



# The Fourth Sunday of Eastertide

## St. George's Church

Glenn Dale Parish • The Episcopal Diocese of  
Washington  
April 25, 2021

**Prelude: Psalm 23 by Gwyneth Walker (b. 1947)**

### Opening Hymn: Gather # 539 *Gather Us In*

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Here in this place new light is stream-ing, Now is the dark-ness  
We are the young-our lives are a mys-t'ry, we are the old- who  
Here we will take the wine and the wa-ter, Here we will take the  
Not in the dark of build-ings con-fin-ing, Not in some heav-en,



van-ished a-way, See in this space our fears and our dream-ings,  
yearn for your face, We have been sung through-out all of his-t'ry,  
bread of new birth, Here you shall call your sons and your daught-ers,  
light-years a-way, But here in this place the new light is shin-ing,



Brought here to you in the light of this day. Gath-er us in the  
Called to be light to the whole hu-man race. Gath-er us in - the  
Call us a-new to be salt for the earth. Give us to drink the  
Now is the King-dom, now is the day. Gath-er us in and



lost and for-sak-en, Gath-er us in the blind and the lame; Call to us now, and  
rich and the haugh-ty, Gath-er us in-the proud and the strong; Give us a heart so  
wine of com-pas-sion, Give us to eat the bread that is you; Nour-ish us well, and  
hold us for ev-er, Gath-er us in and make us your own; Gath-er us in all



we shall a-wak-en, We shall a-rise at the sound of our name.  
meek and so low-ly, Give us the cour-age to ent-er the song.  
teach us to fash-ion Lives that are ho-ly and hearts that are true.  
peo-ples to-geth-er, fire of love in our flesh and our bone.

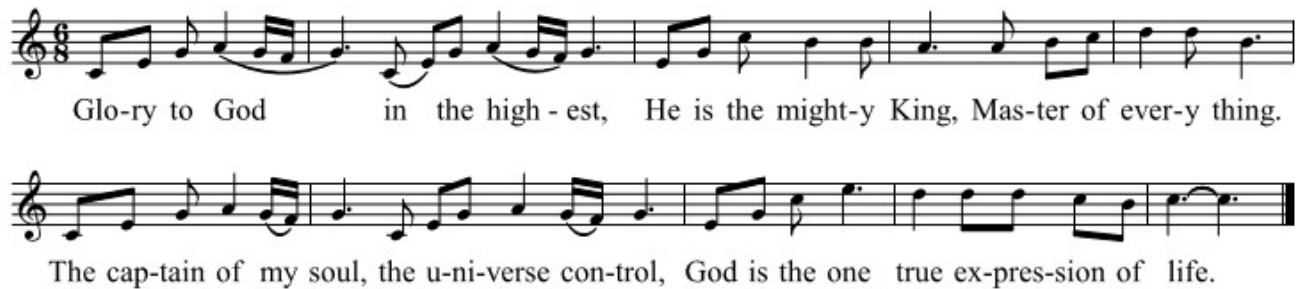
*Celebrant:* Alleluia. Christ is Risen!

*People:* **The Lord is risen indeed. Alleluia!**

*All pray together:* **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.**

### **Gloria: LEVAS #53 *Glory to God in the Highest***

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### **The Collect of the Day**

*Celebrant:* The Lord be with you.

*People:* **And also with you.**

*Celebrant:* Let us pray together the Collect of the day: **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.**

### **1 John 3:16-24**

*Read by Alix Volel-Stech*

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. The Word of the Lord. **People: Thanks be to God**

### **Psalm 23**

The Lord is my shepherd: **therefore can I lack nothing.**

You Lord make me lie down in green pastures: **and lead me beside the waters of peace.**

You revive my spirit: **and guide me in right pathways for your name's sake.**

Though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil:

**for you are with me, your rod and your staff are my comfort.**

You spread a table for me in the sight of my enemies:  
**you have anointed my head with oil, and my cup is overflowing.**  
 Surely your goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life:  
**and I will dwell in the house of the Lord forever.**

The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according John. **Glory to you, Lord Christ.**

