

The Fourth Sunday of Easter April 21, 2024

Good Shepherd

Confirmations with Bishop Alan Hawkins

Items in **bold** type are spoken or sung in unison. (†) indicates you may make the sign of the cross.

Acclamation

Bishop	The Lord will pour out his Spirit upon all flesh,
People	And your sons and daughters shall prophesy.
Bishop	Your old men shall dream dreams,
People	And your young men shall see visions.
Bishop	You shall know that the Lord is in the midst of his people,
People	That he is the Lord and there is none else.
Bishop	And it shall come to pass
People	That everyone who calls on the Name of the Lord shall be saved.

Collect of the Day

Bishop The Lord be with you.

People And with your spirit.

Bishop Let us pray.

O God, whose Son Jesus Christ is the Good Shepherd of your people: Grant that, when we hear his voice, we may know him who calls us each by name, and follow where he leads; who, with you and the Holy Spirit, lives and reigns, one God, forever and ever. **Amen.**

The First Reading Acts 4:32-37

Now the full number of those who believed were of one heart and soul, and no one said that any of the things that belonged to him was his own, but they had everything in common. And with great power the apostles were giving their testimony to the resurrection of the Lord Jesus, and great grace was upon them all. There was not a needy person among them, for as many as were owners of lands or houses sold them and brought the proceeds of what was sold and laid it at the apostles' feet, and it was distributed to each as any had need. Thus Joseph, who was also called by the apostles Barnabas (which means son of encouragement), a Levite, a native of Cyprus, sold a field that belonged to him and brought the money and laid it at the apostles' feet.

Reader The Word of the Lord.People Thanks be to God.

Psalm 23

The LORD is my shepherd; *
 I shall not want.

He maketh me to lie down in green pastures: *
 he leadeth me beside the still waters.

He restoreth my soul: *
 he leadeth me in the paths of righteousness for his Name's sake.

Yea, though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil: *
 for thou art with me; thy rod and thy staff they comfort me.

Thou preparest a table before me in the presence of mine enemies: *
 thou anointest my head with oil; my cup runneth over.

Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life: *

and I will dwell in the house of the LORD for ever.

The Second Reading

I John 3:1-10

See what kind of love the Father has given to us, that we should be called children of God; and so we are. The reason why the world does not know us is that it did not know him. Beloved, we are God's children now, and what we will be has not yet appeared; but we know that when he appears we shall be like him, because we shall see him as he is. And everyone who thus hopes in him purifies himself as he is pure. Everyone who makes a practice of sinning also practices lawlessness; sin is lawlessness. You know that he appeared in order to take away sins, and in him there is no sin. No one who abides in him keeps on sinning; no one who keeps on sinning has either seen him or known him. Little children, let no one deceive you. Whoever practices righteousness is righteous, as he is righteous. Whoever makes a practice of sinning is of the devil, for the devil has been sinning from the

beginning. The reason the Son of God appeared was to destroy the works of the devil. No one born of God makes a practice of sinning, for God's seed abides in him; and he cannot keep on sinning, because he has been born of God. By this it is evident who are the children of God, and who are the children of the devil: whoever does not practice righteousness is not of God, nor is the one who does not love his brother.

Reader The Word of the Lord.People Thanks be to God.

Gospel Acclamation

Refrain Alleluia, alleluia! Alleluia, alleluia!

Leader Now He is living, the Christ. Out of the tomb he has risen;

He has conquered death, opened heaven to all believers.

Refrain Alleluia, alleluia! Alleluia, alleluia!

Gospel John 10:11-16

Celebrant The Holy Gospel (†) of our Lord Jesus Christ According to John.

People Glory to you, Lord Christ.

Jesus said, "I am the good shepherd. The good shepherd lays down his life for the sheep. 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. He flees because he is a hired hand and cares nothing for the sheep. I am the good shepherd. I know my own and my own know me, just as the Father knows me and I know the Father; and I lay down my life for the sheep. 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."

Celebrant The Gospel of the Lord.People Praise to you, Lord Christ

Homily The Rt. Rev. Alan Hawkins

THE PRESENTATION, EXHORTATION AND EXAMINATION

Carol Collins Nancy Griffin
Donnie Collins Kathy Taylor

Presenters Reverend Father in God, we present these persons to receive the laying on of

hands.

