Gathering Song

In your hands (I’m so secure)  Reuben Morgan

Resurrection Choir

I’m so secure; you’re here with me;
You stay the same, your love remains here in my heart.

So close I believe you’re holding me now,
In your hands I belong.
You’ll never let me go. So close I believe you’re holding me now,
In your hands I belong. You’ll never let me go.

You gave your life in your endless love,
You set me free and showed the way:
Now I’m found.

So close I believe you’re holding me now,
In your hands I belong.
You’ll never let me go. So close I believe you’re holding me now,
In your hands I belong. You’ll never let me go.

All along, you were beside me,
Even when I couldn’t tell.
Through the years you showed me more of you,
More of you.
So close I believe you’re holding me now,
   In your hands I belong.
You’ll never let me go. So close I believe you’re holding me now,
   In your hands I belong. You’ll never let me go.

“I’m so secure (In your hands) words & music by Reuben Morgan
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THE WORD OF GOD

Celebrant:  Alleluia. Christ is risen.
People:    The Lord is risen indeed. Alleluia.

Song of Praise

J.S. Bach/arr. Mark Schweizer

Loving shepherd

The Choir of All Saints’

Loving shepherd, comfort and guide us,
   Keep us in thy tender care.
And in thy mercy stay beside us,
   Safely thy lambs now gather,
Bring us in faith together,
   And thy pastures now prepare.

And when I walk with darkness around me,
   Thou art near and I will fear no ill.
So with thy love and kindness surround me,
   Goodness and mercy bringing,
From living water springing,
   Lord of Love grant me thy comfort still.
The Collect of the Day

Celebrant: The Lord be with you.
People: And also with you.
Celebrant: Let us pray.

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, for ever and ever. Amen.

The Lesson

Acts 4:5-12
The rulers, elders, and scribes assembled in Jerusalem, with Annas the high priest, Caiaphas, John, and Alexander, and all who were of the high-priestly family. When they had made the prisoners stand in their midst, they inquired, “By what power or by what name did you do this?” Then Peter, filled with the Holy Spirit, said to them, “Rulers of the people and elders, if we are questioned today because of a good deed done to someone who was sick and are asked how this man has been healed, let it be known to all of you, and to all the people of Israel, that this man is standing before you in good health by the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth, whom you crucified, whom God raised from the dead. This Jesus is ‘the stone that was rejected by you, the builders;
it has become the cornerstone.’
There is salvation in no one else, for there is no other name under heaven given among mortals by which we must be saved.”

Reader: The word of the Lord.
People: Thanks be to God.

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.
The Gospel
Deacon: The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Luke.
People: Glory to you, Lord Christ.

John 10:11-18
Jesus said, “I am the good shepherd. The good shepherd lays down his life for the sheep. The hired hand, who is not the shepherd and does not own the sheep, sees the wolf coming and leaves the sheep and runs away—and the wolf snatches them and scatters them. The hired hand runs away because a hired hand does not care for the sheep. I am the good shepherd. I know my own and my own know me, just as the Father knows me and I know the Father. And I lay down my life for the sheep. I have other sheep that do not belong to this fold. I must bring them also, and they will listen to my voice. So there will be one flock, one shepherd. For this reason the Father loves me, because I lay down my life in order to take it up again. No one takes it from me, but I lay it down of my own accord. I have power to lay it down, and I have power to take it up again. I have received this command from my Father.”

People: Praise to you, Lord Christ.

Sermon
The Reverend Nancy L.J. Cox

The Nicene Creed
Officiant and People
We believe in one God,
the Father, the Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth,
of all that is, seen and unseen.
We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ,
the only Son of God,
eternally begotten of the Father,
God from God, Light from Light,
true God from true God,
begotten, not made,
of one Being with the Father.
Through him all things were made.
For us and for our salvation
he came down from heaven:
by the power of the Holy Spirit
he became incarnate from the Virgin Mary,
and was made man.
For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate;
he suffered death and was buried.
On the third day he rose again
in accordance with the Scriptures;
he ascended into heaven
He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead,
and his kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son.
With the Father and the Son he is worshiped and glorified.
He has spoken through the Prophets.
We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church.
We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.
We look for the resurrection of the dead,
and the life of the world to come. Amen.
The Prayers of the People

*From Praying the Scriptures, by Jeremiah D. Williamson*

Intercessor: Jesus, you are the good shepherd of your people. Hear the cry of your flock as we pray, “Good Shepherd, receive our prayer.”

