

## THE WAY OF LOVE

*Whoever and wherever you are on your journey of faith, you are welcome. Our message is that God's unconditional love is extended to you right now through Jesus Christ. Here in this church, God says, "You belong, this is my family, and you have a place in it." You are welcome to come to this table to receive the bread and wine made holy.*

### FOURTH SUNDAY OF EASTER LITURGY OF THE WORLD, RITE I

April 21, 2024 9:30 a.m.

## GATHERING

### PRELUDE

*Savior, Like A Shepherd Lead Us*  
Dana Anderson, organ

Arr. L. Line

### AT THE PROCESSION

*All stand*

### OPENING ACCLAMATION

Book of Common Prayer (BCP red) 323

*Officiant* Alleluia. Christ is risen.

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

### COLLECT FOR PURITY

BCP (red) 323

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.***

Hear what our Lord Jesus Christ saith: Thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy mind. This is the first and great commandment. And the second is like unto it: Thou shalt love thy neighbor as thyself. On these two commandments hang all the Law and the Prophets.

### GLORIA

BCP (red) 324

***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

BCP (red) 173

*Officiant* The Lord be with you.

*People* ***And with thy spirit.***

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 WORD OF GOD

### THE LESSONS

*All are seated*

#### 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."

*Reader* The Word of the Lord.

*People* ***Thanks be to God.***

## PSALM 23

*Read responsively by the whole verse*

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 for ever.***



This is our stained glass window located in the west end of the Nave (back) depicting the Good Shepherd (Psalm 23).

## 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.*

## JOHN 10:11-18

*All stand and turn to face the Gospel procession*

Officiant    The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to John.

**People**     *Glory be to Thee, O Lord.*

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."

Officiant    The Gospel of the Lord.

**People**     *Praise be to Thee, O Christ.*

## THE SERMON

*All are seated*

The Reverend Walt Seeley

## THE NICENE CREED

BCP (red) 326

*All stand*

*We believe in one God, 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 worshipped 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

*All kneel or stand*

*Officiant* Let us pray for the whole state of Christ's Church and the world.

Almighty and everliving God, who in thy holy Word hast taught us to make prayers, and supplications, and to give thanks for all men: Receive these our prayers which we offer unto thy divine Majesty, beseeching thee to inspire continually the Universal Church with the spirit of truth, unity, and concord; and grant that all those who do confess thy holy Name may agree in the truth of thy holy Word, and live in unity and godly love.

Give grace, O heavenly Father, to all bishops and other ministers that they may, both by their life and doctrine, set forth thy true and lively Word, and rightly and duly administer thy holy Sacraments.

And to all thy people give thy heavenly grace, and especially to this congregation here present; that, with meek heart and due reverence, they may hear and receive thy holy Word, truly serving thee in holiness and righteousness all the days of their life.

We beseech thee also so to rule the hearts of those who bear the authority of government in this and every land, that they may be led to wise decisions and right actions for the welfare and peace of the world.

Open, O Lord, the eyes of all people to behold thy gracious hand in all thy works, that, rejoicing in thy whole creation, they may honor thee with their substance, and be faithful stewards of thy bounty. And we most humbly beseech thee, of thy goodness, O Lord, to comfort and succor all those who, in this transitory life, are in trouble, sorrow, need, sickness, or any other adversity.

We pray for St. George's Episcopal Church in Lusk and for the Church of Australia. The flowers on the altar are given to the glory of God and in prayer for Ryan and infant daughter Remedee, and in prayer for Brittany. Your own prayers and petitions may be added at this time.

And we also bless thy holy Name for all thy servants departed this life, in thy faith and fear, beseeching thee to grant them continual growth in thy love and service; and to grant us grace so to follow the good examples of Mark and all thy saints, that with them we may be partakers of thy heavenly kingdom.

Gracious and loving God, you know us better than we know ourselves. Guide the Search Committee, Vestry, and people of St. Mark's Church through this time of transition and discernment. We pray that your Holy Spirit continues to open our hearts and minds to new opportunities and ideas; so that we may follow where you lead — knowing that our Lord walks with us each step of the way. Empower each and every member of our Search Committee to use their gifts for ministry to the fullest; to share their thoughts openly and honestly; to respect the opinions of others; and to encourage humility, patience, and joy. Finally, instill in all the people of St. Mark's a glorious vision of the future; that, guided by your Holy Spirit, we may be united in the way of love — with warm hearts, enlightened minds and open arms — so that we may gladly accomplish the mission to which you are calling us; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

***Amen.***

*The Officiant adds a concluding collect*

Grant these our prayers, O Father, for Jesus Christ's sake, our only Mediator and Advocate.

***Amen.***

*It is traditional, in many Episcopal Churches, to omit the Confession of Sin and Absolution from the liturgy during the Season of Easter. It is believed that this season is infused with grace by virtue of our Lord's Resurrection.*

## **THE PEACE**

*All stand*

*Officiant*    The peace of the Lord be always with you.

