



# *St. Peter's Episcopal Church*

*A Faith Community Offering Hospitality, Hope and Healing*

[www.stpeters-smyrna.org](http://www.stpeters-smyrna.org)

**Sunday, April 25, 2021 – 10:30 A.M.**

## **Announcements**

**Reminder: Sunday, May 1<sup>st</sup>** is the deadline to turn in the Flags for Hero's forms with money to the Church Office. Thank you to those who have already done so.

**Wednesday Healing Service** has started back up at 10:00AM in the Sanctuary. Safety protocols for COVID-19 will be followed. Advanced sign-up not required.

The "Spire Newsletter" will once again be coming out monthly to your email. I will mail out to those of you who do not have an email address as long as you let me know. Also, if you have information you would like added in, please feel free to email it to me and I will try my best to get it in.

Harvest Sharing (Outreach) Opportunity: In April, St. Peter's has been collecting food and/or monetary donations (checks need to be made out to St. Peter's Church with "Food Pantry" in the memo line) for the Smyrna/Clayton Food Pantry. Food or Funds can be dropped off at St. Peter's during Sunday Services or during Office Hours. To give online, click [HERE](#). **In the Fund box, scroll down to bottom to select **OUTREACH** and then in Memo line type *Food Pantry*.**

**COVID-19 Updates:** All Delawareans 16+ are now eligible.

\*Though you are eligible now, it may still take a few weeks to make a vaccination appointments.

\* Persons 16 & 17 years old are only eligible to receive the Pfizer vaccine – check the vaccine being offered at each site closely.

\* If you need an accommodation because of a disability, contact the DPH Vaccine Call Center at 1-833-643-1715 (select option 3), or email [vaccine@delaware.gov](mailto:vaccine@delaware.gov). The Call Center may also connect you to the DHSS Aging and Disability Resource Center.

For more answers go to [www.Delaware.gov](http://www.Delaware.gov) where there is plenty of COVID information.

The Episcopal Church in Delaware has a [COVID-19 response page](#) that can be found by following this link: <https://delaware.church/covid-19-response/>.

Our Church Office is open by Appointment. Please call the office (302-653-9691) Monday through Thursday from 8:30AM to 12:30PM or contact Mo. Donna Jean (302-670-3800). Please do not hesitate to call if you need something.



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## Fourth Sunday of Easter The Holy Eucharist Rite Two – (EOW3) Sunday, April 25, 2021

**PRELUDE:** *He Shall Feed His Flock Like A Shepherd* (From \*Messiah) By: G. F. Handel

### The Word of God

#### ENTRANCE HYMN *Morning has broken (Bunessan)*

*Unison or harmony*

1 Morn-ing has bro - ken like the first morn - ing,  
2 Sweet the rain's new fall sun - lit from hea - ven,  
3 Mine is the sun - light! Mine is the morn - ing

black-bird has spo - ken like the first bird. \_\_\_\_\_  
like the first dew - fall on the first grass. \_\_\_\_\_  
born of the one light E - den saw play! \_\_\_\_\_

Praise for the sing - ing! Praise for the morn - ing!  
Praise for the sweet - ness of the wet gar - den,  
Praise with e - la - tion, praise ev - ery morn - ing,

Praise for them, spring - ing fresh from the Word! \_\_\_\_\_  
 sprung in com - plete - ness where his feet pass. \_\_\_\_\_  
 God's re - cre - a - tion of the new day! \_\_\_\_\_

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

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

**Glory to God in the highest, and peace to his people on earth.  
 Lord God, heavenly King, almighty God and Father,  
 we worship you, we give you thanks, we praise you for your glory.  
 Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father, Lord God, Lamb of God,  
 you take away the sin of the world: have mercy on us;  
 you are seated at the right hand of the Father: receive our prayer.  
 For you alone are the Holy One, you alone are the Lord,  
 you alone are the Most High, Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit,  
 in the glory of God the Father. Amen.**

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

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.**

## **The Lessons**

### **FIRST READING: Acts 4:5-12**

A Reading from the Acts of the Apostles.

