

Printable PDF Version of Prayers for the Fourth Sunday of Easter

Good Shepherd Sunday • Year C • Church Prayers, Intercessions, and Bidding Prayers

A clean, printable handout for worship planning, church use, personal devotion, and article downloads. This edition includes opening prayers, intercessions, bidding prayers, Catholic prayers, healing prayers, prayers for church leaders, family prayers, and a simple service outline.

“The Lord is my shepherd; I shall not want.” — Psalm 23:1

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Opening Church Prayers

Use these short opening prayers to begin worship with peace, focus, and a clear Good Shepherd theme.

1. Heavenly Father, on this Fourth Sunday of Easter we come before you with grateful hearts. Gather us in your presence, quiet our worries, and prepare us to worship you with faith, joy, and reverence. Amen.
2. Lord Jesus, our Good Shepherd, lead us into this time of worship with peace and trust. Open our hearts to your voice and help us follow you with willing and faithful hearts. Amen.
3. Gracious God, we thank you for bringing us together on this holy day. Fill this church with your presence and let our worship honor you in truth, love, and gladness. Amen.
4. Merciful Father, as we begin this service, draw us away from distraction and into the joy of your presence. Renew our spirits and help us worship you with sincere and open hearts. Amen.
5. Risen Lord, on this Fourth Sunday of Easter, remind us that you are near to your people. Lead us beside still waters, restore our souls, and bless this gathering with your peace. Amen.
6. Loving God, receive our praise as we come before you today. Unite our voices, steady our hearts, and make this time of worship a blessing to every soul gathered here. Amen.
7. Good Shepherd, welcome us into your care as we begin this service. Teach us to hear your voice, trust your leading, and rest in your faithful love. Amen.
8. Almighty God, we enter your house with thanksgiving and hope. Let your Holy Spirit move among us, strengthen our faith, and help us honor you with joyful worship. Amen.
9. Father of mercy, bless this congregation as we gather on the Fourth Sunday of Easter. Fill us with your grace, guide our prayers, and make our hearts ready to receive your Word. Amen.
10. Lord Jesus Christ, Shepherd of your flock, begin this service with your peace and presence. Lead us in worship, keep us close to you, and let everything we do today bring glory to your name. Amen.

Intercessions for the 4th Sunday of Easter

These intercessions work well for congregational worship, church services, and Sunday prayer time.

1. For the Church throughout the world, that on this 4th Sunday of Easter we may listen closely to the voice of Jesus, the Good Shepherd, and follow him with trust, faith, and joyful obedience. Lord, in your mercy, hear our prayer.
2. For the Pope, bishops, priests, pastors, and all church leaders, that God may strengthen them with wisdom, humility, and courage as they shepherd his people with love and truth. Lord, in your mercy, hear our prayer.
3. For vocations to the priesthood, religious life, and faithful Christian service, that many hearts may respond generously to God's call and serve his people with compassion and joy. Lord, in your mercy, hear our prayer.
4. For leaders of nations and all who hold authority, that the Good Shepherd may guide them in the ways of justice, peace, mercy, and care for the most vulnerable. Lord, in your mercy, hear our prayer.

5. For a world wounded by war, violence, fear, and division, that Christ may lead all people into peace, reconciliation, and a deeper respect for every human life. Lord, in your mercy, hear our prayer.
6. For those who are sick in body, mind, or spirit, that the Lord may bring healing, comfort, strength, and the quiet assurance of his loving presence. Lord, in your mercy, hear our prayer.
7. For those who feel lost, lonely, anxious, or forgotten, that Jesus, the Shepherd and Guardian of souls, may draw near to them and surround them with hope and care. Lord, in your mercy, hear our prayer.
8. For families, children, and young people, that they may grow in faith, hear God's voice clearly, and find guidance, protection, and peace in the love of Christ. Lord, in your mercy, hear our prayer.
9. For our local church community, that we may become a welcoming and faithful flock, ready to serve one another, support the weak, and reflect the kindness of the risen Lord. Lord, in your mercy, hear our prayer.
10. For the faithful departed, and for all who mourn their loss, that the Lamb who is our Shepherd may lead them to springs of living water and wipe away every tear from their eyes. Lord, in your mercy, hear our prayer.

Bidding Prayers for the 4th Sunday of Easter Year C

These short bidding prayers are shaped for Year C and can be used or adapted for parish worship.