Bishop Have they been adequately prepared?

Presenters They have.

The Bishop then says

Dearly beloved, it is essential that those who wish to be Confirmed or Received in this Church publicly confess Jesus Christ as their Lord and Savior; become his disciples; know and affirm the Nicene Creed, the Lord's Prayer, and the Ten Commandments; and have received instruction in the Holy Scriptures of the Old and New Testaments and the Catechism of the Church. God's grace is imparted in Baptism, through which we are made God's children by adoption and given the Holy Spirit. By the power of the Spirit, manifested in gifts and fruit, we are enabled to be God's people for the sake of the world.

Now, these Candidates desire publicly to confess their faith in Jesus Christ as Savior and their commitment to follow him as Lord. They also desire the strengthening of grace through the laying on of hands, that the Holy Spirit may fill them more and more for their ministry in the Church and in the world.

Bishop Do you, here in the presence of God and the Church, renew the solemn promises

and vows made at your Baptism and commit to keep them?

Candidates I do.

Bishop Do you renounce the devil and all the spiritual forces of wickedness that rebel

against God?

Candidates I renounce them.

Bishop Do you renounce the empty promises and deadly deceits of this world that

corrupt and destroy the creatures of God?

Candidates I renounce them.

Bishop Do you renounce the sinful desires of the flesh that draw you from the love of

God?

Candidates I renounce them.

Bishop Do you turn to Jesus Christ and confess him as your Lord and Savior?

Candidates I do.

Bishop Do you joyfully receive the Christian Faith, as revealed in the Holy Scriptures of

the Old and New Testaments?

Candidates I do.

Bishop Will you obediently keep God's holy will and commandments, and walk in them

all the days of your life?

Candidates I will, the Lord being my helper.

The Bishop addresses the Congregation, saying

Will you who witness these vows do all in your power to support these persons in their life in Christ?

The Congregation responds

We will.

The Celebrant then says

Let us join with these Candidates to proclaim our faith in the words of the ancient baptismal confession, the Apostles' Creed.

Celebrant: Do you believe and trust in God the Father?

People: I do.

I believe in God the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.

Celebrant: Do you believe and trust in Jesus Christ?

People: I do.

I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.

He was conceived by the Holy Spirit

and born of the Virgin Mary. He suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried.

He descended to the dead.

On the third day he rose again.

He ascended into heaven,

and is seated at the right hand of the Father.

He will come again to judge the living and the dead.

Celebrant: Do you believe and trust in the Holy Spirit?

People: I do.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins,

the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

Prayer and the Laying on of Hands

The Bishop stands and says, Let us pray.

Almighty and everliving God, we beseech you to strengthen *these* your *servants* for witness and ministry through the power of your Holy Spirit. Daily increase in *them* your manifold virtues of grace: the spirit of wisdom and understanding, the spirit of counsel and might, the spirit of knowledge and true godliness, and the spirit of holy fear, now and forever. **Amen.**

For Confirmation

Each Confirmand kneels in front of the Bishop. The Bishop, then laying his hands upon the person's head, prays

Defend, O Lord, this your servant *N*. with your heavenly grace, that *he* may continue yours for ever, and daily increase in your Holy Spirit more and more until *he* comes into the fullness of your everlasting kingdom.

People Amen.

The Bishop may make the sign of the Cross with the Oil of Chrism on the forehead of any receiving the laying on of hands, and may say

N., I sign you with the Cross of our Lord Jesus Christ in the Name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

Concluding Prayer after the Laying on of Hands

The Bishop then says

Almighty and everliving God, let your fatherly hand ever be upon *these* your *servants*; let your Holy Spirit ever be with *them*; and so lead *them* in the knowledge and obedience of your Holy Word, that *they* may faithfully serve you in this life, and joyfully dwell with you in the life to come; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Peace

Celebrant The Peace of the Lord be always with you.

People And with your spirit.

Announcements

Doxology

Praise God, from Whom all blessings flow; Praise Him, all creatures here below; Praise Him above, ye heavenly host; Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. *Amen*.

The Offertory

Celebrant All things come from you, O Lord,
People And of your own have we given you.

