

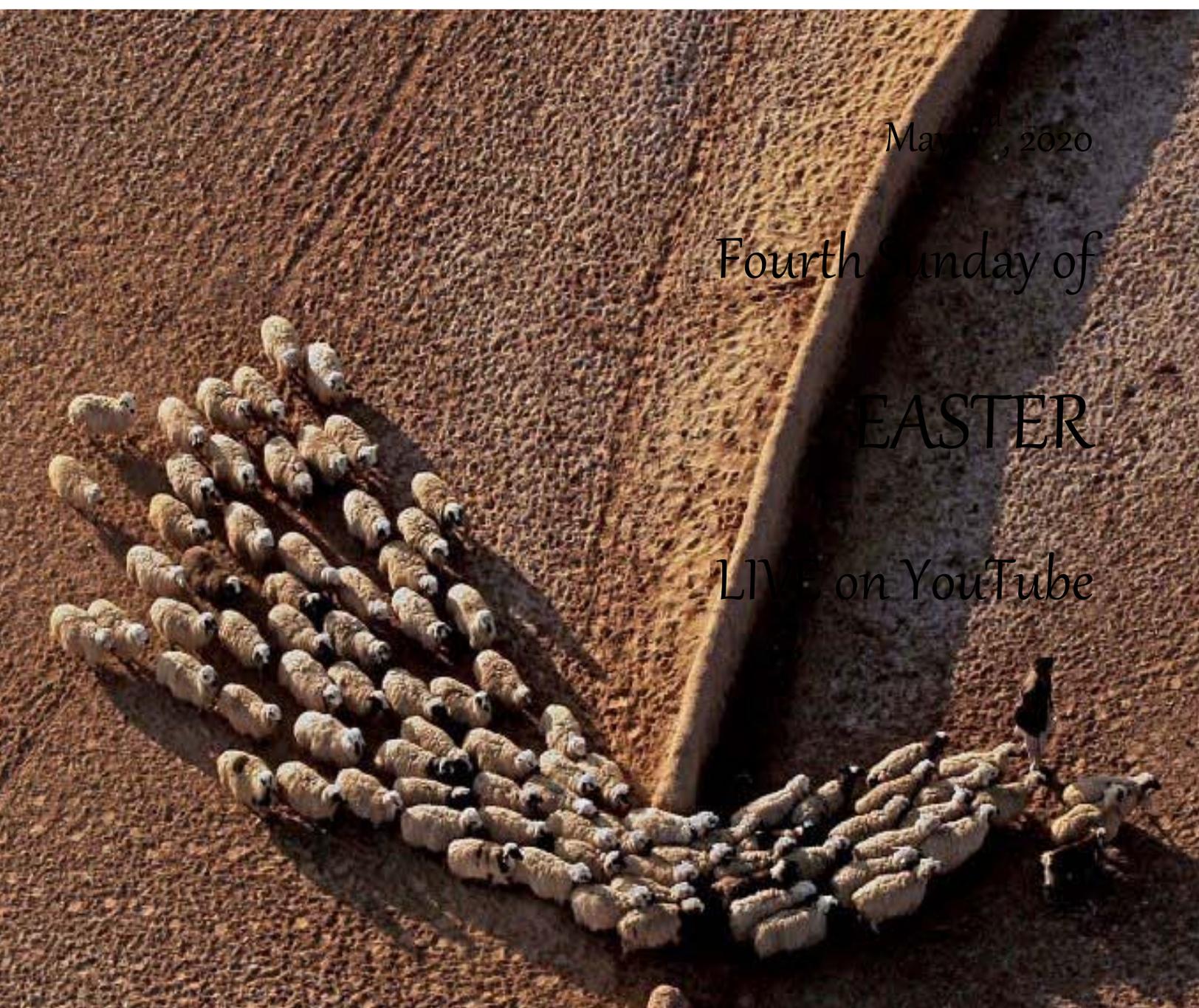
Episcopal Churches of
Saints Nicholas & Thomas

May 10, 2020

Fourth Sunday of

EASTER

LIVE on YouTube



Our Prayer

"Let us offer prayers and blessings for all people and all nations of the Earth. Let us bless that, though intense, this will also become a time of conscious awakening and healing for everyone. We know, from the lessons of history, that great difficulties, disasters and challenging times also can strengthen and unify us by dissolving the differences that appear to divide us. Calamities often strengthen us internally, making us more deeply aware of the highest values of life. Troubling times encourages us to work together, to genuinely care for each other. Such events make us more aware of our collective strength when we work together as one united human family. May we grow in unity, love and understanding.

