

The Cathedral Church of All Saints

The Fourth Sunday of Easter

Sending Hymn CP 216

Ye Choirs of New Jerusalem

Tune: St. Fulbert

Postlude: *Meditation on Resignation*

Setting: *Raymond Haan*

Tune from W. Walker, *Southern Harmony 1835*

If you are the Messiah, tell us plainly!

I wonder if Jesus resisted the crowd's question that day because it was so pitifully inadequate. What good would it have done if he'd stood up in the temple at their insistence and yelled, "Yes! Yes, in fact, I am the Christ!" Would anything have changed? Suddenly, would his parables, his countercultural teachings, and his strange miracles have coalesced into an easy common sense? I doubt it. Jesus was a storytelling rabbi — far more interested in formation than in formula.

Maybe, by refusing to "speak plainly" Jesus was honoring human life for the incredibly complicated thing it is. After all, one doesn't "speak plainly" about the greatest mysteries of the universe. Jesus came to teach us about truth, about love, and about eternal life in God's just and transformative kingdom. One doesn't simply profess belief in such weighty and mysterious things — one lives into them, questions into them, believes into them, grows into them.

Sheep know their shepherd because they are his; they walk, graze, feed and sleep in his footsteps, beneath his rod and staff, within constant earshot of his voice. So we believe in the Christ as we belong to him — as we allow ourselves to become fully and deeply his. He walks ahead of us, and we will only learn his path by walking it. ~ *Debie Thomas*

<https://journeywithjesus.net/essays/919-belonging>



May 11, 2025

Piano Prelude: *Psalm XXIII*

Paul Creston (1906-1985)

Welcome & Territorial Acknowledgement

Opening Hymn: CP 519

The Lord's My Shepherd

Tune: Crimond

Children's Message



Collect

Eternal God,
from whose gentle hands
none can snatch us away:
give us faith to believe
that we are known and loved
with a passion strong enough
to bring the whole world back to you;
through Jesus Christ, who is one with you,
the Source of life. Amen.

Prayers for an Inclusive Church (2009)

The Proclamation of the Word

Reader A reading from the Book of Acts (9:36-43)

Now in Joppa there was a disciple whose name was Tabitha, which in Greek is Dorcas. She was devoted to good works and acts of charity. At that time she became ill and died. When they had washed her, they laid her in a room upstairs. Since Lydda was near Joppa, the disciples, who heard that Peter was there, sent two men to him with the request, 'Please come to us without delay.' So Peter got up and went with them; and when he arrived, they took him to the room upstairs. All the widows stood beside him, weeping and showing tunics and other clothing that Dorcas had made while she was with them. Peter put all of them outside, and then he knelt down and prayed. He turned to the body and said, 'Tabitha, get up.' Then she opened her eyes, and seeing Peter, she sat up. He gave her his hand and helped her up. Then calling the saints and widows, he showed her to be alive. This became known throughout Joppa, and many believed in the Lord. Meanwhile he stayed in Joppa for some time with a certain Simon, a tanner.

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

Psalm 23 [See Insert]

Reader A reading from the Book of Revelation (7:9-17)

After this I looked, and there was a great multitude that no one could count, from every nation, from all tribes and peoples and languages, standing before the throne and before the Lamb, robed in white, with palm branches in their hands. They cried out in a loud voice, saying,

'Salvation belongs to our God who is seated on the throne, and to the Lamb!'

And all the angels stood around the throne and around the elders and the four living creatures, and they fell on their faces before the throne and worshipped

God, singing,

'Amen! Blessing and glory and wisdom
and thanksgiving and honour
and power and might

be to our God for ever and ever! Amen.'

Then one of the elders addressed me, saying, 'Who are these, robed in white, and where have they come from?' I said to him, 'Sir, you are the one that knows.' Then he said to me, 'These are they who have come out of the great ordeal; they have washed their robes and made them white in the blood of the Lamb.'

For this reason they are before the throne of God,
and worship him day and night within his temple,
and the one who is seated on the throne will shelter them.

They will hunger no more, and thirst no more;
the sun will not strike them,
nor any scorching heat;
for the Lamb at the centre of the throne will be their shepherd,
and he will guide them to springs of the water of life,
and God will wipe away every tear from their eyes.'

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

Gradual Hymn [See Insert]

My Shepherd Will Supply My Need

Tune: Resignation

The Gospel

All stand, as able, for the proclamation of the Gospel.

Deacon The Lord be with you

People **And also with you.**

Deacon The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus
Christ according to John (10:22-30)

People **Glory to you, Lord Jesus Christ.**

At that time the festival of the Dedication took place in Jerusalem. It was winter, and Jesus was walking in the temple, in the portico of Solomon. So, the Jews gathered around him and said to him, 'How long will you keep us in suspense? If you are the Messiah, tell us plainly.' Jesus answered, 'I have told you, and you do not believe. The works that I do in my Father's name testify to me; but you do not believe, because you do not belong to my sheep. My sheep hear my voice. I know them, and they follow me. I give them eternal life, and they will never perish. No one will snatch them out of my hand. What my Father has given me is greater than all else, and no one can snatch it out of the Father's hand. The Father and I are one.'

At the conclusion of the Gospel, the Deacon says,
The Gospel of Christ.

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

Preparation Hymn CP 214

The Lamb's High Banquet Called to Share

Tune: St. Venantius



*Today our Bulletin, Wine and Hosts are in
Loving Memory of Merlene Seymour Adderly,
Nassau Bahamas*

Hymn during Communion CP 634

*Jesus, remember me when you come into your kingdom.
Jesus, remember me when you come into your kingdom.*

Source: The Taizé Community