Mattins for the Fourth Sunday of Easter

Adapted from Common Worship

3 May 2020

O Lord, open our lips
All and our mouth shall proclaim your praise.

In your resurrection, O Christ,
All let heaven and earth rejoice. Alleluia.

Blessed are you, Lord God of our salvation,
to you be praise and glory for ever.
As once you ransomed your people from Egypt
and led them to freedom in the promised land,
so now you have delivered us from the dominion of darkness
and brought us into the kingdom of your risen Son.
May we, the first fruits of your new creation,
rejoice in this new day you have made,
and praise you for your mighty acts.
Blessed be God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit.
All Blessed be God forever.
Love's redeeming work is done; 
fought the fight, the battle won: 
lo, our Sun's eclipse is o'er, 
lo, he sets in blood no more.

Vain the stone, the watch, the seal; 
Christ has burst the gates of hell; 
death in vain forbids his rise; 
Christ has opened paradise.

Lives again our glorious King; 
where, O death, is now thy sting? 
dying once, he all doth save; 
where thy victory, O grave?

Soar we now where Christ has led, 
following our exalted Head; 
made like him, like him we rise; 
ours the cross, the grave, the skies.

Hail the Lord of earth and heaven! 
Praise to thee by both be given: 
thee we greet triumphant now; 
hail, the Resurrection Thou!

Charles Wesley (1707-88)
Tune SAVANNAH (John Wesley's Foundery Collection, 1742)
The Psalm
Psalm 23

1 The Lord is my shepherd; therefore can I lack nothing.

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

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

4 **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.**

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 shall be full.

6 **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.

---

The Lesson
John 10.1–10

‘**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.'
Death is swallowed up in victory.

All Where, O death, is your sting?
Christ is risen from the dead, the first fruits of those who have fallen asleep.

All Death is swallowed up in victory.
The trumpet will sound and the dead shall be raised.

All Where, O death, is your sting?
We shall not all sleep, but we shall be changed.

All Death is swallowed up in victory.
Where, O death, is your sting?

from 1 Corinthians 15

All Christ Jesus was in the form of God, •
but he did not cling to equality with God.

He emptied himself, taking the form of a servant, •
and was born in our human likeness.

Being found in human form he humbled himself, •
and became obedient unto death, even death on a cross.

Therefore God has highly exalted him, •
and bestowed on him the name above every name,

That at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, •
in heaven and on earth and under the earth;

And every tongue confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, •
to the glory of God the Father.

Philippians 2:5-11
Glory to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit; as it was in the beginning is now and shall be for ever. Amen.

The Prayers

Each intercession concludes with
Lord, in your mercy
All hear our prayer.

The Collect

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.
All Amen.

The Lord’s Prayer

Standing at the foot of the cross, as our Saviour taught us, so we pray
All 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.

Loving Shepherd of thy sheep,
keep thy lamb, in safety keep;
nothing can thy power withstand,
none can pluck me from thy hand.

Loving Saviour, thou didst give
thine own life that we might live,
and the hands outstretched to bless
bear the cruel nails' impress.

I would praise thee every day,
gladly all thy will obey,
like thy blessèd ones above
happy in thy precious love.

Loving Shepherd, ever near,
teach thy lamb thy voice to hear;
suffer not my steps to stray
from the straight and narrow way.

Where thou leadest I would go,
walking in thy steps below,
till before my Father's throne
I shall know as I am known.

Jane E. Leeson (1809-81)
Tune BUCKLAND L. G. Hayne (1836-83)

The Blessing and Peace

God, who through the resurrection of our Lord Jesus Christ has given us the
victory, give you joy and peace in your faith; and the blessing of God almighty, the
Father; the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be among you and remain with you always.

All Amen.

Let us bless the Lord. Alleluia, alleluia.

All Thanks be to God. Alleluia, alleluia.

The peace of the Lord be always with you
All and also with you.

We share with one another Christ’s peace, which transcends all distance. You might wish to use the heart emoji on your screen to type ‘peace’ in the comments.

After our service, please join us for a Zoom coffee hour!
https://us02web.zoom.us/j/91808611088
Password: 1205
Meeting ID: 918 0861 1088