

Fourth Sunday of Easter, April 22, 2018

First Reading: Acts 4:1-12, Holy Bible, page 1696

- Act 4:1 The priests and the captain of the temple guard and the Sadducees came up to Peter and John while they were speaking to the people.
- Act 4: 2 They were greatly disturbed because the apostles were teaching the people and proclaiming in Jesus the resurrection of the dead.
- Act 4:3 They seized Peter and John, and because it was evening, they put them in jail until the next day.
- Act 4:4 But many who heard the message believed, and the number of men grew to about five thousand.
- Act 4:5 The next day the rulers, elders and teachers of the law met in Jerusalem.
- Act 4:6 Annas the high priest was there, and so were Caiaphas, John, Alexander and the other men of the high priest's family.
- Act 4:7 They had Peter and John brought before them and began to question them: "By what power or what name did you do this?"
- Act 4:8 Then Peter, filled with the Holy Spirit, said to them: "Rulers and elders of the people!
- Act 4:9 If we are being called to account today for an act of kindness shown to a cripple and are asked how he was healed,
- Act 4:10 then know this, you and all the people of Israel: It is by the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth, whom you crucified but whom God raised from the dead, that this man stands before you healed.
- Act 4:11 He is " 'the stone you builders rejected, which has become the capstone.'
- Act 4:12 Salvation is found in no one else, for there is no other name under heaven given to men by which we must be saved."

Lector: The Word of the Lord

People: Thanks be to God.

Psalm 23, Holy Bible, page 862

Ps 23:1 The LORD is my shepherd, I shall not be in want.

Ps 23:2 **He makes me lie down in green pastures, he leads me beside quiet waters,**

Ps 23:3 he restores my soul. He guides me in paths of righteousness for his name's sake.

Ps 23:4 **Even though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil, for you are with me; your rod and your staff, they comfort me.**

Ps 23:5 You prepare a table before me in the presence of my enemies. You anoint my head with oil; my cup overflows.

Ps 23:6 **Surely goodness and love will follow me all the days of my life, and I will dwell in the house of the LORD forever.**

People: Glory be to the Father and to the Son, and the Holy Spirit. As it was in the beginning is now and will be forever. Amen.

Second Reading: 1 John 3:16-24, Holy Bible, pages 1901-1902

- 1John 3:16 This is how we know what love is: Jesus Christ laid down his life for us.
And we ought to lay down our lives for our brothers.
- 1John 3:17 If anyone has material possessions and sees his brother in need but has
no pity on him, how can the love of God be in him?
- 1John 3:18 Dear children, let us not love with words or tongue but with actions and
in truth.
- 1John 3:19 This then is how we know that we belong to the truth, and how we set
our hearts at rest in his presence
- 1John 3:20 whenever our hearts condemn us. For God is greater than our hearts,
and he knows everything.
- 1John 3:21 Dear friends, if our hearts do not condemn us, we have confidence
before God
- 1John 3:22 and receive from him anything we ask, because we obey his commands
and do what pleases him.
- 1John 3:23 And this is his command: to believe in the name of his Son, Jesus
Christ, and to love one another as he commanded us.
- 1John 3:24 Those who obey his commands live in him, and he in them. And this is
how we know that he lives in us: We know it by the Spirit he gave
us.

Lector: The Word of the Lord

People: (Please Stand)

Alleluia. Lord to whom shall we go?

You have the words of eternal life.

Alleluia. Alleluia.

Gospel: John 10:11-18, Holy Bible, pages 1666-1667

- John 10:11 “I am the good shepherd. The good shepherd lays down his life for the sheep.
- John 10:12 The hired hand is not the shepherd who owns the sheep. So when he sees the wolf coming, he abandons the sheep and runs away. Then the wolf attacks the flock and scatters it.
- John 10:13 The man runs away because he is a hired hand and cares nothing for the sheep.
- John 10:14 “I am the good shepherd; I know my sheep and my sheep know me—
- John 10:15 just as the Father knows me and I know the Father—and I lay down my life for the sheep.
- John 10:16 I have other sheep that are not of this sheep pen. I must bring them also. They too will listen to my voice, and there shall be one flock and one shepherd.
- John 10:17 The reason my Father loves me is that I lay down my life—only to take it up again.
- John 10:18 No one takes it from me, but I lay it down of my own accord. I have authority to lay it down and authority to take it up again. This command I received from my Father.”