

THE FOURTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

3rd May, 2009

First Reading

Acts 4: 8-12

A reading from the Acts of the Apostles

This is the only name by which we can be saved.

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.”

Hear the word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Responsorial Psalm

Ps. 118(117)

Response: *The stone rejected by the builders
has become the corner stone.*

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| 1. Give thanks to the Lord for he is good,
for his love has no end.
It is better to take refuge in the Lord than to trust in men:
it is better to take refuge in the Lord than to trust in princes. | This is the work of the Lord,
a marvel in our eyes. | R. |
| 2. I will thank you for you have given answer and you are my saviour.
The stone which the builders rejected had become the corner stone. | 3. Blessed in the name of the Lord is he who comes.
We bless you from the house of the Lord;
I will thank you for you have given answer and you are my saviour.
Give thanks to the Lord for he is good; for his love has no end. | R. |

Second Reading

1 John 3:14-24

A reading from the first letter of John

We shall see God as he is.

We know that we have passed from death to life because we love one another. Whoever does not love abides in death. All who hate a brother or sister are

murderers, and you know that murderers do not have eternal life abiding in them. We know love by this, that he laid down his life for us—and we ought to lay down our lives for one another. How does God’s love abide in anyone who has the world’s goods and sees a brother or sister in need and yet refuses help? Little children, let us love, not in word or speech, but in truth and action. And by this we will know that we are from the truth and will reassure our hearts before him whenever our hearts condemn us; for God is greater than our hearts, and he knows everything. Beloved, if our hearts do not condemn us, we have boldness before God; and we receive from him whatever we ask, because we obey his commandments and do what pleases him.

And this is his commandment, that we should believe in the name of his Son Jesus Christ and love one another, just as he has commanded us. All who obey his commandments abide in him, and he abides in them. And by this we know that he abides in us, by the Spirit that he has given us.

Hear the word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia! Alleluia! I am the good shepherd, says the Lord
I know my sheep and mine know me. **Alleluia!**

GOSPEL

Jn. 10: 11- 18

✠ **A reading from the holy gospel according to John**

R. Glory to you Lord Christ.

The good shepherd lays down his life for his sheep.

(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.”

For the Gospel of the Lord

Praise to you Lord Christ.

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