

4TH SUNDAY OF EASTER



OPENING RESPONSES

We meet in the name of God:

God the Father,

God the Son,

God the Spirit:

God is one.



CALM ME LORD



CONFESSION

Our Lord Jesus Christ said:

The first commandment is this:

‘Hear, O Israel, the Lord our God is the only Lord.

You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart,

with all your soul, with all your mind,

and with all your strength.’

The second is this: ‘Love your neighbour as yourself.’

There is no other commandment greater than these.

On these two commandments hang all the law and the prophets.

Amen. Lord, have mercy.

In baptism we died with Christ,
so that as Christ was raised from the dead,
we might walk in newness of life.

Let us receive new life in him
as we confess our sins in penitence and faith.

**Most merciful God,
Father of our Lord Jesus Christ,
we confess that we have sinned
in thought, word and deed.
We have not loved you with our whole heart.
We have not loved our neighbours as ourselves.
In your mercy
forgive what we have been,
help us to amend what we are,
and direct what we shall be;
that we may do justly,
love mercy,
and walk humbly with you, our God.
Amen.**

May the God of love and power
forgive *you* and free *you* from *your* sins,
heal and strengthen *you* by his Spirit,
and raise *you* to new life in Christ our Lord.

Amen



Risen Christ,
faithful shepherd of your Father's sheep:
teach us to hear your voice
and to follow your command,
that all your people may be gathered into one flock,
to the glory of God the Father.

Amen



 GOSPEL READING**John 10:1-10**

Jesus said to the Pharisees: ¹‘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. ²The one who enters by the gate is the shepherd of the sheep. ³The gatekeeper opens the gate for him, and the sheep hear his voice. He calls his own sheep by name and leads them out. ⁴When he has brought out all his own, he goes ahead of them, and the sheep follow him because they know his voice. ⁵They will not follow a stranger, but they will run from him because they do not know the voice of strangers.’ ⁶Jesus used this figure of speech with them, but they did not understand what he was saying to them.

⁷So again Jesus said to them, ‘Very truly, I tell you, I am the gate for the sheep. ⁸All who came before me are thieves and bandits; but the sheep did not listen to them. ⁹I am the gate. Whoever enters by me will be saved, and will come in and go out and find pasture. ¹⁰The thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy. I came that they may have life, and have it abundantly.’

 REFLECTION MAKE ME A CHANNEL OF YOUR PEACE



DECLARING OUR FAITH

Let us declare our faith
in the resurrection of our Lord Jesus Christ.
**Christ died for our sins
in accordance with the Scriptures;
he was buried;
he was raised to life on the third day
in accordance with the Scriptures;
afterwards he appeared to his followers,
and to all the apostles:
this we have received,
and this we believe.
Amen.**



A TIME OF PRAYER



THE LORD'S PRAYER

Rejoicing in God's new creation
let us pray with confidence as our Saviour has taught us
**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,
the power, and the glory
for ever and ever. Amen.**

 WEEKLY CHALLENGE

Friday is VE Day 75 – celebrating 75 years since Victory in Europe Day during the Second World War. The country is being encouraged to join in the celebrations at home. Send us your pictures of the celebrations whether its homemade bunting, a front garden street party, or for the older ones, photos of you on VE Day 75 years ago.

 WE HAVE A GOSPEL TO PROCLAIM THE CONCLUSION

To a troubled world
peace from Christ.

To a searching world
love from Christ.

To a waiting world
hope from Christ.

Christ the good shepherd,
who laid down his life for the sheep,
draw you and all who hear his voice
to be one flock within one fold;
and the blessing of God almighty,
the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit,
be among you and remain with you always.
Amen.