

# St Giles Year A Fourth Sunday of Easter

May 3, 2020

## A Service of the Word

### Welcome & Hymn

*Officiant* The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ,  
and the love of God,  
and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit  
be with you all

*People* **And also with you.**

*Officiant* Let us pray.

We thank you, O God, that you have again brought us together on the Lord's Day to praise you for your goodness and to ask your blessing. Give us grace to see your hand in the week that is past, and your purpose in the week to come; through Christ our Lord.

*People* **Amen.**

### Announcements

- † this is Birthday Sunday – Happy Birthday to all who celebrated a birthday in April – sorry – your cupcake will have to be postponed for a bit – but we pray for you:  
*O God, our times are in your hand: Look with favour we pray on your servants as they begin another year. Grant that they may grow in wisdom and grace and strengthen their trust in your goodness all the days of their lives, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.*
- † Bible and Brew is now being done online with Zoom. If you would like to be with us as we study together you are most welcome. Please send your email to me or the church by email, text or phone. I will be happy to send you an invitation!
- † About the service: responses will be found on the screen, but you can also download this service in print except for the sermon. I will be leaving spaces of silence during the prayers so that you can add your own petitions.

## **Confession and Absolution**

*Officiant* Dear friends in Christ,  
as we turn our hearts and minds  
to worship almighty God,  
let us confess our sins.

*People* **Most merciful God,**  
**we confess that we have sinned against you**  
**in thought, word, and deed,**  
**by what we have done**  
**and by what we have left undone.**  
**We have not loved you with our whole heart;**  
**we have not loved our neighbours as ourselves.**  
**We are truly sorry and we humbly repent.**  
**For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ,**  
**have mercy on us and forgive us,**  
**that we may delight in your will,**  
**and walk in your ways,**  
**to the glory of your name. Amen.**

*Officiant* Merciful God,  
grant to your faithful people pardon and peace,  
that we may be cleansed from all our sins  
and serve you with a quiet mind;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord,  
who is alive and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,  
one God, now and for ever.

*People* **Amen.**

*Officiant* The peace of the Lord be always with you

*People* **And also with you**

## **The Collect of the Day**

*Officiant* O God of peace,  
who brought again from the dead our Lord Jesus Christ,  
that great shepherd of the sheep,  
by the blood of the eternal covenant,  
make us perfect in every good work to do your will,  
and work in us that which is well-pleasing in your sight;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

## **The Proclamation of the Word**

### **The Readings**

*Reader* A reading from **Acts**

<sup>42</sup>They devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching and fellowship, to the breaking of bread and the prayers.<sup>43</sup> Awe came upon everyone, because many wonders and signs were being done by the apostles. <sup>44</sup>All who believed were together and had all things in common; <sup>45</sup>they would sell their possessions and goods and distribute the proceeds to all, as any had need. <sup>46</sup>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, <sup>47</sup>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.

The word of the Lord.

*People* **Thanks be to God.**

## **Psalm 23 Sung by Steve Bell "Shepherd of Life"**

*Reader* A reading from the First Letter of Peter

<sup>19</sup>For it is to your credit if, being aware of God, you endure pain while suffering unjustly. <sup>20</sup>If you endure when you are beaten for doing wrong, where is the credit in that? But if you endure when you do right and suffer for it, you have God's approval. <sup>21</sup>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.

<sup>22</sup> 'He committed no sin,  
and no deceit was found in his mouth.'

<sup>23</sup>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. <sup>24</sup>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. <sup>25</sup>For you were going astray like sheep, but now you have returned to the shepherd and guardian of your souls. The word of the Lord.

*People* **Thanks be to God.**

*Reader* The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to **John**

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

10'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. <sup>2</sup>The one who enters by the gate is the shepherd of the sheep. <sup>3</sup>The gatekeeper opens the gate for him, and the sheep hear his voice. He calls his own sheep by name and leads them out. <sup>4</sup>When he has brought out all his own, he goes ahead of them, and the sheep follow him because they know his voice. <sup>5</sup>They will not follow a stranger, but they will run from him because they do not know the voice of strangers.' <sup>6</sup>Jesus used this figure of speech with them, but they did not understand what he was saying to them.