The Great Thanksgiving

CelebrantPeopleCelebrantThe Lord be with you.And with your spirit.Lift up your hearts.

People We lift them up to the Lord.

Celebrant Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People It is right to give him thanks and praise.

The celebrant continues:

It is right, our duty and our joy, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth. But chiefly are we bound to praise you for the glorious resurrection of your Son Jesus Christ our Lord; for he is the true Paschal Lamb, who was offered for us, and has taken away the sin of the world; who by his death has destroyed death, and by his rising to life again has won for us everlasting life. Therefore, we praise you, joining our voices with Angels and Archangels and with all the company of heaven, who for ever sing this hymn to proclaim the glory of your Name:

The Sanctus

Holy, Holy, Lord, God of power and might, Holy, Holy, Holy, Lord, God of power and might, heaven and earth are full, full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest. Hosanna in the highest is he who comes in the Name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest. Hosanna in the highest.

Prayer of Consecration (the people may kneel)

Holy and gracious Father: In your infinite love you made us for yourself; and when we had sinned against you and become subject to evil and death, you, in your mercy, sent your only Son Jesus Christ into the world for our salvation. By the Holy Spirit and the Virgin Mary he became flesh and dwelt among us. In obedience to your will, he stretched out his arms upon the Cross and offered himself once for all, that by his suffering and death we might be saved. By his resurrection he broke the bonds of death, trampling Hell and Satan under his feet. As our great high priest, he ascended to your right hand in glory, that we might come with confidence before the throne of grace.

On the night that he was betrayed, our Lord Jesus Christ took bread; and when he had given thanks, he broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying, "Take, eat; this is my Body, which is given for you: Do this in remembrance of me." Likewise, after supper, Jesus took the cup, and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, saying, "Drink this, all of you; for this is my Blood of the New Covenant, which is shed for you, and for many, for the forgiveness of sins: Whenever you drink it, do this in remembrance of me." Therefore, we proclaim the mystery of faith:

Celebrant and People

Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.

We celebrate the memorial of our redemption, O Father, in this sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving, and we offer you these gifts. Sanctify them by your Word and Holy Spirit to be for your people the Body and Blood of your Son Jesus Christ. Sanctify us (†) also, that we may worthily receive this holy Sacrament, and be made one body with him, that he may dwell in us and we in him. In the fullness of time, put all things in subjection under your Christ, and bring us with all your saints into the joy of your heavenly kingdom, where we shall see our Lord face to face. All this we ask through your Son Jesus Christ: By him, and with him, and in him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, all honor and glory is yours, Almighty Father, now and forever. *Amen*.

The 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*.

The Fraction

Alleluia, Alleluia. Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us. Therefore, let us keep the feast. Alleluia. Alleluia. Alleluia.

The Prayer of Humble Access (Celebrant and People together)

Celebrant

Let us pray.

We do not presume to come to this, your table, O merciful Lord, trusting in our own righteousness, but in your abundant and great mercies. We are not worthy so much as to gather up the crumbs under your table; but you are the same Lord, whose character is always to have mercy. Grant us, therefore, gracious Lord, so to eat the flesh of your dear Son Jesus Christ, and to drink his blood, that our sinful bodies may be made clean by his body, and our souls washed through his most precious blood, and that we may evermore dwell in him, and he in us. *Amen*.

Prayer of Thanksgiving (the people may kneel)

Celebrant Let us pray.

Heavenly Father, we thank you for feeding us with the spiritual food of the most precious Body and Blood of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ; and for assuring us in these holy mysteries that we are living members of the body of your Son, and heirs of your eternal Kingdom. And now, Father, send us out to do the work you have given us to do, to love and serve you as faithful witnesses of Christ our Lord. To him, to you, and to the Holy Spirit, be honor and glory, now and forever. *Amen*.

Blessing

Closing Hymn The King of Love My Shepherd Is, p. 13

Dismissal

Go forth into the world in peace, be of good courage, and fight the good fight of faith, that you may finish your course with joy; and the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be among you, and remain with you always. **Amen.**

Savior Like a Shepherd Lead Us

Savior like a shepherd lead us,
Much we need thy tender care;
In thy pleasant pastures feed us,
For our use thy folds prepare:
Blessed Jesus, blessed Jesus,
Thou hast bought us, thine we are;
Blessed Jesus, blessed Jesus,
Thou hast bought us, thine we are.

