St. Martin's Episcopal Church, Bridgewater, NJ Sung Mass + Fourth Sunday after Easter Good Shepherd Sunday and Mother's Day

May, 11 2025, 10:30 am

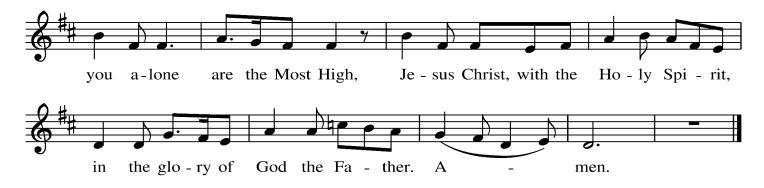


**Opening Hymn and Asperges:** Awake and Sing

Hymnal 1982, 181

Alleluia, Christ is Risen. The Lord is Risen indeed! Alleluia!





Setting: Peter Crisafulli, from **Music for the Holy Eucharist Rite II**, © 2002 Peter Crisafulli. Used by permission. All rights reserved.

### The Collect of the Day

O God, whose Son Jesus is the good shepherd of your people: Grant that when we hear his voice we may know him who calls us each by name, and follow where he leads; who, with you and the Holy Spirit, lives and reigns, one God, for ever and ever. *Amen*.

Most gracious God, who in your Son Jesus Christ reveals a lovingkindness that longs to gather up your children under the shadow of your wings: Bless, we pray, all mothers, especially those gathered here. Give them patience and wisdom. Deepen the tenderness of their affections. Affirm them in the nobility of their calling. And may we find in the embrace of mothers an outward and visible sign of your never-failing love and care. And through the love of our mothers, may we all feel the warmth of your tender mercies and know the constancy of your unconditional love; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. *Amen*.

### A Reading from the Acts of the Apostles Please be seated.

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. Word of the Lord. *Thanks be to God*.

**Psalm 23** The cantor sings the antiphon, and then the people repeat it.



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.

He revives my soul and guides me along right pathways for his Name's sake. (Antiphon)

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.

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. (Antiphon)

# A Reading from Revelation

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 worshiped God, singing, "Amen! Blessing and glory and wisdom and thanksgiving and honor and power and might be to our God forever 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 center 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." The Word of the Lord. Thanks be to God.

The Gospel Acclamation Please stand as able The Alleluia is sung by a Cantor, then repeated by all.



V. I am the Good Shepherd, says the Lord; I know my sheep and they know me.

**The Holy Gospel of Our Lord Jesus Christ according to John** *Glory to you, Lord 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." The Gospel of the Lord. *Praise to you, Lord Christ.* 

# The Homily

# The Nicene Creed Please stand

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 and the Son. With the Father and the Son he is worshiped 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.

### The Prayers of the People Remain standing, or kneel

Gathered in the care of the Good Shepherd and guardian of our souls, let us pray for the church and the world.

For all who serve the holy church of God, who shepherd the lost and care for those in need. We pray for Sean our Presiding Bishop, Sally our Diocesan, and we rejoice with our Roman Catholic brothers and sisters, and join our prayers with theirs for Pope Leo XIV. May the Spirit bring all Christians to greater unity. Lord, in your mercy: *hear our prayer* 

For all in the world who care for the sick, the dying, the hungry and the destitute. We pray especially for those affected by war and violence and those who seek to provide aid, that you will end all conflict and bring peace under the Good Shepherd. Lord, in your mercy: *hear our prayer* 

For those who are sick or in any need or trouble, that you would show them your loving care, especially Evelyn, Michael, Brent, Anna Rose, Joe, Pat, Brian, Pete, Laura, Amy, Jeffrey, Bill, Darlene Denise, Juan, Joan, Allison, Kristen and Tim; Lord, in your mercy: *hear our prayer* 

That, according to God's promises, Jim and all who have died in the faith of the resurrection may be raised on the last day, Lord, in your mercy: *hear our prayer* 

For all mothers who courageously love, guide, and care for their children, that would be filled with your love and grace; Lord, in your mercy: *hear our prayer* 

*Celebrant* O God, our Good Shepherd, we fear no evil because you are at our side. Hear our prayers for those who seek your justice and healing through Christ, our risen Lord. *Amen*.

# The Peace and Welcome

Offertory Anthem The Shepherd of My Soul

Austin Lovelace

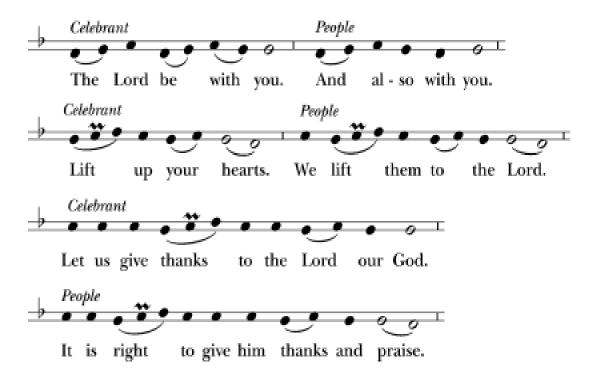
O Thou, in whose presence my soul takes delight, on whom in affliction I call, my comfort by day and my song in the night, my hope, my salvation, my all!

Where dost thou, dear Shepherd, resort with thy sheep, to feed them in pastures of love? Say, why in the valley of death should I weep, or alone in the wilderness rove?

