Easter 4 Service

Welcome:

‘I have come that you may have life and have it abundantly.’ John 10:10

Grace, mercy and peace, from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ be with you

**And also with you**

Alleluia, Christ is risen

**He is risen indeed. Alleluia.**

Opening hymn: Jesus is King

Jesus is King and I will extol Him

Give Him the glory and honour His name;

He reigns on high, enthroned in the heavens –

Word of the Father, exalted for us.

We have a hope that is steadfast and certain,

Gone through the curtain and touching the throne;

We have a priest, who is there interceding,

Pouring His grace on our lives day by day.

We come to Him, our Priest and Apostle,

Clothed in His glory and bearing His name,

Laying our lives with gladness before Him –

Filled with His Spirit we worship the King:

‘O Holy One, our hearts do adore You;

thrilled with Your goodness we give You our praise!’

Angels in light with worship surround him,

Jesus our Saviour, for ever the same.

Confession:

We come to God as one from whom no secrets are hidden,

to ask for His forgiveness and peace.

**Almighty God, our heavenly Father,**

**We have sinned against you**

**And against our neighbour**

**In thought and word and deed,**

**Through negligence, though weakness,**

**Through our own deliberate fault.**

**We are truly sorry and repent of all our sins.**

**For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ,**

**Who died for us,**

**Forgive us all that is past**

**And grant that we may serve you in newness of life**

**To the glory of your name. Amen.**

May the God of love bring us back to himself,

Forgive us our sins, and assure us of his eternal love

In Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Almighty God,

whose Son Jesus Christ is the resurrection and the life:

raise us, who trust in him,

from the death of sin to the life of righteousness,

that we may seek those things which are above,

where he reigns with you

in the unity of the Holy Spirit,

one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

Reading: Psalm 23

My Shepherd:

Chorus: The Lord’s my Shepherd

The Lord’s my shepherd, I’ll not want

He makes me lie in pastures green.

He leads me by the still, still waters,

His goodness restores my soul.

 *And I will trust in You alone (x2)*

 *For Your endless mercy follows me,*

 *Your goodness will lead me home.*

He guides my ways in righteousness,

And He anoints my head with oil,

And my cup, it overflows with joy,

I feast on His pure delights.

And though I walk the darkest path,

I will not fear the evil one,

For You are with me, and Your rod and staff

Are the comfort I need to know.

Reading: John 10: 11-18

Address:

Prayers:

Faithful Shepherd,

In this time of uncertainty and distress

Sustain and support the anxious and fearful,

Strengthen the weak and keep safe the vulnerable,

Provide for the hungry and tend the sick

That we may all rejoice in your promise of eternal life

Knowing that nothing can separate us from your love.

Lord in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Sovereign Lord,
who alone gives wisdom ad understanding:

Inspire and guide the hearts and minds of those in government,

That they may faithfully and diligently discharge their duty

And provide for the needs of our nation,

Our businesses, our schools, our emergency services,

All who are employed and unemployed, the healthy and the sick,

Remembering especially the vulnerable, the poor and the bereaved.

Lord in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Gracious God,
who has established your church

To be a bastion for truth, a champion for justice

and a light for those in darkness.

Send forth your Spirit into our hearts

That we might love our neighbour as ourselves

And live for your glory.
Lord in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Loving Father,

We pray for our charities and care organisations,

That bring help, healing and hope to all in need.

Provide and sustain them through this difficult time

Grant them courage and compassion

as they respond to the growing demands placed upon them.

Lord in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Faithful Father,

We give thanks for the selfless and courageous service and sacrifice

of those who brought peace to Europe,

and for the good example they have given us;

May their example inspire us to serve

Using our talents and without counting the cost

That we may build a nation founded on hope, love and peace.

Lord in your mercy, **hear our prayer**

Merciful God,
we entrust to your tender care
all who are unwell, vulnerable or disabled
Keep them under the shadow of your wings.
Comfort and heal them, protect and sustain them.

We pray also for all who have lost loved ones,

Remembering especially those who died caring for others.
Lord in your mercy, **hear our 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.**

Closing Hymn: I cannot tell

I cannot tell why He whom angels worship

Should set His love upon the sons of men,

Or why, as Shepherd, He should seek the wanderers,

To bring them back, they know not how or when.

But this I know, that He was born of Mary,

When Bethlehem’s manger was His only home,

And that He lived at Nazareth and laboured,

And so the Saviour, Saviour of the world is come.

I cannot tell how silently He suffered,

As with His peace, He graced this world of tears,

Or how His heart upon the cross was broken,

The crown of pain to three and thirty years.

But this I know, He heals the broken-hearted,

And stays our sin and calms our lurking fear,

And lifts the burden from the heavy laden,

For yet the Saviour, Saviour of the world is here.

I cannot tell how He will win the nations,

How He will claim His earthly heritage,

How satisfy the needs and aspirations

Of east and west, of sinner and of sage.

But this I know, all flesh shall see His glory,

And He shall reap the harvest He has sown,

And some glad day His sun shall shine in splendour

When He the Saviour, Saviour of the world, is known.

I cannot tell how all the lands shall worship,

When at His bidding, every storm is stilled,

Or who can say how great the jubilation

When all the hearts of men with love are filled.

But this I know, the skies will thrill with rapture,

And myriad, myriad human voices sing,

And earth to heaven, and heaven to earth will answer:

At last the Saviour, Saviour of the world, is King!

Blessing:

God of our salvation, you have restored us to life,

You have brought us back again into your love

By the triumphant death and resurrection of Jesus Christ.

Continue your work of salvation in us,

As we live and work in the power of your Spirit

To your praise and glory.

and the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit,

be with you and remain with you, this day and for ever more. **Amen.**