

THE RINGING OF THE BELLS AND THE WELCOME

OPENING HYMN: “Good Christian Friends, Rejoice & Sing” (#475)

Good Christian friends, rejoice and sing!

Now is the triumph of our King!

To all the world glad news we bring: Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

The Lord of Life is ris’n this day;

Bring flowers of song to strew His way;

Let all the world rejoice and say: Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

Praise we in songs of victory

That love, that life which cannot die,

And sing with hearts uplifted high: Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

Your name we bless, O risen Lord,

And sing today with one accord

The life laid down, the life restored: Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

INVOCATION AND OPENING SENTENCES

Pastor: En el nombre del Padre, y del Hijo, y del Espíritu Santo.

People: Amen.

Pastor: Alleluia! Christ is risen!

People: He is risen indeed! Alleluia!

Pastor: By this we know love,

People: that He laid down His life for us.

Pastor: “I am the good shepherd,” says the Lord.

People: The good shepherd lays down His life for the sheep.

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

Pastor: The LORD is my shepherd; I shall not want. He makes me lie down in green pastures.

People: Lord Jesus, our Good Shepherd, we confess to You that we have been ungrateful for all You give us to sustain our bodies and lives. Forgive us, Good Shepherd.

Pastor: He leads me beside still waters. He restores my soul. He leads me in paths of righteousness for His name’s sake.

People: Like sheep, we are distracted and tend to wander and scatter. We forget who we are as baptized children of God and fail to respond to Your shepherding in our lives. Forgive us, Good Shepherd.

Pastor: Even 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.

People: We confess that in difficult times of life, we sometimes struggle to be confident in Your presence and protection, seeking to find our own comfort. Forgive us, Good Shepherd.

Pastor: 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 forever.

People: As we journey through this sinful world, we overlook the goodness and mercy that flow into our lives from You. Forgive us, Good Shepherd.

Pastor: Señor, ten piedad de nosotros.

People: Señor, ten piedad de nosotros.

Pastor: Cristo, ten piedad de nosotros.

People: Cristo, ten piedad de nosotros.

Pastor: Señor, ten piedad de nosotros

People: Señor, ten piedad de nosotros

(SILENT PRAYER) (MOMENTO DE ORACIÓN PERSONAL)

Pastor: Jesus, our Good Shepherd, hears our cries and says to us, "I am the good shepherd. The good shepherd lays down His life for the sheep." Receive the forgiveness won for You through Christ's laying down His life and rising from death in victory. As a called and ordained servant of Christ, and by His authority, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

People: Amen. Thanks be to God.

THE PRAYER OF THE DAY

Pastor: The Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

Pastor: Let us pray:

People: Almighty God, merciful Father, since You have wakened from death the Shepherd of Your sheep, grant us Your Holy Spirit that when we hear the voice of our Shepherd we may know Him who calls us each by name and follow where He leads; through the same Jesus Christ your Son our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen.

THE RESPONSE: THIS IS THE FEAST

This is the feast of victory for our God. Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

Worthy is Christ the lamb who was slain,

Whose blood set us free to be people of God.

This is the feast of victory for our God. Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

Power, riches, wisdom, and strength,

and honor, blessing, and glory are His.

This is the feast of victory for our God. Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

Sing with all the people of God,

and join in the hymn of all creation:

Blessing, honor, glory, and might

Be to God and the Lamb forever. Amen

This is the feast of victory for our God. Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

For the Lamb who was slain has begun His reign. Alleluia.

This is the feast of victory for our God. Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

Acts 4:1-12

¹Peter and John were still speaking to the people when some priests, the officer in charge of the temple guards, and some Sadducees arrived. ²They were annoyed because the two apostles were teaching the people that Jesus had risen from death, which proved that the dead will rise to life. ³So they arrested them and put them in jail until the next day, since it was already late. ⁴But many who heard the message believed; and the number of men grew to about 5,000. ⁵The next day the Jewish leaders, the elders, and the teachers of the Law gathered in Jerusalem. ⁶They met with the High Priest Annas and with Caiaphas, John, Alexander, and the others who belonged to the High Priest's family. ⁷They made the apostles stand before them and asked them, "How did you do this? What power have you got or whose name did you use?" ⁸Peter, full of the Holy Spirit, answered them, "Leaders of the people and elders: ⁹if we are being questioned today about the good deed done to the lame man and how he was healed, ¹⁰then you should all know, and all the people of Israel should know, that this man stands here before you completely well through the power of the

name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth—whom you crucified and whom God raised from death. ¹¹ Jesus is the one of whom the scripture says: ‘The stone that you the builders despised turned out to be the most important of all.’ ¹² Salvation is to be found through him alone; in all the world there is no one else whom God has given who can save us.”

Reader: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God!

1 John 3:16-24

¹⁶ This is how we know what love is: Christ gave his life for us. We too, then, ought to give our lives for others. ¹⁷ If someone has enough to live on and sees a brother or sister in need but does not help, how can the love of God be in that person? ¹⁸ My children, our love should not be just words and talk; it must be true love, which shows itself in action. ¹⁹ This is how we will know that we belong to the truth and reassure our hearts in God’s presence when our hearts condemn us; for God is greater than our hearts and knows everything. ²¹⁻²² And so, my dear friends, if our hearts do not condemn us, we can approach God with confidence and receive from him what we ask, because we are keeping his commands and doing what he approves. ²³ His command is that we should put our trust in his Son Jesus Christ and love one another as Christ commanded us. ²⁴ Those who keep God’s commands live in union with God and God lives in union with them. And because of the Spirit that God has given us we know that God lives in union with us.