Good Shepherd, you call us to follow where you lead. Give us ears to hear and know your voice. Give us the courage and strength to lay down our lives for one another, as even you laid down your life for us. *Silence.*

Good Shepherd,

People: **Receive our prayer.**

Intercessor: Good Shepherd, gather to yourself the people of the world so there will be one flock under your reign. Forgive us for our hatred and divisions. *Silence.*

Good Shepherd,

People: **Receive our prayer.**

Intercessor: Good Shepherd, you have blessed us with green pastures and still waters – places in your world where we find rest and renewal. We thank you for the beauty of the earth. *The people are invited to add their thanksgivings, followed by silence.*

Good Shepherd,

People: **Receive our prayer.**

Intercessor: Good Shepherd, even when wolves attack, you never leave your loved ones; even in the valley of the shadow of death, you are present. Be with all victims of violence. Comfort them in their distress. *Silence.*

Good Shepherd,

People: **Receive our prayer.**
Intercessor: Good Shepherd, you love us so much that you call us each by name: we pray for the healing of our brothers and sisters in your name. The people are invited to add their petitions, followed by silence.

Good Shepherd,

People: **Receive our prayer.**

Intercessor: Good Shepherd, you are our salvation. Grant all who have died a dwelling place in your house forever. Silence.

Good Shepherd,

People: **Receive our prayer.**

The Lord’s Prayer

*Officiant and People*

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy Name,  
thy kingdom come,  
thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven.

Give us this day our daily bread.

And forgive us our trespasses,  
as we forgive those  
who trespass against us.

And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.

For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory,  
for ever and ever. Amen.

The Peace

Celebrant: The peace of the Lord be always with you.

People: **And also with you.**
Celebrant: 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, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be among you, and remain with you always. 

Amen.

Closing Song

Jesus Christ (Once Again) Matt Redman

_Resurrection Choir_

Jesus Christ, I think upon Your sacrifice
You became nothing, poured out to death
Many times I've wondered at Your gift of life
And I'm in that place once again I'm in that place once again

And once again I look upon the cross where You died
I'm humbled by Your mercy and I'm broken inside
Once again I thank You Once again I pour out my life

Now You are exalted to the highest place
King of the heavens, where one day I'll bow
But for now, I marvel at Your saving grace
And I'm full of praise once again, I'm full of praise once again

And once again I look upon the cross where You died
I'm humbled by Your mercy and I'm broken inside
Once again I thank You Once again I pour out my life

Thank You for the cross, Thank You for the cross
Thank You for the cross, my Friend.
And once again I look upon the cross where You died
I'm humbled by Your mercy and I'm broken inside
   Once again I thank You
Once again I pour out my life.

“Jesus Christ” Text & Music Matt Redman
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Voluntary

Muzio Clementi

*Allegro con spirito*, from Sontatina, Op. 36, No. 6
*Dawn Fisher, piano*

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A Note on Today’s Readings

The Fourth Sunday of Easter – Year B

Welcome to All Saints’ Episcopal Church. This Sunday of Easter is traditionally called “Good Shepherd Sunday.” Each year we hear a part of Jesus’ discourse on his relationship to us in the image of the Good Shepherd. The Good Shepherd loves his sheep so much that he lays down his life for them. We are called by him into his life, the life which he has given for us.

Today’s reading from the Acts of the Apostles continues the story of the first days of the Church. Peter and the other Apostles are on trial before the rulers of the people because in spite of being commanded to speak no more of Jesus, they had continued to preach and to heal in his name. Today we hear portion of Peter’s response.

Today’s thematic description of the Church as the Body of Christ is not merely an analogy. It describes our life together as the embodiment of Christ’s love and mercy toward all people. We are not only “the sheep of his pasture,” but we are to shepherd all his people in his name.