

**Today's Readings**  
**30<sup>th</sup> April 2023**  
**Easter 4**

**THE COLLECT**

Risen Christ,  
faithful shepherd of your  
Father's sheep:  
teach us to hear your voice  
and to follow your command,  
that all your people may be  
gathered into one flock,  
to the glory of God the  
Father.

**FIRST READING**

**Acts 2.42-47**

They devoted themselves to  
the apostles' teaching and  
fellowship, to the breaking of  
bread and the prayers.  
<sup>43</sup> Awe came upon  
everyone, because many  
wonders and signs were  
being done by the  
apostles. <sup>44</sup> All who believed  
were together and had all  
things in common; <sup>45</sup> they  
would sell their possessions  
and goods and distribute the  
proceeds to all, as any had  
need. <sup>46</sup> 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, <sup>47</sup> 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.

**SECOND READING**

**1 Peter 2.19-25**

For it is to your credit if,  
being aware of God, you  
endure pain while suffering  
unjustly. <sup>20</sup> If you endure  
when you are beaten for  
doing wrong, where is the  
credit in that? But if you  
endure when you do right  
and suffer for it, you have  
God's approval. <sup>21</sup> 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.  
<sup>22</sup> 'He committed no sin,  
and no deceit was found  
in his mouth.'  
<sup>23</sup> 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. <sup>24</sup> 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. <sup>25</sup> For you were  
going astray like sheep, but  
now you have returned to  
the shepherd and guardian  
of your souls.

**THE GOSPEL**

**John 10.1-10**

*Hear the Gospel of our Lord  
Jesus Christ according to N.*

**All Glory to you, O Lord.**

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. <sup>2</sup> The one  
who enters by the gate is the  
shepherd of the  
sheep. <sup>3</sup> The gatekeeper  
opens the gate for him, and  
the sheep hear his voice. He  
calls his own sheep by name  
and leads them out. <sup>4</sup> When  
he has brought out all his  
own, he goes ahead of  
them, and the sheep follow  
him because they know his  
voice. <sup>5</sup> They will not follow  
a stranger, but they will run  
from him because they do  
not know the voice of  
strangers.' <sup>6</sup> Jesus used this  
figure of speech with them,

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

*This is the Gospel of the  
Lord.*

**All Praise to you, O Christ.**

**POST COMMUNION**

**PRAYER**

Merciful Father,  
you gave your Son Jesus  
Christ to be the good  
shepherd,  
and in his love for us to lay  
down his life and rise again:  
keep us always under his  
protection,  
and give us grace to follow  
in his steps;  
through Jesus Christ our  
Lord.

**PSALM 23**

<sup>1</sup> The Lord is my shepherd, I  
shall not want.  
<sup>2</sup> He makes me lie down  
in green pastures;  
he leads me beside still  
waters;  
<sup>3</sup> he restores my soul.  
He leads me in right paths  
for his name's sake.  
<sup>4</sup> Even though I walk  
through the darkest valley,  
I fear no evil;  
for you are with me;  
your rod and your staff—  
they comfort me.  
<sup>5</sup> You prepare a table before  
me  
in the presence of my  
enemies;  
you anoint my head with oil;  
my cup overflows.  
<sup>6</sup> Surely goodness and  
mercy shall follow me  
all the days of my life,  
and I shall dwell in the  
house of the Lord  
my whole life long.

