020 for those who cannot attend Holy Mass due to the Covid 19 Pandemic*