



## Christ Church, Rawdon

*Located in the traditional territories of the Haudenosaunee and the Huron-Wendat people.*

### The Fourth Sunday of Easter – May 3, 2020 A Service of the Word

*This service will be live streamed on Sunday, at 10am, on <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/789373873> and on Facebook at [www.facebook.com/pg/christchurchrawdon/posts/](http://www.facebook.com/pg/christchurchrawdon/posts/). You can also hear the audio by telephone at 438 809-7799 (when prompted, enter the meeting ID: 789 373 873).*

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*Prelude: Sheep May Safely Graze (Bach)*

*Hymn: The Lord's My Shepherd*

Alleluia! Christ is risen. **The Lord is risen indeed. Alleluia!**

May his grace and peace be with you. **May he fill our hearts with joy.**

*Confession and Absolution*

Jesus the Good Shepherd invites us to listen to his voice so that he may lead us to good pasture and restful waters, where our drooping spirits are revived and where we are refreshed to continue our earthly pilgrimage. Let us come back to the Lord who gathers the scattered sheep of his flock and calls them home to himself. *There is a pause for silent reflection.*

O Lord, you protect us from all who threaten evil and all that tempts us to sin.

Lord, have mercy upon us. **Lord, have mercy upon us.**

You call us, your flock, to make our home in you.

Christ, have mercy upon us. **Christ, have mercy upon us.**

You send your Holy Spirit to lead us into all truth.

Lord, have mercy upon us. **Lord, have mercy upon us.**

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

Glory to God in the highest, **and peace to his people on earth. Lord God, heavenly king, almighty God and Father, we worship you, we give you thanks, we praise you for your glory. Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father, Lord God, Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world: have mercy on us; you are seated at the right hand of the Father: receive our prayer. For you alone are the Holy One, you alone are the Lord, you alone are the Most High, Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit, in the glory of God the Father. Amen.**

*The Collect of the Day for Easter IV*

O God of peace, who brought again from the dead our Lord Jesus Christ, that great shepherd of the sheep, by the blood of the eternal covenant, make us perfect in every good work to do your will, and work in us that which is well-pleasing in your sight; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

*The First Reading: Acts 2:42-47*

Many were baptized and were added to the community. 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.

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

*Psalm 23 Refrain: The Lord is my shepherd, I shall not be in want.*

The Lord is my shepherd; I shall not be in want. He makes me lie down in green pastures and leads me beside still waters. **R**

He revives my soul and guides me along right pathways for his name's sake. Though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I shall fear no evil; for you are with me; your rod and your staff, they comfort me. **R**

You spread a table before me in the presence of those who trouble me; you have anointed my head with oil, and my cup is running over. Surely your goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life, and I will dwell in the house of the Lord for ever. **R**

*The Second Reading: 1 Peter 2:19–25*

Brothers and sisters: It is a credit to you if, being aware of God, you endure pain while suffering unjustly. If you endure when you are beaten for doing wrong, what credit is 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. Hear what the Spirit is saying to the Church. **Thanks be to God!**

Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! **Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!** I am the good shepherd, says the Lord: I know my own and my own know me. **Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!**

*The Holy Gospel: John 10: 1–10* **Glory to you, Lord Jesus Christ.**

Jesus said to the Pharisees: "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."

**Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.**

*Sermon*

Let us confess our faith as we say,

**We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.**

**We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one being with the Father. Through him all things were made. For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven: by the power of the Holy Spirit he became incarnate from the Virgin Mary, and was made man. For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate; he suffered death and was buried. On the third day he rose again in accordance with the scriptures; he ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end.**

**We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father. With the Father and the Son he is worshipped and glorified. He has spoken through the prophets. We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church. We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins. We look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen.**

*Intercessions and Thanksgivings (Please feel free to add your own prayers.)*

In joy and hope let us pray, saying after “we pray to the Father, “Lord, hear our prayer.”

We pray for the church throughout the world, for all who are in positions of authority and leadership in the church, for Mary, our Bishop, for Ronald, our Metropolitan, and Linda, our Primate. In our diocese we pray today for the Parish Workers, Custodians and Vergers assisting in our parishes. In the Anglican Communion, we pray for the Anglican Church in Japan, and for the dioceses of Mukono (Uganda), Yewa, Ikara, Ikeduru, Yola, & Ikka (Nigeria), Multan (Pakistan), Yirol, Nyang, Aluakluak, Mundri, & the Mundu area (South Sudan), Mumbai (North India), Yokohama (Japan), Mumias (Kenya), York (England) Ysabel (Melanesia), and the Yukon (Canada). We pray for the Catholicos of All Armenia, his Beatitude Karekin II. We give thanks for the religious witness in all its forms in the Church, and today we pray especially for the Community of the Companions of Jesus the Good Shepherd in the UK. We pray for our companions in the Territory of the People (Central BC), for the Diocese of Masasi, and for the Diocese of Jerusalem. We pray for our Parish, for our Incumbent, Fr Michael J. Robson, and all the members of this parish especially, this week, for Don and Valerie Rothdram. That our risen Saviour may fill us with the joy of his glorious and life-giving resurrection, we pray to the Father. **Lord, hear our prayer.**

That isolated and persecuted churches may find fresh strength in the good news of Easter, we pray to the Father. **Lord, hear our prayer.**

That God may grant us humility to be subject to one another in Christian love, we pray to the Father. **Lord, hear our prayer.**

That he may provide for those who lack food, work or shelter, we pray to the Father. **Lord, hear our prayer.**

