

Easter 4 – Vocations Sunday

Please join in with all the words in **bold**.

PREPARATION

Welcome

Grace and peace to you from God our Father
and the Lord Jesus Christ.

Amen.

Christ is risen!

He is risen indeed! Alleluia!

Collect for Purity

**Almighty God,
to whom all hearts are open,
all desires known,
and from whom no secrets are hidden:
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.

Confession and Absolution

God is love and we are God's children.
There is no room for fear in love.
We love because God first loved us.

Let us confess our sins in penitence and faith.

Silence

**God our Father, we confess to you
and to our fellow members in the Body of Christ
that we have sinned in thought, word and deed,
and in what we have failed to do.
We are truly sorry.
Forgive us our sins,
and deliver us from the power of evil,
for the sake of your Son who died for us,
Jesus Christ, our Lord.**

God, who is both power and love,
forgive you and free you from your sins,
heal and strengthen you by the Holy Spirit,
and raise you to new life in Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Gloria

**Glory to God in the highest,
and peace to God's 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.**

Collect for Vocations Sunday

Almighty and everlasting God,
by whose Spirit the whole body of the Church
is governed and sanctified:
hear our prayer which we offer for all your faithful people,
that in their vocation and ministry
they may serve you in holiness and truth
to the glory of your name;
through our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ,
who is alive and reigns with you,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever.
Amen.

THE LITURGY OF THE WORD

First Reading

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. (Acts 2.42-47)

Epistle

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. (1 Peter 2.19-25)

At end:

The word of the Lord

Thanks be to God

Gospel

When it is announced:

Glory to Christ our Saviour.

Jesus said to the Pharisees: "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. (John 10.1-10)

At end:

Give thanks to the Lord for his glorious Gospel.

Praise to Christ our Lord.

Sermon – Dr Val Cameron, Student with the Scottish Episcopal Institute

Nicene Creed

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 substance 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 of the Virgin Mary,
and was made human.
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.
With the Father and the Son, he is worshipped 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.

Intercessions

*Prayer is offered
for the world and its people,
for those who suffer and those in need,
for the Church and its members.*

Peace

We meet in Christ's name.

Let us share his peace.

THE LITURGY OF THE SACRAMENT

Offering

Silence

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 our thanks and praise.

Worship and praise belong to you, Author of all being.

Your power sustains, your love restores, our broken world.

You are unceasingly at work,

from chaos bringing order

and filling emptiness with life.

Christ, raised from the dead,

proclaims the dawn of hope.

He lives in us that we may walk in light.

Your Spirit is fire in us,

your breath is power

to purge our sin

and warm our hearts to love.

As children of your redeeming purpose,

freed by him who burst from the tomb

and opened the gate of life,

we offer you our praise,

with angels and archangels

and the whole company of heaven,

singing the hymn of your unending 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.

OPENING PRAYER:

*Celebrating the work of God,
Father, Son and Spirit, in
creating, restoring and
bringing to completion, all
that is His.*

SANCTUS:

An anthem to God's glory.

BENEDICTUS:

*The greeting to him who
came in the flesh, comes in
the sacrament and is still to
come.*

Praise and thanksgiving be to you, Lord of all,
for by the Cross eternal life is ours
and death is swallowed up in victory.
In the first light of Easter
glory broke from the tomb
and changed the women's sorrow into joy.
From the Garden the mystery dawned
that he whom they had loved and lost
is with us now
in every place for ever.

CHRISTOLOGICAL PRAYER:

*Thanksgiving to God for all
that was accomplished in the
life, death and resurrection of
Jesus.*

Making himself known in the breaking of the bread,
speaking peace to the fearful disciples,
welcoming weary fishermen on the shore,
Your Son, Jesus Christ, renewed the promise of his presence
and of new birth in the Spirit
who sets the seal of freedom on your sons and daughters.

Before he was given up to suffering and death,
recalling the night of Israel's release,
the night in which slaves walked free,
at supper with his disciples
he took bread and offered you thanks.
He broke the bread,
and gave it to them, saying:
"Take, eat.

This is my Body: it is broken for you."

After supper, he took the cup,
he offered you thanks,
and gave it to them saying:

"Drink this, all of you.

This is my Blood of the new covenant;
it is poured out for you, and for all,
that sins may be forgiven.

Do this in remembrance of me."

**NARRATIVE OF THE
INSTITUTION:**

*An account of the Last
Supper.*

**We now obey your Son's command
We recall his blessed passion and death,
his glorious resurrection and ascension;
and we look for the coming of his Kingdom.
Made one with him, we offer you these gifts
and with them ourselves
a single, holy living sacrifice.**

ANAMNESIS AND OBLATION:

*The work of Christ is recalled
and linked with our offering.*

Hear us, most merciful Father,
and send your Holy Spirit upon us
and upon this bread and this wine,
that, overshadowed by the Spirit's life-giving power,
they may be the Body and Blood of your Son,
and we may be kindled with the fire of your love
and renewed for the service of your Kingdom.

EPICLESIS:

*We ask for the descent of the
Holy Spirit as the divine
response to our obedience.*

**Help us, who are baptised into the fellowship of Christ's Body
to live and work to your praise and glory;
may we grow together in unity and love
until at last, in your new creation,
we enter into our heritage
in the company of the Virgin Mary,
the apostles, and prophets,
and of all our brothers and sisters living and departed.**

PRAYER OF PETITION:

*As members of the Church we
pray for her whole life and
mission.*

Through Jesus Christ our Lord,
with whom, and in whom,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
all honour and glory be to you,
Lord of all ages,
world without end.

DOXOLOGY:

A concluding act of praise.

Amen.

The Sharing of the Bread and the Wine

Breaking of the Bread

The living bread is broken for the life of the world.
Lord, unite us in this sign.

Lord's Prayer

As our Saviour Christ has
commanded and taught us,
we are bold to say:

**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.

Communion Song

**Jesus, Lamb of God: have mercy on us.
Jesus, bearer of our sins: have mercy on us.
Jesus, redeemer of the world: Give us your peace.**

*As the image on the screen pauses on the bread and wine
you are invited to pray this prayer at home:*

**God of unending love, you are present to us in Word and Sacrament.
With all around the world who gather to worship,
I offer you my praise and thanksgiving;
and though I cannot eat the bread of God,
or drink the royal wine of heaven,
I pray that I may know the fountain of your love
pouring upon me and your Incarnate presence
encompassing me behind and before,
that through the power of your Spirit,
I may rejoice in the sure hope
that I abide in your wondrous love now and for all eternity,
in Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

THANKSGIVING AND SENDING OUT

Sentence

**Merciful God,
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.**

**We give thanks to you Lord, for you are gracious.
And your mercy endures for ever.**

Prayers

**Father, your steadfast purpose is the completion of all things in your Son. May we who
have received the pledges of the kingdom, live by faith, walk in hope and be renewed in
love, until the world reflects your glory and you are all in all; through Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen.**

Blessing

May the boldness of the Spirit transform you,
may the gentleness of the Spirit lead you,
may the gifts of the Spirit equip you
to serve and worship God;
and the blessing of God almighty,
the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit,
be among you and remain with you always.

Amen.

Dismissal

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

In the name of Christ, alleluia, alleluia.

Amen.