

Readings, Collect and Year's Mind
Sunday 8th May, 2022
Easter 4

In our Year's Mind this week, we pray for Molly Natrass, Bill Boyd, Emily Langdon

We pray too for Sylvia Neil who died last week, and for Peter Martin.

We also give special prayers for Masami, Joan M., Delia, Nancy, Gonzalo, Jane T., Ukraine, its people, and the World, and the families and friends of Peter Martin and Sylvia Neil.

The Intercessions are being led by Pam Dugan

The Collect for Easter 4 is:

O God,
the light of whose truth stretches out to those who go astray,
that they may return to the path of righteousness:
give your grace to all who profess themselves Christians,
that they may cast out what is harmful,
and pursue all that gives life;
through Jesus Christ, our Lord,
who lives and reigns with you,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God, world without end. **Amen**

A Reading from Acts 9: 36-43

In Joppa there was a disciple whose name was Tabitha, which in Greek is Dorcas. She was devoted to good works and acts of charity. At that time she became ill and died. When they had washed her, they laid her in a room upstairs. Since Lydda was near Joppa, the disciples, who heard that Peter was there, sent two men to him with the request, 'Please come to us without delay.' So Peter got up and went with them; and when he arrived, they took him to the room upstairs.

All the widows stood beside him, weeping and showing tunics and other clothing that Dorcas had made while she was with them. Peter put all of them outside, and then he knelt down and prayed. He turned to the body and said, 'Tabitha, get up.' Then she opened her eyes, and seeing Peter, she sat up. He gave her his hand and helped her up. Then calling the saints and widows, he showed her to be alive.

This became known throughout Joppa, and many believed in the Lord. Meanwhile he stayed in Joppa for some time with a certain Simon, a tanner.

This is the Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Psalm 23 (Read by Emma Rednall)

1. The Lord is my shepherd; I shall not be in want.
2. He makes me lie down in green pastures and leads me beside still waters.
3. He revives my soul and guides me along right pathways for his name's sake.
4. Though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I shall fear no evil;
for you are with me; your rod and your staff, they comfort me.
5. You spread a table before me in the presence of those who trouble me;
you have anointed my head with oil, and my cup is running over.
6. Surely your goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life,
and I will dwell in the house of the Lord for ever.

This is the Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

A Reading from Revelation 7: 9-17

After this I looked, and there was a great multitude that no one could count, from every nation, from all tribes and peoples and languages, standing before the throne and before the Lamb, robed in white, with palm branches in their hands. They cried out in a loud voice, saying 'Salvation belongs to our God who is seated on the throne, and to the Lamb!' And all the angels stood around the throne and around the elders and the four living creatures, and they fell on their faces before the throne and worshipped God, singing, 'Amen! Blessing and glory and wisdom and thanksgiving and honour and power and might be to our God for ever and ever! Amen.'

Then one of the elders addressed me, saying, 'Who are these, robed in white, and where have they come from?' I said to him, 'Sir, you are the one that knows.' Then he said to me, 'These are they who have come out of the great ordeal; they have washed their robes and made them white in the blood of the Lamb. For this reason they are before the throne of God, and worship him day and night within his temple, and the one who is seated on the throne will shelter them. They will hunger no more, and thirst no more; the sun will not strike them, nor any scorching heat; for the Lamb at the centre of the throne will be their shepherd, and he will guide them to springs of the water of life, and God will wipe away every tear from their eyes.'

This is the Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

The Gospel Reading is John 10: 22-30

Glory to Christ our Saviour

At that time the festival of the Dedication took place in Jerusalem. It was winter, and Jesus was walking in the temple, in the portico of Solomon. So the Jews gathered around him and said to him, 'How long will you keep us in suspense? If you are the Messiah, tell us plainly.' Jesus answered, 'I have told you, and you do not believe. The works that I do in my Father's name testify to me; but you do not believe, because you do not belong to my sheep. My sheep hear my voice. I know them, and they follow me. I give them eternal life, and they will never perish. No one will snatch them out of my hand. What my Father has given me is greater than all else, and no one can snatch it out of the Father's hand. The Father and I are one.'

This is the Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Post Communion 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

The sung Communion Setting is the Festival Mass by Noel Rawsthorne.

The Hymns are from New English Hymnal

457 The king of love my shepherd is

282 Faithful shepherd, feed me

486 We have a gospel to proclaim

Anthem: Psalm 23, by Schubert