

Guardian Angels Catholic Community
April 22, 2018 – 4th Sunday of Easter & Earth Day
www.guardianangelscatholiccommunity.org
Acts 4:8-12; 1 John 3:1-2; John 10:11-18
(everyone joins in with the text in **BOLD**)



Announcements

Gathering: #120 Morning Has Broken

GREETING

+In the name of the Father, and of the Son,
and of the Holy Spirit. **AMEN**

The grace and peace of the Living God:
Creator; Jesus, and Spirit, is with each of you!
And also with you!



INTRO to SPRINKLING RITE – WE REMEMBER OUR BAPTISM:
We may sometimes wonder where we “belong” in a world that seems so wrought by division. In today’s Gospel, Jesus uses the ancient, but still powerful, image of the good shepherd who knows and protects his flock. Easter celebrates that we have been made one people by his death and resurrection. Baptism and Eucharist intensify our place in this body. Nothing could be more unifying than that.

GLORY/GLORIA (Sprinkling Rite)

Refrain: **Glory! Glory to God! Glory to God in the highest!
Gloria! Gloria a Dios! Gloria a Dios en el cielo!**

Women: And peace to God's people on earth

Men: Paz en la tierra (repeat)

Lord God, Heavenly King, Almighty God and Father

Lord Jesus Christ, Lamb of God only Son of the Father,

Refrain

**You take away the sins of the world,
You are seated at the Father's right hand,
receive our prayer.** Refrain

You alone are the Holy One.

You alone are the Most High,

Jesus Christ, in the glory of God the Father. Refrain

OPENING PRAYER

**Loving God, you sent Jesus to shepherd us into the
mystery of your love. Guided by his Spirit, may we hear
his voice calling us in love and to love in all the events
of life. We ask this in his name confident that you will
hear us. AMEN**

LITURGY OF THE WORD

1st Reading

Hear what the Spirit is saying to the Church. **Thanks be to God.**

RESPONSORIAL PSALM:

**Shepherd me, O God, beyond my wants,
beyond my fears, from death into life.**

2nd Reading

Hear what the Spirit is saying to the Church. **Thanks be to God.**

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION (sung)

Cantor: Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia

All: **Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia**

Verse

All: **Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia x 2**

The Lord is with you. **And also with you.**

A reading from the holy + Gospel according to.....

Glory to you, Lord.

The Gospel, the Good News of Jesus Christ.

Praise to you Jesus Christ!

Homily





PROFESSION OF FAITH (A creed from the United Church of Canada, 1980)

We are not alone, we live in God's world.

We believe in God:

**who has created and is creating,
who has come in Jesus,
the Word made flesh,
to reconcile and make new,
who works in us and others by the Spirit.**

We trust in God.

We are called to be the Church:

**to celebrate God's presence,
to love and serve others,
to seek justice and resist evil,
to proclaim Jesus,
crucified and risen,
our judge and our hope.**

**In life, in death, in life beyond death,
God is with us.**

We are not alone. Thanks be to God.



PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

We pray now for a world that longs for unity.

*For the whole church, the body of Christ: that we may be a viable sign of unity among all people, we pray:

Lord, hear our prayer.

*For leaders charged with the responsibility of those in their care, whether they be world leaders or those within the church: that they may imitate the example of the Good Shepherd, we pray: **Lord, hear our prayer.**

*For a deeper sense of responsibility for the Earth and its environment as we celebrate Earth Day this week, we pray: **Lord, hear our prayer.**

*For our parish ministries that promote unity and love by feeding, embracing, consoling, teaching, assisting and forgiving others; and for those who are served, we pray: **Lord, hear our prayer.**

For what else shall we pray?

For all these spoken prayers

and for all those unspoken in our hearts, we pray:

Loving God, from the beginning of time you have called the human race to be one. Forgive us when we violate or prevent unity, and empower us to seek and strengthen it wherever we can. We ask this in the name of your Son, who died and rose that we might be one. AMEN

Preparation: The King Of Love My Shepherd Is

The king of love my shepherd is,

whose goodness fails me never;

I nothing lack if I am his, and he is mine forever.

Refrain: **How can my heart turn away? Jesus, I love you.**

Jesus, I love you. You are my song and my strength.

Jesus, I love you.

