Sunday 25 April 2021 Hymns, Readings, and Collect

Opening Hymn: Now is eternal life

Now is eternal life, if ris'n with Christ we stand, in him to life reborn, and holden in his hand; no more we fear death's ancient dread, in Christ arisen from the dead.

For God, the living God, stooped down to man's estate; by death destroying death, Christ opened wide life's gate: he lives, who died; he reigns on high; who lives in him shall never die. Unfathomed love divine, reign thou within my heart; from thee nor depth nor height, nor life nor death can part; our life is hid with God in thee, now and through all eternity.

Christchurch 114 NEH

The Collect

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 in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

The New Testament Reading

A reading from the Acts of the Apostles.

The Jewish 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.

Gospel Acclamation

This joyful Eastertide, away with sin and sorrow! My Love, the Crucified, hath sprung to life this morrow. Had Christ, that once was slain, ne'er burst his three-day prison, our faith had been in vain: but now hath Christ arisen.

arr. Charles Wood (1866–1926)

Acts 4: 5–12

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The Gospel

Alleluia! Alleluia! I am the first and the last says the Lord, and the living one. I was dead, and behold, I am alive for evermore. Alleluia! The Lord be with you. And also with you. Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to St John. Glory to you, O Lord.

Jesus said to the Pharisees: '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 Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

St John 10: 11–18

Offertory Hymn: The Lord's my shepherd I'll not want

The Lord's my Shepherd, I'll not want. He makes me lie in pastures green. He leads me by the still, still waters, his goodness restores my soul.

> And I will trust in you alone. and I will trust in you alone, for your endless mercy follows me, your goodness will lead me home.

He guides my ways in righteousness, and he anoints my head with oil, and my cup, it overflows with joy, I feast on his pure delights. And I will trust... And though I walk the darkest path, I will not fear the evil one, for you are with me, and your rod and staff are the comfort I need to know. And I will trust...

800 AM

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Communion Hymn: Faithful Shepherd, feed me

Faithful Shepherd, feed me in the pastures green; faithful Shepherd, lead me where thy steps are seen.

Hold me fast, and guide me in the narrow way; so, with thee beside me, I shall never stray. Daily bring me nearer to the heavenly shore; may my faith grow clearer, may I love thee more.

Hallow every pleasure, every gift and pain; be thyself my treasure, though none else I gain.

Day by day prepare me as thou seest best, then let angels bear me to thy promised rest.

Pastor pastorum 282 NEH

Anthem: Come ye faithful

Come, ye faithful, raise the strain of triumphant gladness; God has brought his Israel into joy from sadness; 'tis the Spring of Souls today, Christ hath burst his prison, and from three days sleep in death as a Sun hath risen.

Now the Queen of seasons bright with the day of splendour, with the royal feast of feasts, comes its joy to render; comes to glad Jerusalem, who with true affection welcomes in unwearied strains Jesu's Resurrection.

Neither might the gates of death, nor the tomb's dark portal, (Alleluia!) nor the watchers, nor the seal, hold Thee as a mortal: (Alleluia!) but today a midst the twelve, Thou didst stand, bestowing (Alleluia!) that Thy peace which evermore passeth human knowing. (Alleuia!)

R S Thatcher (1888 – 1957)

Dismissal: The King of love my Shepherd is

The King of love my Shepherd is, whose goodness faileth never; I nothing lack if I am his and he is mine for ever.

Where streams of living water flow my ransomed soul he leadeth, and where the verdant pastures grow with food celestial feedeth.

Perverse and foolish oft I strayed, but yet in love he sought me, and on his shoulder gently laid, and home, rejoicing, brought me. 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.

Thou spread'st a table in my sight; thy unction, grace bestoweth: and O what transport of delight from thy pure chalice floweth!

And so through all the length of days thy goodness faileth never; good Shepherd, may I sing thy praise within thy house for ever.

Dominus Regit me 457ii NEH