Reader: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God!

John 10:11-18

¹¹ “I am the good shepherd, who is willing to die for the sheep. ¹² When the hired man, who is not a shepherd and does not own the sheep, sees a wolf coming, he leaves the sheep and runs away; so the wolf snatches the sheep and scatters them. ¹³ The hired man runs away because he is only a hired man and does not care about the sheep. ¹⁴⁻¹⁵ I am the good shepherd. As the Father knows me and I know the Father, in the same way I know my sheep and they know me. And I am willing to die for them. ¹⁶ There are other sheep which belong to me that are not in this sheepfold. I must bring them, too; they will listen to my voice, and they will become one flock with one shepherd. ¹⁷ “The Father loves me because I am willing to give up my life, in order that I may receive it back again. ¹⁸ No one takes my life away from me. I give it up of my own free will. I have the right to give it up, and I have the right to take it back. This is what my Father has commanded me to do.”

Pastor: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

People: Praise to You, O Christ.

THE 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 Spirit, born of the virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died and was buried. He descended into hell. The third day he rose again from the dead. He ascended into heaven and sits at the right hand of God the Father Almighty. From thence he will come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy Christian Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

CHILDREN’S MESSAGE

SERMON HYMN: “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 forever.*

*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 spreadst a table in my sight; thine unction grace bestoweth;
And, oh, 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 forever.*

SERMON

PRAYERS

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 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

PRAYER HYMN: "Espíritu de Dios" ("Oh Spirit of God")

Espíritu de Dios, llena mi vida, llena mi alma, llena mi ser.

Espíritu de Dios, llena mi vida, llena mi alma, llena mi ser.

*Y lléname, lléname, lléname de tu presencia lléname, lléname,
de tu verdad, de tu amor.*

*Y lléname, lléname, lléname de tu presencia lléname, lléname,
de tu verdad, de tu amor. Espíritu de Dios.*

*Oh Spir-it of God, come fill my life, come fill my soul,
come fill me whole.*

*Oh Spir-it of God, come fill my life, come fill my soul,
come fill me whole.*

*Come fill me now, fill me now, fill me now;
come with your presence, fill me now, fill me now;
come with your truth; come with your love.*

*Come fill me now, fill me now, fill me now;
come with your presence, fill me now, fill me now;
come with your truth; come with your love. Oh Spir-it of God!*

SERVICE OF THE SACRAMENT

Pastor: The Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

Pastor: Lift up your hearts.

People: We lift them to the Lord.

Pastor: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People: It is right to give Him thanks and praise.

Pastor: It is indeed right, our duty and our joy, always and everywhere to give you thanks, eternal Father, and in these days of Easter to celebrate with joyful hearts the memory of your wonderful works. For by the mystery of his passion Jesus Christ, your risen Son, has conquered the powers of death and hell and restored in humanity the image of your glory. He has placed them once more in paradise and opened to them the gate of life eternal. And so, in the joy of this Passover, earth and heaven resound with gladness, while angels and archangels and the powers of all creation speak forever of your glory.

People: Amen!

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

Blessed are You, Lord of heaven and earth, for You have had mercy on those whom You created and sent Your only-begotten Son into our flesh to bear our sin and be our Savior. With repentant joy, we receive the salvation accomplished for us by the all-availing sacrifice of His body and His blood on the cross. Gathered in the name and the remembrance of Jesus, we beg You, O Lord, to forgive, renew, and strengthen us with Your Word and Spirit. Grant us to faithfully eat His body and drink His blood as He bids us to in His own testament. Gather us together from the ends of the earth to celebrate, with all the faithful, the marriage feast of the Lamb in His kingdom, which has no end. Receive our prayers; deliver and preserve us. To You alone be all glory, honor, and worship, now and forever.

LAMB OF GOD

*Lamb of God, You take away the sin of the world;
have mercy on us.*

*Lamb of God, You take away the sin of the world;
have mercy on us.*

*Lamb of God, You take away the sin of the world;
grant us peace.*

CONSECRATION AND DISTRIBUTION

THANK THE LORD

*Thank the Lord and sing His praise;
tell everyone what He has done.*

*Let everyone who seeks the Lord,
rejoice and proudly bear His name.*

*He recalls His promises, and leads His people forth in joy
with shouts of thanksgiving. Alleluia, alleluia.*

POST-COMMUNION PRAYER

We give thanks to You, almighty God, that You have refreshed us through this salutary gift, and we implore You, that of Your mercy, You would strengthen us in faith toward You and in fervent love toward one another; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

CLOSING HYMN: "Have No Fear, Little Flock" (# 735)

*Have no fear, little flock, have no fear, little flock,
For your Father has chosen to give you the kingdom;
Have no fear, little flock.*

*Have good cheer, little flock; have good cheer, little flock,
For the Father will keep you in His love forever;
Have good cheer, little flock.*

*Praise the Lord high above; Praise the Lord high above,
For He stoops down to heal you, uplift and restore you;
Praise the Lord high above!*

*Thankful hearts raise to God; Thankful hearts raise to God,
For he stays close beside you, in all things works with you;
Thankful hearts raise to God!*

THE BLESSING