Where streams of living water flow with gentle care he leads me, and where the verdant pastures grow, with heav'nly food he feeds me. Refrain

Perverse and foolish I have strayed, but yet in love he sought me, and on his shoulder gently laid, and home, rejoicing brought me. Refrain

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

SIGN OF PEACE

Jesus you said to your friends, I leave you peace, my peace I give you. Grant that all of God's children may enjoy the peace and unity of your reign where you live forever and ever. **AMEN**

The peace of Jesus is with each of you! **And also with you!**

Let us offer each other a sign of peace and then join together around the Table of the Lord.

LITURGY OF THE EUCHARIST

(Presider lifts paten with bread into hands and says:)

Blessed are you, God of all Creation, through your goodness we have this bread to offer, which earth has given and human hands have made, it will become for us the bread of life.

Blessed be God forever!

(Wine and water are poured into the chalice. Presider says:)

By the mystery of this water and wine may we come to share in the divinity of Christ, who humbled himself to share in our humanity.

(Presider takes chalice and says:)

Blessed are you, God of all Creation, through your goodness we have this wine to offer, fruit of the vine and work of human hands, it will become for us our spiritual drink.

Blessed be God forever!

As we prepare to break this bread and share this cup we remember those who journey with us. For those who travel the way of the Hindus, those who follow the path of Buddha, for our sisters and brothers of Islam, for Native peoples everywhere, for the Jewish people from whom we come, for all Christians and for all others who walk the way of faith.

**Holy God, accept this offering,
for the praise and glory of Your name,
for our good and the good of all Your people.**

Christ lived and died for love. Let us remember him with this feast.

**All who seek God and are drawn to Christ
are welcome at God's table.**

PRAYER OVER THE GIFTS

**God of tender love, you spread the table of life before us
and fill us with the cup of salvation. Grant us comfort in
the fellowship of our savior and good shepherd,
Jesus Christ, our Lord. AMEN**

PREFACE

The Lord is with you. **And also with you.**

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them up to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to our God.

It is right to give God thanks and praise.

Eternal God, Creator of all, it is right that we give you praise and glory as we come in thanksgiving, for you are the one God, living and true. Source of life, you have blessed all creation in love and in joy. You never cease to call us to a new and more abundant life.

**You invite us to trust in your mercy for you are always
ready to forgive us and to gift us with peace when we
forgive, too. You ask us to serve the family of God by
opening our hearts to the fullness of your Holy Spirit
and to proclaim the power of your love.**

In wonder and gratitude, we join our voices with the choirs of angels and saints who have gone before us, as we sing together:

Holy, Holy, Holy Lord God of Hosts.

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. Hosanna in the highest.

Loving God, you are holy indeed. All life, all holiness comes from you. We come to thank you for your Son, Jesus for it is through him that we experience your message of total acceptance of all people, a welcome that includes everyone and invites everyone to this Eucharistic table of equals.

It was Jesus who healed all divisions and recognized You, His Father, present within all of creation. He brought to light your way of compassion and justice, helping us to understand the need to care for each other with dignity and respect.

He taught us by his life and by his death and resurrection to be true to ourselves, even if we, also, might need to give up everything as he did. For it is in our own dying, that we, too, rise to new life.

(Presider extends hand over bread and wine and says:)

So now we remember another table filled with love and thanksgiving – that of the Last Supper. Let your Spirit come upon these our gifts to make them holy so that they may become for us + the body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ.

(Presider takes bread and says:)

It was at table with his friends that Jesus took bread and broke it, gave it to his disciples and said,

**Take this, all of you, and eat it.
This is my body which will be given up for you.**

(Presider takes chalice and says:)

When the supper was ended, again he gave you thanks and praise, gave the cup to his disciples and said,

Take this, all of you, and drink from it: This is the cup of my blood, the blood of the new and everlasting covenant. It will be shed for you and for all so that sins may be forgiven. Do this in memory of me.

Let us proclaim the mystery of faith: (sung)

Save us, Savior of the world, for by your Cross and Resurrection you have set us free.

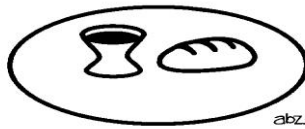
In memory of his death and resurrection, we offer you, Compassionate God, this life-giving bread, this saving cup. May all of us who share in the body and blood of Christ, be brought together in unity by the Holy Spirit.

One with the love of Christ, and joined with the love of all of us gathered here, we send prayers to all in leadership in every place of worship, especially for our Bishops Francis and Denise, and for all who serve the people of God.

We pray for all countries and their leaders that they may create justice and equality for their peoples; may peace come to our own country as well as to all troubled lands of our world.

We pray for all who are sick that health may soon be theirs, especially we pray for all who have died. (pause)
May they be in peace and may they welcome us, one day, into the place of eternal peace.

