



Fourth Sunday of Easter

♪ Hymn (217) ♪

The strife is o'er, the battle done;
now is the Victor's triumph won;
O let the song of praise be sung:
Alleluia!

Death's mightiest powers have done
their worst,
and Jesus hath His foes dispersed;
let shouts of praise and joy outburst:
Alleluia!

On the third morn He rose again
glorious in majesty to reign;
O let us swell the joyful strain:
Alleluia!

Lord, by the stripes which wounded
Thee
from death's dread sting Thy servants
free,
that we may live, and sing to Thee
Alleluia!

*Latin hymn (17th century) trans. Francis Pott
(1832-1909)*

♪ Hymn (CAHON 28) ♪

A man there lived in Galilee
like none who lived before,
for he alone from first to last
our flesh unblemished wore;
a perfect life of perfect deeds
once to the world was shown,
that people all might mark his steps
and in them plant their own.

A man there died on Calvary
above all others brave;
the human race he saved and blessed,
himself he scorned to save.
No thought can gauge the weight of
woe

on him, the sinless, laid;
we only know that with his blood
our ransom price was paid.

A man there reigns in glory now,
divine, yet human still;
that human which is all divine
death sought in vain to kill.
All pow'r is his; supreme he rules
the realms of time and space;
yet still our human cares and needs
find in his heart a place.

Somerset Corry Lowry (1855-1932)

♪ Hymn (219) ♪

This joyful Eastertide,
away with sin and sorrow.
My Love, the Crucified,
hath sprung to life this morrow:

*Had Christ, that once was slain,
ne'er burst His three-day prison,
our faith had been in vain:
but now hath Christ arisen,
arisen, arisen, arisen.*

My flesh in hope shall rest,
and for a season slumber:
till trump from east to west
shall wake the dead in number:

Death's flood hath lost its chill,
since Jesus crossed the river:
Lover of souls, from ill
my passing soul deliver:

George Ratcliffe Woodward (1848-1934)

♪ **Chant (CAHON 943)** ♪

○ - Surrexit Christus, Alleluia!
○ - Cantate Domino, Alleluia!
Christ arose, Alleluia!
Sing to the Lord, Alleluia!

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♪ **Hymn (748)** ♪

○ Jesus, I have promised
to serve Thee to the end;
be Thou for ever near me,
my Master and my Friend:
I shall not fear the battle
if Thou art by my side,
nor wander from the pathway
if Thou wilt be my guide.

○ let me feel Thee near me:
the world is ever near;
I see the sights that dazzle,
the tempting sounds I hear;
my foes are ever near me,
around me and within;
but, Jesus, draw Thou nearer,
and shield my soul from sin.

○ let me hear Thee speaking
in accents clear and still,
above the storms of passion,
the murmurs of self-will;
○ speak to reassure me,
to hasten or control;
○ speak, and make me listen,
Thou guardian of my soul.

○ Jesus, Thou hast promised
to all who follow Thee,
that where Thou art in glory
there shall Thy servant be;
and, Jesus, I have promised
to serve Thee to the end:
○ give me grace to follow,
my Master and my Friend.

○ let me see Thy foot-marks,
and in them plant mine own:
my hope to follow duly
is in Thy strength alone.
○ guide me, call me, draw me,
uphold me to the end;
and then in heaven receive me,
my Saviour and my Friend.

John Ernest Bode (1816-1874)

♪ **Hymn (297)** ♪

For all the saints who showed Your love
in how they lived and where they
moved,
for mindful women, caring men,
accept our gratitude again.

For all the saints who loved Your name,
whose faith increased the Saviour's
fame,
who sang Your songs and shared Your
word,
accept our gratitude, good Lord.

For all the saints who named Your will,
and saw Your kingdom coming still
through selfless protest, prayer, and
praise,
accept the gratitude we raise.

Bless all whose will or name or love
reflects the grace of heaven above.
Though unacclaimed by earthly powers,
Your life through theirs has hallowed
ours.

*John L. Bell (b. 1949) and Graham Maule
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First Reading

Acts 2. 42-end

They devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching and fellowship, to the breaking of bread and the prayers.

43 Awe came upon everyone, because many wonders and signs were being done by the apostles. 44 All who believed were together and had all things in common; 45 they would sell their possessions and goods and distribute the proceeds to all, as any had need. 46 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, 47 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.

Second Reading

1 Peter 2. 19-end

19 For it is to your credit if, being aware of God, you endure pain while suffering unjustly. 20 If you endure when you are beaten for doing wrong, where is the credit in that? But if you endure when you do right and suffer for it, you have God's approval. 21 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.

22 'He committed no sin, and no deceit was found in his mouth.'

23 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. 24 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.

25 For you were going astray like sheep, but now you have returned to the shepherd and guardian of your souls.

Gospel

John 10. 1-10

'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. 2 The one who enters by the gate is the shepherd of the sheep. 3 The gatekeeper opens the gate for him, and the sheep hear his voice. He calls his own sheep by name and leads them out. 4 When he has brought out all his own, he goes ahead of them, and the sheep follow him because they know his voice. 5 They will not follow a stranger, but they will run from him because they do not know the voice of strangers.' 6 Jesus used this figure of speech with them, but they did not understand what he was saying to them.

7 So again Jesus said to them, 'Very truly, I tell you, I am the gate for the sheep.

8 All who came before me are thieves and bandits; but the sheep did not listen to them. 9 I am the gate. Whoever enters by me will be saved, and will come in and go out and find pasture.

10 The thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy. I came that they may have life, and have it abundantly.

Collect

Almighty God,
whose Son Jesus Christ is the
resurrection and the life:
raise us, who trust in him,
from the death of sin to the life of
righteousness,
that we may seek those things which
are above,
where he reigns with you
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever.

Post Communion Prayer

Lord God our Father,
through our Saviour Jesus Christ
you have assured your children of
eternal life
and in baptism have made us one with
him:
deliver us from the death of sin
and raise us to new life in your love,
in the fellowship of the Holy Spirit,
by the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ.