



A Liturgy of the Word Fourth Sunday of Easter

3 MAY 2020



Ven. Moses Thabethe



Rev. Alison Thabethe



Rev. Allie Josseph



Rev. Margaret Place



Music -
Louis Maritz

As a family, you can use this liturgy from Easter Day to Pentecost. One person is designated to be the leader. Say together the words printed in bold.

Opening Hymn: The King of love My Shepherd Is

[Click here to listen to song with lyrics](#)

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.

Author: H. W. Baker (1868)



Call To Worship (After Psalm 23)

Leader: Let us pray these familiar words,
recognising in the Risen Christ our Good Shepherd:

All: Jesus, you are our shepherd.
We shall never want.
You make us lie down in green pastures;
you lead us beside the still waters.



You restore our souls.
You guide us in the paths of righteousness for your name's sake.
Even though we may walk through the valley of the shadow of death,
we fear no evil, for you, Christ, comfort us.

Jesus has prepared a table for us
in the presence of our foes;
Jesus has anointed us with the oil of salvation;
our cup runs over!

Surely, goodness and mercy will follow us
all the days of our lives,
And we will dwell in the house
of our Holy Saviour forever and ever.
Amen.

Opening Prayer

Leader: Incarnate God, in the midst of our sheltering-in-place:
You are the one who comes to us in Jesus Christ.
Holy One, You are the one who comes to us in the Holy Spirit.
Sovereign Lord of Earth and Heaven,
You are the one who calls us to recognise you today and every day
As splendid Mystery.

All: Gather our hearts and minds this day.
Kindle our awareness of you.
Let us worship you in awe and wonder!



Confession

Leader: Merciful and Loving God, we ask forgiveness because our consciousness of you may be dimmed by the anxieties and isolation of this time.

People: **Let us know your presence, O God.**

Leader: We forget that we are a reflection of your image. Each day, all day, let us know the face of the one we mirror in resilience, in creativity, in hope.

People: **Increase our mindfulness of you, O God.**

Leader: Help us to a greater common awareness of your deep mystery and . infinite presence surprising us with Grace all around!

People: **Rouse our awareness of you, God.**

Leader: Open our eyes from surface focus to depth perception. Lead us to wisdom and courage.

People: **Awaken us from faint-heartedness, O God.**

Leader: Forgive us for our too-narrow vision. Save us from cheap grace with your amazing grace.

People: **Forgive us, O God. We ask in Jesus' precious name. Amen.**

Words of Assurance

Holy, Forgiving God, we are your sheep.

You keep us awake and aware.

You can increase our awareness of your loving presence every day of our lives.

We bless you and praise you for forgiving us when we are barely mindful enough to ask.

Help us to enter by the door

when we hear the voice of the Good Shepherd.

We hear your voice of pardon.

Through Christ's grace we are forgiven this morning, and we go in. Amen.





The Collect

Good Shepherd,
You are the gate that secures the sheepfold:
Grant that all who hear your voice
May know you who calls us each by name,
And follow where you lead;
For you live and reign in the unity of the Blessed Trinity,
One God, for ever and ever.
Amen

Scripture Readings

- Acts 2:42-47
- Psalm 23
- 1 Peter 2:19-25

Gospel Reading

[Click here to watch the reading of the Gospel](#)

Shirley Duma - John 10:1-10

Hymn: The Lord's my shepherd

[Click here to listen to song with lyrics](#)

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.

My soul he doth restore again,
And me to walk doth make
Within the paths of righteousness,
E'en for his own name's sake.

Yea, though I walk in death's dark vale,
Yet will I fear no ill:
For thou art with me, and thy rod
And staff me comfort still





[Hymn: The Lord's my shepherd cont...](#)

[Click here to listen to song with lyrics](#)

My table thou hast furnished
In presence of my foes;
My head thou dost with oil anoint
And my cup overflows.

Goodness and mercy all my life
Shall surely follow me;
And in God's house for evermore
My dwelling-place shall be.

[Sermon](#)

[Click here to listen to sermon](#)

Reverend Margaret Place- "Sheep in a time of Lockdown"

Affirmation of Faith

This Affirmation of Faith or an authorised Creed is used

Leader: Let us declare our faith in the resurrection of our Lord Jesus Christ.

