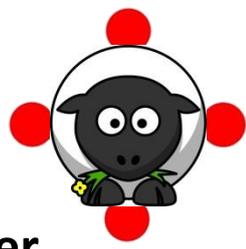


The Benefice of
Harden, Wilsden, Cullingworth, Denholme
Sunday 25 April 2021: The Fourth Sunday of Easter



Stuart Falkner leads our worship today

Preparation

Call to Worship

Alleluia! Christ is risen!

He is risen indeed! Alleluia.

We gather together to worship God.

The shepherd of our souls.

The one who created us,

He sustains us and redeems us

The one who walks beside us in good times and bad

He calls us to follow.

This is our God.

Let us worship him together. Amen

HYMN: GUIDE ME O THOU GREAT JEHOVAH

Prayers of Penitence

Christ our Passover Lamb has been sacrificed for us.

Let us therefore rejoice by putting away all malice and evil

And by confessing our sins with a sincere and a true heart.

Remember, Lord, your compassion and love,

For they are everlasting.

Lord have mercy: **Lord have mercy**

Remember not the sins of my youth or my transgressions

But think on me in your goodness, O Lord,

According to your steadfast love.

Christ have mercy: **Christ have mercy.**

O keep my soul and deliver me:

Let me not be put to shame, for I have put my trust in you.

Lord have mercy: **Lord have mercy.**

Absolution

The Lord enrich you with his grace,
And nourish you with his blessing;
The Lord defend you in trouble and keep you from all evil;
The Lord accept your prayers
And absolve you from your offences,
For the sake of Jesus Christ, our Saviour.
Amen.

The Gloria

**Glory to God in the highest
and peace to his people on earth.
Lord God, heavenly King,
Almighty God and Father;
We worship you, we give you thanks,
we praise you for your glory.
Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father,
Lord God, Lamb of God,
You take away the sin of the world.
Have mercy on us;
You are seated at the right hand of the Father:
Receive our prayer.
For you alone are the Holy One,
You alone are the Lord
You alone are the Most High, Jesus Christ,
with the Holy Spirit,
in the glory of God the Father.
Amen.**

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.
Amen

THE WORD OF GOD

First Reading

Acts 4:5-12

The next day their 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.'

This is the word of the Lord

Thanks be to God.

The Gospel

Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to John

Glory to you, O Lord.

John 10:7-18

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.

'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.'

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

HYMN: TAKE MY LIFE AND LET IT BE

Sermon

Affirmation of Faith

Let us declare our faith in God.
**We believe in God the Father,
From whom every family
In heaven and on earth is named.**

**We believe in God the Son,
Who lives in our hearts through faith,
And fills us with his love.**

**We believe in God the Holy Spirit,
Who strengthens us
With power from on high.**

**We believe in one God;
Father, Son and Holy Spirit. Amen.**

Prayers of Intercession

Lord in your mercy
Hear our Prayer

At the end:

Merciful father
**accept these prayers for the sake of your son,
Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen**

The Peace

The Risen Christ came and stood among the disciples and said "Peace be with you!" Then were they glad when they saw the Lord.

The Peace of the Lord be always with you

And also with you

HYMN: LORD JESUS CHRIST

Eucharistic Prayer A

The Lord is here.

His Spirit is with us.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give thanks and praise.

It is indeed right, our duty and our joy,
always and everywhere to give you thanks,
almighty and eternal Father,

and in these days of Easter

to celebrate with joyful hearts

the memory of your wonderful works.

For by the mystery of his passion

Jesus Christ, your risen Son,

has conquered the powers of death and hell

and restored in us the image of your glory.

He has placed us once more in paradise

and opened to us the gate of life eternal.

And so, in the joy of this Passover,

earth and heaven resound with gladness,

while angels and archangels and the powers of all creation

sing for ever the hymn of your glory:

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.

Accept our praises, heavenly Father,
through your Son our Saviour Jesus Christ,
and as we follow his example and obey his command,
grant that by the power of your Holy Spirit
these gifts of bread and wine
may be to us his body and his blood;
Who, in the same night that he was betrayed,
took bread and gave you thanks;
he broke it and gave it to his disciples, saying:
Take, eat; this is my body which is given for you;
do this in remembrance of me.

In the same way, after supper
he took the cup and gave you thanks;
he gave it to them, saying:
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.
Do this, as often as you drink it,
in remembrance of me.

Therefore, heavenly Father,
we remember his offering of himself
made once for all upon the cross;
we proclaim his mighty resurrection and glorious ascension;
we look for the coming of your kingdom,
and with this bread and this cup
we make the memorial of Christ your Son our Lord.

Great is the mystery of faith:

Christ has died:

Christ is risen:

Christ will come again.

Accept through him, our great high priest,
this our sacrifice of thanks and praise,
and as we eat and drink these holy gifts
in the presence of your divine majesty,

renew us by your Spirit,
inspire us with your love
and unite us in the body of your Son,
Jesus Christ our Lord.
Through him, and with him, and in him,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
with all who stand before you in earth and heaven,
we worship you, Father almighty,
in songs of everlasting praise:
**Blessing and honour and glory and power
be yours for ever and ever. Amen.**

The Lord's Prayer

**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.**

The Breaking of the Bread

We break this bread to share in the Body of Christ
**Though we are many, we are one body,
because we all share in one bread**

**Jesus, Lamb of God
Have mercy on us**

**Jesus, Bearer of our sins
Have mercy on us**

**Jesus, Redeemer of the world
Grant us peace**

**Most merciful Lord,
Your love compels us to come in.
Our hands were unclean,
Our hearts were unprepared;
We were not fit
Even to eat the crumbs from under your table.
But you Lord, are the God of our salvation,
And share your bread with sinners.
So cleanse and feed us
With the precious body and blood of your Son,
That he may live in us and we in him;
And that we, with the whole company of Christ,
May sit and eat in your kingdom. Amen**

CONCLUSION

Final Prayer

Merciful Father,
You gave your Son Jesus Christ to be the good shepherd,
And in his love for us to lay down his life and rise again:
Keep us always under his protection,
And give us grace to follow in his steps;
Through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen**

HYMN: O JESUS I HAVE PROMISED

Blessing

The God of peace,
Who brought again from the dead our Lord Jesus Christ
That great shepherd of the sheep,
Through the blood of the eternal covenant,
Make you perfect in every good work to do his will,
Working in you that which is pleasing in his sight;
And the blessing of God almighty,
The Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit,
Be among you and remain with you always. **Amen**

Sending out

Let us go in peace to love and serve the Lord! Alleluia! Alleluia!
In the name of Christ. Amen. Alleluia! Alleluia!