1. For the Church throughout the world, that on this 4th Sunday of Easter Year C we may hear the voice of Christ and follow him with faithful hearts. Lord, hear us.
2. For the Holy Father, bishops, priests, and all who shepherd God's people, that they may serve with wisdom, humility, and love in the spirit of the Good Shepherd. Lord, hear us.
3. For vocations to the priesthood, religious life, and holy service, that many may respond generously to the Lord who still calls his sheep by name. Lord, hear us.
4. For leaders of nations, that they may work for peace, justice, and the protection of the weak, especially in places torn by war, fear, and division. Lord, hear us.
5. For those who suffer persecution for their faith, that the risen Lord may strengthen them, protect them, and fill them with courage and hope. Lord, hear us.
6. For those who are sick, burdened, lonely, or struggling in mind and spirit, that Christ may hold them close and lead them to healing, comfort, and rest. Lord, hear us.
7. For children, young people, and all who are discerning God's will, that they may listen for the Shepherd's voice and walk in the path he has prepared for them. Lord, hear us.
8. For our parish community, that we may grow in unity, welcome, and mercy, and become a flock that reflects the love of Jesus in daily life. Lord, hear us.
9. For the poor, the forgotten, and all who feel shut out or overlooked, that the Lord may gather them into his care and move us to serve them with compassion. Lord, hear us.
10. For our faithful departed, and for all who mourn them, that the Lamb on the throne may shepherd them to springs of living water and wipe away every tear from their eyes. Lord, hear us.

Short Catholic Prayers for the Fourth Sunday of Easter

Simple and direct Catholic-style prayers for private devotion, church use, or service planning.

- 1.** Good Shepherd Jesus, lead your Church in truth, guard us in mercy, and keep us faithful to your voice. Amen.
- 2.** Lord, on this Fourth Sunday of Easter, draw us close to your heart and teach us to follow you with trust. Amen.
- 3.** Heavenly Father, bless our Pope, bishops, priests, and all who serve your people with wisdom, holiness, and love. Amen.
- 4.** Risen Christ, call many hearts to the priesthood, religious life, and faithful service in your Church. Amen.
- 5.** Lord Jesus, guide the lost, comfort the lonely, and bring peace to all who are burdened or afraid. Amen.
- 6.** Merciful God, heal the sick, strengthen the weak, and fill suffering hearts with courage and hope. Amen.
- 7.** Good Shepherd, protect our families, bless our children, and keep our homes rooted in faith and peace. Amen.
- 8.** Holy Lord, give our parish unity, kindness, and a deeper love for one another as your flock. Amen.
- 9.** Lamb of God, lead the faithful departed into eternal rest and wipe away every tear from those who mourn. Amen.
- 10.** Father of mercy, help us hear your Son's voice clearly and follow him each day with obedient and joyful hearts. Amen.

Church Prayers for Healing, Isolation, and Communal Strength

This set is especially helpful for congregations praying for comfort, belonging, and healing.

1. Healing God, draw near to every person who feels weak, worn down, or overwhelmed. Restore strength where bodies are tired, peace where minds are troubled, and hope where hearts feel heavy. Amen.
2. Lord Jesus, Good Shepherd of your people, gather those who feel isolated, forgotten, or left behind. Surround them with your presence and lead them back into the warmth of loving community. Amen.
3. Merciful Father, heal the hidden wounds we do not always know how to name. Bring comfort to the lonely, courage to the anxious, and rest to those carrying silent pain. Amen.
4. God of compassion, make our church a place of welcome, kindness, and belonging. Teach us to notice those who are hurting and to respond with patience, grace, and love. Amen.
5. Holy Spirit, strengthen those who feel emotionally drained, discouraged, or disconnected from others. Breathe new life into them and remind them that they are never alone in your care. Amen.
6. Lord, bind our congregation together in faith, humility, and mutual support. Remove division, soften hard hearts, and help us carry one another's burdens with sincerity and love. Amen.
7. Gracious God, heal those who are suffering in body, mind, or spirit. Bless doctors, counselors, caregivers, and all who offer help, and let your mercy shine through every act of care. Amen.
8. Father of mercy, when isolation makes people feel unseen, remind them that you know them by name and hold them close. Let your peace quiet their fears and your love restore their joy. Amen.
9. Lord Jesus, teach us to be a healing church, not just in words but in action. Help us listen well, serve gently, and stand beside those who need comfort, friendship, and strength. Amen.
10. Almighty God, build in us a strong and faithful community where no one walks alone. Let our church reflect your healing love so clearly that the lonely find family, the wounded find hope, and the weary find rest. Amen.