All: Christ died for our sins
in accordance with the Scriptures;
he was buried;
he was raised to life on the third day
in accordance with the Scriptures;
afterwards he appeared to his followers,
and to all the apostles:
this we have received,
and this we believe. Amen.

Prayers of Intercession

(Take time to pray for one another's needs, then the following intercessions)

We pray for those who shepherd the Church, especially our bishop, priests and deacons and all who lead us in faith, that God would give them courage and strength in their ministry of oversight. Lord in your mercy. **Hear our prayer**



Prayers of Intercession cont...

We pray for those who respond to the voice of the Good Shepherd calling them to help shepherd the flock, for ordained and lay vocations among God's people, that they may be inspired and directed by the Spirit of Wisdom. Lord in your mercy. **Hear our prayer**

We pray for all who have suffered physical, mental, or emotional trauma, that they may find relief and comfort through the assistance of others, especially during this time of crisis. Lord in your mercy. **Hear our prayer**

Let us pray for all who have wandered far from the fold, those who have lost their faith, that they may hear the voice of the Good Shepherd and be open to responding in hope and wonder. Lord in your mercy. **Hear our prayer**

Loving God we place before you all who are on the frontlines of this COVID-19 pandemic, especially our health care workers and first responders, for all who are unable to stay at home, but must work to provide for their families, may you continue to protect them and keep them in good health. Lord in your mercy. **Hear our prayer**

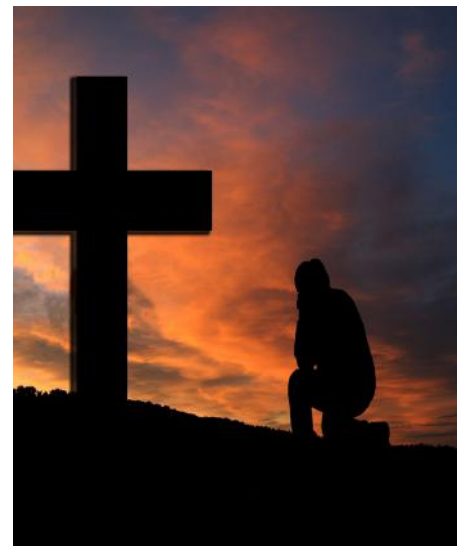
We pray that all of us gathered in our homes, or wherever we are, may know the peace of the Lord that banishes all fear. For our sick, that the risen Christ may grant them healing and hope. For all who have died that they may live forever with Christ in the glory of the resurrection. Lord in your mercy. **Hear our prayer**

The Lord's Prayer

[Click here to listen to the Lord's Prayer](#)

Gathering our prayers and praise into one, let us pray as our Saviour taught us

All Our Father, which 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 them that 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.





The Peace

The risen Christ came and stood among his disciples and said, 'Peace be with you.'
Then were they glad when they saw the Lord.

The peace of the Lord be with you always. Alleluia. Alleluia

All Peace be with you.

(All may exchange a sign of peace by acknowledging each other.)

Benediction (from John 10)

Leader: Jesus said, "My sheep hear my voice, and I know them, and they follow me; and I give eternal life to them, and they will never perish; and no one will snatch them out of my hand."

**All: Jesus, we are the sheep of your pasture.
You have chosen us. We have chosen you.
May the Lord bless us, protect us from all evil and bring us to everlasting life. Amen**

Closing Hymn: God Forgave My Sin

[Click here to listen to song with lyrics](#)

God forgave my sin in Jesus' name
I've been born again in Jesus' name
And in Jesus' name I come to you
To share His love as He told me to

He said: 'Freely, freely, you have received
Freely, freely give
Go in My name, and because you believe
Others will know that I live.'

All power is given in Jesus' name
In earth and heaven in Jesus' name
And in Jesus' name I come to you
To share His power as He told me to. Refrain

God gives us life in Jesus' name,
He lives in us in Jesus' name,
And in Jesus' name I come to you
To share his peace as he told me to. Refrain



Giving

Thank you for your continued financial contribution to the church at this time so as to enable St Michael's to meet its obligations in mission and ministry.

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Bank: Standard
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