



Holy Eucharist at The Church of St. Paul, Cambria

• The Fourth Sunday in Easter • April 30, 2023 •

Opening Hymn 671

Alleluia. Christ is risen.

The Lord is risen indeed. Alleluia.

Blessed be God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.
People And blessed be his kingdom, now and for
ever.

Amen.

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.

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Let us pray.

O God, whose son Jesus is the good shepherd of
your people: Grant that when we hear his voice we
may know him who calls us each by name, and
follow where he leads: who, with you and the Holy
Spirit, lives and reigns, one God, for ever and ever.

Amen.

The Lessons

The first lesson is from the Acts of the Apostles
(2:42-47)

They devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching
and fellowship, to the breaking of bread and the
prayers. Awe came upon everyone, because many
wonders and signs were being done by the apostles.
All who believed were together and had all things in
common; they would sell their possessions and
goods and distribute the proceeds to all, as any had
need. Day by day, as they spent much time
together in the temple, they broke bread at home
and ate their food with glad and generous hearts,
praising God and having the goodwill of all the
people. And day by day the Lord added to their
number those who were being saved.

Hear what the Spirit is saying to the Church

Thanks be to God.

The Psalm of the Day

Psalm 23

1 The LORD is my shepherd; * I shall not be in
want.

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

3 He revives 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 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 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 ever.

The second lesson is from the First Letter of Peter
(2:19-25)

For it is a credit to you if, being aware of God, you
endure pain while suffering unjustly. If you endure
when you are beaten for doing wrong, what credit is
that? But if you endure when you do right and
suffer for it, you have God's approval. For to this
you have been called, because Christ also suffered
for you, leaving you an example, so that you should
follow in his steps. "He committed no sin, and no
deceit was found in his mouth." When he was
abused, he did not return abuse; when he suffered,
he did not threaten; but he entrusted himself to the
one who judges justly. He himself bore our sins in
his body on the cross, so that, free from sins, we
might live for righteousness; by his wounds you
have been healed. For you were going astray like
sheep, but now you have returned to the shepherd
and guardian of your souls.

Hear what the Spirit is saying to the Church

Thanks be to God.

The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according
to St. John (10:1-10)

Glory to you, Lord Christ.

Jesus said, "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.

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, Lord Christ.

**The Sermon
Sermon Music**

Brother Dennis Gibbs

Here follows the Nicene Creed, all standing

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

Gathered in the care of the Good Shepherd and guardian of our souls, let us in trust pray for the church and the world, saying: Lord, have mercy. For all who serve the holy church of God, who serve tables and who preach and pray, who shepherd the

lost and care for those in need, let us pray to the Lord. **Lord, have mercy.**

For all who are persecuted for the gospel, for all who have been martyred for their witness to the truth, for all in lonely places who rejoice in the hope of the resurrection, and for the blessed community of the saints, living and dead, let us pray to the Lord. **Lord, have mercy.**

For all in the world who care for the sick, the dying, especially those caring for those suffering in the current pandemic, the hungry and the destitute, the mentally ill and the deformed, let us pray to the Lord. **Lord, have mercy.**

For victims of rage and sudden violence, especially for abused children and spouses, for political prisoners, victims of extortion, of murder, and of natural catastrophe, let us pray to the Lord. **Lord, have mercy.**

For all here gathered and our specific needs, that we may come to receive abundant life at God's hand, and at the last to rest in Christ's shepherding love, let us pray to the Lord. **Lord, have mercy.**

For the young men and women serving our country and in harm's way, may our caring Lord shepherd them safely on their paths and bring them home, let us pray to the Lord. **Lord, have mercy.**

We pray for Jennifer and Sandra **Lord, have mercy.**
(Here other intercessions may be offered.)

Celebrant concludes

O loving God, we commend to your mercy all who have died and pray that we and all your saints may share life in your eternal dominion. Enable us to know that by Christ's wounds we have been healed, and that by the power of his risen and Spirit-giving life we are empowered to serve you all our days. We pray through Jesus Christ, our risen Lord. **Amen.**

Walk in love, as Christ loved us and gave himself for us, an offering and sacrifice to God. *Ephesians 5:2*

Offertory Hymn: 711

Prayer over the gifts: God of loving care, you spread before us the table of life, and give us the cup of salvation to drink. Keep us always in the fold of your Son Jesus Christ, our Savior and our shepherd. **Amen.**

The Great Thanksgiving

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
It is right to give him thanks and praise.

It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth. But chiefly are we bound to praise you for the glorious resurrection of your Son Jesus Christ our Lord; for he is the true Paschal Lamb, who was sacrificed for us, and has taken away the sin of the world. By his death he has destroyed death, and by his rising to life again he has won for us everlasting life. Therefore we praise you, joining our voices with Angels and Archangels and with all the company of heaven, who for ever sing this hymn to proclaim the glory of your Name:

If sung see card

**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.

We give thanks to you, O God,

Therefore, according to his command, O Father,

**We remember his death,
We proclaim his resurrection,
We await his coming in glory;**

And we offer our sacrifice of praise

By him, and with him, and in him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit all honor and glory is yours, Almighty Father, now and for ever. **AMEN.**

Because in Christ we have received the Spirit of adoption, as sons and daughters of God, we dare to pray:

And now as our Savior taught us, we are bold to pray (*sung*):

**Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your Name,
your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as
in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive
us our sins, as we forgive those who sin against us.
Save us from the time of trial, and deliver us from
evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are
yours, now and forever. Amen.**

The Breaking of the Bread

Alleluia. Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us;
Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia.

The Gifts of God for the People of God. Take them
in remembrance that Christ died for you, is risen,

alleluia! and feed on him in your hearts by faith,
with thanksgiving. Blessed are those who are called
to the banquet of the Lamb.

*Those unable to receive the sacrament because they
are attending the service electronically may receive
the sacrament spiritually by saying: **Jesus, I believe
that you are present in the Blessed Sacrament and
I desire you above all things with all my heart.
Since I cannot now receive you sacramentally
under the forms of bread and wine, I ask you to
come spiritually into my heart. Amen***

After Communion, the Celebrant says

God of steadfast love, watch over the Church
redeemed by the blood of your Son. May we who
share in these holy mysteries come safely to your
eternal kingdom, where there is one flock and one
shepherd. Let us pray.

**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. Amen.**

Knowing that all of our community cannot share
the Eucharist in person, we affirm that the true
mystical communion of Christ and His Church is a
bond of spirit and heart, grounded in faith.
Therefore, we commit ourselves to this deep bond
of the Spirit in union with Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

The blessing

The God of peace who brought again from the dead
our Lord Jesus Christ, that great shepherd of the
sheep, make you perfect in every good work to do
his will, and the blessing of God almighty, Father,
Son and Holy Spirit be with you and remain with you
for ever. **Amen.**

The Exchange of Peace *please stand*

Officiant

Jesus is our Peace. Let us do all we can to be Peace
in our world. The peace of the Lord be always with
you

People **And also with you.**

The Community greets one another in the peace of Christ

Announcements

Thanksgiving Prayer: We give you thanks, O God, for your many blessings: for our days of celebration, for the love that surrounds us, for your healing presence in our lives. Keep us in your care, we pray, and help us to live as truly thankful people. Amen.

Closing hymn. 756 WLP

Alleluia, alleluia! Let us bless the Lord.

Thanks be to God. Alleluia, alleluia!