Prayers for Pastors, Shepherds, and Church Leaders

Use these prayers for priests, pastors, bishops, ministry leaders, and all who serve the flock.

1. Lord Jesus, strengthen our pastors and church leaders with wisdom, humility, and a heart that reflects your love. Help them guide your people with truth, grace, and faithfulness. Amen.
2. Good Shepherd, bless every pastor, shepherd, and spiritual leader who cares for your flock. Renew their strength, guard their hearts, and fill them with peace as they serve. Amen.
3. Heavenly Father, give our church leaders courage to lead well in difficult times. Help them stay rooted in prayer, steady in truth, and gentle with the people in their care. Amen.
4. Merciful God, protect pastors and ministry leaders from discouragement, exhaustion, and fear. Refresh their souls and remind them that their labor in you is never wasted. Amen.

- 5.** Lord, grant our shepherds wisdom in every decision, compassion in every conversation, and patience in every burden they carry. Let them lead with love and integrity. Amen.
- 6.** Father of grace, bless those who preach your Word and serve your Church. May their lives reflect holiness, humility, and a deep love for Christ and his people. Amen.
- 7.** Lord Jesus, help pastors and church leaders listen for your voice before they speak to others. Guide them by your Spirit so they may lead with clarity, faith, and peace. Amen.
- 8.** Almighty God, surround our priests, pastors, bishops, and ministry leaders with your protection. Keep them faithful in their calling and strong in times of pressure, loneliness, or trial. Amen.
- 9.** Loving Father, make our church leaders examples of mercy, truth, and servant-hearted care. Help them not to seek praise, but to honor you in all they do. Amen.
- 10.** Great Shepherd of the sheep, bless every leader who watches over your people. Give them joy in service, strength in weakness, and a lasting hope that comes from you alone. Amen.

Prayers for Families, Children, and the Congregation

These prayers are written for church families, households, children, caregivers, and the whole congregation.

- 1.** Heavenly Father, bless our families with peace, patience, and love. Help our homes become places where faith grows, kindness is shared, and your presence is welcomed each day. Amen.
- 2.** Lord Jesus, watch over the children in our church and community. Protect them, guide them, and help them grow in wisdom, joy, and trust in your love. Amen.
- 3.** Gracious God, strengthen parents, grandparents, and caregivers with wisdom and gentleness. Help them lead with love and raise children in faith, truth, and compassion. Amen.
- 4.** Merciful Father, bless our congregation with unity and grace. Teach us to care for one another sincerely and to reflect your love in all we do. Amen.
- 5.** Lord, draw families closer to you and closer to one another. Heal strained relationships, restore peace in troubled hearts, and fill each home with hope. Amen.
- 6.** Loving God, bless the young people in our church with courage, purpose, and a desire to follow you. Keep them steady in truth and surround them with faithful support. Amen.
- 7.** Father of mercy, help our congregation welcome every person with warmth and kindness. Let no one feel unseen, forgotten, or alone among your people. Amen.
- 8.** Lord Jesus, give children joyful hearts and teach them to know your voice from an early age. Lead them in safety, goodness, and lasting faith. Amen.
- 9.** Almighty God, make our church family strong in love, prayer, and encouragement. Help us bear one another's burdens and celebrate one another's joys with sincere hearts. Amen.
- 10.** Good Shepherd, bless our families, our children, and our whole congregation. Keep us in your care, lead us in peace, and make us a community that honors you with faith and love. Amen.

Simple Church Service Outline for the Fourth Sunday of Easter

This outline gives you a clean structure for building a worship service around the Good Shepherd theme.

Service Element	Suggested Content	Purpose
Welcome & Call to Worship	Greeting, opening response, short invitation to worship	Gathers the congregation and sets the tone
Opening Prayer & Collect	Theme-setting prayer centered on the Good Shepherd	Prepares hearts for worship
Scripture Readings	First reading, psalm, second reading, gospel	Grounds the service in the Word
Sermon or Reflection	Short message on listening to Christ and following him	Explains and applies the readings
Prayer Section	Confession, assurance, intercessions, prayer of the faithful	Leads the church in response
Closing Worship	Hymn, communion, or congregational prayer	Deepens unity and devotion
Benediction	Final blessing and sending prayer	Sends the people out in peace

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