

Collect and Readings for Sunday 26 April 2026

Collect for the Fourth Sunday of Easter

Good shepherd of the sheep, by whom the lost are sought and guided into the fold; feed us and we shall be satisfied, heal us and we shall be whole, and lead us that we may be with you, with the Father and the Holy Spirit, where you reign one God for ever. **Amen.**

*E te Hēpara Pai, e rapu nei i te hunga ngaro, ā, arahina ana ki roto i te kāhui; whāngaia mātou ka mākona, rongoātia mātou ka ora, arahina mātou kia noho tahi ki a koe, me te Matua me te Wairua Tapu, e kīngi tahi ana me koe, kotahi anō Atua ake tonu atu. **Āmine.***

Easter Season Reading from Acts – Acts 2: 42-47

⁴²The believers devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching, to the community, to their shared meals, and to their prayers. ⁴³A sense of awe came over everyone. God performed many wonders and signs through the apostles. ⁴⁴All the believers were united and shared everything. ⁴⁵They would sell pieces of property and possessions and distribute the proceeds to everyone who needed them. ⁴⁶Every day, they met together in the temple and ate in their homes. They shared food with gladness and simplicity. ⁴⁷They praised God and demonstrated God's goodness to everyone. The Lord added daily to the community those who were being saved.

Epistle Reading – 1 Peter 2: 19-25

¹⁹Now, it is commendable if, because of one's understanding of God, someone should endure pain through suffering unjustly. ²⁰But what praise comes from enduring patiently when you have sinned and are beaten for it? But if you endure steadfastly when you've done good and suffer for it, this is commendable before God.

²¹You were called to this kind of endurance, because Christ suffered on your behalf. He left you an example so that you might follow in his footsteps. ²²He committed no sin, nor did he ever speak in ways meant to deceive. ²³When he was insulted, he did not reply with insults. When he

suffered, he did not threaten revenge. Instead, he entrusted himself to the one who judges justly. ²⁴ He carried in his own body on the cross the sins we committed. He did this so that we might live in righteousness, having nothing to do with sin. By his wounds you were healed. ²⁵ Though you were like straying sheep, you have now returned to the shepherd and guardian of your lives.

Gospel Reading - John 10: 1-10

¹ I assure you that whoever doesn't enter into the sheep pen through the gate but climbs over the wall is a thief and an outlaw. ² The one who enters through the gate is the shepherd of the sheep. ³ The guard at the gate opens the gate for him, and the sheep listen to his voice. He calls his own sheep by name and leads them out. ⁴ Whenever he has gathered all of his sheep, he goes before them and they follow him, because they know his voice. ⁵ They won't follow a stranger but will run away because they don't know the stranger's voice." ⁶ Those who heard Jesus use this analogy didn't understand what he was saying.

⁷ So Jesus spoke again, "I assure you that I am the gate of the sheep. ⁸ All who came before me were thieves and outlaws, but the sheep didn't listen to them. ⁹ I am the gate. Whoever enters through me will be saved. They will come in and go out and find pasture. ¹⁰ The thief enters only to steal, kill, and destroy. I came so that they could have life—indeed, so that they could live life to the fullest.

[Translation: Common English Bible (CEB)]



Hymns for Sunday 26 April 2026

Opening Hymn:

[Crown Him With Many Crowns](#)

Verse 1

Crown Him with many crowns
The Lamb upon His throne
Hark how the heavenly anthem
drowns
All music but its own
Awake my soul and sing
Of Him who died for me
And hail Him as thy
matchless King
Through all eternity

Verse 2

Crown Him the Lord of life
Who triumphed o'er the grave
And rose victorious in the strife
For those He came to save
His glories now we sing
Who died and rose on high
Who died eternal life to bring
And lives that death may die

Verse 3

Crown Him the Lord of love
Behold His hands and side
Rich wounds yet visible above
In beauty glorified
No angel in the sky
Can fully bear that sight
But downward bends
each burning eye
At mysteries so bright

Verse 4

Crown Him the Lord of peace
Whose power a sceptre sways
From pole to pole
That wars may cease
And all be prayer and praise
His reign shall know no end
And round His pierced feet
Fair flowers of paradise extend
Their fragrance ever sweet

Verse 5

Crown Him the Lord of years
The Potentate of time
Creator of the rolling spheres
Ineffably sublime
All hail Redeemer hail
For Thou hast died for me
Thy praise shall never never fail
Throughout eternity

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Gradual Hymn

[The Lord's my shepherd \(Townsend\)](#)

Verse 1

The Lord's my Shepherd
I'll not want
He makes me lie
in pastures green
He leads me by the
still still waters
His goodness restores my soul

Chorus

*And I will trust in You alone
And I will trust in You alone*

*For Your endless mercy
follows me
Your goodness
will lead me home*

Verse 2

He guides my ways
in righteousness
And He anoints my head
with oil
And my cup it overflows
with joy
I feast on His pure delights

Verse 3

And though I walk
the darkest path
I will not fear the evil one
For You are with me
And Your rod and staff
Are the comfort I need to know

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Offertory Hymn:

**[Glorious things of you are
spoken](#)**

Verse 1:

Glorious things of you are spoken
Zion, city of our God!
He, whose words
cannot be broken
Formed you for his own abode:

on the rock of ages founded,
what can shake your sure repose?
with salvation's walls surrounded
you may smile at all your foes.

Verse 2:

See, the streams of living waters
springing from eternal love!
well supply your sons and
daughters
and all fear of want remove:
who can faint while such a river
ever flows their thirst to assuage?
grace, which like the Lord the giver
never fails from age to age.

Verse 3:

Round each habitation hovering,
see the cloud and fire appear
for a glory and a covering
showing that the Lord is near:
thus they march, the pillar leading,
light by night and shade by day;
daily on the manna feeding
which he gives them
when they pray.

Verse 4:

Saviour, since of Zion's city
I through grace a member am,
let the world deride or pity,
I will glory in your name:
fading are the
world's best pleasures,
all its boasted pomp and show;
solid joys and lasting treasures
none but Zion's children know.

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During Communion:
In the Lord I'll be ever thankful

Closing Hymn:
Guide me O thou great Jehovah

Verse 1:
Guide me O Thou great Redeemer
Pilgrim through this barren land
I am weak but Thou art mighty
Hold me with Thy pow'rful hand
Bread of heaven Bread of heaven
Feed me now and ever more
Feed me now and ever more

Verse 2:
Open now the crystal fountain
Whence the healing stream doth flow
Let the fiery cloudy pillar
Lead me all my journey through
Strong Deliverer strong Deliverer
Be Thou still my strength and shield
Be Thou still my strength and shield

Verse 3:
When I tread the verge of Jordan
Bid my anxious fears subside
Death of death and hell's destruction
Land me safe on Canaan's side
Songs of praises songs of praises
I will ever give to Thee
I will ever give to Thee



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