

Sunday April 25, 2021
The Fourth Sunday of Easter
The Holy Eucharist: Rite Two

Prelude

Alleluia! Sing to Jesus (Hyfrydol) - Paul Manz

Welcome

The Word of God

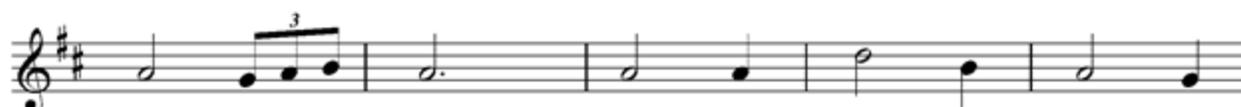
Gathering Hymn

Hymn 645 vs. 1,2, 6 - *The King of love my shepherdis*

Choristers singing hymns this morning - Claudia Blanchette, Eric Boberg, Judy Jones and George Wright



1 The King of love my shep-herd is, whose good-ness
 2 Where streams of liv-ing wa-ter flow, my ran-somed
 * 3 Per-verse and fool-ish oft I strayed, but yet in
 * 4 In death's dark vale I fear no ill with thee, dear
 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



1 fail-eth nev-er; I noth-ing lack if
 2 soul he lead-eth, and where the ver-dant
 3 love he sought me, and on his shoul-der
 4 Lord, be-side me; thy rod and staff my
 5 grace be-stow-eth; and oh, what trans-port
 6 fail-eth nev-er: Good Shep-herd, may I



1 I am his, and he is mine for ev-er.
 2 pas-tures grow, with food ce-les-tial feed-eth.
 3 gent-ly laid, and home, re-joic-ing, brought me.
 4 com-fort still, thy cross be-fore to guide me.
 5 of de-light from thy pure chal-ice flow-eth!
 6 sing thy praise with-in thy house for ev-er.

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.*

Song of Praise

Glory to God in the highest,
 and peace to his people on earth.
 Lord God, heavenly King,
 almighty God and Father,
 we worship you, we give you thanks,
 we praise you for your glory.
 Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father,
 Lord God, Lamb of God,
 you take away the sin of the world:
 have mercy on us;
 you are seated at the right hand of the Father:
 receive our prayer.
 For you alone are the Holy One,
 you alone are the Lord,
 you alone are the Most High,
 Jesus Christ,
 with the Holy Spirit,
 in the glory of God the Father. Amen.

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.

The Lessons

First Reading: Acts 4:5-12

A Reading from the Acts of the Apostles.

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."

Reader The Word of the Lord.
People **Thanks be to God.**

Psalm 23

- ¹The 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.**
- ³He 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.**
- ⁵You 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.**

Second Reading: 1 John 3:16-24

A Reading from the first letter of John.

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 brother or sister 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.

Reader The Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

Sequence Hymn

Hymn 343 v. 1, 3 - *Shepherd of souls, refresh and bless*

Choristers singing hymns this morning - Claudia Blanchette, Eric Boberg, Judy Jones and George Wright

1 Shep - herd of souls, re - fresh and bless thy cho - sen
 2 We would not live by bread a - lone, but by thy
 3 Be known to us in break - ing bread, and do not
 4 Lord, sup with us in love di - vine thy Bo - dy

pil - grim flock with man - na in the
 word of grace, in strength of which we
 then de - part; Sa - vior, a - bide with
 and thy Blood, that liv - ing bread, that

wil - der - ness, with wa - ter from the rock.
 trav - el on to our a - bid - ing - place.
 us, and spread thy ta - ble in our heart.
 heaven - ly wine, be our im - mor - tal food.

Gospel: John 10:10b-18

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

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

[Jesus said] I came that they may have life, and have it abundantly. 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."

Deacon The Gospel of the Lord.

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

The Sermon

The Rev. Rebecca Liberty

The 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.

The Prayers of the People, Form IV

Let us pray for the Church and for the world.
 Grant, Almighty God, that all who confess your Name may be united in your truth,
 live together in your love, and reveal your glory in the world.
Silence
 Lord, in your mercy
Hear our prayer.
 Guide the people of this land, and of all the nations, in the ways of justice and peace;
 that we may honor one another and serve the common good.
Silence
 Lord, in your mercy
Hear our prayer.

Give us all a reverence for the earth as your own creation, that we may use its resources rightly in the service of others and to your honor and glory.

Silence

Lord, in your mercy

Hear our prayer.

Bless all whose lives are closely linked with ours, and grant that we may serve Christ in them, and love one another as he loves us.

Silence

Lord, in your mercy

Hear our prayer.

Comfort and heal all those who suffer in body, mind, or spirit; give them courage and hope in their troubles, and bring them the joy of your salvation.