We are thine, do thou befriend us,
Be the guardian of our way;
Keep thy flock, from sin defend us,
Seek us when we go astray:
Blessed Jesus, blessed Jesus,
Hear, O hear us when we pray;
Blessed Jesus, blessed Jesus,
Hear, O hear us when we pray.

Thou hast promised to receive us,
Poor and sinful though we be;
Thou hast mercy to relieve us,
Grace to cleanse, and power to free:
Blessed Jesus, blessed Jesus,
Early let us turn to thee;
Blessed Jesus, blessed Jesus,
Early let us turn to thee.

Early let us seek thy favor,
Early let us do thy will;
Blessed Lord and only Savior,
With thy love our beings fill:
Blessed Jesus, blessed Jesus,
Thou hast loved us, love us still.
Blessed Jesus, blessed Jesus,
Thou hast loved us, love us still.

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My Shepherd Will Supply My Needs



Words: Isaac Watts (1674-1748); para. of Psalm 23

Music: Resignation, American folk melody, acc. David Hurd (b. 1950) Copyright ©1985, David Hurd. All rights reserved. Used with permission.

He Leadeth Me

He leadeth me: O blessed thought!
O words with heavenly comfort fraught!
Whate'er I do, where'er I be,
Still 'tis God's hand that leadeth me.

He leadeth me, He leadeth me; By His own hand He leadeth me: His faithful follower I would be, For by His hand, He leadeth me.

Sometimes 'mid scenes of deepest gloom, Sometimes where Eden's bowers bloom, By water's calm, o'er troubled sea, Still 'tis God's hand that leadeth me.

He leadeth me, He leadeth me; By His own hand He leadeth me: His faithful follower I would be, For by His hand, He leadeth me.

Lord, I would clasp Thy hand in mine, Nor ever murmur nor repine; Content, whatever lot I see, Since 'tis my God that leadeth me.

He leadeth me, He leadeth me; By His own hand He leadeth me: His faithful follower I would be, For by His hand, He leadeth me.

And when my task on earth is done, When, by Thy grace, the victory's won, E'en death's cold waves I would not flee, Since Thou through Jordan leadeth me.

He leadeth me, He leadeth me; By His own hand He leadeth me: His faithful follower I would be, For by His hand, He leadeth me.

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The King of Love My Shepherd Is



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Those Serving Today

Intercessory Prayer.	Mari Hann
Greeter	Debbie Wicker
Ushers	
Crucifer	Lily Buswell
Book Bearer	John Bonner
Lectors	Alex Bogaski & Sally Krey
Chalice Bearers	Dana Garrett & Mark Mahaffey
Nursery	Ashley Bonner & Matthew Kerley
Coffee Hour	The Reeses & The Womacks
Godly Play	Linda Pate & Pam Kerley
	Audrey Hanna
Organist	
	Linda Bruce, Team Coordinator
Emi	ly Hewett, Charlene Jeffries, Rhonda Lloyd

Staff

Rector: Fr. Matthew Garrison—matt.garrison44@gmail.com
Pastoral Associate: Rev. Brian Teeter—bateeter@yahoo.com
Director of Student Ministries: Andrew Bass—andrewbass98@gmail.com
Director of Communications: Gordy Reese—greese.sfap@gmail.com

Vestry

Through 2024: Jean Dabbs; Mark Mahaffey, Sr. Warden; Sarah Womack Through 2025: Alex Bogaski, Amy Davis, Leslie Hanna Through 2026: Roger Buswell; Jimmy Washburn, *Jr. Warden;* Larry Wicker

Office Hours: 1:00 – 5:00 p.m. Monday – Friday or by appointment. St Francis' Mailing Address: 1089 Wilkins Drive, Sanford, NC 27330

