

When he was abused, he did not return abuse;  
when he suffered, he did not threaten.  
Instead, he entrusted himself to him who  
judges justly.

Episcopal Church of the Epiphany  
Fourth Sunday of Easter  
Morning Prayer  
May 3, 2020, 10:30 am

1 Peter 2:23

We worship today according to the appointed order for Morning Prayer, Rite Two, beginning on page 75  
of the Book of Common Prayer and occasionally from *Enriching Our Worship*.  
Congregational responses are in **boldface type**.

*We will observe silence together to prepare for worship, which begins with  
the ringing of the bell. We turn on our microphones and webcams until we  
have finished reciting the 23<sup>rd</sup> Psalm together.*

Alleluia! Christ is risen.

**The Lord is risen indeed. Alleluia!**

Lord, open our lips.

**And our mouth shall proclaim your praise.**

Gloria Patri and Alleluia

Jubilate – Psalm 100

Be joyful in the Lord, all you lands; \*

serve the Lord with gladness

**and come before his presence with a song.**

Know this: The Lord himself is God; \*

**he himself has made us, and we are his;**

**we are his people and the sheep of his pasture.**

Enter his gates with thanksgiving;

go into his courts with praise; \*

**give thanks to him and call upon his Name.**

For the Lord is good;

his mercy is everlasting; \*

**and his faithfulness endures from age to age.**

*We recite the 23<sup>rd</sup> Psalm together:*

Psalm 23

**The Lord is my shepherd; I shall not want.**

**He maketh me to lie down in green pastures; he leadeth  
me beside the still waters.**

**He restoreth my soul; he leadeth me in the paths of  
righteousness for his name's sake.**

**Yea, though I walk through the valley of the shadow of  
death, I will fear no evil, for thou art with me; thy rod and  
thy staff they comfort me.**

**Thou prepaarest a table before me in the presence of  
mine enemies; thou anointest my head with oil; my cup  
runneth over.**

**Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of  
my life, and I will dwell in the house of the Lord for ever.**

*We now turn off our webcams and microphones until just before the  
concluding sentence at the end of the service.*

Gloria Patri

Special Music: *God Is My Shepherd* – (Dvorak)

**God is my shepherd; I want for nothing.**

**My rest is in the pleasant meadows.**

**He leadeth me where quiet waters flow.**

**My fainting soul doth he restore**

**And guideth me in the ways of peace**

**To glorify his name.**

**And though in death's dark valley**

**My steps must wander,**

**My spirit shall not fear,**

**For thou art by me still.**

**Thy rod and staff are with me,**

**And they shall comfort me.**

The Lessons

The First Lesson – Acts 2:42-47

Those who had been baptized devoted themselves to the  
apostles' teaching and fellowship, to the breaking of bread  
and the prayers.

Awe came upon everyone, because many wonders and signs  
were being done by the apostles. All who believed were  
together and had all things in common; they would sell their  
possessions and goods and distribute the proceeds to all, as  
any had need. 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, 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.

**Thanks be to God.**

## Canticle 19 – The Song of the Redeemed

O ruler of the universe, Lord God,  
great deeds are they that you have done,  
surpassing human understanding.  
**Your ways are ways of righteousness and truth,  
O King of all the ages.**

Who can fail to do you homage, Lord,  
and sing the praises of your Name?  
for you only are the Holy One.

**All nations will draw near and fall down before you,  
because your just and holy works have been revealed.**

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit:  
**as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be for ever.**  
**Amen.**

## The Epistle Lesson - 1 Peter 2:19-25

It is a credit to you if, being aware of God, you endure pain while suffering unjustly. If you endure when you are beaten for doing wrong, what credit is that? But if you endure when you do right and suffer for it, you have God's approval. 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.

“He committed no sin,  
and no deceit was found in his mouth.”

