

**April 24<sup>th</sup> / 25<sup>th</sup>, 2021** 6pm/8 & 11 am

### **456 Were You There**

1 Were you there when they crucified my Lord?

Were you there when they crucified my Lord?

Oh...Sometimes it causes me to tremble, tremble, tremble.

Were you there when they crucified my Lord?

2 Were you there when they nailed Him to the tree?

Were you there when they nailed Him to the tree?

Oh.. Sometimes it causes me to tremble, tremble, tremble.

Were you there when they nailed Him to the tree?

3 Were you there when they laid Him in the tomb?

Were you there when they laid Him in the tomb?

Oh... Sometimes it causes me to tremble, tremble, tremble.

Were you there when they laid Him in the tomb?

4 Were you there when God raised Him from the tomb?

Were you there when God raised Him from the tomb?

Oh... Sometimes it causes me to tremble, tremble, tremble.

Were you there when God raised Him from the tomb?

### **Invocation**

**P** In the name of the Father and of the ✝ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

**C Amen.**

### **Exhortation**

**P** Beloved in the Lord! Let us draw near with a true heart and confess our sins unto God our Father, beseeching Him in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ to grant us forgiveness.

**P** Our help is in the name of the Lord,

**C who made heaven and earth.**

**P** I said, I will confess my transgressions unto the Lord,

**C and You forgave the iniquity of my sin.**

## **Confession of Sins**

**P** O almighty God, merciful Father,

**C** **I, a poor, miserable sinner, confess unto You all my sins and iniquities with which I have ever offended You and justly deserved Your temporal and eternal punishment. But I am heartily sorry for them and sincerely repent of them, and I pray You of Your boundless mercy and for the sake of the holy, innocent, bitter sufferings and death of Your beloved Son, Jesus Christ, to be gracious and merciful to me, a poor, sinful being.**

## **Absolution**

**P** Upon this your confession, I, by virtue of my office, as a called and ordained servant of the Word, announce the grace of God unto all of you, and in the stead and by the command of my Lord Jesus Christ I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

**C** **Amen.**

## **Kyrie**

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

## **Gloria in Excelsis**

**P** Glory be to God on high:

**C** **and on earth peace, goodwill toward men. We praise Thee, we bless Thee, we worship Thee, we glorify Thee, we give thanks to Thee, for Thy great glory. O Lord God, heav'nly King, God the Father Almighty. O Lord, the only-begotten Son, Jesus Christ; O Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Father, that takest away the sin of the world, have mercy upon us. Thou that takest away the sin of the world, receive our prayer. Thou that sittest at the right hand of God the Father, have mercy upon us. For Thou only art holy; Thou only art the Lord. Thou only, O Christ, with the Holy Ghost, art most high in the glory of God the Father. Amen.**

## **Easter 4 (Three-Year Lectionary)**

**P** The Lord be with you.

**G** **And with thy spirit.**

**P** Let us pray.

Almighty God, merciful Father, since You have wakened from death the Shepherd of Your sheep, grant us Your Holy Spirit that when we hear the voice of our Shepherd we may know Him who calls us each by name and follow where He leads; through the same Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**G** **Amen.**

### **Acts 4:1–12**

<sup>1</sup>And as they were speaking to the people, the priests and the captain of the temple and the Sadducees came upon them, <sup>2</sup>greatly annoyed because they were teaching the people and proclaiming in Jesus the resurrection from the dead. <sup>3</sup>And they arrested them and put them in custody until the next day, for it was already evening. <sup>4</sup>But many of those who had heard the word believed, and the

number of the men came to about five thousand.<sup>5</sup>On the next day their rulers and elders and scribes gathered together in Jerusalem, <sup>6</sup>with Annas the high priest and Caiaphas and John and Alexander, and all who were of the high-priestly family. <sup>7</sup>And when they had set them in the midst, they inquired, "By what power or by what name did you do this?" <sup>8</sup>Then Peter, filled with the Holy Spirit, said to them, "Rulers of the people and elders, <sup>9</sup>if we are being examined today concerning a good deed done to a crippled man, by what means this man has been healed, <sup>10</sup>let it be known to all of you and to all the people of Israel that by the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth, whom you crucified, whom God raised from the dead—by him this man is standing before you well. <sup>11</sup>This Jesus is the stone that was rejected by you, the builders, which has become the cornerstone. <sup>12</sup>And there is salvation in no one else, for there is no other name under heaven given among men by which we must be saved."

