

# FOURTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

21 April 2024

## HYMNS

521 Lord Christ, at Your First Eucharist

10 The Lord's My Shepherd

668 Touch the Earth Lightly

## SENTENCE

'I am the good shepherd,' says the Lord. 'I know my own and my own know me.'

## COLLECT

Jesus, good shepherd of the sheep, by whom the lost are sought and guided into the fold: feed us and we shall be satisfied, heal us and we shall be whole, and lead us that we may be with you, where you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

## READINGS

A reading from the Acts of the Apostles:

The next day the 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.'

*Acts 4.5-12*

Hear the word of the Lord, **thanks be to God.**



We say the verses of Psalm 23 alternately:

The Lord is my shepherd; therefore can I lack nothing.

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

He shall refresh my soul and guide me in the paths of righteousness for his name's sake.

**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.**

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.

**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.**

*Psalm 23*

A reading from John's first letter:

Little children, let no one deceive you. Everyone who does what is right is righteous, just as he is righteous. Everyone who commits sin is a child of the devil; for the devil has been sinning from the beginning. The Son of God was revealed for this purpose, to destroy the works of the devil. Those who have been born of God do not sin, because God's seed abides in them; they cannot sin, because they have been born of God. The children of God and the children of the devil are revealed in this way: all who do not do what is right are not from God, nor are those who do not love their sisters and brothers.

For this is the message you have heard from the beginning, that we should love one another. We must not be like Cain who was from the evil one and murdered his brother. And why did he murder him? Because his own deeds were evil and his brother's righteous. Do not be astonished, sisters and brothers, that the world hates you. We know that we have passed from death to life because we love one another. Whoever does not love abides in death. All who hate a sister or brother are murderers, and you know that murderers do not have eternal life abiding in them. We know love by this, that he laid down his life for us - and we ought to lay down our lives for one another. How does God's love abide in anyone who has the world's goods and sees a sister or brother in need and yet refuses help?

Little children, let us love, not in word or speech, but in truth and action. And by this we will know that we are from the truth and will reassure our hearts before him whenever our hearts condemn us; for God is greater than our hearts, and he knows everything. Beloved, if our hearts do not condemn us, we have boldness before God; and we receive from him whatever we ask, because we obey his commandments and do what pleases him.

And this is his commandment, that we should believe in the name of his Son Jesus Christ and love one another, just as he has commanded us. All who obey his commandments abide in him, and he abides in them. And by this we know that he abides in us, by the Spirit that he has given us.

*1 John 3.7-24*

Hear the word of the Lord, **thanks be to God.**

**Alleluia, alleluia!**

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

The Lord be with you. **And also with you.**

The Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to St John

**Glory to you Lord Jesus Christ**

Jesus said: '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.'

*John 10.11-18*

This is the Gospel of the Lord, **praise to you Lord Jesus Christ.**

## PRAYERS

**Anglican Church:** St Luke's Melbourne South (Jonathan Cox, Michele Moorhouse); The Diocese of Perth (Abp Kay Goldsworthy, David Bassett, Hans Christiansen, Kate Wilmont, Clergy & People); Mothers' Union Australia, Diocese of Melbourne (Elaine Longford, President); The Langwarrin-Pearcedale Anglican Church -(Bp Paul Barker); St John's Sorrento - (Bp Paul Barker); St Dunstan's Camberwell - (Abp Philip Freier); St Andrew's Aberfeldie (Abp Philip Freier); St George's Malvern - (Bp Genieve Blackwell); All Saints' Greensborough

**For the Parish:** Give thanks for those who nurture community: Torquay Craft/Social Group; the Op Shop; those who visit parishioners; those who arrange meals; Hospital, School and Service Chaplains; event coordinators. Pray that they may be inspired by Jesus. Give thanks for those who use their abilities and give their time and resources in their jobs, as volunteers, in their families, as neighbours, friends and to strangers.

**For the sick & in need, and those who have ongoing need for strength, courage and peace of heart, mind and soul in their journey:** Keiran & Paul, Deirdre B, John & Barbara B, Roger B, Rosa C, Lorraine D, Helen & Geoff D, John F, Nan L, Brian Moore, Jane & Peter M, Barbara McN, Janet N, Pauline R, Jenny S, Mary & Ian S, Ray & Marion W, Boris Z and those known to us in need of our prayers

### Year's Mind

23rd Glenyce Murphy (2015), Philip Gent (2012)

24th Mary Sixsmith (2023), Bob Preece (2007), Neville Crosby (2007), Denis Shepherd (2007)

### Birthdays & Anniversaries

22nd Miriam Hercus, Tina Mackay

24th John & Peggy Forbes (anniv)

27th Phil Shirley