

St. Matthew's Episcopal Church  
Madison, AL



The Fourth Sunday of Easter  
April 21, 2024

Fr. Chris Hartley, Rector  
Fr. Dillon Green, Associate Rector  
Rev. Lynn Bullard, Deacon  
Tom Killian, Music Director  
Susan Fletcher, Organist

# Holy Eucharist Rite II

**The Prelude** “Let All Mortal Flesh Keep Silence” (*setting by Sondra K. Tucker*)  
*Sherry Cox, Becky Hamilton, Mike Harrison, Kathy Modrall, handbells; Susan Fletcher, organ*

## The Entrance Rite

**Hymn #645** “The King Of Love, My Shepherd Is”

**Opening Acclamation**, *all standing*

*Celebrant* Alleluia! Christ is Risen.

*People* **The Lord is risen indeed. Alleluia.**

**Collect for Purity**

*Celebrant* Almighty God, to you all hearts are open, all desires known, and from you no secrets are hid: Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you, and worthily magnify your holy Name; through Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

**Canticle 13, Hymn #S-236** *The following is sung, all standing*

**Glory to you, Lord God of our fathers;**

**You are worthy of praise; glory to you.**

**Glory to you for the radiance of your holy Name;**

**We will praise you and highly exalt you for ever.**

**Glory to you in the splendor of your temple;**

**On the throne of your majesty, glory to you.**

**Glory to you, seated between the Cherubim;**

**We will praise you and highly exalt you for ever.**

**Glory to you, beholding the depths;**

**in the high vault of heaven.**

**Glory to you, Father, Son and Holy Spirit;**

**we will highly exalt you. Glory to you!**

## **Collect of the Day** (*Earth Day*)

*Celebrant* The Lord be with you.

**People** **And also with you.**

*Celebrant* Let us pray.

The justice of God and the dignity of all creatures Holy God, your mercy is over all your works, and in the web of life each creature has its role and place. We praise you for ocelot and owl, cactus and kelp, lichen and whale; we honor you for whirlwind and lava, tide and topsoil, cliff and marsh. Give us hearts and minds eager to care for your planet, humility to recognize all creatures as your beloved ones, justice to share the resources of the earth with all its inhabitants, and love not limited by our ignorance. This we pray in the name of Jesus, who unifies what is far off and what is near, and in whom, by grace and the working of your Holy Spirit, all things hold together. **Amen.**

## **The Liturgy of the Word**

### **The First Reading**

**Acts 4:5-12 A**

*Reading from the Book of Acts.*

The 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."

*Reader* The Word of the Lord.

**People** Thanks be to God.

## The Psalm

## Psalm 23

S 422

William Russell  
(1777-1813)



1. The Lord | is my shepherd; \*  
I | shall not be in want.
2. He makes me lie down | in green pastures \*  
and leads me be - | **side still** waters.
3. He re - | vives 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 | **com - fort** 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 **ev - er**.

## The Second Reading

1 John 3:16-24

*A Reading from the First Letter of John.*

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.

*Reader*      The Word of the Lord.

**People**      **Thanks be to God.**

**Hymn: #708**

**“Savior, Like A Shepherd Lead Us”**

## The Holy Gospel

John 10:11-18

*Deacon*      ✠ The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Luke.

**People**      **Glory to you, Lord Christ.**

Jesus said, “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.”

*Deacon*     The Gospel of the Lord.

**People**     **Praise to you, Lord Christ.**

**The Sermon**

Fr. Chris

**The Nicene Creed**, *please stand*

*All pray together:*

**We believe in one God,  
the Father, the Almighty,  
maker of heaven and earth,  
of all that is, seen and unseen.**

**We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ,  
the only Son of God,  
eternally begotten of the Father,  
God from God, Light from Light,  
true God from true God,  
begotten, not made,  
of one Being with the Father.  
Through him all things were made.**

For us and for our salvation  
he came down from heaven:  
by the power of the Holy Spirit  
he became incarnate from the Virgin Mary,  
and was made man.  
For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate;  
he suffered death and was buried.  
On the third day he rose again  
in accordance with the Scriptures;  
he ascended into heaven  
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.  
He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead,  
and his kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life,  
who proceeds from the Father and the Son.  
With the Father and the Son he is worshiped and glorified.  
He has spoken through the Prophets.  
We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church.  
We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.  
We look for the † resurrection of the dead,  
and the life of the world to come. Amen.