The Lord's Blessings be upon all people and nations affected at this time. May governments and all helpers move in an inspired, co-operative and harmonious way, so that collectively we are able to put right whatever needs to be put right within our capacity. Our prayer is that this disease comes to an end soon. We believe, trust, know this will happen.

This is a prayer for our entire world and its leaders. We pray that the greater, higher Truth which dwells inside us all raise us up in conscious awareness of our true nature and Being so that we become more kind, more open, more loving, wise, peaceful and powerful in the Truth we are. May we live fully in the joy of our real nature in accordance with the will of the Supreme God Almighty."

~ Mojibaba

Online Worship Services for Sunday, May 3rd

Online services will be updated as the information becomes available.

www.Delaware.church/covid-19-response

Holy Eucharist with Bishop Brown

St. Albans Center

11:00am

Facebook LIVE

downloadable service leaflet available

Sts Nicholas & Thomas

9:00am

YouTube LIVE

downloadable service leaflet available

Washington National Cathedral

11:15 am

YouTube and Facebook Live.

Let Us Pray

Please visit our website
for news and information.

Under the category "News and Sermons",
you will find resources such as:

- online resources for prayer
- Christian blogs
- Christian literary journals

<http://stthomasparish.org/let-us-pray/>

Public Health Information

The Episcopal Church encourages everyone to adhere to the Centers for Disease Control's recommendations to prevent the spread of this virus to not unintentionally harm neighbors at home, at school, at work, or others in the community. Please check in with the DE Dept of Health and Social Services for updates.

<https://www.dhss.delaware.gov/dhss/>

God loves you. No exceptions.



The Episcopal Church Welcomes You.

Greetings! We're delighted you are here, and want for you to be comfortable so you can worship God and enjoy your visit today. We suspect you may have some questions. Everybody you see here was a newcomer at one time, and we've *all* had questions- probably some of the same you have today.

In the Episcopal Church, everybody doesn't always do things the same way. But, **when you're worshipping God, you can't get it wrong!** If you need help, ask the person next to you. We are friendly, helpful people here at St Thomas. Please bear in mind, regardless of what anybody else is doing, do what makes *you* comfortable.

Our weekly services:

Sunday 8am- Rite I (spoken Eucharist)

Sunday 10:30am- Rite II (sung Eucharist)

Wednesday 12:00pm- Intercessory Prayer with Holy Eucharist

The Christian life is a source of endless fascination. Just when we think we have seen and heard everything it has to offer, something new turns up. Committing to a life of learning and growing in the faith is an excellent way to make sure there is always enough fuel in the spiritual tank.

Ask, Seek, Knock from Matthew 7:7-8

⁷ "Ask and it will be given to you; seek and you will find; knock and the door will be opened to you. ⁸For everyone who asks receives; the one who seeks finds; and to the one who knocks, the door will be opened."

There are many opportunities for Christian growth within our parish. We welcome everyone to drop in and check out the many offerings. Our groups include:

- Children's Ministries, age 18mo-6th grade- meet weekly at 9:15am
- Youth CREW, 7th-12th grades- meet semi-weekly at 11:45am
- Youth Confirmation, grades 7 and 8- meet weekly at 9:00am
- ECM, college age students- meet weekly on Weds at 5:30pm
- The Parlor Class, adult ed- meet weekly at 9:15am
- Novel Theology, all ages- meet monthly at 9:15am
- Lectionary Bible Study, all ages- meet weekly on Weds at 10:30am

In addition to these groups, we also welcome the occasional guest speaker or activity during coffee hour, as well as special 6-week lecture series. For more information about any of our educational offerings, please ask any member of the vestry, speak with Fr Howie, or visit our website:

www.stthomasparish.org

Thank you for joining us today, and we hope to see you again soon!

