SUNDAY SERVICE ... WITH A DIFFERENCE!



To journey in faith and share God's love

Welcome to our resource for a time of Prayer and Praise on the fourth Sunday of Easter, for use while we are unable to meet as a Congregation during this lock-down period. Despite the need to stay at home, we hope that you will feel united with all who make up our Parish at this time – and with Christian people around the world. We join with them in praising God and praying for one another ...we are never alone!

If possible, use this at the time you would normally join your fellow worshippers to be united with them. Safely light your Easter Candle, if you are using one. Have your Bible ready, sit comfortably.

The Risen Christ came into the midst of his disciples and said "Peace be with you" and they were glad when they saw the Risen Lord.

The Lord is here

Say or sing

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=yLxdb3ov-zE

The Lord's my Shepherd, I'll not want
He makes me down to lie
In pastures green; He leadeth me
The quiet waters by.

My soul he doth restore again
And me to walk doth make
Within the paths of righteousness,
E'en for his own name's sake.

Yea though I walk through death's dark vale,
Yet will I fear no ill;
For thou art with me and thy rod
And staff me comfort still.

My table thou hast furnished
In presence of my foes;
My head thou dost with oil anoint,
And my cup overflows.

Goodness and mercy all my life
Shall surely follow me,
And in God's house for evermore
My dwelling place shall be.

Introduction to confession

Christ our Passover Lamb has been sacrificed for us. Let us therefore rejoice by putting away all malice and evil and confessing our sins with a sincere and true heart.

O Lord, forgive what I have been, correct what I am, and order what I shall be; that I may do justly, and walk humbly with you my God. Amen.

A prayer to Collect us together:

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, your Son, our Lord, who lives with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen

Read from your Bible John 10. 1-10

Reflection: In Spain, as in Biblical times, the Shepherd lives with his sheep, leading them to green pastures in a dry land and clean water in parched places, and protects them from attack. It was to these isolated men that the angel brought the good news of Jesus' birth! We are sheep of the Good Shepherd known **by name.** Try and shepherd your neighbours, share with them that they too, are loved and known by name, by Jesus the Good Shepherd.

Prayers of intercession (by Susan Sayers – Living Stones - Kevin Mayhew 1998)

Good Shepherd of the sheep, we pray for the Church; for all congregations, for pastors, and all who administer word and sacrament; we pray particularly for bishops in their shepherding of the world Church. We pray for clear guidance and direction in those issues which disturb us, asking not that you lead us the easy way but the way that is right and good. *Silence*

Good Shepherd of the sheep, we pray for the world we inhabit – the world we have inherited and will pass on to successive generations. Teach us to look after it carefully and, to share its gifts more fairly, and work together to ease its sufferings. Turn the hearts of those who are excited by evil things and encourage the timid to speak out for what is wholesome and good. *Silence*

Good Shepherd of the sheep, we pray for our communities, our friends and neighbours, and for members of our families. We ask not for popularity at all costs, but the grace to do your will and be your witnesses to what it means to live lovingly, both when it is easy and also when it hurts. *Silence*

Will you come and follow me
If I but call your name?
Will you go where you don't know
And never be the same?
Will you let my love be shown,
Will you let my name be known,
Will you let my life be grown
In you and you in me?

Verse 2

Will you leave yourself behind
If I but call your name?
Will you care for cruel and kind
And never be the same?
Will you risk the hostile stare
Should your life attract or scare?
Will you let me answer prayer
In you and you in me?

Verse 3

Will you let the blinded see If I but call your name?
Will you set the prisoners free And never be the same?
Will you kiss the leper clean And do such as this unseen, And admit to what I mean In you and you in me?

Verse 4

Will you love the 'you' you hide
If I but call your name?
Will you quell the fear inside
And never be the same?
Will you use the faith you've found
To reshape the world around
Through my sight and touch and sound
In you and you in me?

Verse 5

Lord, your summons echoes true
When you but call my name.
Let me turn and follow you
And never be the same.
In your company I'll go
Where your love and footsteps show.
Thus I'll move and live and grow
In you and you in me.

The Blessing

The love of the Lord Jesus draw you to himself; the joy of the Lord Jesus fill your hearts; and the power of the Lord strengthen you in his service; and the blessing of God, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit be upon us and renus, always. Amen

They say laughter is the best medicine.....

BREAKING NEWS

Wearing a mask inside your home is now highly recommended. Not so much to prevent Covid-19 but to stop eating.