## The Prayers of the People

Form III

Father, we pray for your holy Catholic Church;  
**That we all may be one.**

Grant that every member of the Church may truly and humbly  
serve you; **That your Name may be glorified by all people.**

We pray for Michael, our Presiding Bishop; Glenda and Brian, our  
Bishops; Chris, our Rector; Dillon, our Associate Rector; Lynn, our

Deacon; Karen, our postulant for Holy Orders; Lauren, our missionary in Kenya; Steve, Bob, and Sam, our retired clergy; for our staff, vestry, and laity; and for all bishops, priests, and deacons;

**That they may be faithful ministers of your Word and Sacraments.**

We pray for our president, Joe; our vice president, Kamala; our governor, Kay; our mayor, Paul; and for all who govern and hold authority in the nations of the world;

**That there may be justice and peace on the earth.**

We pray for The Anglican Church of Australia; our companion Diocese of Honduras and their Bishop, Lloyd; St. Matthew's Grief Share; Food Bank of North Alabama; Habitat for Humanity; and for peace in the Middle East. Give us grace to do your will in all that we undertake; **That our works may find favor in your sight.**

Have compassion on those who suffer from any grief or trouble;

**That they may be delivered from their distress.**

✠ Give to the departed eternal rest;

**Let light perpetual shine upon them.**

We praise you for your saints who have entered into joy;

**May we also come to share in your heavenly kingdom.**

Let us pray for our own needs and for those of others.

*The Celebrant adds a concluding collect.*

**The Peace** *Please Stand*

*Celebrant* The peace of the Lord be always with you.

*People* **And also with you.**

**The Welcome & Announcements**



Offertory “Christ Is Alive!” (arr. Lloyd Larson [ASCAP]) Bells’ Angels, handbells

**Hymn #380**

**The Doxology** (vs. 3)

## The Liturgy of the Table

**The Great Thanksgiving**

*Eucharistic Prayer D*

*The people remain standing.*

*Celebrant* The Lord be with you.

**People** **And also with you.**

*Celebrant* Lift up your hearts.

**People** **We lift them to the Lord.**

*Celebrant* Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**People** **It is right to give him thanks and praise.**

*Then, facing the Holy Table, the Celebrant proceeds*

It is truly right to glorify you, Father, and to give you thanks; for you alone are God, living and true, dwelling in light inaccessible from before time and for ever.

Fountain of life and source of all goodness, you made all things and fill them with your blessing; you created them to rejoice in the splendor of your radiance.

Countless throngs of angels stand before you to serve you night and day; and, beholding the glory of your presence, they offer you unceasing praise. Joining with them, and giving voice to every creature under heaven, we acclaim you, and glorify your Name, as we sing,

**Sanctus, Hymn #S-125** *Celebrant and People*

**Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,  
heaven and earth are full of your glory.**

**Hosanna in the highest.**

**Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.  
Hosanna in the highest.**

*The people stand or kneel. Then the Celebrant continues,*

We acclaim you, holy Lord, glorious in power. Your mighty works reveal your wisdom and love. You formed us in your own image, giving the whole world into our care, so that, in obedience to you, our Creator, we might rule and serve all your creatures. When our disobedience took us far from you, you did not abandon us to the power of death. In your mercy you came to our help, so that in seeking you we might find you. Again and again you called us into covenant with you, and through the prophets you taught us to hope for salvation.

Father, you loved the world so much that in the fullness of time you sent your only Son to be our Savior. Incarnate by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, he lived as one of us, yet without sin. To the poor he proclaimed the good news of salvation; to prisoners, freedom; to the sorrowful, joy. To fulfill your purpose he gave himself up to death; and, rising from the grave, destroyed death, and made the whole creation new.

And, that we might live no longer for ourselves, but for him who died and rose for us, he sent the Holy Spirit, his own first gift for those who believe, to complete his work in the world, and to bring to fulfillment the sanctification of all.

When the hour had come for him to be glorified by you, his heavenly Father, having loved his own who were in the world, he loved them to the end; at supper with them he took bread, and when he had given thanks to you, he broke it, and gave it to his disciples,

and said, "Take, eat: This is my Body, which is given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me."

After supper he took the cup of wine; and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, and said, "Drink this, all of you. This is my Blood of the new Covenant, which is shed for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me."