7 So again Jesus said to them, 'Very truly, I tell you, I am the gate for the sheep. <sup>8</sup>All who came before me are thieves and bandits; but the sheep did not listen to them. <sup>9</sup>I am the gate. Whoever enters by me will be saved and will come in and go out and find pasture. <sup>10</sup>The thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy. I came that they may have life and have it abundantly.

The Gospel of Christ.

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

**Sermon**

## **Apostles Creed**

*Officiant* Let us confess our faith  
as we say,

**All I believe in God,  
the Father almighty,  
creator of heaven and earth.**

**I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.  
He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit  
and born of the Virgin Mary.  
He suffered under Pontius Pilate,  
was crucified, died, and was buried.  
He descended to the dead.  
On the third day he rose again.  
He ascended into heaven,  
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.  
He will come again  
to judge the living and the dead.  
I believe in the Holy Spirit,  
the holy catholic Church,  
the communion of saints,  
the forgiveness of sins,  
the resurrection of the body,  
and the life everlasting. Amen.**

## **Intercessions and Thanksgivings**

In peace we pray to you, Lord God.

*Silence*

For all people in their daily life and work;  
**For our families, friends, and neighbours, and for all those who are alone.**  
For this community, our country, and the world;

**For all who work for justice, freedom, and peace. Remembering especially those in the RCAF who died in the helicopter accident last week.**

For the just and proper use of your creation;

**For the victims of hunger, fear, injustice, and oppression. Remembering especially who suffer in this time of social distancing and isolation.**

For all who are in danger, sorrow, or any kind of trouble;

**For those who minister to the sick, the friendless, and needy. Remembering especially those in health care professions.**

For the peace and unity of the Church of God;

**For all who proclaim the gospel, and all who seek the truth.**

For *Robert*, our bishop, and for all bishops, clergy and other ministers;

**For all who serve God in the Church.**

For our own needs and those of others.

*Silence. The people may add their own petitions.*

Hear us, Lord.

**For your mercy is great.**

We thank you, Lord, for all the blessings of this life.

*Silence. The people may add their own thanksgivings.*

We will exalt you, O God our king;

**And praise your name for ever and ever.**

We pray for those who have died in the peace of Christ,  
and for those whose faith is known to you alone,  
that they may have a place in your eternal kingdom.

*Silence. The people may add their own petitions.*

Lord, let your loving kindness be upon them;

**Who put their trust in you.**

Gracious God,  
you have heard the prayers of your faithful people;  
you know our needs before we ask,  
and our ignorance in asking.  
Grant our requests as may be best for us.  
This we ask in the name of your Son  
Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

### **Offertory**

During this time of pandemic, when we can not physically put our offerings on the plate, we ask that offerings continue to be given by mail, etransfer or pre-authorized deposits through your bank.

Yours, Lord, is the greatness,  
the power, the glory, the splendour, and the majesty;  
for everything in heaven and on earth is yours.  
All things come from you, and of your own do we give you.

### **The Lord's Prayer**

*Officiant* And now, as our Saviour Christ has taught us,  
we are bold to pray,  
**All 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,**  
**the power, and the glory,**  
**for ever and ever. Amen.**

## **Doxology**

*Officiant* Glory to God

**All whose power, working in us,  
can do infinitely more  
than we can ask or imagine.**

**Glory to God from generation to generation,  
in the Church and in Christ Jesus,  
for ever and ever. Amen.**

## **Blessing**

*Officiant* Christ, that great Shepherd of the sheep, who has opened for you the gate of glory, give you life in all its fullness and lead you to life eternal; and the blessing of the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit be with you now and forever.

## **Dismissal**

*Officiant* May the God of hope  
fill us with all joy and peace in believing  
through the power of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

## **Hymn/Music**