



May 3, 2020
Fourth Sunday of Easter

Eastertide (also known as Eastertime or the Easter season) or Paschaltide (also known as Paschaltide or the Paschal season) is a festal season in the liturgical year of Christianity that focuses on celebrating the Resurrection of Jesus Christ. (Wikipedia)

Eastertide is a season for us as disciples not only to celebrate the joy of our Lord's resurrection, but also for us to reflect on our baptism, to discern what gifts God has given us for the building up of His Kingdom, and to journey to the celebration of Pentecost. It is that time from Christ's Resurrection to His Ascension when He showed Himself to His disciples and others and would eventually give birth to the Church.

ORGAN PRELUDE Overture to Cantata 150 Nach dir, Herr, verlanget mich
J. S. Bach *Cameron Kuzepski*

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=bPFhMQeFmQ0>

CALL TO WORSHIP

One: Sisters and brothers, let us gather together with glad and generous hearts.

Many: For many signs and wonders are being done among us.

One: Let us break bread together and share our lives in common.

Many: Let us give what we can to all who have needs so that all people, no matter who they are, may regard us with good will.

One: Let us devote ourselves to our prayers and to the gospel.

All: For in this way God will add to our numbers every day.

OPENING HYMN The King of Love My Shepherd is

<https://youtu.be/d50KE9jMVWY>

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Holy One, we confess to you and to one another that we have not always followed Christ's example. When we have been abused, we have been abusive in return. We have gone astray. Lead us back into your fold and guard our souls in Jesus' name. Amen.

DECLARATION OF PARDON

**The mercy of the Lord is from everlasting to everlasting.
I declare to you, in the name of Jesus Christ, we are forgiven!
Amen. Ps. 103:17**

AN ACT OF PRAISE *Gloria*

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son and to the Holy Ghost. As it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be, world without end, Amen.

READER https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Ek_QGesbHec Elder BJ Snyder

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

Loving God, we pray that your Holy Spirit strengthens us to be devoted to the teachings of your Word, that through it we may hear your voice and follow it into eternal life. Amen.

NEW TESTAMENT Acts 2:42-47

They 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 <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=EhXkLl4wpzE> Elder BJ Snyder

PSALTER Psalm 23

The LORD is my shepherd, I shall not want. He makes me lie down in green pastures; he leads me beside still waters; he restores my soul. He leads me in right paths for his name's sake. 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. You prepare a table before me in the presence of my enemies; you anoint my head with oil; my cup overflows. 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.

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

Stephanie DeGeneste

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Wcy2Gwxex1c>

READER <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=kOLbAPQkV84> Elder BJ Snyder

NEW TESTAMENT 1 Peter 2:19-25

For 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.

GOSPEL READING John 10:1-10

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ER00_T42hy0

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.

SERMON

Rev. Lynn Santulli

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=3LTpqX7WGRE>

SERMON HYMN

Shepherd Me, O God

<https://youtu.be/FwL26YwoVw8>

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

Apostle's Creed

I BELIEVE in God the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth, and in Jesus Christ his only Son our Lord; who was conceived by the Holy Ghost, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead and buried; he descended into hell; the third day he rose again from the dead; he ascended into heaven, and sitteth on the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead. I believe in the Holy Ghost; the holy catholic Church; the communion of saints; the forgiveness of sins; the resurrection of the body; and the life everlasting. Amen.

OFFERING - *Commit your tithes to church (you can even go to the church's website and click on 'Donate Now' to send in your gifts or mail them to the church office.) Your gifts are a mark of your discipleship and a witness to your faith.*

DOXOLOGY

Praise God from whom all blessings flow; praise Him all creatures here below; praise Him above ye heav'nly host; praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost. Amen.

PRAYER OF DEDICATION

Lord, we offer these gifts to you in faith and in trust that they will be used for the building up of Your Kingdom here on earth. Lord, grant that we may make a difference, lighting the darkness with Your Spirit of love. In Jesus' name we pray, Amen.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

(if you would like to have someone included on the prayer list, please email pastor@crescentnonline.org)

Health Issues:

Brian; Anthony; The Beaucasan Family; Leon Edwards; Cynthia; Elaine Duesbury; Frank; Drew Moore; Candyce Norris; Glenna Stevens; Terry; Janie Whiteford; Henry Ward, Jr.; Jay and daughter; Chrissie and her son Jake; Bob Newell; Kassi and Family; Juliet Fydrich; Michael R.; Karen West; Lindsey Loftons and Brenda Hopper; Thomas West Jr.; Marlotte Troy Williams; Ben (Covid-19); Norma & Leslie Fagan (thanksgiving for healing); Carlson family; Darcella Sessomes

Homebound:

Sonnica Cook; George Germinder.

Bereavement:

All those grieving the passing of loved ones during this pandemic; Williams' family for passing of Pastor Jonathan Williams.

World Issues:

Southern Cameroon (Ambazonia)

For those who are sick and suffering from this virus; medical personnel and others who work to help and heal; those who are working to support our communities wellbeing; those who are subjected to racist abuse and discrimination; those whose livelihood is threatened by business closures; families learning to live, work, and learn together in close quarters; those who are not safe in their homes; those who are struggling with isolation, loneliness, or addiction; those separated from loved ones because of travel and immigration restrictions and wisdom for leaders as they seek to respond to this crisis.

THE LORD'S PRAYER

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 debts, as we forgive our debtors; and lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever. Amen.

CLOSING HYMN **I Heard the Voice of Jesus Say**

https://youtu.be/Q_UvhmqtsGk

BENEDICTION

Celebrate the Truth of the Resurrection. Let joy soak into your soul and be assured that God overcomes all. May the Lord bless you this Sunday and this Eastertide!

POSTLUDE **Carillon de Westminster - L. Vierne** *Cameron Kuzepski*

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=VhhQJ1mlaM>



Come

the Voice
of the Good Shepherd
declares: I have come
to redeem my flock;
listen, listen
to My Voice and none other
and I shall bring you
safely home through
every trial and tribulation.

I Am
the Gate
that has protected
you through the
dark of every night
and bid you now
come
come out into the
Light of My Love.

I
the Good Shepherd
will restore your soul
if you follow
Me along My paths
that lead to pastures
which will feed you
and give you rest
all the days of your life.

Come
come calls the
Shepherd of shepherds.
Open your hearts
to My Voice
so you might hear and heed Me
inviting you by name.
Come, come follow Me.
and you. shall never. be alone.

Ps. 23/John 10:1-9

js. haer
04.27.2020