



PALMER MEMORIAL
EPISCOPAL CHURCH
— HOUSTON, TEXAS —

*Our mission is to know
and share the love of Jesus Christ*

THE FOURTH SUNDAY OF EASTER
HOLY EUCHARIST, RITE I
10:00 AM
APRIL 24, 2021

6221 MAIN STREET | HOUSTON, TEXAS 77030 | 713.529.6196

PALMERCHURCH.ORG

THE WORD OF GOD

Organ Voluntary: Aria

Gerre Hancock

Opening Hymn 646 "The King of love my shepherd is" (1 & 6)

Dominus Regit Me

Descant

6 And so through all the length of days thy

1 The King of love my shep - herd is, whose
 2 Where streams of liv - ing wa - ter flow, my
 *3 Per - verse and fool - ish oft I strayed, but
 *4 In death's dark vale I fear no ill with
 5 Thou spread'st a ta - ble in my sight; thy

6 good - ness fail - eth nev - er: Good Shep-herd, may I

1 good - ness fail - eth nev - er; I noth - ing lack if
 2 ran - somed soul he lead - eth, and where the ver - dant
 3 yet in love he sought me, and on his shoul - der
 4 thee, dear Lord, be - side me; thy rod and staff my
 5 unc - tion grace be - stow - eth; and oh, what trans - port

6 sing thy praise with - in thy house for ev - er.

1 I am his, and he is mine for ev - er.
 2 pas - tures grow, with food ce - les - tial feed - eth.
 3 gent - ly laid, and home, re - joic - ing, brought me.
 4 com - fort still, thy cross be - fore to guide me.
 5 of de - light from thy pure chal - ice flow - eth!

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

Celebrant Alleluia. Christ is risen.
People **The Lord is risen indeed. Alleluia.**

Almighty God, unto whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hid: Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of thy Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love thee, and worthily magnify thy holy Name; through Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Gloria in excelsis (Hymnal S-202)

Willan

Glory be to God on high, and on earth peace, good will towards men. We praise thee, we bless thee, we worship thee, we glorify thee, we give thanks to thee for thy great glory, O Lord God, heavenly King, God the Father Almighty. O Lord, the only-begotten Son, Jesus Christ; O Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Father, that takest away the sins of the world, have mercy upon us. Thou that takest away the sins of the world, receive our prayer. Thou that sittest at the right hand of God the Father, have mercy upon us. For thou only art holy; thou only art the Lord; thou only, O Christ, with the Holy Ghost, art most high in the glory of God the Father. **Amen.**

The Collect of the Day

Celebrant The Lord be with you.
People **And with thy spirit.**
Celebrant Let us pray.

O God, whose Son Jesus is the good shepherd of thy people: Grant that when we hear his voice we may know him who calleth us each by name, and follow where he doth lead; who, with thee and the Holy Spirit, liveth and reigneth, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

The Lessons

First Reading

1 John 3:16-24

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

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

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. All 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.

Reader The Word of the Lord.
People **Thanks be to God.**

The Lord is my shepherd;
 I shall not be in want.
 He makes me lie down in green pastures
 and leads me beside still waters.
 He revives my soul
 and guides me along right pathways for his Name's sake.
 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.
 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.
 Surely your goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life,
 and I will dwell in the house of the Lord for ever.

Gospel Reading

John 10:11-18

Priest The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to John.
People **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."

Priest The Gospel of the Lord.
People **Praise be to thee, O Christ.**

The Sermon

The Rev'd Neil Alan Willard, *Rector*

The Nicene Creed

Celebrant We believe in one God,
People the Father, the Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth,
of all that is, seen and unseen.

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ,
the only Son of God,
eternally begotten of the Father,
God from God, Light from Light,
true God from true God,
begotten, not made,
of one Being with the Father.
Through him all things were made.
For us and for our salvation
he came down from heaven:
by the power of the Holy Spirit
he became incarnate from the Virgin Mary,
and was made man.
For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate;
he suffered death and was buried.
On the third day he rose again
in accordance with the Scriptures;
he ascended into heaven
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.
He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead,
and his kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son.
With the Father and the Son he is worshiped and glorified.
He has spoken through the Prophets.
We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church.
We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.
We look for the resurrection of the dead,
and the life of the world to come. Amen.

The Prayers of the People

In peace, we pray to thee, Lord God.

For all people in their daily life and work, especially those across the street in the Texas Medical Center;

For our families, friends, and neighbors, and for those who are alone.

For this community of Houston, the nation, and the world; for Joe, President of the United States; Greg, Governor of Texas; and Sylvester, Mayor of Houston;

For all who work for justice, freedom, and peace.

For the just and proper use of thy creation;

For the victims of hunger, fear, injustice, and oppression.

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

For those who minister to the sick, the friendless, and the needy.

For the peace and unity of the Church of God;

For all who proclaim the Gospel, and all who seek the Truth.

For Michael, our Presiding Bishop; for Andy, Jeff, Kai, and Héctor our Bishops; and for all bishops and other ministers;

For all who serve God in his Church.

For the special needs and concerns of this congregation.