Five minutes before the service begins, the bell in the Great Hall will be rung, calling us to a period of quiet and preparation.

Prelude

Procession

All People That on Earth do Dwell

Hymnal #377



1. All peo - ple that on earth do dwell, sing to the Lord with
2. Know that the Lord is God in - deed; with - out our aid he
3. O en - ter then his gates with praise, ap - proach with joy his
4. For why? the Lord our God is good, his mer - cy is for



cheer - ful voice: him serve with mirth, his praise forth
did us make: we are his folk, he doth us
courts un - to; praise, laud, and bless his Name al -
ev - er sure; his truth at all time firm - ly



tell, come ye be - fore him and re - jice.
feed, and for his sheep he doth us take.
ways, for it is seem - ly so to do.
stood, and shall from age to age en - dure.

THE WORD OF GOD

Celebrant Alleluia. Christ is risen.

People The Lord is risen indeed. Alleluia.

Almighty God, to you all hearts are open, all desires known, and from you no secrets are hid: 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.

The Gloria

Glo - ry to God in the high - est, and peace to his peo - ple on
earth. Lord God, heav'n - ly King, al - might - y God and Fa - ther, we
wor - ship you, we give you thanks, we praise you for your glo - ry.
Lord Je - sus Christ, on - ly Son of the Fa - ther, Lord God, Lamb of God, you
take a - way the sin of the world: have mer - cy on us; you are
seat - ed at the right hand of the Fa - ther: re - ceive our prayer.
For you a - lone are the Ho - ly One, you a - lone are the Lord,
you a - lone are the Most High, Je - sus Christ, with the Ho - ly - Spi - rit,
in the glo - ry of God the Fa - ther. A - - - men.

The Collect of the Day

Celebrant The Lord be with you.

People And also with you.

Celebrant Let us pray.

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.

Most mighty and merciful God, in this time of great sickness, we flee to you for comfort. Deliver us, we pray, from our peril; give strength and skill to all who minister to the sick;

prosper our efforts to protect and heal; and grant that, being aware of the frailty and uncertainty of our life, we may apply our hearts to that heavenly wisdom that leads to eternal life; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

First Lesson

Acts 2:42-47

Those who had been baptized devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching and fellowship, to the breaking of bread and the prayers.

Awe came upon everyone, because many wonders and signs were being done by the apostles. All who believed were together and had all things in common; they would sell their possessions and goods and distribute the proceeds to all, as any had need. 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, 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.

Reader The Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

Psalm 23

Dominus regit me

1 The Lord is my shepherd; *
I shall not be in want.

2 He makes me lie down in green pastures *
and leads me beside still waters.

3 He revives my soul *
and guides me along right pathways for his Name's sake.

4 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.

5 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.

6 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.

Epistle Lesson

1 Peter 2:19-25

It is a credit to you if, being aware of God, you endure pain while suffering unjustly. If you endure when you are beaten for doing wrong, what credit is that? But if you endure when you do right and suffer for it, you have God's approval. 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.

“He committed no sin,
and no deceit was found in his mouth.”

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. He himself bore our sins in his body on the cross, so that, free from sins, we might live for righteousness; by his wounds you have been healed. For you were going astray like sheep, but now you have returned to the shepherd and guardian of your souls.

Reader The Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

Gradual

He Shall Feed His Flock (Messiah) — G.F.

Handel

Helen Spence, Soprano

He shall feed His flock like a shepherd,
and He shall gather the lambs with His arm,
And carry them in His bosom,
and gently lead those that are with young.

Come unto Him, all ye that labour,
come unto Him, ye that are heavy laden,
And he will give you rest.

Take His yoke upon you, and learn of Him,
for He is meek and lowly of heart,
And ye shall find rest unto your souls.

All stand

The Gospel

John 10:1-10

Deacon The Lord be with you.

People **And also with you.**

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

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

Jesus said, "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. The one who enters by the gate is the shepherd of the sheep. The gatekeeper opens the gate for him, and the sheep hear his voice. He calls his own sheep by name and leads them out. When he has brought out all his own, he goes ahead of them, and the sheep follow him because they know his voice. They will not follow a stranger, but they will run from him because they do not know the voice of strangers." Jesus used this figure of speech with them, but they did not understand what he was saying to them.

