

**Service for Caversham Park URC on Sunday 11 May 2025**

**4<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Easter, year C**

**Preparing to hear God's Word**

"Amen! Blessing and glory and wisdom and thanksgiving and honour and power and might be to our God forever and ever! Amen."

Welcome

Lighting of Candles

**Call to Worship**

Jesus invites us to a way of celebration, meeting and feasting with the humble and poor.

**Let us walk his way with joy.**

Jesus beckons us to a way of risk, letting go of our security.

**Let us walk his way with joy.**

Jesus challenges us to listen to the voices of those who have nothing to lose.

**Let us walk his way with joy.**

Jesus calls us to follow the way of the cross, where despair is transformed by the promise of new life.

**Let us walk his way with joy.**

Hymn

O for a thousand tongues to sing

MP496

**Prayers of Approach, Adoration and Confession**

All-holy God,  
you call us together to be your holy people,  
so we join to give you praise  
for the joy of our creation;  
for our redemption in Christ;  
for the empowerment of your Spirit.  
Gracious God, fill our hearts with your love  
and our lives with your glory  
as we come before you in worship and prayer  
through Jesus Christ our Lord.  
**Amen.**

We do not always follow Christ as we should.  
We do not share his love generously with other people.  
But God is our loving Father.  
Let us therefore confess our sinfulness in a time of silence.

Lord, have mercy.	<b>Lord, have mercy.</b>
Christ, have mercy.	<b>Christ, have mercy.</b>
Lord, have mercy.	<b>Lord, have mercy.</b>

**Assurance of Pardon**

May Almighty God,  
who forgives all who truly repent,

have mercy upon us,  
pardon and deliver us from all our sins,  
confirm and strengthen us in all goodness,  
and keep us in life eternal,  
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

**Amen.**

### **Hearing God's Word**

#### Theme Introduction

Today's readings are about who Jesus is. They illustrate his eternal glory, and in particular they display him as both the Good Shepherd and the Lamb of God.

#### Collect for the Day

Almighty God,  
whose Son Jesus Christ is the resurrection and the life:  
raise us, who trust in him,  
from the death of sin to the life of righteousness,  
that we may seek those things which are above,  
where he reigns with you  
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,  
one God, now and for ever.

**Amen.**

#### Reading from Scripture

Revelation 7:9-17

#### Hymn

The Lord's my shepherd [Crimond] MP660

#### Reading(s) from Scripture

John 10:22-30

#### Hymn

He is Lord MP220

#### Sermon or other Exposition of the Word

### **Responding to God's Word**

#### Hymn

There's a wideness in God's mercy MP683

#### An Affirmation of Faith

Let us declare our faith  
in the resurrection of our Lord Jesus Christ.

**Christ died for our sins  
in accordance with the Scriptures;  
he was buried;  
he was raised to life on the third day  
in accordance with the Scriptures;  
afterwards he appeared to his followers,  
and to all the apostles:  
this we have received,  
and this we believe. Amen.**

Prayers of Thanksgiving and Intercession

The Church

Our own Church

Our cluster Churches at Henley and Aston Tirrold

The universal Church in every part, place and time

All who serve in ministry: Glyn Millington; Pope Leo XIV

The world

Thanks for victory in Europe in 1945,

That we may learn from veterans that we should seek to avoid war, but also have the courage to stand firm against evil.

Peace in Gaza

Peace in Ukraine

The environment

Our community

Our families, friends, neighbours and colleagues

Caversham Park School

Those who are suffering in body, mind or spirit

Those known to us who are ill

Glyn and his family

All who are sharing in the joys of heaven

Chris Millington

The Lord's Prayer

The Offering

Notices

Hymn                      The Church's one foundation MP640

The Blessing

Now may the God of peace,  
who brought back from the dead our Lord Jesus,  
the great shepherd of the sheep,  
by the blood of the eternal covenant,  
make us complete in everything good  
so that we may do his will,  
working among us that which is pleasing in his sight,  
through Jesus Christ, to whom be the glory forever and ever,  
and may the blessing of God Almighty,  
the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit,  
be upon us all and remain with us  
now and always.

**Amen.**