<sup>5</sup>The rulers, elders, and scribes assembled in Jerusalem, <sup>6</sup>with Annas the high priest, Caiaphas, John, and Alexander, and all who were of the high-priestly family. <sup>7</sup>When they had made the prisoners stand in their midst, they inquired, "By what power or by what name did you do this?" <sup>8</sup>Then Peter, filled with the Holy Spirit, said to them, "Rulers of the people and elders, <sup>9</sup>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, <sup>10</sup>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. <sup>11</sup>This Jesus is ‘the stone that was rejected by you, the builders; it has become the cornerstone.’<sup>12</sup>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: Psalm 23**

<sup>1</sup>The LORD is my shepherd; \*  
I shall not be in want.

<sup>2</sup>He makes me lie down in green pastures \*  
and leads me beside still waters.

<sup>3</sup>He revives my soul \*  
and guides me along right pathways for his Name’s sake.

<sup>4</sup>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.

<sup>5</sup>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.

<sup>6</sup>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.

### **SECOND READING: 1 John 3:16-24**

A Reading from the First letter of John.

<sup>16</sup>We know love by this, that he laid down his life for us—and we ought to lay down our lives for one another. <sup>17</sup>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? <sup>18</sup>Little children, let us love, not in word or speech, but in truth and action. <sup>19</sup>And by this we will know that we are from the truth and will reassure our hearts before him <sup>20</sup>whenever our hearts condemn us; for God is greater than our hearts, and he knows everything. <sup>21</sup>Beloved, if our hearts do not condemn us, we have boldness before God; <sup>22</sup>and we receive from him whatever we ask, because we obey his commandments and do what pleases him. <sup>23</sup>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. <sup>24</sup>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.**

**SEQUENCE HYMN** *Shepherd of souls, refresh and bless (St. Agnes)*

1 Shep - herd of souls, re - fresh and bless thy cho - sen  
 2 We would not live by bread a - lone, but by thy  
 3 Be known to us in break - ing bread, and do not  
 4 Lord, sup with us in love di - vine thy Bo - dy

pil - grim flock with man - na in the  
 word of grace, in strength of which we  
 then de - part; Sa - vior, a - bide with  
 and thy Blood, that liv - ing bread, that

wil - der - ness, with wa - ter from the rock.  
 trav - el on to our a - bid - ing - place.  
 us, and spread thy ta - ble in our heart.  
 heaven - ly wine, be our im - mor - tal food.

**GOSPEL: John 10:11-18**

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

*People* **Glory to you, Lord Christ.**

[Jesus said,] <sup>11</sup>“I am the good shepherd. The good shepherd lays down his life for the sheep. <sup>12</sup>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. <sup>13</sup>The hired hand runs away because a hired hand does not care for the sheep. <sup>14</sup>I am the good shepherd. I know my own and my own know me, <sup>15</sup>just as the Father knows me and I know the Father. And I lay down my life for the sheep. <sup>16</sup>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. <sup>17</sup>For this reason the Father loves me, because I lay down my life in order to take it up again. <sup>18</sup>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 to you, Lord Christ.**

## **THE SERMON**

### **THE CREED**

**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 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**

Lead your church into the way of love. Teach us to hear and follow your voice and your vision for the world. Tender Shepherd,

*call us each by name and lead us home.*

Guide those around the world who make decisions that impact the lives of individuals and nations. Tender Shepherd,

*precede us all in the ways of justice and peace.*

Lighten the burden of those suffering loss, illness, and anxiety, those whom we know and love and those who are unknown to us. Tender Shepherd,

*comfort them and shower them with your healing grace.*

We pray for those who have died. Carry those who have finished their earthly journey into the next life and gently place them in God's eternal embrace. Tender Shepherd, *call us each by name and lead us home.*

## CONFESSION OF SIN

Let us confess our sins to God.

**God of all mercy, we confess that we have sinned against you, opposing your will in our lives. We have denied your goodness in each other, in ourselves, and in the world you have created. We repent of the evil that enslaves us, the evil we have done, and the evil done on our behalf. Forgive, restore, and strengthen us through our Savior Jesus Christ, that we may abide in your love and serve only your will. Amen.**

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

## THE PEACE

*Celebrant*        The peace of the Lord be always with you.  
*People*            **And also with you.**

## The Holy Communion

Walk in love, as Christ loved us and gave himself for us, an offering and sacrifice to God.  
*Ephesians 5:2*

### *All things come of thee, O Lord...*

The Vestry of St. Peter's, wishes to thank all who are able to maintain their pledges and gifts to the Church during these challenging times. Offerings may be mailed to the Church office or made online using the information included:

To financial contribute to our ministry, click on <https://onrealm.org/StPetersSmyrna/Give> to give online *OR* text **RISENCHRIST \$amount** (ex: RISENCHRIST \$30) to **73256** to give by phone. *Thank you in advance for your generosity!*

*Celebrant:*        All things come of thee, O Lord  
*People:*            **And of Thine Own have we given Thee**

**ANTHEM:** *The Twenty-Third Psalm*        Traditional English Melody Arr. by Jay Althouse

*Celebrant*        The Lord be with you.  
*People*            **And also with you.**

*Celebrant*        Lift up your hearts.  
*People*            **We lift them to the Lord.**

*Celebrant* Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.  
*People* **It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

*Celebrant* It is truly right, and good and joyful, to give you thanks, all-holy God, source of life and fountain of mercy.

But chiefly are we bound to praise you for the glorious resurrection of your Son Jesus Christ our Lord; for he is the true Paschal Lamb, who was sacrificed for us, and has taken away the sin of the world. By his death he has destroyed death, and by his rising to life again he has won for us everlasting life.

Therefore, joining with Angels and Archangels and with the faithful of every generation, we lift our voices with all creation as we sing (say):

**Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,  
heaven and earth are full of your glory.**

**Hosanna in the highest.**

**Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord.**

**Hosanna in the highest.**

Blessed are you, gracious God, creator of the universe and giver of life. You formed us in your own image and called us to dwell in your infinite love. You gave the world into our care that we might be your faithful stewards and show forth your bountiful grace. But we failed to honor your image in one another and in ourselves; we would not see your goodness in the world around us; and so we violated your creation, abused one another, and rejected your love. Yet you never ceased to care for us, and prepared the way of salvation for all people.

Through Abraham and Sarah you called us into covenant with you. You delivered us from slavery, sustained us in the wilderness, and raised up prophets to renew your promise of salvation. Then, in the fullness of time, you sent your eternal Word, made mortal flesh in Jesus. Born into the human family, and dwelling among us, he revealed your glory. Giving himself freely to death on the cross, he triumphed over evil, opening the way of freedom and life.

On the night before he died for us, Our Savior Jesus Christ took bread, and when he had given thanks to you, he broke it, and gave it to his friends, and said: "Take, eat: This is my Body which is given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me." As supper was ending, Jesus took the cup of wine, and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, and said: "Drink this, all of you: This is my Blood of the new Covenant, which is poured out for you and for all for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me."

Therefore we proclaim the mystery of faith:

**Christ has died.**

**Christ is risen.**

**Christ will come again.**

Remembering his death and resurrection, we now present to you from your creation this bread and this wine. By your Holy Spirit may they be for us the Body and Blood of our Savior Jesus Christ.

Grant that we who share these gifts may be filled with the Holy Spirit and live as Christ's Body in the world.

Bring us into the everlasting heritage of your daughters and sons, that with [\_\_\_\_\_ and] all your saints, past, present, and yet to come, we may praise your Name for ever.

Through Christ and with Christ and in Christ, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, to you be honor, glory, and praise, for ever and ever. **AMEN**

As our Savior Christ has taught us, we now 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 forever. Amen.**

Jesus, Lamb of God:	<b>have mercy on us.</b>
Jesus, bearer of our sins:	<b>have mercy on us.</b>
Jesus, redeemer of the world:	<b>give us your peace.</b>

The Gifts of God for the People of God.

*A spiritual communion is a personal devotional that anyone can pray at any time to express their desire to receive Holy Communion at that moment, but in which circumstances impede them from actually receiving Holy Communion. **If you are watching by video, please say the following prayer:***

**My Jesus, I believe that you are truly present in the Blessed Sacrament of the Altar. I love you above all things, and long for you in my soul. Since I cannot receive you in the Sacrament of your Body and Blood, come spiritually into my heart. Cleanse and strengthen me with your grace, Lord Jesus, and let me never be separated from you. May I live in you, and you in me, in this life and in the life to come. Amen.**

The Body (Blood) of our Lord Jesus Christ keep you in everlasting life. [**Amen.**]

**COMMUNION HYMN** *I come with joy to meet my Lord (Land of Rest)*

*Unison or harmony*

1 I come with joy to meet my Lord, for -  
 2 I come with Chris - tians far and near to -  
 3 As Christ breaks bread and bids us share, each  
 4 And thus with joy we meet our Lord. His  
 5 To - geth - er met, to - geth - er bound, we'll

1 giv - en, loved, and free, in awe and won - der  
 2 find, as all are fed, the new com - mu - ni -  
 3 proud di - vi - sion ends. That love that made us  
 4 pres - ence, al - ways near, is in such friend - ship  
 5 go our dif - ferent ways, and as his peo - ple

1 to re - call his life laid down for me.  
 2 ty of love in Christ's com - mun - ion bread.  
 3 makes us one, and stran - gers now are friends.  
 4 bet - ter known: we see, and praise him here.  
 5 in the world, we'll live and speak his praise.