***People***    ***And with thy spirit.***

*The people greet one another in the name of the Lord*

## **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**BIRTHDAY/ANNIVERSARY BLESSING**

BCP (red) 830

*Watch over Your children, O Lord, as their days increase; bless and guide them wherever they may be. Strengthen them when they stand, comfort them when discouraged or sorrowful; raise them up if they fall; and in their hearts may Your peace which passes understanding abide all the days of their lives; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.*

**THE HOLY COMMUNION**

**AT THE OFFERTORY**

*O Lord My God to Thee*  
St. Mark's Choir

Jacques Arcadelt

*An offering is collected as a symbol of our life and labor and to support the work of the church. Thank you for your generosity.*

*Officiant* All things come of thee, O Lord.  
*People* ***And of thine own have we given thee.***

**THE GREAT THANKSGIVING: EUCHARISTIC PRAYER II**

BCP (red) 340

*Officiant* The Lord be with you.  
*People* ***And with thy spirit.***  
Lift up your hearts.  
***We lift them up unto the Lord.***  
Let us give thanks unto our Lord God.  
***It is meet and right so to do.***

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.

Because in the mystery of the Word made flesh, thou hast caused a new light to shine in our hearts, to give the knowledge of thy glory in the face of thy Son Jesus Christ our Lord.

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

***Holy, holy, holy, Lord God of Hosts: Heaven and earth are full of thy glory. Glory be to thee, O Lord Most High. Blessed is he that cometh in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.***

*The people kneel or stand*

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,

***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, for ever and ever. Amen.***



## THE BREAKING OF THE BREAD

*Officiant* Alleluia. Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us;

*People* **Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia.**

The gifts of God for the people of God. Take them in remembrance that Christ died for you, and feed on him in your hearts by faith, with thanksgiving.

This is the table, not of the Church, but of the Lord. It is made ready for those who love him and for those who want to love him more.

Come, all those who have much faith, and those who have little, those who have been here often and those who have not been here long, those who have tried to follow you and those who have failed. Come, because it is the Lord who invites us. It is God's will that those who desire God should meet God here. Amen.

*All are welcome at the altar. All who desire to receive communion and those wishing to receive a prayer of blessing are invited to the altar rail. Gluten free wafers are available at the communion rail. Please inform the servers at the altar rail if you desire gluten free wafers.*

## COMMUNION

*St. Columba*

Peter Pindar Stearns

*My Shepherd, You Supply My Need*

North American traditional

## SENDING FORTH

### POST COMMUNION PRAYER

BCP (red) 339

*The people kneel or stand*

*Officiant* Let us pray.

*People* **Almighty and everliving God, 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.**

## BLESSING

May the peace of God which surpasses all understanding, keep your hearts and minds in the knowledge and love of God and of his Son our Lord Jesus Christ. May the blessing of God Almighty, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit come among you and remain with you always. **Amen.**

## AT THE PROCESSION

*All stand*

## THE DISMISSAL

*Officiant* Alleluia, Alleluia. Let us go forth in the name of Christ.

*People* Thanks be to God. Alleluia, Alleluia.

## POSTLUDE

*Alleluia*

Charles B. Hansen

*If you are unable to make it to church and would like communion, please contact the church office.*

## ST. MARK'S INTERCESSORY PRAYER LIST

Diocesan Prayer: St. George's Episcopal Church in Lusk.

Anglican Cycle of Prayers: Church of Australia, Diocese of Dunedin (Aotearoa, New Zealand and Polynesia), Diocese of Dunkwa-on-Offin (West Africa), Diocese of Durgapur (North India), Diocese of Durham (England), Diocese of Dutse (Nigeria), and Diocese of East Kerala (South India).

## SCRIPTURES FOR NEXT WEEK

Acts 8:26-40

Psalm 22:24-30

1 John 4:7-21

John 15:1-8

Website for weekly scriptures: <http://www.lectionarypage.net>

## COMMEMORATIONS

April 21 Anselm, Archbishop of Canterbury, 1109

April 22 Hadewijch of Brabant, Poet and Mystic, thirteenth century

April 23 Toyohiko Kagawa, Social Reformer, 1960

April 27 Zita of Tuscany, Worker of Charity, 1271

## ALTAR FLOWER DEDICATIONS

The flowers on the altar are given to the glory of God and in prayer for Ryan and infant daughter Remedee, and in prayer for Brittany given by Mick and Margi Finnegan. You may sign up for a Sunday in the altar flower dedication book located in the rear of the church. More than one donor per Sunday is gratefully welcomed and due recognition given accordingly. Cost is \$70.00.

## **ST. MARK'S PARKING**

We are thankful to the Cheyenne family that allows us to use their parking lot west of the church on Sunday mornings. It's a parking lot that is leased by others throughout the week.

## **ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS**

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*My Shepherd, You Supply My Need*, North American traditional, Text: Issac Watts, 1674-1748, alt., based on Psalm 23, Music: North American traditional

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*St. Mark's*

Episcopal Church | The Way of Love

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**YouTube:** <https://www.youtube.com/@Stmarkscheyenne/streams>

**Facebook:** [www.facebook.com/stmarkscheyenne](http://www.facebook.com/stmarkscheyenne)

**9:30 a.m. Holy Eucharist**

**Children's Chapel/Sunday School & Nursery**

**Interim Rectors:** The Revs. Janet and Walt Seeley