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. 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. 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  
**Thanks be to God**

## Canticle C – A Song of Hannah

My heart exults in you, O God; \*  
**my triumph song is lifted in you.**

My mouth derides my enemies, \*  
**for I rejoice in your salvation.**

There is none holy like you, \*  
**nor any rock to be compared to you, our God.**

Do not heap up prideful words or speak in arrogance; \*  
**Only God is knowing and weighs all actions.**

The bows of the mighty are broken, \*  
**but the weak are clothed in strength.**

Those once full now labor for bread, \*  
**those who hungered now are well fed.**

The childless woman has borne sevenfold, \*  
**while the mother of many is forlorn.**

God destroys and brings to life, casts down and raises up; \*  
**gives wealth or takes it away, humbles and dignifies.**

God raises the poor from the dust; \*  
**and lifts the needy from the ash heap**  
To make them sit with the rulers \*  
**and inherit a place of honor.**

For the pillars of the earth are God's \*  
**on which the whole earth is founded.**

## The Gospel Lesson – John 10:1-10

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

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

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

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.**

**And so through all the length of days  
Thy goodness faileth never;  
Good Shepherd may I sing thy praise  
Within thy house forever.**

## 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.

## The Prayers

The Lord be with you.  
And also with you.  
Let us pray.

Our Father in heaven,  
hallowed be your Name,  
your kingdom come,  
your will be done,  
on earth as in heaven.  
Give us today our daily bread.  
Forgive us our sins  
as we forgive those  
who sin against us.  
Save us from the time of trial,  
and deliver us from evil.  
For the kingdom, the power,  
and the glory are yours,  
now and for ever. Amen.

## Suffrages

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 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.

## A Collect for Peace

O God, the author of peace and lover of concord, to know you is eternal life and to serve you is perfect freedom: Defend us, your humble servants, in all assaults of our enemies; that we, surely trusting in your defense, may not fear the power of any adversaries; through the might of Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

## A Prayer for Mission

Lord Jesus Christ, you stretched out your arms of love on the hard wood of the cross that everyone might come within the reach of your saving embrace: So clothe us in your Spirit that we, reaching forth our hands in love, may bring those who do not know you to the knowledge and love of you; for the honor of your Name. Amen.

## Intercessions and Thanksgiving

We pray for the souls of all those who have died from Covid-19, and all who have departed this life, including those we now name silently, aloud, or by chat.

### *Silence*

We pray for all those who came to our church for Beans & Rice yesterday. In our parish we pray for those who are sick or recovering from illness, including Micah Hart, Dennis Harper, Larry and Pat Sharpton, Troy Warlick, Dezzel Oliver, Tom Haynie, Beth Hall, Maurice McCord, Sharon Browning, Julie Williams, Mike Dickey, and the others we now name.

### *Silence*

In the Diocesan Cycle of Prayer, we pray for our Companion Diocese of the Virgin Islands and its bishop, Ambrose. For the Diocesan Ecumenical/Interfaith Commission; and the Welcome Center, Millbrook.

## The General Thanksgiving

Almighty God, Father of all mercies, we your unworthy servants give you humble thanks for all your goodness and loving-kindness to us and to all whom you have made.

We bless you for our creation, preservation, and all the blessings of this life; but above all for your immeasurable love in the redemption of the world by our Lord Jesus Christ; for the means of grace, and for the hope of glory.

And, we pray, give us such an awareness of your mercies, that with truly thankful hearts we may show forth your praise, not only with our lips, but in our lives, by giving

up our selves to your service, and by walking before you - in holiness and righteousness all our days.

Through Jesus Christ our Lord, to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit, be honor and glory throughout all ages. Amen.

*We all now turn on our webcams and microphones for the concluding sentence and leave them on for the Joys and Concerns of the Congregation.*

Alleluia, Alleluia. Let us bless the Lord.

Thanks be to God. Alleluia, Alleluia.

Joys and Concerns of the Congregation

---

### Serving at Epiphany this week:

Officiant: Andy Stricker

Lay Reader: Betty Weldon

Voice of Congregation: Suzy Wilson

### And next:

Officiant: Lavonne Hart

Lay Reader: Laura Williams

Voice of Congregation: Mike Rallo