Let us pray.

**God of abundance, you have fed us with the bread of life and cup of salvation; you have united us with Christ and one another; and you have made us one with all your people in heaven and on earth. Now send us forth in the power of your Spirit, that we may proclaim your redeeming love to the world and continue for ever in the risen life of Christ our Savior. Amen.**

The Wisdom of God, the Love of God, and the Grace of God strengthen you to be Christ's hands and heart in this world; and the blessing of God Almighty: the Father, and the Son, and the Holy Spirit be upon you this day and remain among you forever. *Amen.*

**RECESSIONAL HYMN *The King of love my shepherd is (St. Columba)***



1 The King of love my shep-herd is, whose good-ness  
 2 Where streams of liv-ing wa-ter flow, my ran-somed  
 \* 3 Per-verse and fool-ish oft I strayed, but yet in  
 \* 4 In death's dark vale I fear no ill with thee, dear  
 5 Thou spread'st a ta-ble in my sight; thy unc-tion  
 6 And so through all the length of days thy good-ness



1 fail-eth nev-er; I noth-ing lack if  
 2 soul he lead-eth, and where the ver-dant  
 3 love he sought me, and on his shoul-der  
 4 Lord, be-side me; thy rod and staff my  
 5 grace be-stow-eth; and oh, what trans-port  
 6 fail-eth nev-er: Good Shep-herd, may I



1 I am his, and he is mine for ev-er.  
 2 pas-tures grow, with food ce-less-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 sing thy praise with-in thy house for ev-er.

**DISMISSAL**

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

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

**POSTLUDE: Adagio** By: Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart

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Hymns: *Morning has broken:* Words, Music in the Public Domain. *Shepherd of souls, refresh and bless:* Words, Music in the Public Domain). *I come with joy to meet my Lord:* Words: Brian A. Wren (b. 1936), alt. Copyright © 1971 by Hope Publishing Co. All Rights Reserved. Used by Permission, Music: *Land of Rest,* American fold melody; adapt. And harm. Annabel Morris Buchanan (1889-1983). *The King of love my shepherd is:* Words, Music: in the Public Domain. Subscriptions: riteplanning.com #SB157752, expires 3/31/2022 and ONE LICENSE Annual License with Podcasting #A-736373, expires 8/26/2021. All rights reserved.

**Participants**

Celebrant: The Rev. Donna Jean Kiessling, Rector

Music Minister: Bonnie Forgacs

Choir: Dawn Arnold

Reader: Paul Buckley

**Thank you** for worshipping virtually with *St. Peter's Episcopal Church* in Smyrna, Delaware this morning! Your presence and participation are important to us.

The video of this service will be posted to our Facebook page at **St. Peters Smyrna** as well as on the homepage of our website: [www.stpeters-smyrna.org](http://www.stpeters-smyrna.org).

**Stewardship Reflection:** Easter 4 Hired hand or shepherd? Jesus says the hired hand runs away because he does not really care for the sheep. The shepherd, on the other hand, will lay down his own life for his flock. Do we run away from service to others, or are we willing to give of our own lives in the name of the God who loves us, and gave His all for us?

### **Prayers for this Week**

All Members and Friends who have asked for our prayers

*Diocesan Cycle of Prayer:* St. Martin's in the Field Church, Selbyville

*Anglican Cycle of Prayer:* The Anglican Church of Canada

*Smyrna/Clayton Ministerium Cycle of Prayer:* St. Polycarp's Church

*Parish Cycle of Prayer:* Bonnie Forgacs  
Allison & Tom Gallo

*Welfare of the World:* Healing for all those infected with the Coronavirus; Consolation for Loved Ones of those who have Died during this pandemic; For the efficient and widespread distribution of the vaccines and medication to help those who are ill; and ALL medical staff and First Responders.

### **Aumbry Candle**

Given to the Glory of God