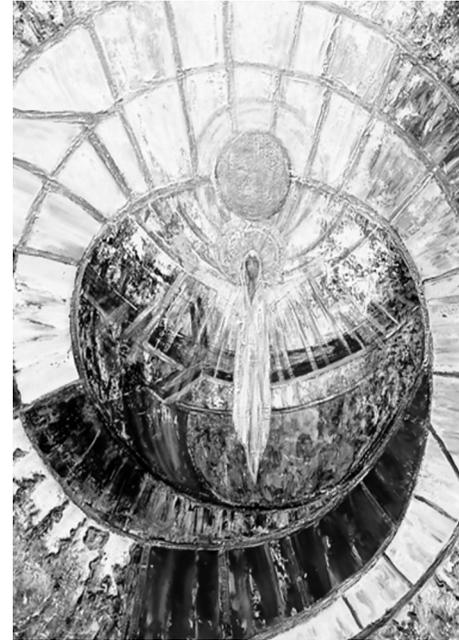


St Mary the Virgin, Mortlake



A service for the
4th Sunday of Easter
May 3rd at 10am

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The Greeting

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

The Lord be with you
and also with you.

Alleluia! Christ is risen!
He is risen indeed! Alleluia

Informal words of welcome are said.

Opening Hymn

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.

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

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.

Thou spreadst a table in my sight;
thy unction grace bestoweth;
and oh, what transport of delight
from thy pure chalice floweth!

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

The Prayers of Penitence

Christ died to sin once for all, and now he lives to God.
Let us confess our sins in penitence and faith.

Silence is kept

We pray together

**Father of all,
we give you thanks and praise,
that when we were still far off
you met us in your Son
and brought us home.
Dying and living,
he declared your love,
gave us grace,
and opened the gate of glory.
May we who share Christ's body, live his risen life;
we who drink his cup, bring life to others;
we whom the Spirit lights, give light to the world.
Keep us firm in the hope you have set before us,
so we and all your children shall be free,
and the whole earth live to praise your name;
through Christ our Lord.
Amen.**

Notices

The Children's Choir sing 'God of the earth and sky and sea'.

The Blessing

Christ the Good Shepherd,
who laid down his life for the sheep,
Fill you with his abundant life
and the blessing of God almighty,
the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit,
be among you and remain with you always.
Amen.

Dismissal

Go in the peace of Christ. Alleluia, Alleluia.
Thanks be to God. Alleluia, Alleluia.

Please join us for virtual coffee via Zoom.

Lord Jesus, you raise us to new life.
Lord, have mercy.
Lord, have mercy.
Lord Jesus, you forgive us our sins.
Christ, have mercy.
Christ, have mercy.

Lord Jesus, you feed us with the living bread.
Lord, have mercy.
Lord, have mercy.

Absolution

Almighty God, who forgives all who truly repent,
have mercy upon you,
pardon and deliver you from all your sins,
confirm and strengthen you in all goodness,
and keep you in life eternal;
through Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen.

The Collect

Risen Christ, faithful shepherd of your Father's sheep: teach us to hear
your voice and to follow your command, that all your people may be
gathered into one flock, to the glory of God the Father.
Amen

First Reading: Acts 2. 42 - end

They devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching and fellowship, to the
breaking of bread and the prayers. Awe came upon everyone, because
many wonders and signs were being done by the apostles. All who
believed were together and had all things in common; they would sell
their possessions and goods and distribute the proceeds to all, as any
had need. Day by day, as they spent much time together in the temple,
they broke bread at home* and ate their food with glad and generous
hearts, praising God and having the goodwill of all the people. And day
by day the Lord added to their number those who were being saved.

Psalm 23 (sung by members of St Mary's choir)

Second Reading: 1 Peter 2. 19 – end

For it is to your credit if, being aware of God, you endure pain while
suffering unjustly. If you endure when you are beaten for doing wrong,
where is the credit in that? But if you endure when you do right and suffer

for it, you have God's approval. For to this you have been called, because Christ also suffered for you, leaving you an example, so that you should follow in his steps. 'He committed no sin, and no deceit was found in his mouth.' When he was abused, he did not return abuse; when he suffered, he did not threaten; but he entrusted himself to the one who judges justly. He himself bore our sins in his body on the cross, so that, free from sins, we might live for righteousness; by his wounds you have been healed. For you were going astray like sheep, but now you have returned to the shepherd and guardian of your souls.

Gospel Acclamation (Celtic Alleluia)

Alleluia, alleluia. Alleluia, alleluia.

Fear not said the angel to Mary

He is not here he is risen

Go tell the world that Jesus is alive

Alleluia, alleluia. Alleluia, alleluia.

Gospel Reading John 10. 1 – 10

Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to John

Glory to you, O Lord.

'Very truly, I tell you, anyone who does not enter the sheepfold by the gate but climbs in by another way is a thief and a bandit. The one who enters by the gate is the shepherd of the sheep. The gatekeeper opens the gate for him, and the sheep hear his voice. He calls his own sheep by name and leads them out. When he has brought out all his own, he goes ahead of them, and the sheep follow him because they know his voice. They will not follow a stranger, but they will run from him because they do not know the voice of strangers.' Jesus used this figure of speech with them, but they did not understand what he was saying to them. So again Jesus said to them, 'Very truly, I tell you, I am the gate for the sheep. All who came before me are thieves and bandits; but the sheep did not listen to them. I am the gate. Whoever enters by me will be saved, and will come in and go out and find pasture. The thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy. I came that they may have life, and have it abundantly.

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

Sermon

After the sermon a short period of silent reflection is kept.

Prayers of Intercession (Helen Robinson)

The prayers conclude with

Merciful Father,

**Accept these prayers for the sake of your Son,
our Saviour Jesus Christ. Amen.**

The Lord's Prayer (we sit or kneel)

As our risen Saviour taught us, so we pray

**Our Father in heaven,
hallowed be your name,
your kingdom come,
your will be done, on earth as in heaven.
Give us today our daily bread.
Forgive us our sins,
as we forgive those who sin against us.
Lead us not into temptation
but deliver us from evil.
For the kingdom, the power,
and the glory are yours,
now and forever.
Amen**

Spiritual Communion

Loving Lord, we know that your risen presence is with us wherever we are. Since we cannot at this moment receive you in the bread and wine of the Eucharist, we ask you to open our eyes to your presence, to speak your words of peace to our anxious hearts and to help us to know the abundant life you offer in the week ahead. May we know that though we are for a time separated from one another, we can never be separated from you.

Amen

A time of silence follows as we open our hearts to God.

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