**A** This is the Word of the Lord.

**G** **Thanks be to God.**

## **1 John 3:16–24**

<sup>16</sup>By this we know love, that he laid down his life for us, and we ought to lay down our lives for the brothers. <sup>17</sup>But if anyone has the world's goods and sees his brother in need, yet closes his heart against him, how does God's love abide in him? <sup>18</sup>Little children, let us not love in word or talk but in deed and in truth.

<sup>19</sup>By this we shall know that we are of the truth and reassure our heart before him; <sup>20</sup>for whenever our heart condemns us, God is greater than our heart, and he knows everything. <sup>21</sup>Beloved, if our heart does not condemn us, we have confidence before God; <sup>22</sup>and whatever we ask we receive from him, because we keep his commandments and do what pleases him. <sup>23</sup>And this is his commandment, that we believe in the name of his Son Jesus Christ and love one another, just as he has commanded us. <sup>24</sup>Whoever keeps his commandments abides in God, and God in him. And by this we know that he abides in us, by the Spirit whom he has given us.

**A** This is the Word of the Lord.

**C** **Thanks be to God.**

## **Alleluia**

**C** **Alleluia. Alleluia. Alleluia.**

## **John 10:11–21**

**P** The Holy Gospel according to St. John, the tenth chapter.

**C** **Glory be to Thee, O Lord.**

<sup>11</sup>I am the good shepherd. The good shepherd lays down his life for the sheep.

<sup>12</sup>He who is a hired hand and not a shepherd, who does not own the sheep, sees the wolf coming and leaves the sheep and flees, and the wolf snatches them and scatters them. <sup>13</sup>He flees because he is a hired hand and cares nothing for the sheep. <sup>14</sup>I am the good shepherd. I know my own and my own know me, <sup>15</sup>just as the Father knows me and I know the Father; and I lay down my life for the sheep. <sup>16</sup>And I have other sheep that are not of this fold. I must bring them also, and they will listen to my voice. So there will be one flock, one shepherd. <sup>17</sup>For this reason the Father loves me, because I lay down my life that I may take it up again. <sup>18</sup>No one takes it from me, but I lay it down of my own accord. I have authority to lay it down, and I have authority to take it up again. This charge I have received from my

Father.”<sup>19</sup>There was again a division among the Jews because of these words.

<sup>20</sup>Many of them said, “He has a demon, and is insane; why listen to him?”

<sup>21</sup>Others said, “These are not the words of one who is oppressed by a demon. Can a demon open the eyes of the blind?”

**P** This is the Gospel of the Lord.

**C Praise be to Thee, O Christ.**

### **Apostles’ Creed**

**C I believe in God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth. And in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died and was buried. He descended into hell. The third day He rose again from the dead. He ascended into heaven and sits at the right hand of God the Father Almighty. From thence He will come to judge the living and the dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy Christian Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life † everlasting. Amen.**

## **465 Now All the Vault of Heaven Resounds**

- 1 Now all the vault of heav’n resounds  
In praise of love that still abounds:  
“Christ has triumphed! He is living!”  
Sing, choirs of angels, loud and clear!  
Repeat their song of glory here:  
“Christ has triumphed! Christ has triumphed!”  
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!
- 2 Eternal is the gift He brings,  
Therefore our heart with rapture sings:  
“Christ has triumphed! He is living!”  
Now still He comes to give us life  
And by His presence stills all strife.  
Christ has triumphed! He is living!  
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!
- 3 O fill us, Lord, with dauntless love;  
Set heart and will on things above  
That we conquer through Your triumph;  
Grant grace sufficient for life’s day  
That by our lives we truly say:  
“Christ has triumphed! He is living!”  
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

4 Adoring praises now we bring  
And with the heav'nly blessed sing:  
"Christ has triumphed! Alleluia!"  
Be to the Father and our Lord,  
To Spirit blest, most holy God,  
All the glory, never ending!  
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

**Sermon** *"Easter Witness Challenged"*  
John 10

### **Offertory**

**☩ Create in me a clean heart, O God, and renew a right spirit within me. Cast me not away from Thy presence, and take not Thy Holy Spirit from me. Restore unto me the joy of Thy salvation, and uphold me with Thy free spirit. Amen.**

### **Offering**

### **Prayer of the Church**

### **Lord's Prayer**

**℟** 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 and the power and the glory forever and ever. Amen.**

### **Benediction**

**℟** The Lord bless you and keep you.  
The Lord make His face shine upon you  
and be gracious unto you. The Lord lift up  
His countenance upon you and ✠ give you  
peace.

**☩ Amen, amen, amen.**

### **805 Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow**

1 Praise God, from whom all blessings  
flow;  
Praise Him, all creatures here below;  
Praise Him above, ye heav'nly host:  
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.  
Amen.