

## FOURTH SUNDAY OF EASTER 26 APRIL 2026

### ORDER OF SERVICE

*A very warm welcome to everyone who has joined us for our worship service this morning.*



**INTROIT HYMN:** EH 508 (v1, 2, 4, 5, 7)

We love this place O God.

### **GREETING AND WELCOME**

Alleluia! Christ is risen.  
**He is risen indeed. Alleluia.**

The Lord be with you.  
**And also with you.**

Praise the Lord  
**Praise him you servants of the Lord**

Blessed be God, Father Son and Holy Spirit  
**Blessed be his name, now and for ever.**

**Glory to God in the highest  
And peace to his people on earth.  
Lord God, heavenly King  
Almighty God and Father,  
we worship you, we give you thanks  
we praise you for your glory.  
Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father  
Lord God, Lamb of God  
You take away the sin of the world:  
Have mercy on us;  
You are seated at the right hand of the Father:  
Receive our prayer.  
For you alone are the Holy one  
You alone are the Lord  
You alone are the most high  
Jesus Christ  
With the Holy Spirit  
In the glory of God the Father.**

**Amen.**

Let us pray

## COLLECT FOR PURITY

**Almighty God to whom all hearts are open all desires known and from whom no secrets are hid: cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit that we may perfectly love you and worthily magnify your holy Name; through Christ our Lord.**

**Amen.**

Good Shepherd, may we not go astray like sheep, but remain under your guardianship;  
Lord, have mercy  
**Lord, have mercy**

Good Shepherd, may we live together in your sheepfold in fellowship with you and one another;  
Christ, have mercy  
**Christ, have mercy**

Good Shepherd, open to us the gate of your heart of love, peace and joy;  
Lord, have mercy  
**Lord, have mercy**

## PENITENCE

Jesus said, "You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul and with all your mind. This is the first and great commandment. And the second is like it, "You shall love your neighbour as yourself." On these two commandments depend all the law and prophets.

## CONFESSION

Let us confess our sins (firmly resolved to keep God's commandments and to live in love and peace with our neighbour). *(Silence may be kept)*

**Almighty God, our heavenly Father in penitence we confess that we have sinned against you through our own fault in thought, word, and deed, and in what we have left undone. For the sake of your Son, Christ our Lord forgive us all that is past and grant that we may serve you in newness of life to the glory of your Name. Amen**

## ABSOLUTION

Almighty God, who forgives all who truly repent, have mercy on you, pardon your sins and set you free from them; confirm and strengthen you in all goodness and keep you in eternal life; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

**Amen**

## **THE COLLECT**

Let us pray

**Good Shepherd, you are the gate that secures the sheepfold: grant that all who hear your voice may know you, who calls each by name, and follow where you lead; for you live and reign in the Unity of the Blessed Trinity, one God, for ever and ever.**

**Amen.**

## **OUR PARISH PRAYER**

**Lord our God, thank you for calling St Augustine's to be your church in our city. Help us to welcome you in all people, to praise you in prayer and worship, to love you, through serving this parish and the community, to travel and grow in faith together, to be a community of love and service in our world through Jesus Christ our Lord.**

**Amen.**

## **SUNDAY SCHOOL PRAYER**

**God of grace and God of love, we thank you for these our children. Help them to focus their hearts and minds now on what they are about to learn. Inspire and guide our Sunday school teachers as they teach and lead these children in the way of your love and grace. Thank you for your faithfulness and loving kindness.**

**Amen.**

## ***THE WORD OF GOD***

**THE FIRST READING:** Acts 2:42 - 47.

**PSALM:** 23.

The Lord is my shepherd:  
Therefore, can I lack nothing.

**He will make me lie down in green pastures:  
And lead me beside still waters.**

He will refresh my soul:  
And guide me in right pathways for His name's sake.

**Though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil:  
For you are with me, your rod and staff comfort me.**

You spread a table before me in the face of those who trouble me:  
You have anointed my head with oil and my cup will be full.

**Surely your goodness and loving kindness will follow me all the days of my life:  
And I shall dwell in the house of the Lord for ever.**

Glory to the Father and to the Son:  
And to the Holy Spirit.

