Sunday, April 30, 2023: The Fourth Sunday of Easter

Theme: “We Proclaim A Lifestyle of Following”

Collect of the Day:

O God, Whose Son Jesus 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.***

Old Testament Proclamation: Nehemiah 9: 6-15

Responsorial Psalm: Psalm 23

New Testament Proclamation: 1 Peter 2: 19-25

Gospel Proclamation: John 10: 1-10

Gradual Verse:

Heaven and earth will pass away, but the Word of the Lord stands forever.

Prayers of the People Option I:

You may use the following:

Deacon: Let us pray for the whole state of Christ’s Church, and for the world.

Minister: Almighty Father, we lift before You Your holy catholic Church:

*People: That You would lead us in truth, baptize us in love, and unite us in spirit.*

Minister: We pray for her leaders, especially Bishop Craig and Bishop Ariel:

*People: That they may with one voice minister Your life to Your people and the world.*

Minister: We lift before You the people of this community, this nation, and the world:

*People: That we may honor one another and serve the common good.*

Minister: We pray for our governmental leaders, especially President Marcos:

*People: That You would lead them in the ways of justice and peace.*

Minister: We lift before You all who suffer in body, mind, or spirit:

*People: That You would send Your comfort and grace upon them.*

Minister: Give to the departed eternal rest:

*People: Grant that we may share with them in Your everlasting Kingdom.*

Deacon: And we lift before You this parish, in the manner in which You have given unto us:

*People: As we pray our Corporate Petition.*

*or the following alternative:*

Prayers of the People Option II:

Deacon: Dearly beloved brethren, as we continue our Paschal celebration, let us bring our prayers and thanksgivings to our Shepherd, our Father, and our God.

Minister: Jehovah Rohi, we thank You for leading Your people in abundant pastures.

*People: As we follow where You lead, may the needy be provided for.*

Minister: We thank You for leading Your people beside still waters.

People: *As we follow where You lead, may the anxious receive peace*.

Minister: We thank You for leading Your people in paths of righteousness.

*People: As we follow where You lead, may the backsliders come to repentance.*

Minister: We thank You for walking with Your people through the valley of the shadow of death.

*People: As we follow where You lead, may the endangered receive protection.*

Minister: We thank You for leading Your people in triumph over their enemies.

*People: As we follow where You lead, may the oppressed receive justice against their adversaries.*

Deacon: We thank You for leading Your people into the place of anointed ministry.

*People: As we follow where You lead, may we walk in and bestow to others Your divine health.*

Deacon: We thank You for leading Your people into dwelling places such as this Church under Construction.

*People:* As we follow where You lead, may we receive its completion, in answer to our Corporate Petition*.*

# The Concluding Collect:

Presider: We thank You, O Father, for the ministry of Your Son, the Shepherd and Bishop of our souls, even Jesus Christ our Lord. ***Amen.***

# Proper Preface:

It is truly right and just, our duty and our salvation, at all times to acclaim You, O Lord, but in this Season above all to laud You yet more gloriously, when Christ our Passover has been sacrificed.

Through him the children of light rise to eternal life and the halls of the heavenly Kingdom are thrown open to the faithful; for His death is our ransom from death, and in His rising the life of all has risen.

Therefore, overcome with paschal joy every land, every people exults in Your praise, and the heavenly powers, with the angelic hosts, sing together the unending hymn of Your glory, as they acclaim:

Benediction:

May the God of peace, Who brought again from the dead our Lord Jesus Christ, the Great Shepherd of the sheep, through the Blood of the everlasting Covenant, make you perfect in every good work to do His will, working in you that which is well-pleasing in His sight; and the blessing of God Almighty: ✠ the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit, be with you now and forever. ***Amen.***