

Fourth Sunday of Easter, Year B

Color: White

Scriptures: [Scripture linked to NRSV at Oremus Bible Browser]

[*Acts 4:5-12](#) (*Salvation by the name of Jesus: the cornerstone*)

[Psalm 23](#) (*The Lord is my shepherd*)

[1 John 3:16-24](#) (*Loving in truth and action*)

[John 10:11-18](#) (*The good shepherd who is willing to die for the sheep*)

**During Eastertide a reading from Acts is substituted for the lesson from the Hebrew Bible*

Themes: Cornerstone, Shepherd, Christian Love, Great Commandment, Sacrifice

HYMN SUGGESTIONS

Hymn Suggestions link to Hymnary.org, a searchable resource with a wealth of information. The tunes listed here are the ones most commonly associated with the texts, and the biblical/thematic references suggest the hymn's association with the scriptures or themes of this service

All the Way My Savior Leads Me (<i>ALL THE WAY</i>).....	Psalms, John
Blessed Be the Name (<i>BLESSED NAME</i>).....	Acts, 1 John, John
Christ Is Made the Sure Foundation (<i>EDEN CHURCH; REGENT SQUARE; WESTMINSTER ABBEY</i>)	Acts
He Leadeth Me, O Blessed Thought (<i>HE LEADETH ME</i>).....	Psalms, John
How Sweet the Name of Jesus Sounds (<i>DOVE OF PEACE; ST. PETER</i>).....	Acts, John
The King of Love My Shepherd Is (<i>DOMINUS REGIT ME; ST. COLUMBA</i>).....	Psalms, John
The Lord's My Shepherd, I'll Not Want (<i>CRIMOND</i>).....	Psalms, John
My Hope Is Built on Nothing Less (<i>SOLID ROCK</i>)	Acts
My Shepherd Will Supply My Need (<i>RESIGNATION</i>)	Psalms, John
Savior, Like a Shepherd Lead Us (<i>BRADBURY</i>)	Psalms, John
Shepherd Me, O God (<i>SHEPHERD ME</i>).....	Psalms, John
There Is a Name I Love to Hear (<i>O HOW I LOVE JESUS</i>).....	Acts
They'll Know We Are Christians By Our Love (<i>ST. BRENDAN'S</i>)	1 John
When the Church of Jesus (<i>KING'S WESTON</i>).....	1 John
Where Cross the Crowded Ways of Life (<i>GERMANY</i>)	1 John
You, Lord, Are Both Lamb and Shepherd (<i>PICARDY</i>).....	Psalms, John

ANTHEMS

E = Easy, M = Moderate, MD = Moderately Difficult

“Benediction” (Love Ye One Another) – E..... 1 John
No. 5 in *Shaker Songs*/Kevin Siegfried, arr.
© 1999, earthsongs, S-102
SATB, a cappella

Christ is Our Cornerstone – M Acts
Philip Stopford
© 2016, MorningStar Music, 50-7805
SATB, Organ, opt. Brass Quintet, Timpani

I Lift My Eyes – M Psalms, John
Bob Chilcott
© 2011, Oxford University Press, BC 133
SSAA, Piano

If Ye Love Me – M..... 1 John
Thomas Tallis
© 1976, E.C. Schirmer, 2992
Public Domain, CPDL.org # 46587
SATB, a cappella

The Lord Is My Shepherd – ME Psalms
David N. Childs
© 1998, Santa Barbara Music, SBMP 250
SATB, Piano, Horn (or Trombone)

The Lord Is My Shepherd – MD..... Psalms
Howard Goodall
© 2000, Faber Music, 0571520480
SATB, Solo, Keyboard

The Lord Is My Shepherd – E Psalms
BROTHER JAMES’ AIR/Malcolm Archer, arr.
© 1987, RCSM/GIA Publications, G-4645
2-Part (Any), Organ