**As it was in the beginning:  
Is now and will be for ever.**

**Amen.**

**SECOND READING:** 1 Peter 2:19 - 25.

**GRADUAL HYMN:** MP 624

Take my life and let it be.

**THE GOSPEL:** St. John 10:1-10.

**NICENE CREED (APB p 108)**

**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  
was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and 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  
who with the Father and the Son is worshipped and glorified  
who 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. Amen.**

## **SERMON**

## **THE PRAYERS – FORM A.**

## **THE PEACE**

Christ is our peace. He has reconciled us to God in one body by the cross. We meet in his name and share his peace.

The peace of the Lord be with you always. Alleluia, Alleluia.  
**Peace be with you. Alleluia, Alleluia.**

## **OFFERTORY HYMN: SOF 278**

I will sing the wondrous story.

## **THE PRESENTATION OF GIFTS**

**Yours, Lord, is the greatness, the power, the glory, the splendour, and the majesty;  
for everything in heaven and on earth is yours. All things come from you, and of  
your own do we give you.**

**Amen.**

## **THE TAKING OF THE BREAD AND WINE**

Blessed are you, Lord, God of all creation. Through your goodness we have this bread to offer, which earth has given, and human hands have made. For us it becomes the bread of life.

**Blessed be God for ever**

Blessed are you, Lord, God of all creation. Through your goodness we have this wine' to offer, fruit of the vine and work of human hands. For us it becomes the cup of salvation.

**Blessed be God for ever**

## **EP11 – Eucharistic Prayer with a Questioning Child**

The Lord be with you

**And also with you**

Lift up your hearts

**We lift them to the Lord**

Let us give thanks to God our Creator

**It is right to give God thanks and praise**

Children **Why do we give thanks and praise at this table?**

Celebrant: We give thanks for all that God has done for us.

God the Father created the heavens, the earth and everything in them; and created us in his own image.

Children **We give thanks for all that God has done for us**

Celebrant: God the Father created the heavens, the earth and everything in them; and created us in his own image.

**Children: Let us give thanks and praise**

Celebrant Christ our Lord became human like us, and died to save us.

**Children Let us give thanks and praise**

Celebrant God sent the Holy Spirit to gather us together as the people of God

**Children Let us give thanks and praise**

Celebrant: So come, let us join together to worship this God who loves us

**Holy, holy, holy Lord,**

**God of power and might,**

**heaven and earth are full of your glory,**

**hosanna in the highest.**

**Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.**

**Hosanna in the highest.**

Celebrant: We praise you Father, that before Jesus our Saviour suffered and died,

he gave us this holy meal to share

and told us to continue it until he comes again.

Children **Why do we eat bread together at this table?**

Celebrant On the night before he died, Jesus took bread.

After giving thanks, he broke it,  
and gave it to his disciples saying,  
“Take, eat. This is my body, given for you.  
Do this in remembrance of me.”

Children **Why do we drink from the cup together at this table?**

Celebrant: In the same way after supper Jesus took the cup, saying.

“This cup is God’s new covenant sealed with my blood,  
poured out for you for the forgiveness of sins.  
Do this in remembrance of me.”

Children **What do we remember at this table?**

Celebrant We remember God the Father’s gracious love for us,  
Christ’s death and resurrection for us,  
and the Holy Spirit’s tender care for us.

Let us proclaim the mystery of faith:

**Christ has died**

**Christ is risen**

**Christ will come again.**

Celebrant: Merciful Father, pour out your Holy Spirit on us

and on these gifts of bread and wine.

In eating and drinking together  
may we be made one with Christ  
and with one another.

**Amen.**



**Father almighty we offer ourselves to you  
as a living sacrifice in Jesus Christ our Lord.  
Send us out into the world in the power of the Holy Spirit  
to live and work to your praise and glory**

**Amen.**

#### **PRAYER FOR AFRICA**

**God, bless Africa  
`protect our children  
transform our leaders  
heal our communities  
restore our dignity  
and give us peace;  
for Jesus Christ's sake.**

**Amen.**

#### **NOTICES**

#### **FINAL BLESSING**

**RECESSIONAL HYMN: SOF 418**

**O Jesus I have promised.**

#### **DISMISSAL**

**Go in peace to love and serve the Lord. Alleluia, Alleluia.  
In the name of Christ. Amen. Alleluia, Alleluia.**