

**Year C; Fourth Sunday of Easter**  
**Liturgical Elements**  
**Developed for May 11, 2025**  
Prepared by Pastor Andy Smothers

**Lectionary Texts**

- Acts 9:36-43
- Psalm 23:1-6
- Revelation 7:9-17
- John 10:22-30

**CALL TO WORSHIP** (*from Psalm 23*)

One: The LORD is our shepherd, we shall not want.

**All: He makes us lie down in green pastures; he leads us beside still waters.**

One: He restores our souls.

**All: He leads us in right paths for his name's sake.**

One: Even though we may walk through the darkest valley,

**All: we fear no evil; for he is with us; his rod and his staff — they comfort us.**

One: He prepares a table before us in the presence of our enemies;

**All: he anoints our heads with oil; our cups overflow.**

One: Surely goodness and mercy shall follow us all the days of our lives,

**All: and we shall dwell in the house of the LORD our whole lives long. Let us worship God!**

**\*CALL TO CONFESSION** (*from John 10*)

If we were not a fallen people, we might see God's evidence in his creation. He has, also, given us his scriptures to help our unbelief, but we still wrestle with belief, with trust, and with living into his ways. Let us confess our sins to God and ask him to help our unbelief.

**\*SILENT PRAYER OF CONFESSION** (30 seconds)

**\*CORPORATE PRAYER OF CONFESSION** (*from John 10; Revelation 7*)

**Almighty and loving God, you have made yourself evident in human form through all that surrounds us and through your scriptures, but we struggle to believe and to trust in your ways. If the entirety of humanity would trust in you, we might see a multitude beyond counting before the Lamb worshiping him in faith. We might see that gathered multitude as described by John with people of all nations, tribes, peoples, and languages coordinated in exhibiting your kingdom to the world. Help our unbelief and forgive our lack of trust. In the name of the Lamb and for his many benefits including that offered through his suffering, crucifixion, and resurrection. Amen.**

**\*ASSURANCE OF PARDON** (*from Revelation 7*)

John describes those who stand before Jesus the Lamb. They are those who have endured the great ordeal and have washed their robes and made them white in the blood of the lamb. Believe and trust in the blood of Jesus to remove your sins and to transform you into his multitude of worshipers. **Amen.**

**\*PRAYER OF DEDICATION** (*from Revelation 7*)

**Gracious God, you have promised that one day those who are in Christ will be sheltered by the one seated on the heavenly throne. They will no more hunger nor thirst; the sun will not strike them nor any scorching heat. The Lamb on the throne will guide them to springs of the water of life, and God will wipe away every tear from their eyes. With gratefulness for your many blessings today and in the life to come, we offer these tithes for your kingdom on earth. Amen.**

Elements in this document are based on the *New Revised Standard Version* (NRSV). Some portions are direct quotes; though, quotation marks and designations are usually left out for ease of use in bulletins and other worship resources. Usually, the Call to Worship is based upon the Psalm of the day and follows that Psalm very closely but modifying it for a leader vs. congregation responsive setting if necessary. Other elements usually deviate more significantly from the text. While they may quote very short sections, they are generally written in the theme of the text. Elements usually designate the book and chapter from which they are derived.

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