

Order of Service: 25th April 2021
Revd Jennifer Potter

Musical Prelude: Ps 118 “The stone which the builders rejected” Bernadette Farrell

Call to Worship

Hymn 32 (StF) “Meet and right it is to sing”

Prayers Adoration and Confession

Psalm 23 (StF 805) said responsively

- 1 The Lord is my shepherd,
I shall not want.
- 2 He makes me lie down in green pastures;
he leads me beside still waters;
- 3 he restores my soul.
**He leads me in right paths
for his name's sake.**
- 4 Even though I walk through the darkest valley,
I fear no evil;
**for you are with me;
your rod and your staff -- they comfort me.**
- 5 You prepare a table before me
in the presence of my enemies;
**you anoint my head with oil;
my cup overflows.**
- 6 Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me
all the days of my life,
**and I shall dwell in the house of the Lord
my whole life long.**

Hymn 686 (StF) “Jesus , Lord we look to thee” (Tune Vienna)

1 John 3: 16-24 (NRSV)

¹⁶We know love by this, that he laid down his life for us—and we ought to lay down our lives for one another. ¹⁷How 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?

18 Little children, let us love, not in word or speech, but in truth and action. ¹⁹And by this we will know that we are from the truth and will reassure our hearts before him ²⁰whenever our hearts condemn us; for God is greater than our hearts, and he knows everything. ²¹Beloved, if our hearts do not condemn us, we have boldness before God; ²²and we receive from him whatever we ask, because we obey his commandments and do what pleases him.

23 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. ²⁴All 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.

Acts 4:5-14 (NRSV)

⁵The next day their rulers, elders, and scribes assembled in Jerusalem, ⁶with Annas the high priest, Caiaphas, John, and Alexander, and all who were of the high-priestly family. ⁷When they had made the prisoners stand in their midst, they inquired, 'By what power or by what name did you do this?' ⁸Then Peter, filled with the Holy Spirit, said to them, 'Rulers of the people and elders, ⁹if we are questioned today because of a good deed done to someone who was sick and are asked how this man has been healed, ¹⁰let 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. ¹¹This Jesus is "the stone that was rejected by you, the builders; it has become the cornerstone."
¹²There is salvation in no one else, for there is no other name under heaven given among mortals by which we must be saved.'
¹³Now when they saw the boldness of Peter and John and realized that they were uneducated and ordinary men, they were amazed and recognized them as companions of Jesus. ¹⁴When they saw the man who had been cured standing beside them, they had nothing to say in opposition.

Responsive Litany for the Fourth Sunday of Easter

Children of God
That is what we are

People of God
This is who we are

Give thanks to God, for God is good
The love of God is now and forever

Holy and just
Make us like Jesus

Ready to take risks
Make us like Jesus

Willing to weep
Make us like Jesus

Aware that we are loved
Make us like Jesus

When people meet us
May they meet God in us

So be it, Holy Spirit. **Amen**

Sermon

Hymn 357 (StF) "Jesus – the name high over all" Tune : Lydia

Intercessions and the Lord's Prayer

Hymn 418 (StF) "We have a gospel to proclaim"

Benediction