So again Jesus said to them, "Very truly, I tell you, I am the gate for the sheep. All who came before me are thieves and bandits; but the sheep did not listen to them. I am the gate. Whoever enters by me will be saved, and will come in and go out and find pasture. The thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy. I came that they may have life, and have it abundantly."

Deacon The Gospel of the Lord.

People **Praise to you, Lord Christ.**

The Sermon

The Nicene Creed

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:
by the power of the Holy Spirit
he became incarnate from the Virgin Mary,
and was made man.

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 and the Son.
With the Father and the Son he is worshiped and glorified.
He 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.

Prayers of the People

With joy and gladness, let us pray to the Lord.

For the Church throughout the world, that it may be a sign of new life to the weary and the lost, we pray to the Lord. **Lord, show us your light.**

For all the leaders of the Church, that they may lead us in paths of peace and renewal, we pray to the Lord. **Lord, show us your light.**

For the nations of the world and those who lead them, that they may strive for justice and a new birth of freedom, we pray to the Lord. **Lord, show us your light.**

For the peace of the world, that those who use violence and those who condone it may have a change of heart, mind, and soul, we pray to the Lord. **Lord, show us your light.**

For all whose labor eases our lives, especially those who work in health care, long-term care, and hospice, that they may know themselves to be the hands of God, and may see God's holy angels at work among them, we pray to the Lord. **Lord, show us your light.**

For the sick, the disabled, and all who suffer, especially those we name now, aloud or in our hearts, that they may see new growth from branches long barren, we pray to the Lord. **Lord, show us your light.**

For Saint Mary's Church, Bridgeville, and for the Nippon Sei Ko Kai (The Anglican Communion in Japan), that they may know and share the joy of the empty cross and empty tomb, we pray to the Lord. **Lord, show us your light.**

For all who serve in the armed forces and all who go in harm's way to protect others, especially those we name now, aloud or in our hearts, we pray to the Lord. **Lord, show us your light.**

For those who have died, especially those we name now, aloud or in our hearts, that they may have light and peace, and rest with all the saints, we pray to the Lord. **Lord, show us your light.**

With saint and angels, we proclaim:

[All say together]

Christ is risen from the dead, trampling down death with death, and bringing life to those who dwell in tombs. Amen.

Confession of Sin

Celebrant Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

All Most merciful God,
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 neighbors 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 on you, forgive you all your sins through our Lord Jesus Christ, strengthen you in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep you in eternal life. Amen.

The Peace

Celebrant The peace of the Lord be always with you.

People And also with you.

At this point in the service the offerings of the faithful would normally be taken up. In this strange time, the church is aware that some of its members are struggling to make ends meet. If you are in this situation, please let the clergy know of your needs, pray for the church, and feel no guilt about your giving. But if you are able to give, options for giving include mailing a check to your church or online giving is available at stthomasparish.org.

Offertory Hymn

The King of Love

Hymnal #645



1. The ___ King of love my shep - herd is, whose good - ness
 2. Where streams of liv - ing wa - ter flow, my ___ ran - somed
 5. Thou ___ spread'st a ta - ble in my sight; thy ___ unc - tion
 6. And ___ so through all the length of days thy ___ good - ness



fail - eth ___ nev - er; I noth - ing lack if
 soul he ___ lead - eth, and where the ver - dant
 grace be - stow - eth; and oh, what thans - port
 fail - eth ___ nev - er: Good Shep - herd, may I



I am his, and he is mine for ev - er.
 pas - tures grow, with food ce - les - tial feed - eth.
 of de - light from thy pure chal - ice flow - eth!
 sing thy praise with - in thy house for ev - er.

Presentation of the Offerings

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

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 him thanks and praise.**

It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth. [*Proper Preface*] 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:

Sanctus

S-125

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow-er and might, heav'n_ and
earth_ are full_ of your glo - ry. Ho - san - na in the high - est. Ho -
san - na in the high - est. Blest is the One who comes_ in the name of the
Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est, Ho - san - na in the high - est.

Richard Proulx

The people stand or kneel.

