

Order of Service, Readings, and Prayer

4th Sunday of Easter 2026

**Fourth Sunday of Easter
April 26, 2026**

THE GATHERING

Welcome

Parish Announcements

Prelude

- *Confession and Forgiveness p. 94
- *Hymn *“Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing”* No. 807
- *Greeting & Kyrie p. 138
- *Canticle of Praise p. 140
- *Prayer of the Day Insert

PROCLAMATION OF THE WORD

- First Reading – Acts 2:42-47
- Psalm 23 (read responsively) Insert
- Second Reading 1 Peter 2:19-25
- *The Gospel Acclamation p. 142
- *Holy Gospel John 10:1-10
- Children’s Message Rev. Tim Smith**
- Children’s Church**

RESPONSE TO THE WORD

- The Message **Rev. Tim Smith**
- *Hymn *“Have No Fear, Little Flock”* No. 764
- *The Apostles’ Creed back of hymnal
- *The Prayers of Intercession p. 143
 - P: Merciful God,
 - C: receive our prayer.
- *The Peace
- *Hymn-*as Offerings brought forward* No. 885
- *Offertory Prayer
- *The Lord’s Prayer – Traditional p. 145

SENDING

- *The Blessing p. 146
- *The Sending Song *“All People That On Earth...”* No. 883
- **Cong. Stands in reverence as candles extinguished*
- *The Dismissal p. 146
- **The Congregation will stand in reverence.*



Today's Readings

Fourth Sunday of Easter
April 26, 2026

Prayer of the Day

O God our shepherd, you know your sheep by name and lead us to safety through the valleys of death. Guide us by your voice, that we may walk in certainty and security to the joyous feast prepared in your house, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

First Reading

Acts 2:42-47

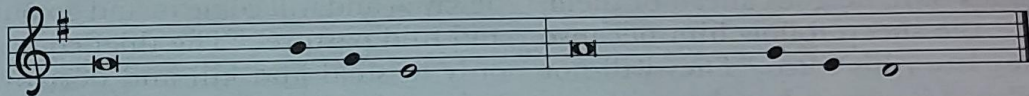
[The baptized] devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching and fellowship, to the breaking of bread and the prayers.

⁴³Awe came upon everyone because many wonders and signs were being done through the apostles. ⁴⁴All who believed were together and had all things in common; ⁴⁵they would sell their possessions and

goods and distribute the proceeds to all, as any had need. ⁴⁶Day 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, ⁴⁷praising 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

Psalm 23; tone 11



The LORD ¹ is my shepherd;
I shall not ¹ be in want.

²The LORD makes me lie down
¹ in green pastures
and leads me be- ¹ side still waters.

³You restore my ¹ soul, O LORD,
and guide me along
right pathways
¹ for your name's sake.

⁴Though I walk through the valley
of the shadow of death,
I shall ¹ fear no evil;

for you are with me;
your rod and your staff,
they ¹ comfort me.

⁵You prepare a table before me
in the presence ¹ of my enemies;
you anoint my head with oil,
and my cup is ¹ running over.

⁶Surely goodness and mercy
shall follow me
all the days ¹ of my life,
and I will dwell
in the house of the ¹ LORD forever.

Second Reading

1 Peter 2:19-25

It is a commendable thing if, being aware of God, a person endures pain while suffering unjustly. ²⁰If you endure when you are beaten for doing wrong, what credit is that? But if you endure when you do good and suffer for it, this is a commendable thing before God. ²¹For to this you have been called, because Christ also suffered for you, leaving you an example, so that you should follow in his steps.

²²“He committed no sin, and no deceit was found in his mouth.”

²³When 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. ²⁴He himself bore our sins in his body on the cross, so that, having died to sins, we might live for righteousness; by his wounds you have been healed. ²⁵For you were going astray like sheep, but now you have returned to the shepherd and guardian of your souls.

Gospel

John 10:1-10

[Jesus said:] “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. ²The one who enters by the gate is the shepherd of the sheep. ³The gatekeeper opens the gate for him, and the sheep hear his voice. He calls his own sheep by name and leads them out. ⁴When he has brought out all his own, he goes ahead of them, and the sheep follow him because they know his voice. ⁵They will not follow a stranger, but they will run from him because they do not know

the voice of strangers.” ⁶Jesus used this figure of speech with them, but they did not understand what he was saying to them.

⁷So again Jesus said to them, “Very truly, I tell you, I am the gate for the sheep. ⁸All who came before me are thieves and bandits, but the sheep did not listen to them. ⁹I am the gate. Whoever enters by me will be saved and will come in and go out and find pasture. ¹⁰The thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy. I came that they may have life and have it abundantly.”

TODAY'S READINGS April 26, 2026

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Next Sunday's Readings: Acts 7:55-60; Psalm 31:1-5, 15-16; 1 Peter 2:2-10; John 14:1-14.

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