

COMMUNION ANTIPHON *Luke 24:35*

The disciples recognized the Lord Jesus
in the breaking of the bread, alleluia.

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PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Look with kindness upon your people, O Lord,
and grant, we pray,
that those you were pleased to renew by eternal mysteries
may attain in their flesh
the incorruptible glory of the resurrection.
Through Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

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A solemn blessing may be used.

**FOURTH SUNDAY OF EASTER****ENTRANCE ANTIPHON** *cf Psalm 32:5-6*

The merciful love of the Lord fills the earth;
by the word of the Lord the heavens were made, alleluia.

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COLLECT

Almighty ever-living God,
lead us to a share in the joys of heaven,
so that the humble flock may reach
where the brave Shepherd has gone before.
Who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

FIRST READING *Acts 2:14, 36-41*

God has made him both Lord and Christ.

On the day of Pentecost Peter stood up
with the Eleven and addressed the crowd
with a loud voice: 'The whole House of
Israel can be certain that God has made
this Jesus whom you crucified both Lord
and Christ.'

Hearing this, they were cut to the heart
and said to Peter and the apostles, 'What
must we do, brothers?' 'You must repent',
Peter answered, 'and every one of you
must be baptised in the name of Jesus
Christ for the forgiveness of your sins,

and you will receive the gift of the Holy
Spirit. The promise that was made is for
you and your children, and for all those
who are far away, for all those whom the
Lord our God will call to himself'. He
spoke to them for a long time using many
arguments, and he urged them, 'Save
yourselves from this perverse generation'.
They were convinced by his arguments,
and they accepted what he said and
were baptised. That very day about three
thousand were added to their number.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM *Psalm 22, response v 1*

**The Lord is my shepherd;
there is nothing I shall want.**

or

Alleluia! *(may be repeated two or three times)*

- 1 The Lord is my shepherd;
there is nothing I shall want.
Fresh and green are the pastures
where he gives me repose.
Near restful waters he leads me,
to revive my drooping spirit.
- 2 He guides me along the right path;
he is true to his name.
If I should walk in the valley of darkness
no evil would I fear.
You are there with your crook and your staff;
with these you give me comfort.
- 3 You have prepared a banquet for me
in the sight of my foes.
My head you have anointed with oil;
my cup is overflowing.
- 4 Surely goodness and kindness shall follow me
all the days of my life.
In the Lord's own house shall I dwell
for ever and ever.

SECOND READING *1 Peter 2:20-25*

You have come back to the shepherd of your souls.

The merit, in the sight of God, is in
bearing punishment patiently when
you are punished after doing your duty.
This, in fact, is what you were called to
do, because Christ suffered for you and
left an example for you to follow the
way he took. He had not done anything
wrong, and there had been no perjury
in his mouth. He was insulted and did
not retaliate with insults; when he was

tortured he made no threats but he put
his trust in the righteous judge. He was
bearing our faults in his own body on
the cross, so that we might die to our
faults and live for holiness; through
his wounds you have been healed. You
had gone astray like sheep but now you
have come back to the shepherd and
guardian of your souls.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION *John 10:14*

Alleluia, alleluia!
 I am the good shepherd, says the Lord;
 I know my own sheep and my own know me.
 Alleluia!

GOSPEL *John 10:1–10*

The Lord be with you.
 And with your spirit.

A reading from the holy Gospel according to John.
 Glory to you, O Lord.

I am the gate of the sheepfold.

Jesus said: 'I tell you most solemnly, anyone who does not enter the sheepfold through the gate, but gets in some other way is a thief and a brigand. The one who enters through the gate is the shepherd of the flock; the gate-keeper lets him in, the sheep hear his voice, one by one he calls his own sheep and leads them out. When he has brought out his flock, he goes ahead of them, and the sheep follow because they know his voice. They never follow a stranger but run away from him: they do not recognise the voice of strangers.'

Jesus told them this parable but they failed to understand what he meant by telling it to them.

PRAYER OVER THE OFFERINGS

Grant, we pray, O Lord,
 that we may always find delight in these paschal mysteries,
 so that the renewal constantly at work within us
 may be the cause of our unending joy.
 Through Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Preface of Easter, pp 74–75.

COMMUNION ANTIPHON

The Good Shepherd has risen,
 who laid down his life for his sheep
 and willingly died for his flock, alleluia.

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So Jesus spoke to them again:

'I tell you most solemnly, I am the gate of the sheepfold. All others who have come are thieves and brigands; but the sheep took no notice of them. I am the gate. Anyone who enters through me will be safe: he will go freely in and out and be sure of finding pasture. The thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy. I have come so that they may have life and have it to the full.'

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

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Look upon your flock, kind Shepherd,
 and be pleased to settle in eternal pastures
 the sheep you have redeemed
 by the Precious Blood of your Son.
 Who lives and reigns for ever and ever. **Amen.**

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A solemn blessing may be used.

FIFTH SUNDAY OF EASTER**ENTRANCE ANTIPHON** *cf Psalm 97:1–2*

O sing a new song to the Lord,
 for he has worked wonders;
 in the sight of the nations
 he has shown his deliverance, alleluia.

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COLLECT

Almighty ever-living God,
 constantly accomplish the Paschal Mystery within us,
 that those you were pleased to make new in Holy Baptism
 may, under your protective care, bear much fruit
 and come to the joys of life eternal.
 Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son,
 who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
 one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

FIRST READING *Acts 6:1–7*

They elected seven men full of the Holy Spirit.

About this time, when the number of disciples was increasing, the Hellenists made a complaint against the Hebrews: in the daily distribution their own widows were being overlooked. So the Twelve called a full meeting of the disciples and addressed them, 'It would not be right for us to neglect the word of God so as to give out food; you, brothers, must select from among yourselves seven men of good reputation, filled with the Spirit and with wisdom; we will hand over this duty to them, and continue to devote ourselves to prayer and to

the service of the word'. The whole assembly approved of this proposal and elected Stephen, a man full of faith and of the Holy Spirit together with Philip, Prochorus, Nicanor, Timon, Parmenas, and Nicolaus of Antioch, a convert to Judaism. They presented these to the apostles, who prayed and laid their hands on them.

The word of the Lord continued to spread: the number of disciples in Jerusalem was greatly increased, and a large group of priests made their submission to the faith.

The word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.