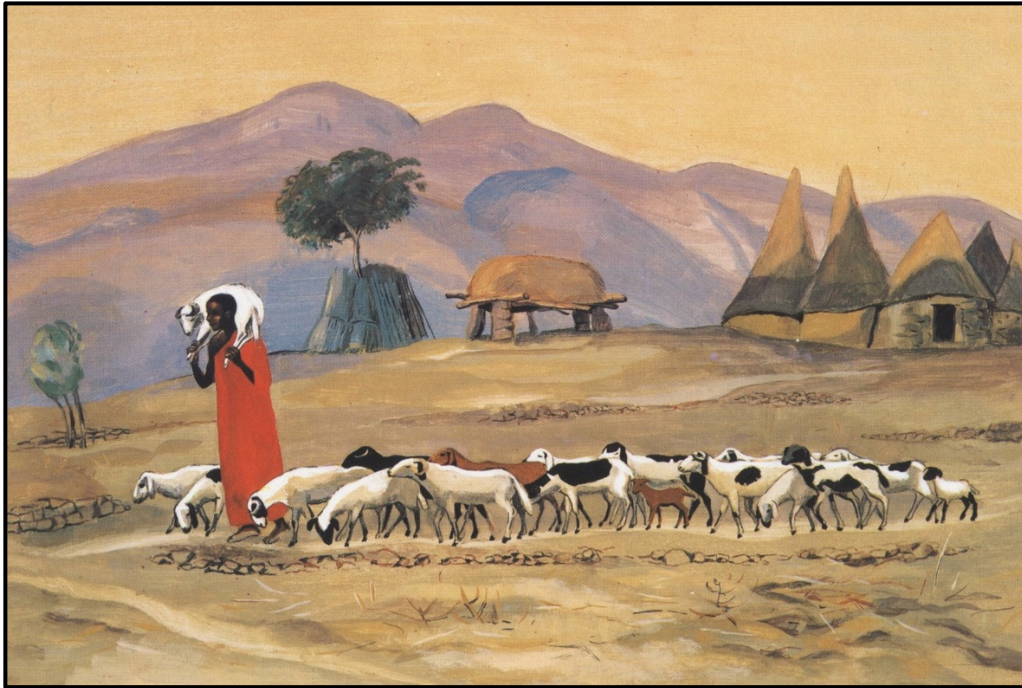




SAINT STEPHEN'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH  
EVENING PRAYER: RITE I  
SATURDAY, MAY 7, 2022  
OBSERVING THE FOURTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

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*"The good shepherd" by JESUS MAFA, 1973*

I will bless the Lord who giveth me counsel; my heart teacheth me, night after night. I have set the Lord always before me; because he is at my right hand, I shall not fall. *Psalm 16:7, 8*

### **The Invitatory and Psalter**

*Officiant*      O God, make speed to save us.

*People*        O Lord, make haste to help us.

*Officiant and People*

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.

### **Psalm 23**

1 The Lord is my shepherd; \*

I shall not be in want.

2 He makes me lie down in green pastures \*

and leads me beside still waters.

3 He revives my soul \*  
and guides me along right pathways for his Name's sake.

4 Though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I shall fear no evil; \*  
for you are with me;  
your rod and your staff, they comfort me.

5 You spread a table before me in the presence of those who trouble me; \*  
you have anointed my head with oil,  
and my cup is running over.

6 Surely your goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life, \*  
and I will dwell in the house of the Lord for ever.

*At the end of the Psalms is sung or said*

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.

**A Reading from the Acts of the Apostles (9:36 - 43),**

Now in Joppa there was a disciple whose name was Tabitha, which in Greek is Dorcas. She was devoted to good works and acts of charity. At that time she became ill and died. When they had washed her, they laid her in a room upstairs. Since Lydda was near Joppa, the disciples, who heard that Peter was there, sent two men to him with the request, "Please come to us without delay." So Peter got up and went with them; and when he arrived, they took him to the room upstairs. All the widows stood beside him, weeping and showing tunics and other clothing that Dorcas had made while she was with them. Peter put all of them outside, and then he knelt down and prayed. He turned to the body and said, "Tabitha, get up." Then she opened her eyes, and seeing Peter, she sat up. He gave her his hand and helped her up. Then calling the saints and widows, he showed her to be alive. This became known throughout Joppa, and many believed in the Lord. Meanwhile he stayed in Joppa for some time with a certain Simon, a tanner.

*Reader*            Here endeth the Lesson

**Canticle – Christ our Passover**

Alleluia.

Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us,

therefore let us keep the feast,  
Not with old leaven,  
neither with the leaven of malice and wickedness,  
but with the unleavened bread of sincerity and truth. Alleluia.  
Christ being raised from the dead dieth no more;  
death hath no more dominion over him.  
For in that he died, he died unto sin once;  
but in that he liveth, he liveth unto God.  
Likewise reckon ye also yourselves to be dead indeed unto sin,  
but alive unto God through Jesus Christ our Lord. Alleluia.  
Christ is risen from the dead,  
and become the first fruits of them that slept.  
For since by man came death,  
by man came also the resurrection of the dead.  
For as in Adam all die,  
even so in Christ shall all be made alive. Alleluia.

**The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to John (10:22 – 30),**

At that time the festival of the Dedication took place in Jerusalem. It was winter, and Jesus was walking in the temple, in the portico of Solomon. So the Jews gathered around him and said to him, "How long will you keep us in suspense? If you are the Messiah, tell us plainly." Jesus answered, "I have told you, and you do not believe. The works that I do in my Father's name testify to me; but you do not believe, because you do not belong to my sheep. My sheep hear my voice. I know them, and they follow me. I give them eternal life, and they will never perish. No one will snatch them out of my hand. What my Father has given me is greater than all else, and no one can snatch it out of the Father's hand. The Father and I are one."

*Reader* Here endeth the Reading

**Sermon**

**The Apostles' Creed** (Rite II language)

*Officiant and People together*

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

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

He was conceived by the power of 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.  
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.

## **The Prayers**

*Officiant* The Lord be with you.

*People* And with thy spirit.

*Officiant* Let us pray.

*Officiant and People*

Our Father in heaven,  
hallowed be your Name,  
your kingdom come,  
your will be done,  
on earth as in heaven.

Give us today our daily bread.

Forgive us our sins  
as we forgive those who sin against us.

Save us from the time of trial,  
and deliver us from evil.

For the kingdom, the power,  
and the glory are yours,  
now and for ever. Amen.

## **Suffrages**

That this evening may be holy, good, and peaceful,

*We entreat thee, O Lord.*

That thy holy angels may lead us in paths of peace and goodwill,  
*We entreat thee, O Lord.*

That we may be pardoned and forgiven for our sins and offenses,  
*We entreat thee, O Lord.*

That there may be peace to thy Church and to the whole world,  
*We entreat thee, O Lord.*

That we may depart this life in thy faith and fear, and not be condemned before the great judgment seat of Christ,  
*We entreat thee, O Lord.*

That we may be bound together by thy Holy Spirit in the communion of Stephen and all thy saints, entrusting one another and all our life to Christ,  
*We entreat thee, O Lord.*

On the Anglican Cycle of Prayer, we pray for The Anglican Church of Rwanda (Eglise Anglicane du Rwanda).

In the Diocese of Montana, we pray for Holy Spirit, Missoula and the Rev. Terri Grotzinger, Rector. We also pray for Camp Marshall.

In our St. Stephen's community, we pray for Betty, Billy, Dan, David, Dennis, Dorothy, Ed, and Richard. We also pray for our adopted unit at The Billings Clinic hospital.

*Collect of the Day*

O God, whose Son Jesus is the good shepherd of thy people: Grant that when we hear his voice we may know him who calleth us each by name, and follow where he doth lead; who, with thee and the Holy Spirit, liveth and reigneth, one God, for ever and ever. *Amen.*

*A Prayer for the Human Family*

O God, you made us in your own image and redeemed us through Jesus your Son: Look with compassion on the whole human family; take away the arrogance and hatred which infect our hearts; break down the walls that separate us; unite us in bonds of love; and work through our struggle and confusion to accomplish your purposes on earth; that, in your good time, all

nations and races may serve you in harmony around your heavenly throne; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

*Prayer for Mission*

Keep watch, dear Lord, with those who work, or watch, or weep this night, and give thine angels charge over those who sleep. Tend the sick, Lord Christ; give rest to the weary, bless the dying, soothe the suffering, pity the afflicted, shield the joyous; and all for thy love's sake.

*Amen.*

*Intercessions and thanksgivings may follow*

**General Thanksgiving**

*Officiant and People*

Almighty God, Father of all mercies,  
we thine unworthy servants  
do give thee most humble and hearty thanks  
for all thy goodness and loving-kindness  
to us and to all men.

We bless thee for our creation, preservation,  
and all the blessings of this life;  
but above all for thine inestimable love  
in the redemption of the world by our Lord Jesus Christ,  
for the means of grace, and for the hope of glory.

And, we beseech thee,  
give us that due sense of all thy mercies,  
that our hearts may be unfeignedly thankful;  
and that we show forth thy praise,  
not only with our lips, but in our lives,  
by giving up our selves to thy service,  
and by walking before thee  
in holiness and righteousness all our days;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord,  
to whom, with thee and the Holy Ghost,  
be all honor and glory, world without end. Amen.

*Then may be said*

*Officiant*      Let us bless the Lord.

*People*         Thanks be to God.

*Concluding sentence*

May the God of hope fill us with all joy and peace in believing through the power of the Holy Spirit. Amen. *Romans 15:13*

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