Silence

The People may add their own petitions.

Hear us, Lord;

For thy mercy is great.

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

Silence

The People may add their own petitions.

We will exalt thee, O God our King;

And praise thy Name for ever and ever.

We pray for all who have died, that they may have a place in thy eternal kingdom.

Silence

The People may add their own petitions.

Lord, let thy loving-kindness be upon them;

Who put their trust in thee.

The Celebrant then prays

Almighty and eternal God, ruler of all things in heaven and earth: Mercifully accept the prayers of thy people, and strengthen us to do thy will; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

THE HOLY COMMUNION

Offertory Anthem: *Loving Shepherd of my Sheep* (CD: *O Love Divine*)

John Rutter

Loving Shepherd of thy sheep,
Keep thy lamb, in safety keep.
Nothing can thy power withstand.
None can pluck me from thy hand.

I would praise thee every day,
Gladly all thy will obey.
Like thy blessed ones above,
Happy in thy perfect love.

Loving Shepherd, ever near.
Teach thy lamb thy voice to hear;
Suffer not my steps to stray,
From the straight and narrow way.

Where thou ledest I would go,
Walking in thy steps below,
Till before my Father's throne.
I shall know as I am known

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The Doxology *Hymnal* 380, verse 3

Old 100th

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;
Praise him, all creatures here below;
Praise him above, ye heavenly host:
Praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost. Amen.

The Great Thanksgiving

The musical notation consists of four staves. The first staff is for the Celebrant and the People, with lyrics: "The Lord be with you. And with thy spirit." The second staff is for the Celebrant and the People, with lyrics: "Lift up your hearts. We lift them up unto the Lord." The third staff is for the Celebrant, with lyrics: "Let us give thanks unto our Lord God." The fourth staff is for the People, with lyrics: "It is meet and right so to do." The notation includes treble clefs, a key signature of one flat (B-flat), and various musical symbols such as notes, rests, and ornaments.

It is very meet, right, and our bounden duty, that we should at all times, and in all places, give thanks unto thee, O Lord, holy Father, almighty, everlasting God. But chiefly are we bound to praise thee for the glorious resurrection of thy Son Jesus Christ our Lord; for he is the very Paschal Lamb, who was sacrificed for us, and hath taken away the sin of the world; who by his death hath destroyed death, and by his rising to life again hath won for us everlasting life.

Therefore with Angels and Archangels, and with all the company of heaven, we laud and magnify thy glorious Name; evermore praising thee, and saying,

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly, Lord God of
Hosts: Hea - ven and earth are full of thy glo - ry. Glo -
- ry be to thee, O Lord Most High. Bless - ed is he that com - eth
in the name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

All glory be to thee, O Lord our God, for that thou didst create heaven and earth, and didst make us in thine own image; and, of thy tender mercy, didst give thine only Son Jesus Christ to take our nature upon him, and to suffer death upon the cross for our redemption. He made there a full and perfect sacrifice for the whole world; and did institute, and in his holy Gospel command us to continue, a perpetual memory of that his precious death and sacrifice, until his coming again.

For in the night in which he was betrayed, he took bread; and when he had given thanks to thee, he broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying, "Take, eat, this is my Body, which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me."

Likewise, after supper, he took the cup; and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, saying, "Drink this, all of you; for this is my Blood of the New Covenant, which is shed for you, and for many, for the remission of sins. Do this, as oft as ye shall drink it, in remembrance of me."

Wherefore, O Lord and heavenly Father, we thy people do celebrate and make, with these thy holy gifts which we now offer unto thee, the memorial thy Son hath commanded us to make; having in remembrance his blessed passion and precious death, his mighty resurrection and glorious ascension; and looking for his coming again with power and great glory.

And we most humbly beseech thee, O merciful Father, to hear us, and, with thy Word and Holy Spirit, to bless and sanctify these gifts of bread and wine, that they may be unto us the Body and Blood of thy dearly-beloved Son Jesus Christ.

And we earnestly desire thy fatherly goodness to accept this our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving, whereby we offer and present unto thee, O Lord, our selves, our souls and bodies. Grant, we beseech thee, that all who partake of this Holy Communion may worthily receive the most precious Body and Blood of thy Son Jesus Christ, and be filled with thy grace and heavenly benediction; and also that we and all thy whole Church may be made one body with him, that he may dwell in us, and we in him; through the same Jesus Christ our Lord;

By whom, and with whom, and in whom, in the unity of the Holy Ghost all honor and glory be unto thee, O Father Almighty, world without end. AMEN.

And now, as our Savior Christ hath taught us, we are bold to say,

Celebrant Our Father,

People 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, for ever and ever. Amen.

The Breaking of the Bread

The Celebrant breaks the consecrated Bread. A period of silence is kept.

Agnus Dei S-158

Willan

O Lamb of God, that ta - kest a -
way the sins of the world, have mer - cy up -
on us. O Lamb of God, that
ta - kest a - way the sins of the world, have
mer - cy up - on us. O Lamb of
God, that ta - kest a - way the sins of the
world, grant us thy peace.

The Peace

Celebrant The peace of the Lord be always with you.

