Sunday, April 21, 2024: The Fourth Sunday of Easter

Theme: “The Shepherd to Enlarge Our Borders”

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: Acts 4: 5-12

Responsorial Psalm: Psalm 23

New Testament Proclamation: 1 John 3: 16-24

Gospel Proclamation: John 10: 11-18

Gradual Verse:

Behold, the eye of the Lord is on those who fear Him, and keep His Word; to deliver their soul from death.

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: Beloved in the Lord, the God and Father of all has redeemed us and made us His children. Let us intercede before our Shepherd, our Father, and our God.

Minister: O Lord our God, You are our Shepherd, and we are the sheep of Your hand.

*People: Make us one flock through the love of Christ.*

Minister: You are our Father, for You have given us a Spirit of adoption as sons.

*People: Make us one family through the love of Christ.*

Minister: You are our Creator, and have mystically joined us together in communion with one another.

*People: Make us one Body through the love of Christ.*

Minister: You are our Defender, and have protected us from plague and pestilence.

*People: Make us overcomers through the love of Christ.*

Minister: You are our Healer, and have given us health by Christ’s stripes.

*People: Make us whole through the love of Christ.*

Deacon: You are our God, we are Your people.

*People: Make us dwellers in the land as this Church under construction is built through the love of Christ.*

# The Concluding Collect:

Presider: We praise You, Almighty Father, for Your glorious inheritance given to those called as Your sons, for the sake of our Firstfruit, Your Son 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 time above all to laud You yet more gloriously, when Christ our Passover has been sacrificed.

For, with the old order destroyed, a universe cast down is renewed, and integrity of life is restored to us in Christ.

Therefore, overcome with paschal joy, every land, every people exults in Your praise and even 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.***