



EGLWYS GADEIRIOL
ABERHONDDU
BRECON CATHEDRAL

21 APRIL 2024

THE FOURTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

COLLECT OF THE DAY

Let us pray:

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. Amen.

A reading from the Acts of the Apostles.

4. 5-12

The next day their rulers, elders, and scribes assembled in Jerusalem, with Annas the high priest, Caiaphas, John, and Alexander, and all who were of the high-priestly family. When they had made the prisoners stand in their midst, they inquired, 'By what power or by what name did you do this?' Then Peter, filled with the Holy Spirit, said to them, 'Rulers of the people and elders, 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, 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. This Jesus is "the stone that was rejected by you, the builders; it has become the cornerstone." There is salvation in no one else, for there is no other name under heaven given among mortals by which we must be saved.'

For the word of the Lord: **Thanks be to God.**

PSALM 23

The Lord is my shepherd :
therefore can I lack nothing.

**He makes me lie down in green pastures :
and leads me beside still waters.**

He shall refresh my soul :
and guide me in the paths of righteousness for his name's sake.

**Though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will 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 shall be full.

**Surely goodness and loving mercy shall follow me all the days of my life :
and I will dwell in the house of the Lord for ever.**

SECOND READING

A reading from first letter of St John.

3. 16-24

We know love by this, that he laid down his life for us - and we ought to lay down our lives for one another. 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?

Little children, let us love, not in word or speech, but in truth and action. And by this we will know that we are from the truth and will reassure our hearts before him whenever our hearts condemn us; for God is greater than our hearts, and he knows everything. Beloved, if our hearts do not condemn us, we have boldness before God; and we receive from him whatever we ask, because we obey his commandments and do what pleases him.

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. 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.

For the word of the Lord: **Thanks be to God.**

THE HOLY GOSPEL

✠Hear the Holy Gospel according to St John.

Glory be to thee, O Lord.

I am the good shepherd. The good shepherd lays down his life for the sheep. 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. The hired hand runs away because a hired hand does not care for the sheep. I am the good shepherd. I know my own and my own know me, just as the Father knows me and I know the Father. And I lay down my life for the sheep. 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. For this reason the Father loves me, because I lay down my life in order to take it up again. 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.' *10. 11-18*

This is the Gospel of the Lord:

Praise be to thee, O Christ.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Merciful Father, you gave your Son Jesus Christ to be the good shepherd, and in his love for us to lay down his life and rise again: keep us always under his protection, and give us grace to follow in his steps; through Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen.

VISION

We aspire to be

*"... citizens with the saints and also members of the household of God, built upon the foundation of the apostles and prophets, with Christ Jesus himself as the cornerstone."
Ephesians 2:19-20*

The Cathedral Church of St John the Evangelist seeks to be an inclusive, faithful, and holy community rooted in the active love of God, his creation, and our neighbours through prayer, fellowship, and service.

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FOR PEACE IN THE HOLY LAND

PSALM 122. 6 - 9

O pray for the peace of Jerusalem:

'May they prosper who love you.

'Peace be within your walls
and tranquillity within your palaces.'

For my kindred and companions' sake,
I will pray that peace be with you.

For the sake of the house of the Lord our God,
I will seek to do you good.

A PRAYER FOR UKRAINE

God of Compassion, we pray for Ukraine at this time. Hear the cries of the refugees, bring healing to those suffering from the violence, and bring comfort to those mourning the dead. Strengthen their neighbours in their care and welcome of refugees. Convert the hearts of those who have taken up arms in aggression, and protect those committed to peace. We ask this through Jesus Christ, the Prince of Peace and the Light of the World, who is Lord for ever and ever. **Amen.**