Father, we now celebrate this memorial of our redemption. Recalling Christ's death and his descent among the dead, proclaiming his resurrection and ascension to your right hand, awaiting his coming in glory; and offering to you, from the gifts you have given us, this bread and this cup, we praise you and we bless you.

*Celebrant and People*

**We praise you, we bless you,  
we give thanks to you,  
and we pray to you, Lord our God.**

*The Celebrant continues*

Lord, we pray that in your goodness and mercy your Holy Spirit may descend upon us, and upon these gifts, sanctifying them and showing them to be holy gifts for your holy people, the bread of life and the cup of salvation, the Body and Blood of your Son Jesus Christ.

Grant that all who share this bread and cup may become one body and one spirit, a living sacrifice in Christ, to the praise of your Name.

Remember, Lord, your one holy catholic and apostolic Church, redeemed by the blood of your Christ. Reveal its unity, guard its faith, and preserve it in peace.

And grant that we may find our inheritance with the Blessed Virgin Mary, with patriarchs and matriarchs, prophets, apostles, and martyrs, and with all the saints who have found favor with you in ages past. We praise you in union with them and give you glory through your Son Jesus Christ our Lord.

Through Christ, and with Christ, and in Christ, all honor and glory are yours, Almighty God and Father, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

*The Celebrant then continues*

And now, as our Savior Christ has taught us, we are bold to say,

*People and Celebrant*

**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,  
and the power, and the glory,  
for ever and ever. **Amen.****

## **The Breaking of the Bread**

*The priest breaks the consecrated bread. A period of silence is kept.*

*Celebrant* Alleluia. Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us.

*People* **Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia.**

**Fraction Anthem, Hymn #S-154** *Celebrant and People*

**Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.**

**Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us;**

**Therefore let us keep the feast.**

**Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.**

*Celebrant* The Gifts of God for the People of God. Take them in remembrance that Christ died for you, and feed on him in your hearts by faith, with thanksgiving.

*All baptized Christians are welcome to receive Holy Communion.*

**Hymn #176** *(Alleluia III Songbook: vs 1-3)* **“This Is My Father’s World”**

*After Communion, the Celebrant says*

Let us pray.

*Celebrant and People*

**Eternal God, heavenly Father, you have graciously accepted us as living members of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ, and you have fed us with spiritual food in the Sacrament of his Body and Blood. Send us now into the world in peace, and grant us strength and courage to love and serve you with gladness and singleness of heart; through Christ our Lord.**

**The Blessing,** *all standing*

**Hymn #518**

**“Christ Is Made The Sure Foundation”**

## The Dismissal

*Deacon* Go in peace to love and serve the Lord. Alleluia, alleluia.

*People* **Thanks be to God. Alleluia, alleluia.**

**The Postlude** “Toccata in C Minor” (*Johann Pachelbel*)



## WORSHIP SERVERS:

**VOD:** Jimmy

|                     | <b>8:30am</b>  | <b>11:00am</b>             |
|---------------------|--|----------------------------|
| <b>Altar Guild:</b> | B Combs  | Gruman                     |
| <b>Nursery:</b>     | Anderson/Brown   | Anderson/Brown             |
| <b>Hospitality:</b> | Turner   | Kleinjung                  |
| <b>Ushers:</b>      | Stagner/Carpenter  | Beasley/T Sampson          |
| <b>Lectors:</b>     | Christopher/Williams/Modrall   | Weatherbee/Salmon/Peterson |
| <b>LEM's:</b>       | Glasgow  | Weaver                     |
| <b>Counters:</b>    | Cechovic/Modrall   | Harison/Cox                |
| <b>Acolytes:</b>    | A Maddox/E Maddox/A Wales/E Bruce<br>J Nixon/C Beech/C Bagwell/L Hartley |                            |

**ALTAR GIFTS: WE NEED YOUR HELP!** Altar Flower and Bread & Wine sign up sheets are located on the worship board in the hallway. Cost for flowers is \$45 per arrangement and we need two per week. Cost for bread & wine is at your discretion. These can be given in celebration of a special event, in memory of a loved one, in honor of someone special, etc. Please sign up to help provide these. THANK YOU!

**LIVE STREAM SERVICE REMINDER** – please be mindful that the 11:00am service is live-streamed every week. Therefore, names may be audible and faces may be visible to anyone watching online.