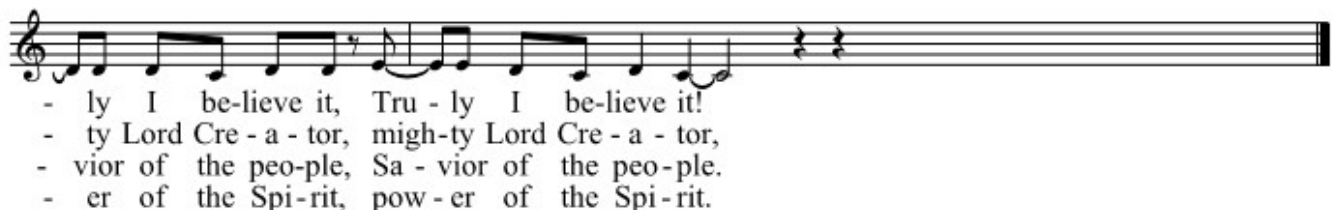
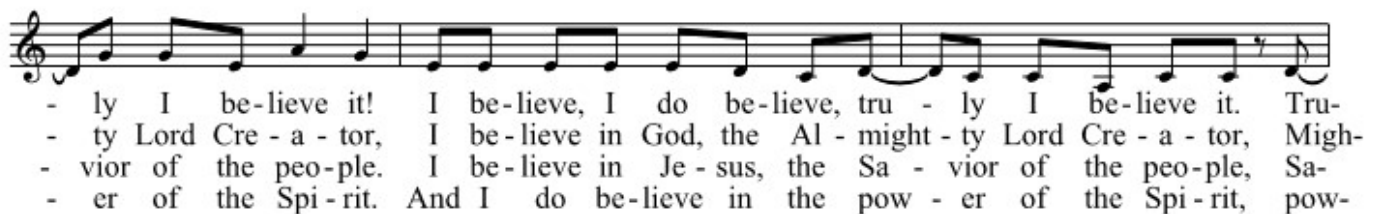
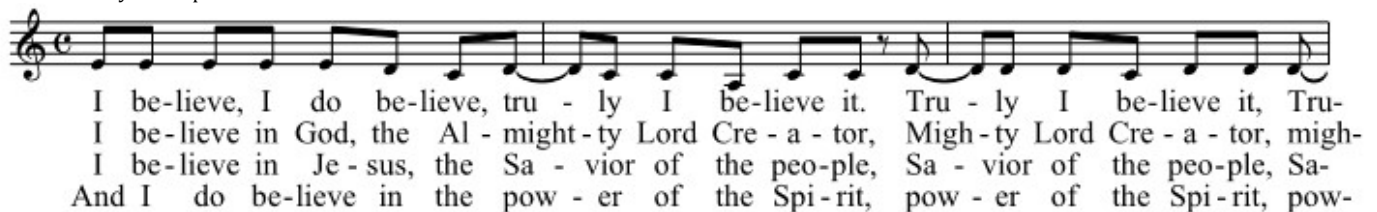
### John 10:11-18

Jesus said, "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." The Gospel of the Lord. **Praise to you, Lord Christ.**

**The Sermon:      The Rev. Sarah Motley**

### The Creed: *I Believe I Do Believe*

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## The Prayers of the People

*Led by Carolyn Lassiter*

Celebrating the gift of new life in Christ in the power of the Resurrection, we offer our prayers for the world, the Church, and all in any need, saying, To you, living Christ:

**We offer our prayers and praise. Alleluia!**

God of new life, in thanksgiving we pray for our church and its leaders, for Michael our presiding bishop, for Mariann our bishop, Connie our rector, and for Thelma and those who minister to us and support us. We lift up the community of St. George's as we reach out to support one another, thankful for the gifts of lay ministry that we employ to serve one another: To you, living Christ:

**We offer our prayers and praise. Alleluia!**

God of new life, because of the Resurrection, your light breaks into our darkness; your love breaks down our fear; your presence breaks open our lives, and so we praise you with open hearts. To you, living Christ: **We offer our prayers and praise. Alleluia!**

