



Good Shepherd Episcopal Church

The Fourth Sunday of Easter

April 26, 2026

Morning Prayer 10:30AM

The Book of Common Prayer pp. 75-102.

THE WORD OF GOD

PRELUDE

He's Got the Whole World In His Hand
by Hugh S. Livingston

ENTRANCE

Savior, Like a Shepherd Lead Us

H708

OPENING SENTENCES

BCP 75

Officiant:

“Alleluia! Christ is risen.”\

People:

The Lord is risen indeed. Alleluia.

CONFESSION OF SIN

BCP 79

Officiant: Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

**Officiant & People: Most merciful God,
we confess that we have sinned against you
in thought, word, and deed,
by what we have done,
and by what we have left undone.
We have not loved you with our whole heart;
we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves.
We are truly sorry and we humbly repent.
For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ,
have mercy on us and forgive us;
that we may delight in your will,
And walk in your ways,
to the glory of your Name. Amen.**

Kneeling

The Officiant remains kneeling and says

Almighty God have mercy on us, forgive us all our sins through our Lord Jesus Christ, strengthen us in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep us in eternal life. **Amen.**

THE INVITATORY AND PSALTER

All Stand

BCP 80

Officiant: O Lord, open our lips.

People: And our mouth shall proclaim your praise.

Officiant & People: 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.

Officiant: Alleluia. The Lord is risen indeed. Come let us adore him. Alleluia

JUBILATE (Officiant and People read responsively)
PSALM 100

BCP 82

Be joyful in the Lord, all ye 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.

PSALM 23

Dominus regit me

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.

THE FIRST LESSON ACTS 2:42-47

Reader: A Reading from the Book of Acts

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.

Reader: Hear what the Spirit is saying to God's people.

People: Thanks be to God.

CANTICLE 18 A SONG TO THE LAMB (*Officiant and People read responsively*)

Dignus es Revelation 4:11, 5:9-10, 13

BCP 93

Splendor and honor and kingly power *

are yours by right, O Lord our God,

For you created everything that is, *

and by your will they were created and have their being;

And yours by right, O Lamb that was slain, *

for with your blood you have redeemed for God,

From every family, language, people, and nation, *

a kingdom of priests to serve our God.

And so, to him who sits upon the throne, *

and to Christ the Lamb,

Be worship and praise, dominion and splendor, *

for ever and for ever more.

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 SECOND LESSON 1 PETER 2:19-25

Please be Seated

Reader: A reading from the First Letter of Peter

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.

Reader: Hear what the Spirit is saying to God's people.

People: Thanks be to God.

CANTICLE 19 (Officiant and People read responsively)

THE SONG OF THE REDEEMED

REVELATION 15:3-4

BCP 94

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 forever. Amen.

THE GOSPEL JOHN 10:1-10

Officiant/Reader: A Reading from the Gospel of John

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.”

Reader: Hear what the Spirit is saying to God’s people.

People: Thanks be to God.

THE APOSTLES’ CREED Officiant and People [Stand as able.] BCP 96

**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.**

OFFERTORY HYMN *Like A Shepherd by Bob Dufford* **G325**

DOXOLOGY **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.** **HYMNAL 380, v.3**

Officiant: The Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

Officiant: Let us pray.

THE LORD'S PRAYER

**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.**

SUFFRAGES A (Officiant and People) [Stand or kneel, as able.]

BCP 97

- V. Show us your mercy, O Lord;
R. And grant us your salvation.
V. Clothe your ministers with righteousness;
R. Let your people sing with joy.
V. Give peace, O Lord, in all the world;
R. For only in you can we live in safety.
V. Lord, keep this nation under your care;
R. And guide us in the way of justice and truth.
V. Let your way be known upon earth;
R. Your saving health among all nations.
V. Let not the needy, O Lord, be forgotten;
R. Nor the hope of the poor be taken away.
V. Create in us clean hearts, O God;
R. And sustain us with your Holy Spirit.