The Celebrant continues 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 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 Savior 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 before he died for us, 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, according to his command, O Father,

Celebrant and People

Acclamation B

(left)

We re-mem-ber His death; we pro-claim His re-sur-rec-tion, we a-wait His com-ing in

(right)

We re-mem-ber His death; we pro-claim His re-sur-rec-tion, we a-

L Glo-ry!_____ We a-wait His com-ing in Glo-ry!_____

R wait His com-ing in Glo-ry!_____ We a-wait His com-ing in Glo-ry!_____

Marc F. Cheban

The Celebrant continues And we offer our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving to you, O 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 may be acceptable through him, 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 Ever-Blessed Virgin Mary, Blessed Thomas, Blessed Nicholas and all your saints, we may enter the everlasting heritage of your sons and daughters; through Jesus Christ our Lord, the firstborn of all creation, the head of the Church, and the author of our salvation.

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

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

All 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

Celebrant Alleluia. Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us;
People Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia.

Fraction Anthem

My Flesh is Food Indeed

S-169

Cantor or Choir first

My flesh is food in - deed, and my blood is drink in - deed, says the Lord. My
 Lord. Those who eat my flesh and drink my blood dwell in
 me, and I in them. My flesh is food in -
 deed, and my blood is drink in - deed, says the Lord.

Ray W. Irwin

Celebrant Behold the Lamb of God,
 Behold Him who takes away the sins of the world;
 Happy are they who are called to the supper of the Lamb.

*O Lord, I am not worthy that you should come under my roof,
 but speak the word only, and my soul shall be healed.*

The Communion

Postcommunion Prayer

Celebrant Let us pray.

All Eternal God, heavenly Father, you have graciously accepted us as living members of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ, and you have fed us with spiritual food in the Sacrament of his Body and Blood. Send us now into the world in peace, and grant us strength and courage to love and serve you with gladness and singleness of heart; through Christ our Lord. Amen.

Announcements

Blessing of Birthdays and Anniversaries

The Blessing

The God of peace, who brought again from the dead our Lord Jesus Christ, the great Shepherd of the sheep, through the blood of the everlasting covenant, make you perfect in every good work to do his will, working in you that which is well-pleasing in his sight; and the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be among you, and remain with you always. *Amen.*

At the Procession

Hail, Thou Once Despised Jesus

Hymnal #495



1. Hail, thou once de - spis - ed__ Je - sus! Hail, thou Gal - i -
2. Pas - chal Lamb, by God ap - ppoint - ed, all our__ sins__ on
3. Je - sus,__ hail! en - thron'd in__ glo - ry, there for__ ev - er__
4. Wor - ship, hon - or, pow'r, and__ bless - ing thou art__ wor - thy__



le - an__ King! Thou didst suf - fer to re - lease us;
the__ were laid: by al - might - y love a - noint - ed,
to__ a - bide; all the__ heav'n - ly hosts a - dore thee,
to__ re - ceive; high - est__ prais - es, with - out__ ceas - ing,



thou didst free sal - va - tion - bring. Hail, thou u - ni - ver - sal Sa - vior,
thou hast full a - tone - ment made. All thy peo - ple are for - giv - en
seat - ed__ at thy Fa - ther's side. There for sin - ners thou art plead - ing:
right it__ is for us__ to__ give. Help, ye__ bright an - gel - ic spi - rits,



bear - er__ of our sin and shame! By thy__ mer - it
through the__ vir - tue of thy__ blood: o - pen'd is the
there thou dost our place pre - pare;__ ev - er__ for us
all your no - blest an - thems raise;__ help to__ sing our



we find fa - vor; life is__ giv - en__ through thy__ Name.
gate of__ hea - ven, re - con - ciled are__ we__ with God.
in - ter - ced - ing, till in__ glo - ry__ we__ ap - pear.
Sa - vior's mer - its, help to__ chant Em - man - uel's praise!

Dismissal

Deacon Go in peace to love and serve the Lord. Alleluia, alleluia!
People Thanks be to God. Alleluia, alleluia!

Postlude

*The leaflet picture this morning picture is a National Geographic photograph
of a Spanish shepherd and his flock by JL Klein and ML Hubert.*