



Morning Prayer
The Fourth Sunday of Easter
April 25, 2021 9 am
Followed by Vestry discussion
Ministers of the Liturgy

The Rev. Dr. Judith Lee

Vestry Members:

Beth Moeller & Lisa Ruggiero, Wardens

Edla Ann Bloom, Lucille Clinkman, Steve Ketcham, Wayne Stochaj

Musicians:

Randolph Bloom, Mary Johnson, Jeff Lukas, Cathy Poch

If anyone is in Christ, there is a new creation: everything old has passed away; see, everything has become new!
[2 Corinthians 5:17]

Opening Hymn *Alleluia! Hearts and voices heaven-ward raise* Hymnal #191

*Alleluia! Alleluia! Hearts and voices heaven-ward raise
sing to God a hymn of gladness, sing to God a hymn of praise:
he who on the cross a victim for the world's salvation bled,
Jesus Christ, the King of Glory, now is risen from the dead.*

*Alleluia! Alleluia! Glory be to God on high;
Alleluia to the Savior, who has won the victory;
Alleluia to the Spirit, fount of love and sanctity.
Alleluia! Alleluia! to the Triune Majesty.*

Mother Judith Opening Prayer

Central Conference of Rabbis

Beloved Shepherd, you gave your life in love, and in love you rose, calling your disciples to be your holy, risen Body. You call us to proclaim that you are our Savior, to heal in your name and to love one another so much that we lay down our lives for one another. As your holy, living spirit flows among and through us, make our fragile, earthen vessels overflow with praise and wonder. **Amen.**

Mother Judith The Invitatory and Psalter

Alleluia. Christ is risen. O come let us worship. Alleluia

Mary Johnson Venite [Psalm 95:1-7]

Come, let us sing to the Lord; * let us shout for joy to the Rock of our salvation.
Let us come before his presence with thanksgiving * and raise a loud shout to him with psalms.
For the Lord is a great God, * and a great King above all gods.
In his hand are the caverns of the earth, * and the heights of the hills are his also.
The sea is his, for he made it, * and his hands have molded the dry land.
Come, let us bow down, and bend the knee, * and kneel before the Lord our Maker.
For he is our God, and we are the people of his pasture and the sheep of his hand. *
Oh, that today you would hearken to his voice!

Lucille Clinkman & Wayne Stochaj Psalm 23

1 The 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.**
3 He 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.
5 You 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 forever.

Beth Moeller A Reading from the Book of Acts [4:5-12]

The 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."

Lisa Ruggiero A Song of Our Adoption [Ephesians 1:3-10]

Blessed are you, the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, *

for you have blessed us in Christ with every spiritual blessing in the heavenly places.

Before the world was made, you chose us to be yours in Christ, *

that we should be holy and blameless before you.

You destined us for adoption as your children through Jesus Christ, *

according to the good pleasure of your will,

To the praise of your glorious grace, *

that you have freely given us in the Beloved.

In you, we have redemption through the blood of Christ, the forgiveness of our sins,

According to the riches of your grace *

which you have lavished upon us.

You have made known to us, in all wisdom and insight, * the mystery of your will,

According to your good pleasure which you set forth in Christ, *

as a plan for the fullness of time,

To gather together all things in Christ, * things in heaven and things on earth



Steve Ketcham A Reading from the Gospel of John [10:11-18]

Glory to you Lord Christ

Jesus said, "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.”

Gospel Acclamation

Celtic Alleluia

Fintan O'Carroll & Christopher Walker



Homily

Edla Ann Bloom A Song of Faith **1 Peter [1:3-4,18-21]**

Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, *
by divine mercy we have a new birth into a living hope;
Through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead, *
we have an inheritance that is imperishable in heaven.
The ransom that was paid to free us * was not paid in silver or gold,
But in the precious blood of Christ, * the Lamb without spot or stain.
God raised Jesus from the dead and gave him glory *
so that we might have faith and hope in God.

Musical Meditation *The King of Love my Shepherd is*

Hymnal #646

Cathy Poch, Soloist

Mother Judith **The Apostles' Creed**

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.

Mother Judith & Beth Moeller The Prayers

Show us your mercy, O Lord; **and grant us your salvation.**

Clothe your ministers with righteousness; **let your people sing with joy.**

Give peace, O Lord, in all the world; **for only in you can we live in safety.**

Lord, keep this nation under your care; **and guide us in the way of justice and truth.**

Let your way be known upon earth; **your saving health among all nations.**

Let not the needy, O Lord, be forgotten; **nor the hope of the poor be taken away.**

Create in us clean hearts, O God; **and sustain us with your Holy Spirit.**

The Lord's Prayer

Edla Ann Bloom Collect of the Day

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**

Beth Moeller & Lisa Ruggiero The Prayers of the People

In thanksgiving and praise for the beauty and abundance of our universe, let us pray to our gracious God, whose breath gives life to the world and whose voice is heard in the wind, let us pray to our Creator in Christ our Risen Savior.

