

**A Service of Song, Scripture, Prayer, and Promise**  
Fourth Sunday in Easter May 8, 2022

**Welcome Friends!**



**Opening Hymn** *The King of Love My Shepherd Is*

H675

**Acclamation**

Alleluia, Christ is Risen.

**The Lord is Risen Indeed, Alleluia.**

**Opening Collect**

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.*

**Scripture**

A reading from the Acts of the Apostles.

**Acts 9:36-43**

Now in Joppa there was a disciple whose name was Tabitha, which in Greek is Dorcas. She was devoted to good works and acts of charity. At that time she became ill and died. When they had washed her, they laid her in a room upstairs. Since Lydda was near Joppa, the disciples, who heard that Peter was there, sent two men to him with the request, "Please come to us without delay." So Peter got up and went with them; and when he arrived, they took him to the room upstairs. All the widows stood beside him, weeping and showing tunics and other clothing that Dorcas had made while she was with them. Peter put all of them outside, and then he knelt down and prayed. He turned to the body and said, "Tabitha, get up." Then she opened her eyes, and seeing Peter, she sat up. He gave her his hand and helped her up. Then calling the saints and widows, he showed her to be alive. This became known throughout Joppa, and many believed in the Lord. Meanwhile he stayed in Joppa for some time with a certain Simon, a tanner. Hear what the Spirit is saying to the people.

**Thanks be to God.**

## **Psalm 23**

### *Dominus regit me*

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.**

A Reading from Revelation.

***Revelation 7:9-17***

I looked, and there was a great multitude that no one could count, from every nation, from all tribes and peoples and languages, standing before the throne and before the Lamb, robed in white, with palm branches in their hands. They cried out in a loud voice, saying,

“Salvation belongs to our God who is seated on the throne, and to the Lamb!”

And all the angels stood around the throne and around the elders and the four living creatures, and they fell on their faces before the throne and worshiped God, singing,

“Amen! Blessing and glory and wisdom  
and thanksgiving and honor  
and power and might  
be to our God forever and ever!  
Amen.”

Then one of the elders addressed me, saying, "Who are these, robed in white, and where have they come from?" I said to him, "Sir, you are the one that knows." Then he said to me, "These are they who have come out of the great ordeal; they have washed their robes and made them white in the blood of the Lamb.

For this reason they are before the throne of God,  
and worship him day and night within his temple,  
and the one who is seated on the throne will shelter them.  
They will hunger no more, and thirst no more;  
the sun will not strike them,  
nor any scorching heat;  
for the Lamb at the center of the throne will be their shepherd,  
and he will guide them to springs of the water of life,  
and God will wipe away every tear from their eyes."

Hear what the Spirit is saying to the People  
**Thanks be to God.**

**Gradual Hymn**     *Shepherd of souls, refresh and bless*     **H343**

## **Gospel**

A Reading from John.

### ***John 10:22-30***

*At that time the festival of the Dedication took place in Jerusalem. It was winter, and Jesus was walking in the temple, in the portico of Solomon. So the Jews gathered around him and said to him, "How long will you keep us in suspense? If you are the Messiah, tell us plainly." Jesus answered, "I have told you, and you do not believe. The works that I do in my Father's name testify to me; but you do not believe, because you do not belong to my sheep. My sheep hear my voice. I know them, and they follow me. I give them eternal life, and they will never perish. No one will snatch them out of my hand. What my Father has given me is greater than all else, and no one can snatch it out of the Father's hand. The Father and I are one."The Gospel of the Lord.*

Hear what the Spirit is saying to the People

**Thanks be to God.**

## **Homily**

### **Prayers of the People**

*Intercessor:* Precious Savior, in whose resurrection we find abundant hope, look down upon our troubled world with loving eyes. Teach us to love you with all our hearts, souls, strength, and minds and to love one another as ourselves. Remind us that in love, death shall have no dominion.

People: **In Christ, we pray.**

Precious Savior, in whose resurrection we find abundant hope, help your church to be your daily presence in the world — healing, feeding, sheltering, and caring for all of creation. Guide our clergy to act boldly in love and to teach peace. Help your universal church to put aside our differences to do your work of love. For in that love, death shall have no dominion.

People: **In Christ, we pray.**

Precious Savior, in whose resurrection we find abundant hope, help our great nation and its leaders to heal its wounds of hatred, fear, and inequality. Teach us to trade prejudice for empathy, self-interest for generosity, hatred for love, for in that love, death shall have no dominion.

People: **In Christ, we pray.**

Precious Savior, in whose resurrection we find abundant hope, teach us to act as good Samaritans in your world and to see your face in every person we meet. Give us the courage to cross the road, to bind the other's wounds, and to show love and compassion to all those we encounter along the way. For in that love, death shall have no dominion.

People: **In Christ, we pray.**

Precious Savior, in whose resurrection we find abundant hope, help us to perceive the natural world as the great mother she is. Help us to discover your exquisite presence in every living thing and in the whole of creation. Teach us to love and protect Mother Nature by our words and actions. For in that love, death shall have no dominion.

People: **In Christ, we pray.**

Precious Savior, enfold the sick and suffering with your presence and give strength and consolation to their caregivers and all who hold them precious. Give peace to the departed who rest in you, and consolation to their family and friends. Love them all, Lord, for in your love, death shall have no dominion.

People: **In Christ, we pray.**

Celebrant: Precious Savior, we celebrate your resurrected presence in our lives. In your love, death has no dominion. **Amen.**

Adapted from: <http://orcaspiscopal.org/2015/04/05/prayers-of-the-people-easter-april-5/>

### **Closing prayer**

God, maker of marvels,

You weave the planet and all its creatures together in kinship

Your unifying love is revealed in the interdependence of relationships

in the complex world that you have made.  
Save us from the illusion that humankind is separate and alone,  
and join us in communion with all inhabitants of the universe  
through Jesus Christ, our risen Lord and our Redeemer,  
who topples the walls that divide us from one another and from all creation by the  
power of the Holy Spirit,  
and who lives and reigns with you, forever and ever. **Amen.**

**Blessing**

**Closing Hymn**     *The Strife is O'er*

**H208**

**Postlude**     *The Strife is O'er*

Wilber Held