God of new life, because of the Resurrection, each day contains your promise. May we seize every opportunity to share your compassion and justice. To you, living Christ:

**We offer our prayers and praise. Alleluia!**

God of new life, because of the Resurrection, every part of life is bursting with possibility. May we be willing to confront the power of poverty, of hunger, of neglect, of war and all brokenness, trusting your life-giving promise of healing, wholeness, and transformation. To you, living Christ:

**We offer our prayers and praise. Alleluia!**

God of new life, because of the Resurrection death does not have the last word. We pray that you would use us to extend your healing touch to those who are sick, your strengthening touch to those who serve, and your compassionate touch to those who suffer in any way, especially those on our parish prayer list, and those suffering from the effects of the Covid-19 virus. Give comfort to those who have died, especially the lives lost to the pandemic in our country and around the world. Bring peace and comfort to those who mourn. To you, living Christ: **We offer our prayers and praise. Alleluia!**

God of new life, because of the Resurrection, we can live into the abundant life you promise. We ask you to walk with us and guide us on our way, this day and always. To you, living Christ: **We offer our prayers and praise. Alleluia!**

With thanks for all your gifts, we pray these prayers, as well as those hidden in the depths of our hearts, to you, loving God, in the name of the risen Jesus. Amen.

## Announcements and Blessings for Birthdays & Anniversaries

*The celebrant then offers the following prayer for those celebrating birthdays and anniversaries:*

O God, our times are in your hand: Look with favor, we pray, on your servant(s) and anyone celebrating their birthday or anniversary this week as they begin another year. Grant that they may grow in wisdom and grace, and strengthen their trust in your goodness all the days of their lives; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**



**Online Services this Week on Zoom:**  
**Evening Prayer at 6:00 pm Tuesday and Thursday**  
**Compline at 8:00 pm Wednesday**

Links for these services as well as for the Sunday Live Stream via Zoom can be found on the Calendar page of the parish website.

## **The Offertory**

*The Celebrant says*

Do good works and share what you have, for these are the sacrifices pleasing to God.

Many thanks for your financial support of St. George's. We encourage you to give electronically wherever possible. You can use your phone to text stgeodragon to 72356. Or just use your web browser to go to [www.onrealm.org/StGeorgesChurch/Give](http://www.onrealm.org/StGeorgesChurch/Give). If your bank offers Zelle, you can use your banking app to send a donation via Zelle to [donations@stgeo.comcastbiz.net](mailto:donations@stgeo.comcastbiz.net).

## **Offertory Anthem: *The King of Love My Shepherd Is* arr. John Ness Beck**

*The King of love my shepherd is, whose goodness faileth never,  
I nothing lack if I am His, and He is mine forever.*

*Where streams of living water flow, my ransomed soul He leadeth,  
and where the verdant pastures grow, with food celestial feedeth.*

*In death's dark vale I fear no ill, with Thee, dear Lord, beside me,  
Thy rod and staff my comfort still; Thy cross before to guide me.*

*And so through all the length of days, thy goodness faileth never.  
Good Shepherd, may I sing Thy praise within Thy house forever.  
Good Shepherd, may I sing Thy praise within Thy house forever.  
Amen.*

## **The Great Thanksgiving**

**Celebrant:** The Lord be with you.

**People:** **And also with you.**

**Celebrant:** Lift up your hearts.

**People:** **We lift them to the Lord.**

**Celebrant:** Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**People:** **It is right to give God thanks and praise.**

*The Celebrant continues*

All thanks and praise are yours at all times and in all places, our true and loving God; and we especially 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. And so as the morning stars sing your praises we join the heavenly beings and all creation as we shout with joy:

## Sanctus: Hymnal 1982 # S125

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*Sanctus* Setting: From *A Community Mass*;  
Richard Proulx (b. 1937)

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow - er and might,  
 heaven and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho -  
 san - na in the high - est. Ho - san - na in the high - est.  
 Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Ho -  
 the high est, -  
 san - na in the high - est, Ho - san - na in the high - est.