Silence

Lord, in your mercy

Hear our prayer.

We commend to your mercy all who have died, that your will for them may be fulfilled; and we pray that we may share with all your saints in your eternal kingdom.

Silence

Lord, in your mercy

Hear our prayer.

Concluding Collect

The Peace

Celebrant The peace of the Lord be always with you.

People **And also with you.**

The Holy Communion

Offertory Sentence

Walk in love, as Christ loved us and gave himself for us, an offering and sacrifice to God. *Ephesians 5:2*

Offertory Anthem

Introduction in G Major - William Walond

You may give online at <https://stjohnsbangor.org/online-giving/> or by texting "StJohnsBangor Donation" to 73256. Standard text message rates apply. Checks should be made payable to St. John's Episcopal Church and mailed to 234 French St., Bangor ME 04401. Thank you for your continued support.

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.**

Proper Preface

It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth.

But chiefly are we bound to praise you for the glorious resurrection of your Son Jesus Christ our Lord; for he is the true Paschal Lamb, who was sacrificed for us, and has taken away the sin of the world. By his death he has destroyed death, and by his rising to life again he has won for us everlasting life.

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:

**Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,
heaven and earth are full of your glory.**

Hosanna in the highest.

Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.

Hosanna in the highest.

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,

**We remember his death,
We proclaim his resurrection,
We await his coming in glory;**

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 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.*

The Lord's Prayer

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

**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,
 forever and ever. Amen.

By not partaking of the elements at this time, we express our longing for God's presence and our longing to gather once again in person as the body of Christ. None of us partake at this time, including those present in the church, as an expression of our unity as a congregation.

At the same time, we pray that we might recognize God's presence with us in our longing.

Prayer for Spiritual Communion

Beloved, a spiritual communion is a personal devotional that anyone can pray, expressing desire to receive Holy Communion in this moment, but in which circumstances impede us from actually receiving Holy Communion.

Since we now are apart, let us pray:

Gracious Christ, you invite us to your feast, setting before us your heart's bread, and your life's wine. We yearn with all our souls to feast with you at the Altar, to taste and see the Lord's goodness today. Since we cannot now find union at the table, grant your presence spiritually. We offer you our hearts, lives and souls, that we may become eternally one. Amen.

Time for Reflection - Communion Anthem

Alleluia No. 1 - Donald Fishel

Blessing

The blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be upon you and remain with you for ever. *Amen.*

Dismissal

Deacon Let us go forth in the name of Christ. Alleluia, alleluia.

People **Thanks be to God. Alleluia, alleluia.**

Postlude

Tocatta in F Major (BWV 540)- J.S. Bach

Alleluia No 1- Donald Fishel

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Parish Prayer list

For the Sick, Injured, or Distressed – Sparrow, Jack, Phil, Pat T., Dorothy, Ella D., Myrick C., Shawn, John M., Bonnie A., Owen D., Sophia, Jim, Darah L., and Ralph R. *Continued prayers for – David B., Leslie J., Anita, Marthe, Eddie, Sarah B., Deej P., Bryson, Evan, Ann P., Lev, Ross, Jaydon, Jesse, the Island Nursing Home Community, Oma O., Barbara B., John F., and Eileen.*

For our Homebound Members – *Evelyn L., Joline F., Kathleen D., Mary, Charles, Robert B., Christa F., Lilly P., Earlene B., Cathy K., Betty C. and Eileen H.*

For Everyone affected by the COVID19 virus: for all who are sick or dying, all who mourn; for all who are isolated, anxious, or scared; for those most vulnerable in our institutions and on our streets, for those sacrificing and volunteering to provide safe beds and nutritious meals; for students, families, teachers, and school administrators; for all who are working in essential services, especially our doctors and nurses and all in our health care systems, for all working in our grocery stores and supply chains, and for those who clean and sterilize; for all who willingly sacrifice their own needs and desires for sake of others' health and well being.

For the World: for Peace and Goodwill among Nations and for peoples in war-torn places, especially those in those in the Middle East, Afghanistan and Iraq. For an end to war and all forms of violence. For all who suffer for conscience's sake. For our enemies and those who wish us harm. For all suffering effects of climate change and of natural disasters. For all those affected by gun violence. For refugees, immigrants, and those who are displaced, especially for children.

For our Nation: for all who suffer from injustice; for eyes to see injustice and for the will to work for fairness for all of God's people; for all who protest and for those who are charged to maintain our safety; and for all who struggle to change our world and its systems of oppression.

For the Leaders of our Country, State and Community. Joseph Biden Jr., President; Members of Congress, especially, Susan Collins, Angus King, Chellie Pingree, Jared Golden of Maine; Janet Mills, Governor; and Daniel Tremble, Mayor - for those who serve in the courts of this land - that they govern with wisdom, civility, and compassion.