My Shepherd Is the Lord on High – ME Psalms
Daniel C. Meyer
© 2017, GIA Publications, G-9392
SAB (or SSA), a cappella

Savior, Like a Shepherd Lead Us – E 1 John, John
BRADBURY/Hal H. Hopson, arr.
© 2011, MorningStar Music, 50-5905
Unison/2-Part, Piano, opt. C-Instrument

Sheep May Safely Graze – ME 1 John, John
J.S. Bach/Katherine K. Davis, ed.
© 1942, Galaxy Music Corp., 1.1278
SATB, Keyboard, opt. Flutes (2)

We Shall Walk Through the Valley – M Psalms
Negro Spiritual/Undine Smith Moore, arr.
© 1977, 2004, GIA Publications, G-6434
SATB, a cappella

– YOUTH and CHILDREN –

Shepherd of My Heart – ME Psalms
Tina English/John Purifoy, arr.
© 2018, Choristers Guild, CGA1572
SAB, Piano

Dear Lord, Lead Me Day by Day – ME ... 1 John, John
COTTAGE GROVE/Jane Marshall, arr.
© 1993, Choristers Guild, CGA637
Unison, Keyboard

ADDITIONAL MATERIAL (Prayers, Poems, Quotes & Liturgies)

*Christ my life and only way,
Christ my lantern night and day,
Christ be my unchanging friend,
Guide and shepherd to the end.*

– DAVID ADAM, *Edge of Glory*

*Like the lost sheep, we may have been lost in ourselves,
but from the start we have always been found in him.*

– ROBERT FARRAR CAPON, *More Theology & Less Heavy Cream*

CALL TO WORSHIP
(Adapted from Psalm 23)

Hear this morning, the call of Christ, the Good Shepherd.

Good Shepherd, speak to us, we who tend to tarry.

Come, I shall lead you beside the still waters.

Good Shepherd, speak to us, for we are given to lose heart.

Fear not. I shall restore your soul.

Good Shepherd, speak to us, for we are prone to wander.

I shall guide you along the paths of righteousness, for my name's sake.

Good Shepherd, speak to us, we who lose our way.

Though you walk through the shadow of the valley of death, I am with you.

Good Shepherd, lead, we shall follow. Amen.

— Greg Funderburk*

GATHERING PRAYER

God of lost sheep, find us, re-route us.

Quiet now our wandering minds,

O God, that we may hear Your voice.

As we pass places of darkness, seasons of isolation,
periods of sickness and gloom,

Good Shepherd-God, You are somehow both with us
and walking before us.

When we lose our way, may we experience the thrill,
the joy of being found.

Brace our hearts to trust and follow,

To see, even in troubled times,

that our cup runneth over.

Anticipating the good that is in store for us, O God,

And seeing anew, the blessings of Your love. Amen.

+ + +

*Green pastures are before me,
which yet I have not seen;
bright skies will soon be o'er me,
where the dark clouds have been:
My life I cannot measure,
the path of life is free;
my Savior has my treasure,
and He will walk with me.*

— ANNA LETITIA WARING, 1850, "In Heavenly Love Abiding"

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

Good Shepherd, speak to us in your written word, letting us know you, as you know us.

Amen.

+ + +

I have hymns you haven't heard.

There is an upward soaring

in which I bend close.

You can barely distinguish me

from the things that kneel before me.

They are like sheep, they are grazing.

I am the shepherd on the brow of the hill.

When evening draws them home

I follow after, the dark bridge thudding,

and the vapor rising from their backs

hides my own homecoming.

— RAINER MARIA RILKE, *The Book of Hours*, Anita Barrows, ed.

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BENEDICTION

As sheep prone to wander, to tarry, and to lose our way,
may we experience this week the thrill of being found,
of being re-routed, of being led
toward the blessings of the Kingdom of God
in store for us all.

May we go under the guidance of the Good Shepherd.

May we go now in God's peace.

* Thanks to Greg Funderburk for contributing this week's liturgies.

Warren Howell, editor