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 Sundays

O God, you make us glad with the weekly remembrance of the glorious resurrection of your Son our Lord: Give us this day such blessing through our worship of you, that the week to come may be spent in your favor, through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

A Collect for Grace

Lord God, Almighty and everlasting Father, you have brought us in safety to this new day: Preserve us with your mighty power, that we may not fall into sin, nor be overcome by adversity; and in all we do, direct us to the fulfilling of your purpose; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **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 Collect for Guidance

Heavenly Father, in you we live and move and have our being: We humbly pray you so to guide and govern us by your Holy Spirit, that in all the cares and occupations of our life we may not forget you, but may remember that we are ever walking in your sight; through 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.**

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

[Stand or kneel, as able.]

<https://www.trinitybeth.org/resources.html>

Officiant: Gathered in the care of the shepherd and guardian of our souls, let us pray to God who knows our every need saying: Alleluia! Hear our prayer!

For the Church: especially Sean our Presiding Bishop and Carlye, our bishop, that we may find our peace and security in Christ who leads us along the paths of life. **Alleluia! Hear our prayer.**

For this parish family, that we who are called by the Good Shepherd may have courage to follow and openness to welcome all others who hear the call. **Alleluia! Hear our prayer.**

For the leaders of the nations, that they may turn from threats of escalation and destruction and walk in the paths of wisdom and peace. **Alleluia! Hear our prayer.**

For all those who live daily in the shadows of fear, injustice and oppression, that they may come in and go out securely and find safe pasture. **Alleluia! Hear our prayer.**

For those who are hungry and unemployed, that God will lead them to the resources they need and open the hearts of many to assist them. **Alleluia! Hear our prayer.**

For all those who live with doubt and uncertainty, those who mourn, and the sick and the suffering, remembering especially **Jim, Belle, Andy, Jessica, Sarah, Michael, Virginia, Warren, Carol, Pat, Leslie, Joanie, Kathy, Kathryn, Joyce, Joanne, Caryl, Keith, Steve, Ron, Mark, Mary, Nadine, Helen, Archie, Anne** that they may find courage and healing in the face of Christ. **Alleluia! Hear our prayer.**

We pray for our friends in this week's cycle of prayer: **Aleta Schulien, Barbie and John Schulen. Bless them, O Holy One.**

Officiant: Blessed are you, O Lord our God, who soothes our head with oil and fills our cup with wine. Hear the prayers we offer for every need and revive us with your Holy Spirit. Glory to the holy and undivided Trinity, one God, now and always and unto the ages of ages. **AMEN.**

THE GENERAL THANKSGIVING (Officiant and People)

BCP 101

Officiant: Together, let us pray 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.**

Officiant: Let us bless the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

SENDING *The King of Love My Shepherd Is*

H645

POSTLUDE: *Fuga*
by P. Czetnohorsky

Good Shepherd Sunday



The Fourth Sunday of Easter

PARISH NOTES FOR THE WEEK OF APRIL 26, 2026

****Holy Eucharist Services are scheduled for May 3 and June 28 led by Rev. Mark Waldon.**

Sunday, April 26, 2026 @ 10:30AM

MORNING PRAYER

THE FOURTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

Maryan Witty, Worship Leader

Barbara Adams, Altar Guild

Shana Joy Grassi, Organist

Linda Janowitz, Charlie Heitzman, Counters

Sunday, May 3 @ 10:30AM

HOLY EUCHARIST

THE FIFTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

Rev. Mark Waldon, Presider

TBA Lay Reader and Acolyte

Barbie Schulien, Altar Guild

Shana Joy Grassi, Organist

TBA Counters

Food Pantry: Our next opportunity to staff and bring donations of food, hygiene items and paper goods to the Kiwanis Food Pantry in Montville is Saturday, May 16, 2026. Bins are in the parish hall to collect donated items.

Craft Group: The next “first Tuesday” meeting is on May 5 from 6:00PM to 8:00PM at the Lincoln Park Library. The next “third Wednesday” of the month meeting will be on May 20 from 1:00PM to 3:00PM. at the Lincoln Park Library.

Office Hours:

Tuesday, April 29: 1:30PM to 5:30PM

Thursday, May 1: 9:30AM to 5:30PM

Saturday, April 4: No office hours