1982:S125 2009.12.21

*The Celebrant continues:*

Glory and honor are yours, Creator of all, for your Word has never been silent; you called a people to yourself, as a light to the nations, you delivered them from bondage and led them to a land of promise. Of your grace, you gave Jesus to be human, to share our life, to proclaim the coming of your holy reign and give himself for us, a fragrant offering.

**Through Jesus Christ our Redeemer, you have freed us from sin, brought us into your life, reconciled us to you, and restored us to the glory you intend for us.**

We thank you that on the night before he died for us Jesus took bread, and when he had given thanks to you, he broke it, gave it to his friends and said: "Take, eat, this is my Body, broken for you. Do this for the remembrance of me."

After supper Jesus took the cup of wine, said the blessing, gave it to his friends and said, "Drink this, all of you: this cup is the new Covenant in my Blood, poured out for you and for all for the forgiveness of sin. Do this for the remembrance of me."

And so, remembering all that was done for us: the cross, the tomb, the resurrection and ascension, longing for Christ's coming in glory, and presenting to you these gifts your earth has formed and human hands have made, we acclaim you, O Christ:

**Dying, you destroyed our death.  
Rising, you restored our life.  
Christ Jesus, come in glory!**

Gracious God, we ask you to send your Holy Spirit upon us and upon these gifts of bread and wine that they may be to us the Body and Blood of your Christ. Grant that we, burning with your Spirit's power, may be a people of hope, justice, and love.

**Giver of life, draw us together in the Body of Christ, and in the fullness of time gather us with all your people into the joy of our true eternal home in you.**

Through Christ and with Christ and in Christ, by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, we worship you our God and Creator, in voices of unending praise:

**Blessed are you, now and forever. Amen.**

### **The Lord's Prayer**

*Celebrant:* The Risen Christ is in our midst, and so with Christ we pray:

**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. 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, and the power, and the glory, for ever and ever. Amen.**

### **The Breaking of the Bread**

*The bread is broken and silence is kept*

**Celebrant:** Alleluia. Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us;

**People:** **Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia.**

**Celebrant:** The gifts of God for the People of God. Take them in remembrance that Christ lived, died, and rose again for you, and feed on him in your hearts by faith, with thanksgiving.

*The Celebrant then says*

Mindful that not all are present physically to receive the sacrament, we pray with those who receive spiritual Holy Communion this day:



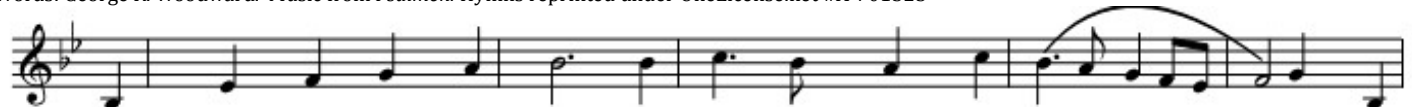


## The Blessing

The Peace of God, which passes all understanding, keep your hearts and minds in the knowledge and love of God, and of Jesus Christ our Lord. And may the blessing of God Almighty, God who created us, Christ Jesus who brings us new life, and the Holy Spirit who guides and sustains us, be with you now and remain with you always. **Amen.**

## Dismissal Hymn: Hymnal 1982 #192 *This Joyful Eastertide*

Words: George R. Woodward. Music from *Psalmen*. Hymns reprinted under OneLicense.net #A-701323



This joy - ful Eas - ter - tide, a - way with sin and sor - row! My  
Death's flood hath lost its chill, since Je - sus crossed the ri - ver: Lord  
My flesh in hope shall rest, and for a sea - son slum - ber, till



Love, the Cru - ci - fied, hath sprung to life this mor - row. Had  
of all life, from ill my pass - ing life de - li - ver.  
trump from east to west shall wake the dead in num - ber.



Christ, that once was slain, ne'er burst his three-day pri - son, our faith had been in



vain; but now is Christ a - ris-en, a - ris-en, a - ris-en, a - ris - en.

## The Dismissal

*Celebrant:* Let us go forth in the name of the Risen Christ. Alleluia, Alleluia!

*People:* Thanks be to God. Alleluia, Alleluia!

*Postlude: The King of Love My Shepherd Is* arr. Penny Rodriguez