In that new world where the fullness of your peace will be revealed, gather people of every race, language and way of life to share in the one eternal banquet with Jesus Christ the Lord.



*(Bread and wine are held up as **WE** sing...)*

Through him, with him, in him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit all glory and honor is yours, almighty God, for ever and ever. Amen, Amen, Amen. (repeat)

Let us join hands and pray what Jesus has taught us to pray (chanted):

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 the kingdom, the power and the glory are yours Now and forever.

BREAKING OF THE BREAD

We break this bread and drink this cup for the earth we have wasted, for those who have no bread and for ourselves in our brokenness.

Lamb of God you take away the sin of the world, have mercy on us; Lamb of God you take away the sin of the world, have mercy on us; Lamb of God you take away the sin of the world, grant us peace.

(Presider breaks a small piece of host & drops it into chalice saying:)

May this mingling of the holy body and blood of Jesus Christ bring eternal life to us who receive it.

Jesus, with faith in your love and mercy we receive this Eucharist. Let it bring us health in mind, body and spirit.

This is Jesus the Christ who taught us how to live.
Happy are we who are called to his supper

**May we receive this gift in purity of heart.
May it bring us healing and strength now and forever.**

Holy Communion is a great privilege, a precious feast. And the host invites us all. "In Christ, there is no Jew or Greek, enslaved or free, male or female. All are one in Christ Jesus." (Gal 3:28) We encourage you to take your place at this holy table, for we understand and acknowledge that this is Christ's table and that this sacred meal is Christ's supper. We are all invited guests. No one is excluded. All are welcomed here!

Communion Songs: Comm 1: #161 One Bread, One Body
Comm 2: We Will Rise Again

Like a shepherd I will feed you; I will gather you with care. I will lead you and hold you close to my heart.

Refrain: **We will run and not grow weary,
for our God will be our strength,
and we will fly like the eagle, we will rise again.**

**I am strength to the weary; to the weak I am new life.
Though the young may grow weary,
I will be their hope.** Refrain

**Lift up your eyes, and see who made the stars.
I lead you, and I know you, I call you each by name.**
Refrain

**Fear not, I am with you; I am your God.
I will strengthen you and help you;
uphold you with my hand.** Refrain

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

**We give you thanks, O Shepherding God,
for welcoming us to your table.
May this eucharist renew in our assembly
the unity of a welcoming flock, following Christ.
Keep us safe, make us one,
and gather all children in love. AMEN**

FINAL BLESSING The Lord is with you... **And also with you.**

Let us bow our heads and pray for God's Blessing...

God of Holy Adventure,

inspire us to live by your adventurous vision,

as co-creators in the transformation of the world.

Awaken us to new possibilities waiting to be imagined.

Give us courage when the way is uncertain.

And open our hearts, so that we might bring beauty,

healing and love to those who journey beside us,

and to this good earth. In the name of the risen Christ,

who always goes before us. **AMEN!**

And may our loving God bless you today and always:

Father, Son + and Holy Spirit. **AMEN**

DISMISSAL

Our mass **never ends, it must be lived. So let us go forth**

to love and serve the Lord! Thanks be to God!

ALLELUIA!

Sending Forth: #134 Rain Down

Earth's habitus

A meditation on creation by Ken Sehested

"All of creation is a song of praise to God." —Hildegard of Bingen

Creation is not simply the props and drops,

the costumes and orchestra,

the catwalks and footlights

on the stage of salvation's drama.

Rather, creation is an active part

in history's narration.

Without the cosmos,

Salvation's story

cannot be comprehended.

Without earth's habitus,

the play's opening is obscured,

the storyline confused,

the finale unintelligible.

When John's Gospel surmises
that Jesus was the Word,
with God from the beginning
and without whom nothing was made,
John was affirming both

the sameness

and

the newness

of the Jesus story:

A seamless unfolding of divine purpose
marked with an exclamation point,
whose function is not vengeance but penitence,
whose dominion overturns all domination,
whose triumph is manifest as mercy,
whose royalty does not impugn dignity,
whose manner is not condescending but befriending,
whose nativity draws riff-raff shepherds and
strangers beyond covenant boundary,
whose warranty promises
to seed the barren,
deed the refugee,
feed the famished,
taming every terrorist threat,
draining usury's debt,
every racketeering fray,
every poacher's prey.

The earth, sisters and brothers, is the Lord's.
Mess with her at the peril
of your own heart's beat,
your own lungs' breath.