We pray for those in positions of authority in the nations of the earth; in our own country for Elizabeth, our Queen, Julie Payette, our Governor General, Justin Trudeau, our Prime Minister, J. Michel Doyon, our Lieutenant Governor, François Legault, our Premier, Bruno Guilbault, our Mayor, and for all MPs, MNAs, and Councillors. We pray that they may govern wisely and for the good of all and especially at this time as they continue to struggle with difficult decisions in the wake of the Covid-19 pandemic. That by his power, war and famine may cease through all the world, we pray to the Father. **Lord, hear our prayer.**

We pray for those in need, distress or trouble, especially Jean Johnston, Gerry Bologna, Kate Dowie, Danny Fogarty, Krista Fleming, Clifford & Eileen Hale, Glenn Cartwright, Viola Wilde, Muriel Fleming, Douglas Lake, Marilee Marlin, Debbie Sweeney, Carolyn Maguire and for their families. We pray too for all who are suffering from the Covid-19 virus, for all whose lives have been disrupted, for those isolated from loved ones, for the doctors, nurses and other medical personnel who dealing both with this outbreak and with other medical needs, for the research workers seeking to find a vaccine and cure for this illness and others and for the success of their efforts. We pray for refugees, the lonely, victims of violence and natural disasters. We pray for all who are troubled in mind or spirit. That he may reveal the light of his presence to the sick, the weak and the dying, to comfort and strengthen them, we pray to the Father. **Lord, hear our prayer.**

For crew members of HMCS Fredericton lost in the helicopter crash last week, for their shipmates, friends and loved ones, for those involved in the search and recovery effort and for all who mourn, we pray to the Father. **Lord, hear our prayer.**

We pray for those who have died, especially, from our Book of Remembrance, for Pauline Finlayson (née St. Maurice), and all those whose years' mind falls at this time, that, according to his promises, all who have died in the faith of the resurrection may be raised on the last day, we pray to the Father. **Lord, hear our prayer.**

That he may send the fire of the Holy Spirit upon his people, so that we may bear faithful witness to his resurrection, we pray to the Father. **Lord, hear our prayer.**

Remembering our Lady, St John the Evangelist, Julian of Norwich and all the Saints, we commit ourselves, one another, and our whole life to Christ our God. **To you, O Lord.**

God of glory, by the raising of your Son you have broken the chains of death and hell: fill your Church with faith and hope; for a new day has dawned and the way to life stands open in our Saviour Jesus Christ. **Amen.**

O God, you have called your servants to ventures of which we cannot see the ending, by paths as yet untrodden, through perils unknown. Give us faith to go forward with good courage, not knowing where we go, but only that your hand is leading us and your love supporting us; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *(Eric Milner-White, 1884-1963)*

And now, as our Saviour Christ has taught us, we are bold to say,

**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 thine is the kingdom, the power, and the glory, for ever and ever. Amen.**

**Glory to God, whose power, working in us, can do infinitely more than we can ask or imagine. Glory to God from generation to generation, in the Church and in Christ Jesus, for ever and ever. Amen.**

Christ the good shepherd, who laid down his life for the sheep, draw *us* and all who hear his voice, to be one flock within one fold....

*Hymn: The King of Love My Shepherd Is*

Let us go forth in the name of the risen Christ. Alleluia!

**Thanks be to God. Alleluia!**

## CALENDAR FOR THE WEEK AHEAD

Monday	Easter Feria
Tuesday	Easter Feria
<b>Wednesday</b>	<b>St John the Evangelist</b>
Thursday	Easter Feria
Friday	Julian of Norwich, <i>Spiritual Teacher</i> (c. 1417)
Saturday	Easter Feria
<b>Sunday</b>	<b>The Fifth Sunday of Easter</b>

*During this difficult time, we are of course unable to pass the collection plate as usual. However, bills continue to come in and need to be paid, nonetheless. If you are still able to send a contribution on a regular basis that would be much appreciated and will help us to continue the ministry of Christ Church, here in Rawdon and elsewhere. You can mail donations to: Christ Church, 3537 rue Metcalfe, Rawdon, QC J0K 1S0*

*You can also contribute by credit card, via our page on the Canada Helps website, at <https://www.canadahelps.org/en/charities/870002847RR0001-christ-church>*

***Volunteers are needed (if you are in Rawdon and able to do so):***

*We normally have a cleanup day for the church and cemetery grounds at this time of the year. This year we have to be careful about not gathering together too many people at one time but help would still be appreciated. We aren't setting a specific time but would appreciate the help of anyone who would be able to come over, at a time of their convenience, and spend some time raking leaves, sticks and other refuse into a pile and leaving it where it can be picked up later. The areas where we are asking volunteers to focus their efforts are along the side of the church between it and Metcalfe and in front of the building, between it and 3e avenue. Thank you for any help you can give – but please be careful to maintain a safe social distance.*

*An online funeral is being planned for **Peggy Wilcox**, who died back in March, to take place next Sunday, **May 10<sup>th</sup>**, at **1pm**(Rawdon time) via Zoom. If you are interested in participating, please contact me at [mjrmtl@gmail.com](mailto:mjrmtl@gmail.com), or by phone at 450 834-4457, and I will send you the link information once I have it.*

Parish Priest: The Ven. M.J. Robson, 450 834-4457, <a href="mailto:mjrmtl@gmail.com">mjrmtl@gmail.com</a> Prayer Contact: John Clague, 450 834-3905, <a href="mailto:jclague@sympatico.ca">jclague@sympatico.ca</a> Parish Web Site: <a href="http://www.christchurchrawdon.com">www.christchurchrawdon.com</a>
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