



St George's Anglican Church | Malvern

**Fourth Sunday of Easter**

**26 April 2015**

**Sentence** 'I am the good shepherd,' says the Lord. 'I know my own and my own know me.'  
*John 10.14*

**Collect**

Jesus, good shepherd of the sheep,  
by whom the lost are sought  
and guided into the fold:  
feed us and we shall be satisfied,  
heal us and we shall be whole,  
and lead us that we may be with you,  
where you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit,  
one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

**A Reading from the Acts of the Apostles**

*Peter and John appear before the council of elders and scribes to explain their healing of the crippled man. Empowered by the Holy Spirit, Peter proclaims that this healing was done in the name of Jesus.*

The Jewish 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.’  
*Acts 4.5-12*

Reader For the word of the Lord  
**All Thanks be to God**  
**Psalm 23 APBA page 243 at 10.00am TiS 10**

**A Reading from the first letter of John**

*Jesus is the great example of selfless love: far from taking life, he laid down his life for us. By this love and the presence of the Holy Spirit, given to us by God, we know that Christ “abides in us”.*

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.

*1 John 3.16-24*

Reader May your word live in us.  
**ALL And bear much fruit to your glory.**

**Gospel Acclamation**

**ALL Alleluia! Alleluia!**

Cantor I, myself, will be the shepherd of my sheep,  
says the Lord.

**ALL Alleluia!**

Reader The Lord be with you

**ALL And also with you**

Reader A reading from the holy Gospel according to St John

**ALL Glory to you Lord Jesus Christ.**

*Israel had long understood that the good shepherd, the shepherd king spoken of in Scripture was a reference to the coming Messiah. The difference between the hired hand and the real shepherd is that the shepherd is committed to the wellbeing of the sheep, even if it leads to death; an outcome of his love which Jesus says he accepts willingly.*

Jesus said to the Pharisees: '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.'

*John 10.11-18*

Reader For the Gospel of the Lord

**ALL Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ**

**Bible Readings next week 3 May 2015**

**Fifth Sunday of Easter**

Acts 8.26-40

Psalm 22.26-32

1 John 4.7-21

John 15.1-8

**Prayer for the Week**

O God, whose Son Jesus is the good shepherd of your people:

help us when we hear his voice  
to know him who calls us each by name,  
and to follow where he leads;  
who with you and the Holy Spirit  
lives and reigns, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

### **Pray for the Faithful Departed**

We remember before God: Henry Sullivan, Constance Jean Sawyer,  
Mary Frances Hewett, Edith Manning, George Bloom, Frank Oldfield,  
George Granger, Jan Akehurst, June Manders, Reginald Weller  
*whose anniversaries occur this week.*

### **Commemorations of the week**

**April 29 Catherine of Sienna (1347-1389)**, a member of the Dominican Order, spiritual writer and teacher, worker for the sick in hospitals and a woman of great sanctity and influence in the Middle Ages.

**May 1 Philip and James, Apostles and Martyrs.** Philip was born in Bethsaida, became a disciple and persuaded Nathanael to follow Jesus also (John.1.43-51). He was with the apostles after the resurrection (Acts.1.13). He then disappears from history and later references are legends. James was the son of Zebedee and brother of the apostle John. He was a close disciple of Jesus and was present at the raising of Jairus's daughter, at the Transfiguration and in the Garden of Gethsemane. He was the first apostle to be martyred (Acts.12.2). Like Philip, he then disappears from history, except for later legends.

**May 2 Athanasius, bishop of Alexandria (c.296-373).** Attended the Council of Nicaea in 325 (from where we get our Nicaene Creed)) as a Secretary to his bishop and succeeded him as bishop in 328. A great fighter for orthodoxy against the Arians, who did not believe in the divinity of Christ. He wrote numerous works, the most famous being one on the Incarnation.