People And with thy spirit.

The Celebrant says the following Invitation
The Gifts of God for the People of God.

The term "Spiritual Communion" has been used historically to describe how a person, prevented for some serious reason from sharing in a celebration of the Eucharist, nonetheless shares in the communion of Jesus Christ. In making our communion spiritually, we are joining with Christians everywhere to be nourished by the one who tells us, "I am the Bread of Life."

**My Jesus,
I believe that you are present in this Sacrament.
I love you above all things, and I desire to receive you today.
Since I cannot at this moment receive you in bread and wine made holy food,
come spiritually into my heart.
I embrace you and unite myself wholly to you.
Never let me be separated from you. Amen.**

After communion, the Celebrant says
Let us pray.

Celebrant Almighty and everliving God,
People we most heartily thank thee for that thou dost feed us, in these holy mysteries, with the spiritual food of the most precious Body and Blood of thy Son our Savior Jesus Christ; and dost assure us thereby of thy favor and goodness towards us; and that we are very members incorporate in the mystical body of thy Son, the blessed company of all faithful people; and are also heirs, through hope, of thy everlasting kingdom. And we humbly beseech thee, O heavenly Father, so to assist us with thy grace, that we may continue in that holy fellowship, and do all such good works as thou hast prepared for us to walk in; through Jesus Christ our Lord, to whom with thee and the Holy Ghost, be all honor and glory, world without end. Amen.

Celebrant 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 do his will, working in you that which is well-pleasing in his sight; and the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Ghost, be amongst you, and remain with you always. Amen.

Celebrant Let us go forth in the name of Christ. Alleluia, alleluia.
People Thanks be to God. Alleluia, alleluia.

Closing Hymn 518 "Christ is made the sure foundation" (1 & 5)

Westminster Abbey

1 Christ is made the sure foun - da - tion, Christ the head and
 2 All that ded - i - cat - ed ci - ty, dear - ly loved of
 3 To this tem - ple, where we call thee, come, O Lord of
 4 Here vouch - safe to all thy serv - ants what they ask of

thee to gain; what they gain from thee, for ev - er

cor - ner - stone, cho - sen of the Lord, and pre - cious,
 God on high, in ex - ult - ant ju - bi - la - tion
 Hosts, to - day; with thy wont - ed lov - ing - kind - ness
 thee to gain; what they gain from thee, for ev - er

with the bless - ed to re - tain, and here - af - ter

bind - ing all the Church in one; ho - ly Zi - on's
 pours per - pet - ual mel - o - dy; God the One in
 hear thy serv - ants as they pray, and thy full - est
 with the bless - ed to re - tain, and here - af - ter

in thy glo - ry ev - er - more with thee to reign.

help for ev - er, and her con - fi - dence a - lone.
 Three a - dor - ing in glad hymns e - ter - nal - ly.
 ben - e - dic - tion shed with - in its walls al - way,
 in thy glo - ry ev - er - more with thee to reign.

Postlude: Trumpet Tune in A

David N. Johnson

TOGETHER, WE PRAY

Please pray for these people:

Chris Alexander	David Lapp	Rachel
D. Anthony	Marcos de Souza Lima	Maria de Nazare & Michele Rios
Georgia Barton	Bob London	Clare Ritzi
Carlos	Jo Lyday	Wendy Robertson
Carmen Brassfield Conaway	Berta Maestef	Larry Root
Elizabeth Chapin	Paul Martin	Bill & Sheila Ryan
Tina & Ricky Cruz	Carol Matthews	Sandy, Julian, Nick, Snyder
Darlene Dittoe	Charlotte McClain	Susan Shivers
Penny Driggers	Michael McKinley	Roxane & Michael Short
Julian Gascoyne	Hashim Musa	Phyllis & Ed Svrcek
Christopher M. Hansen	Yamy Lec Perez	Mary Tobin
Keith Herrin	Harry Powe	Donna Waldron
James Hesterly	Marsha Powe	Mimi & Kim Lopez-Waymer
Courtney, Peter, & Graham Holcomb	The Rev. John Price	Brooke Wilson
Maggi Jones	Jennifer Rabb	Sorell Williamson

Names remain on the list for two Sundays unless the request is renewed by contacting one of the coordinators of our Pastoral Care Ministry: Ruth Davies at rmmdavies@cebridge.net for Palmers or Suzie Dennis at sdennis@palmerchurch.org for non-Palmers.

Please pray for expectant households:

The Everhart family
The Fender family
The Simmons family (*international adoption*)

Those expecting a child by birth or adoption are encouraged to contact Roger Hutchison at rwhutchison@palmerchurch.org.

Please pray for those in the armed forces:

Evan Adams	Jarrett Johnson	Jim Rosenbach
Nathan Adam	Christopher Kent	Adam Salvati
Michael Anderson	James King	Matthew Van Arsdale
Gaston Baza	Mike Martinez	Ashley Waddle
Travis Chambers	Nate Miller	Alex Walker
John Harrison	Andrew Nesom	Taylor Wilby
Connor Hurt	Harrison Power	Caleb Woodburn