O why should I wander, an alien from thee, or cry in the desert for bread? Thy foes will rejoice when my sorrows they see, and smile at the tears I have shed.

He looks! and ten thousands of angels rejoice, and myriads wait for his word. He speaks! and eternity, filled with his voice, re-echoes the praise of the Lord.

### The Great Thanksgiving



It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth. But chiefly are we bound to praise you for the glorious resurrection of your Son Jesus Christ our Lord; for he is the true Paschal Lamb, who was sacrificed for us, and has taken away the sin of the world. By his death he has destroyed death, and by his rising to life again he has won for us everlasting life. Therefore we praise you, joining our voices with Angels and Archangels and with all the company of heaven, who forever sing this hymn to proclaim the glory of your Name:



Setting: Peter Crisafulli, from **Music for the Holy Eucharist Rite II**, © 2002 Peter Crisafulli. Used by permission. All rights reserved.

#### Please continue standing or kneel as you are able.

All-holy God, how wonderful is the work of your hands! When sin had scarred the world, you entered into a covenant to renew the whole creation. As a mother tenderly gathers her children, you embraced your people and filled them with longing for a peace that would last, and for a justice that would never fail.

Through countless generations your people hungered for the bread of freedom. From them you raised up Jesus, our Savior, the living bread in whom ancient hungers are satisfied. He healed the sick, though he himself would suffer; he offered life to sinners, though he himself would die. And with a love stronger than death, he opened wide his arms on the cross and surrendered his spirit for our salvation.

On the night before he died, Jesus came to table with those he loved. He took bread and gave you thanks, O God. He broke the bread among his disciples, and said, Take, eat: this is my Body, which is given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me.

When supper had ended, he took a cup of wine, and again he gave you thanks and praise. He passed the cup among his disciples, and said, Drink this, all of you: this is my Blood of the New Covenant, which is shed for you and for all for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me.

Gracious God, we plead with confidence the sacrifice of Jesus, your Son. Death could not bind him, for you raised him up in the Spirit of holiness and exalted him as Lord of creation.

And so we proclaim the mystery of faith: Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.

Eternal God, we offer you these earthly gifts of bread and wine. Let your Holy Spirit move in power over them and sanctify them, that they may be for us the Body and Blood of your dear Son. Sanctify us also, and unite us in one body into the likeness of your Christ. May his coming in glory find us ever watchful in prayer, strong in truth and love, and faithful in the breaking of the bread. Then, at last, all people will be free, all divisions healed, and in union with The Ever Blessed Virgin Mary, the apostles, prophets, martyrs, St. Martin of Tour, and all your Saints, we will sing your praise, through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord. By him, and with him, and in him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit all honor and glory is yours, Almighty Father, now and forever. *AMEN*.

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

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy Name......

The FractionFraction Anthem Christ Our PassoverInvitation to CommunionBehold the Lamb of God who takes away the sins of the world.Happy are they who are called to his Supper

Hymnal 1982, S 155

**Communion Hymn** 



### **Post-Communion Prayer**

All Almighty and everliving God, we thank you for feeding us with the spiritual food of the most precious Body and Blood of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ; and for assuring us in these holy mysteries that we are living members of the Body of your Son, and heirs of your eternal kingdom. And now, Father, send us out to do the work you have given us to do, to love and serve you as faithful witnesses of Christ our Lord. To him, to you, and to the Holy Spirit, be honor and glory, now and forever. Amen.

# The Blessing

The God of peace, who brought again from the dead our Lord Jesus Christ, the great Shepherd of the sheep, through the blood of the everlasting covenant: Make you perfect in every good work to do his will, working in you that which is well-pleasing in his sight; and the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be among you and remain with you always. *Amen*.

# The Dismissal Closing Hymn *Savior, Like a Shepherd*

Hymnal 1982, 708

# **Serving Today**

Thurifer: Michael Malone Crucifer: Val Montrone Reader: Ben Todoroff Eucharistic Ministers: Kathy Picazio Choir: Alison Jandek, Beth Hixenbaugh, Jane Maloney, Rob Vernon Organist: Kathy Shanklin Celebrant: Father Rob Laws+ Usher: Paul Todoroff

# **UPCOMING EVENTS**

**Episcopal 101:** Come learn more about the Episcopal Church and St. Martin's Parish. This course meets on Sundays at 9:30 am in the Undercroft. This class is designed for persons who wish to be Confirmed, or Received as Members of the Episcopal Church if you have already received the Sacrament of Confirmation. This is also ideal for people who want to learn more about the Episcopal Church. See Father Rob for more information.

**Summer Schedule Begins on June 1**. We will have one Mass at 10 am. There will be incense on June 1, 8, 15, and 22 and on August 17. Summer schedule ends the Sunday after Labor Day.

Good Shepherd Sunday May 11 (and also Mother's Day)

Rogation Sunday May 25

Ascension Sunday and Holy Baptism Sunday June 1

Pentecost and Solemn Communion Celebration for Children Sunday June 8

Trinity Sunday June 15

Corpus Christi and Pride June 22

Pride Picnic to follow Mass

There will be a table at the picnic where we can write cards of affirmation and support that will be sent to LGBT+ youth and elders. Come create a card or write a letter and share the love of Christ with those who feel alone and need some support and love.

Somerville Pride on Division Street June 26 7-10 pm

St Martin's will have a table at the Pride event, with information about the church and messages of love and support for our LGBT+ neighbors. Please see Father Rob if you can come sit at the table and share info. about St Martin's to those who are interested.