

Douglas Union with Frankfield

Sunday 25 April 2021

(The 4th Sunday of Easter)



A SERVICE OF THE WORD

The Greeting

Alleluia! Christ is risen.

The Lord is risen indeed. Alleluia!

On the first Easter Day you raised your Son, triumphant over sin, death and evil. He showed himself alive to his friends and before ascending to your side commissioned them to proclaim the Gospel to all the world, and to make disciples, baptising them in your holy name.

Blessed are you, Sovereign God, overflowing in love.

HYMN 288 *Thine be the glory (verse 2 and chorus)*

Penitence

In a moment of quiet reflection, let us honestly examine our lives, remembering where our attitudes have been wrong, where love has grown cold, where hurts have not been forgiven, or where cries for help have not been answered ...

Let us confess our sins in penitence and faith, firmly resolved to keep God's commandments and to live in love and peace with all.

**Most merciful God,
Father of our Lord Jesus Christ,
we confess that we have sinned
in thought, word and deed.
We have not loved you with our whole heart.
We have not loved our neighbours as ourselves.
In your mercy
forgive what we have been,
help us to amend what we are,
and direct what we shall be;
that we may do justly,
love mercy,
and walk humbly with you, our God. Amen.**

May Almighty God have mercy upon you, forgive you your sins, and bring you to everlasting life, through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

HYMN 20 *The King of love my shepherd is (verses 1 -3)*

Silent Reflection & Collect

THE COLLECT OF THE DAY

Let us pray...

Almighty God,

whose Son Jesus Christ is the resurrection and the life:

Raise us, who trust in him,

from the death of sin to the life of righteousness,

that we may seek those things which are above,

where he reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,

one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

PROCLAIMING AND RECEIVING THE WORD

Psalm 23

- 1 The Lord is my shepherd;
therefore can I lack nothing.
- 2 He makes me lie down in green pastures
and leads me beside still waters.
- 3 He shall refresh my soul
and guide me in the paths of righteousness for his name's sake.
- 4 Though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death,
I will 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 shall be full.
- 6 Surely goodness and loving mercy shall follow me
all the days of my life,
and I will dwell in the house of the Lord for ever.

The First Reading

Acts 4:5-12

The next day their rulers, elders, and scribes assembled in Jerusalem, with Annas the high priest, Caiaphas, John, and Alexander, and all who were of the high-priestly family. When they had made the prisoners stand in their midst, they inquired, 'By what power or by what name did you do this?' Then Peter, filled with the Holy Spirit, said to them, 'Rulers of the people and elders, if we are questioned today because of a good deed done to someone who was sick and are asked how this man has been healed, let it be known to all of you, and to all the people of Israel, that this man is standing before you in good health by the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth, whom you crucified, whom God raised from the dead. This Jesus is "the stone that was rejected by you, the builders; it has become the cornerstone." There is salvation in no one else, for there is no other name under heaven given among mortals by which we must be saved.'

This is the word of the Lord
Thanks be to God

Canticle - THE EASTER ANTHEMS

1 Corinthians 5: 7,8 Romans 6: 9-11 1 Corinthians 15: 20-22

- 1 Christ our passover has been sacrificed for us,
therefore let us celebrate the feast,
- 2 Not with the old leaven of corruption and wickedness,
but with the unleavened bread of sincerity and truth.
- 3 Christ, once raised from the dead dies no more;
death has no more dominion over him.
- 4 In dying, he died to sin once for all;
in living, he lives to God.
- 5 See yourselves therefore as dead to sin;
and alive to God in Jesus Christ our Lord.
- 6 Christ has been raised from the dead:
the firstfruits of those who sleep.

- 7 For as by man came death,
by man has come also the resurrection of the dead.
- 8 For as in Adam all die,
even so in Christ shall all be made alive.
Glory ...

The Second Reading

John 10:11-18

‘I am the good shepherd. The good shepherd lays down his life for the sheep. The hired hand, who is not the shepherd and does not own the sheep, sees the wolf coming and leaves the sheep and runs away—and the wolf snatches them and scatters them. The hired hand runs away because a hired hand does not care for the sheep. I am the good shepherd. I know my own and my own know me, just as the Father knows me and I know the Father. And I lay down my life for the sheep. I have other sheep that do not belong to this fold. I must bring them also, and they will listen to my voice. So there will be one flock, one shepherd. For this reason the Father loves me, because I lay down my life in order to take it up again. No one takes it from me, but I lay it down of my own accord. I have power to lay it down, and I have power to take it up again. I have received this command from my Father.’

This is the word of the Lord
Thanks be to God

The Sermon

HYMN 614 *Great shepherd of your people, hear*

The Apostles' Creed

**I believe in God, the Father almighty,
creator of heaven and earth.**

I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord,

who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,
born of the Virgin Mary,
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,
he is seated at the right hand of the Father,
and 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

Intercessions

We come in prayer to God who is Shepherd to the whole flock. We give thanks for the assurance that comes from being able to say and know: “The Lord is my shepherd”.

Heavenly Father, we pray that we may know your guidance and direction, your provision and protection. We pray for all whom you have been called to shepherd your flock- for Paul our Bishop. In our Diocesan Prayer List today we pray for the people of Ross Union and their rector Dean Christopher Peters, Ruth Wolfe the Bishop’s Secretary and Hilda Connolly our Diocesan Youth Officer.
Lord in your mercy: **hear our prayer.**

We pray for those who through their preaching, teaching or writing help us to grow as Christians. We pray for the 21 members of our parish confirmation group. We thank you that they have heard your call to follow you and are preparing to make a commitment to you though confirmation when that is possible.
Bless all whose work it is to lead us to worship God in spirit and in truth

through word, art and music.

Lord in your mercy: **hear our prayer.**

We pray for those who need to find rest and drink from Christ the Living Water. We remember the sick at home or in hospital. As we give thanks for great progress in recent weeks in our vaccination programme against Covid-19, we pray that people would continue to exercise personal responsibility as they care for themselves and others.

Lord in your mercy: **hear our prayer.**

We pray for those called to walk through valley of the shadow of death and those who have been bereaved in recent times. We give thanks for all who offer care and support. May we and they know the Shepherd who walks these valleys with us, comforting us with his presence.

Lord in your mercy: **hear our prayer.**

Bless us in all that we do, in our actions, words and thoughts so that our cup may truly overflow with your blessing. We give thanks for those who have died and have gone ahead of us and who now enjoy the heavenly banquet and for the promise that we, and all your people, will dwell in the House of the Lord forever.

Merciful Father and Good Shepherd, accept all these prayers for the sake of your Son our Saviour Jesus Christ. Amen.

The Lord's Prayer

HYMN 20 *The King of love my shepherd is (verses 4-6)*

The Blessing

God the Father, by whose glory Christ was raised from the dead, raise you up to walk with him in the newness of his risen life; and the blessing of God almighty, the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit; be with you and remain with you always. **Amen.**

Go in the peace of the Risen Christ. Alleluia! Alleluia!

Thanks be to God. Alleluia! Alleluia!