St. Francis Parish website: https://sfapnc.org Phone: (919)292-0031

Announcements

- WOULD YOU LIKE PRAYER for yourself or someone else? Fill out a beige card and drop
 it in a red box or see a prayer team member (folks at the back of the church with red badges)
 during communion.
- ALTAR FLOWERS: We have openings in May and June. Please check the calendar in the hall if you are interested.
- FAITH2SOAR CHRISTIAN BOOKSTORE & MORE: Lily Buswell asked that we let everyone know about a wonderful, but struggling, Bible book store in Spring Lake. They sell Bibles, Bible studies, notebooks, coffee, drinks and goodies. Their address is 211 Skyland Plaza, Spring Lake, NC 28390.
- **HIGHWAY TO HEALING** is a free, quality transportation service for Lee County cancer patients. Dedicated volunteers drive patients to their needed healing therapy and give some relief to their families. If you would like to volunteer with this organization, please contact Nancy Griffin (919) 353-3157.

Mark Your Calendars

- **THE CHOSEN,** Season 4, Episode 3 on Wednesday, April 24 at 10:00 a.m.
- **MIDWEEK COMMUNION** Wednesday at 11:30 a.m.
- **CUOC FOOD PANTRY:** Drop off Wednesday from 5:30-6:00 p.m. in the Emmanuel Room
- **THE CHOSEN,** Season 4, Episodes 1-2, Saturday, April 27, starting at 6:00 p.m. We will provide pizza, so please sign up to be sure we have enough.
- **THE CHOSEN,** Season 4, Episode 4 on Wednesday, May 1 at 10:00 a.m,
- **THE CHOSEN,** Season 4, Episodes 3-4, Saturday, May 4, starting at 6:00 p.m. We will provide pizza, so please sign up to be sure we have enough.
- SATURDAY, May 11: Next Man Up! 8:00 a.m. in the Emmanuel Room.
- SATURDAY, May 11: Book Fair: 9:30 a.m. in the Emmanuel Room.

Bible Studies

- TUESDAY EVENING BIBLE STUDY: The Gospel and Letters of the Apostle John will meet April 23, May 7 & 21 and June 4 & 18.
- WEDNESDAY EVENING YOUNG ADULT WOMEN'S BIBLE STUDY meets Wednesdays at 7:00 p.m. at the Basses' home, 107 Oak Branch Lane.

St. Francis Anglican Parish Prayer List

For the concerns weighing on the hearts and minds of members of this congregation:

Dorothy Headen	Harold Moose
Charlotte Hill	Sandra Norris
Holly	Gene Pass
Jimmy Holt	Edwin Patterson
Sam Holt	Barbara Perry
Joey	Greg Poe
Chris Johnson	Bill Ray
Kelly Keller	Stephanie Sellars
Scott Keller	Shane Sharpe
Chuck Kelly	Becky Smith
Raymond Kerley	Karen Smith
Charline Kugler	*Mackenzie Stinson
Jo Lane	Charley Swing
Michelle Leonhardt	Jimmy Tart
The Light Family	*Jayne Taylor
Lois	Judy Thompson
*Joyce Lloyd	Cindy White
Lucille Mitchell	*Charles Wick
Clay Moore	Ariana Williams
Heather Moore	Amy & Gina Wood
	Holly Jimmy Holt Sam Holt Joey Chris Johnson Kelly Keller Scott Keller Chuck Kelly Raymond Kerley Charline Kugler Jo Lane Michelle Leonhardt The Light Family Lois *Joyce Lloyd Lucille Mitchell Clay Moore

*Member of St. Francis

To add or remove a name from the prayer list, contact Peggy Nelson or Gordy Reese. Names will be removed after three weeks, but you may always contact Peggy or Gordy to extend the time.

Pray for those serving in our military all over the world: Corbin Andrews, Alex Bogaski, Roger Buswell, Fortune Egbulefu, Eliza, Ellis, Evan, Katherine Gladd, Noah Gibson, Dan Hardin, Garrett Hill, Ben Hodsdon, Shane Lawrence, Jim Makepeace, Matthew Pate, William Puckett, Lucas Rees, Devan Siler, Nick Stavlund, Dan Steiner, Mac Swingle, Trevor, Jason Williams

Pray for the departed: Barbara Escher, George Kiley, Foster McNeill, Hazel Pittman, Dot Stevens

Altar Flowers were given by Brian and Sarah Womack and John, Caitlin and Etta Anne Reese to the glory of God and in celebration of Tom and Gordy Reese's 45th wedding anniversary.