

# **Psalms, readings and collect**

**Date:** 26<sup>th</sup> April – Easter IV - Year A

*Obviously on Low Sunday, people will use the Act of Spiritual Communion; but for those who wish to say an evening office, provision is included here.*

## **Office**

### **Psalm:**

(106: 6 - 24) We have sinned with our fathers : we have done amiss, and dealt wickedly.  
7 Our fathers regarded not thy wonders in Egypt, neither kept they thy great goodness in remembrance : but were disobedient at the sea, even at the Red sea.

8 Nevertheless, he helped them for his Name's sake : that he might make his power to be known.

9 He rebuked the Red sea also, and it was dried up : so he led them through the deep, as through a wilderness.

10 And he saved them from the adversaries' hand : and delivered them from the hand of the enemy.

11 As for those that troubled them, the waters overwhelmed them : there was not one of them left.

12 Then believed they his words : and sang praise unto him.

13 But within a while they forgot his works : and would not abide his counsel.

14 But lust came upon them in the wilderness : and they tempted God in the desert.

15 And he gave them their desire : and sent leanness withal into their soul.

16 They angered Moses also in the tents : and Aaron the saint of the Lord.

17 So the earth opened, and swallowed up Dathan : and covered the congregation of Abiram.

18 And the fire was kindled in their company : the flame burnt up the ungodly.

19 They made a calf in Horeb : and worshipped the molten image.

20 Thus they turned their glory : into the similitude of a calf that eateth hay.

21 And they forgot God their Saviour : who had done so great things in Egypt;

22 Wondrous works in the land of Ham : and fearful things by the Red sea.

23 So he said, he would have destroyed them, had not Moses his chosen stood before him in the gap : to turn away his wrathful indignation, lest he should destroy them.

24 Yea, they thought scorn of that pleasant land : and gave no credence unto his word.

Glory be to the Father and to the Son: and to the Holy Ghost.

As it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be: world without end. Amen.

### **Reading:**

A Reading from the Book of the Acts of the Apostles.

Peter, standing with the eleven, lifted up his voice and addressed them, "Men of Judea and all who dwell in Jerusalem, let this be known to you, and give ear to my words. Let all the house of Israel therefore know assuredly that God has made him both Lord and Christ, this Jesus whom you crucified." Now when they heard this they were cut to the heart, and said to Peter and the rest of the apostles, "Brethren, what shall we do?" And Peter said to them,

"Repent, and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of your sins; and you shall receive the gift of the Holy Spirit. For the promise is to you and to your children and to all that are far off, every one whom the Lord our God calls to him." And he testified with many other words and exhorted them, saying, "Save yourselves from this crooked generation." So those who received his word were baptized, and there were added that day about three thousand souls.

**Collect of the day:**

Almighty God, Who shewest to them that be in error the light of Thy Truth, to the intent that they may return into the way of righteousness: Grant unto all them that are admitted into the fellowship of Christ's religion that they may eschew those things that are contrary to their profession, and follow all such things as are agreeable to the same; in and through the same Thy Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, Who liveth and reigneth with Thee in the unity of the Holy Ghost, God, throughout all ages world without end. Amen.

**Act of Spiritual Communion**

**Collect:**

O God, You never cease to call even those far away, for it is Your Will that all be drawn into one fold. Attune our ears to the voice of the Good Shepherd, Who leads us always to You, that we may find under Your tender protection life in all its fullness; in and through Jesus Christ, the Resurrection and the Life, Who is alive and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, God, throughout all ages world without end. Amen.

**First Reading:**

A Reading from the former Epistle General of Saint Peter.

What credit is it, if when you do wrong and are beaten for it you take it patiently? But if when you do right and suffer for it you take it patiently, you have God's approval. For to this you have been called, because Christ also suffered for you, leaving you an example, that you should follow in his steps. He committed no sin; no guile was found on his lips. When he was reviled, he did not revile in return; when he suffered, he did not threaten; but he trusted to him who judges justly. He himself bore our sins in his body on the tree, that we might die to sin and live to righteousness. By his wounds you have been healed. For you were straying like sheep, but have now returned to the Shepherd and Guardian of your souls.

**Psalm:**

The Lord is my shepherd; ♦ therefore can I lack nothing.  
He makes me lie down in green pastures ♦ and leads me beside still waters.  
He shall refresh my soul ♦ and guide me in the paths of righteousness 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 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 shall be full.  
Surely goodness and loving mercy shall follow me all the days of my life, ♦ and I will dwell in the house of the Lord for ever.

## **Gospel:**

A Reading from the Gospel according to Saint John.

Jesus said: "Truly, truly, I say to you, he who does not enter the sheepfold by the door but climbs in by another way, that man is a thief and a robber; but he who enters by the door is the shepherd of the sheep. To him the gatekeeper opens; the sheep hear his voice, and he calls his own sheep by name and leads them out. When he has brought out all his own, he goes before them, and the sheep follow him, for they know his voice. A stranger they will not follow, but they will flee from him, for they do not know the voice of strangers." This figure Jesus used with them, but they did not understand what he was saying to them. So Jesus again said to them, "Truly, truly, I say to you, I am the door of the sheep. All who came before me are thieves and robbers; but the sheep did not heed them. I am the door; if any one enters by me, he will be saved, and will go in and out and find pasture. The thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy; I came that they may have life, and have it abundantly.