With thanksgiving for the gift of new life, and in hope that our risen Savior may fill us with the joy of his glorious and life-giving resurrection. *Pause*

Let us pray to our Creator ***in Christ our Risen Savior***

In thanksgiving for the gift of the Good News, and in hope that the church may find new life in the joyful mystery of the resurrection, especially through the leadership of our Presiding Bishop Michael and our Bishop Douglas, and all bishops, priests and deacons. *Pause*

Let us pray to our Creator ***in Christ our Risen Savior***

In thanksgiving for the gift of this community and in trust that God will guide us in calling a new Rector. *Pause*

Let us pray to our Creator ***in Christ our Risen Savior***

In thanksgiving for the abundance we enjoy with our families and friends, and in hope that he may show us how to provide for those who lack food, work, or shelter. *Pause*

Let us pray to our Creator ***in Christ our Risen Savior***

In thanksgiving for our freedom and in hope that by his power, war and famine may cease through all the world, *Pause*

Let us pray to our Creator *in Christ our Risen Savior*

In thanksgiving for our health and in hope that he may reveal the light of his presence to comfort and strengthen those who are weak in body and soul, especially to those we name silently or aloud, *Pause*

Let us pray to our Creator *in Christ our Risen Savior*

In thanksgiving for the gift of eternal life, and in hope that he may enfold in his joyful presence those who have died, especially those we name silently or aloud, *Pause*

Let us pray to our Creator *in Christ our Risen Savior*

In thanksgiving for the gift of faith, and in hope that God may send the fire of the Holy Spirit upon his people, so that we may bear faithful witness to his resurrection, *Pause*

Let us pray to our Creator *in Christ our Risen Savior*

Blessed are you, God of growth and discovery; yours is the Wisdom that has directed and changed our lives; yours is the power that has brought us to new opportunities. Set us, your new creation, to walk through this new world, watching and learning, loving and trusting, until your kingdom comes. **Amen.**

Musical Meditation

Jeff Lukas

Steve Ketcham A Prayer for Wisdom

Holy and Loving God, by water and the Holy spirit we have been buried with Christ and raised to the new life of grace: Give us inquiring and discerning hearts, the courage to will and to persevere, a spirit to know and to love you, and the gift of joy and wonder in all your works. **Amen.**

Lucille Clinkman A Prayer in Time of Transition

Almighty God, giver of every good gift: Look graciously on your Church, and so guide the minds of those who shall choose a rector for this parish, that we may receive a faithful pastor who will care for your people and for our ministries. Open our hearts to possibilities we have not yet imagined, through Jesus Christ, our Light, our Center, our Hope. **Amen.**

Wayne Stochaj A Prayer for Facing the Coronavirus

Merciful God, hear our fervent prayer for all who suffer from the coronavirus. May those who are infected receive the proper treatment and the comfort of your healing presence. May their caregivers, families and neighbors be shielded from the virus. Give solace to those who grieve the loss of over 550,000 loved ones. Protect and guide those who strive to find a cure, that their work may conquer the disease and restore communities to wholeness and health. Help us to rise above fear and impatience. We ask all this in the name of your Son Jesus Christ, and the Holy Spirit, now and forever. **Amen.**

Mother Judith A Prayer of St. Chrysostom

Almighty God, you have given us grace at this time with one accord to make our common supplication to you; and you have promised through your well-beloved Son that when two or three are gathered together in his Name you will be in the midst of them: Fulfill now, O Lord, our desires and petitions as may be best for us; granting us in this world knowledge of your truth, and in the age to come life everlasting. **Amen.**

Mother Judith Blessing

The God of peace, who brought again from the dead our Lord Jesus Christ, the great Shepherd of the sheep, through the blood of the everlasting covenant, make you perfect in every good work to fulfill his purpose, working in you that which is well-pleasing in his sight; and the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be among you, and remain with you always. **Amen.**

Mother Judith Dismissal

Let us go forth in the name of the Risen Christ. Alleluia! Alleluia!

Thanks be to God. Alleluia! Alleluia!

Postlude

The Heavens Declare

Benedetto Marcello