For our Military Personnel, especially those of this Parish: Sarah M., Dillan L., Joshua M., Aaron B., and Timothy W.

For the Departed - Barbara, John S. Hedger+ and for all who have died from the Coronavirus around the world

With Thanksgiving for the lives of those celebrating birthdays during the coming week including Lilly S., Chris S., and Michael P.

*If you would like to add or reinstate a name or concern for our parish prayer list, please contact one of the clergy.
Please use this list for your own personal prayers too.*

Announcements, Opportunities & Invitations

At the Salvation Army, our group is signed up to cook and serve on the 4th Tuesday of each month. We'll be cooking and placing the food into to-go boxes which the Salvation Army staff will then serve from the truck. We will be practicing social distancing and masks are required, so please bring one. We look forward to seeing you again at the **Salvation Army on April 27th from 9 am - 12:30 pm!**

We invite you to join us on May 2nd at 8:00am as we hold our next in-person Eucharist service. We will offer the same liturgy as 10 am (Rite II) but without music or singing. (Music still needs to be pre-recorded for now because of pandemic restrictions and technological limitations, so music will only be included in the live-streamed services at 10.) We will observe capacity limits and other common precautions like masks, distancing, hand sanitizer, and adaptations to communion distribution. Socializing before and after the service will happen outdoors. **RSVPs will be required!** Registration is open now until Saturday May 1st at noon at <https://onrealm.org/stjohnsbangor/PublicRegistrations/Event?linkString=ODJiOWI4NzgtOGZiYy00Y2Q4LThhYzltYWQwZjAwZDI5NDRj> In-person worship will also take place at 8 am on May 16 and June 6.

Please join us for the Big Red Truck Event - 2nd Saturday Spring Donation Drive on Saturday May 8th to benefit the Bangor Homeless Shelter. You may drop off your donations at St. John's Episcopal Church, 225 French Street, Bangor (truck will be parked in front of church for drive-up to drop off items). Donations needed include: canned goods and personal hygiene items.

Help is needed for Second Saturday on May 8th! With our current restrictions (social distancing and John baptist using our kitchen), what we need help with most is

food preparation. We need: Casseroles or stews to feed approximately 20-30 people-- we usually have several different ones, so if you can prepare one with 8-10 servings that would be wonderful. Either hot food delivered around 11:15, or food in a crockpot or microwavable container will work. Past menu items have included american chop suey, turkey stew, mac and cheese. A veggie/ salad like coleslaw (30 small servings); dessert that is easy to serve (cookies or brownies) in ziplock bags (you can package, or we can! (30 servings); rolls (30 servings); If you can help with any of these items this month, please email Anne-Marie at youth@stjohnsbangor.org Thanks!

You are invited to join the **women's book group, gathering next on May 18 we will focus on *Wolf Hall* by Hilary Mantel, 2009.** If you are interested in any or all meetings, please contact Jane Zenk at jzenkjzenk@gmail.com or Marisue Pickering at marisue.pickering@maine.edu.

The weather may still be chilly, but summer is coming fast. **For information on summer camps at Camp Bishopswood go to www.bishopswood.org.** A limited number of scholarships are available. Please contact Rev. Liberty for more information at transitionpriest@stjohnsbangor.org.

Where's Phoebe? Well, recently she was at church, checking in with our friends. Big Bird says it's kinda lonely, but they are doing ok. But Phoebe will be ready to ZOOM at the usual Tea Time this Sunday. Don't miss out! **Grab your tea cup and join Phoebe and friends on Sunday at 1700h (5pm).** We might be physically distant, but we are socially connected. Tea Time concludes by 1800 (6pm), but participants are welcome to dip in for shorter periods. Questions? Contact Ann at deacon@stjohnsbangor.org

The tower reconstruction is proceeding as planned. The demolition portion of the work is completed. Last week, concrete was pumped to the top of the tower and to make a very solid parapet and top structure that will be faced with stone on the outside. The bases for the spires will be built at the same time as the exterior stone is finished and the spires installed. Then the roofers will install a new tower roof. While it was not in the original contract, as the staging comes down. Ben's crew will patch and seal the cracks in the tower wall. Some of that will be done from savings in the work thus far and some will be paid from available Dwelley funds. Then the entrance will be finished. The rough stone around the entrance will be covered or replaced. The main front door will be painted traditional red though we have some minor repairs to make to that door. We want to pave the area to the left side of the tower which has been in bad shape and we will repave the walkway to the stairs and side entrance and maybe to the Bapst parking lot. We hope to have everything done by

Memorial Day. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact Don Lewis or Ralph Whedon at building@stjohnsbangor.org