Proclaiming the Gospel at Home

Liturgical Ministries:

- Leader
- Three Lectors
- Volunteer to lead reflection on the Word

It might help to prepare the space for prayer. Perhaps clear a table, place a cloth on it, and present the Bible prominently in the middle. Lighting candles on the table and sitting around it will also be of help.

This guide only contains a help to proclaiming and reflecting upon the Gospel reading, but you are able to include all readings, which you can find at usccb.org.

**Note:** Leader’s words are italicized. The assembly’s responses are in bold.

Fourth Sunday of Easter

**Greeting**

**Leader:** In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit

**All:** Amen

Let us praise the Lord Jesus Christ, who is present among us and in his Word, and who keeps us united in love. Bless the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit.

**Blessed be God forever.**

**Introduction**

Once again, we gather to be the Church of Christ.

Christ is with us, as he promised: present in this assembly of his people, And in the proclamation of his word.

In the Gospel today, we hear Jesus speaking to the reality of people who falsely present themselves as bearers of the truth. According to John’s account of Jesus’ parable, those who seek to create division within the sheepfold not only endanger the sheep but also spread falsehood. In Jesus’ own words, he comes “so that they might have life and have it more abundantly.” Let us pray that we can follow the model of our Lord and help sustain the lives of those around us through spiritual and physical care.
Penitential Rite

Brothers and sisters, let us acknowledge our sins.

I confess to almighty God
And to you, my brothers and sisters,
That I have greatly sinned
In my thoughts and in my words
In what I have done and
In what I have failed to do,
(striking chest) through my fault, through my fault, through my most grievous fault,
Therefore I ask the blessed Mary ever-virgin,
All the angles and saints,
And you, my brothers and sisters,
To pray for me to the Lord our God.

Lord, have mercy
Lord, have mercy
Christ, have mercy
Christ, have mercy
Lord, have mercy
Lord, have mercy
Lord, have mercy
Having recalled God’s saving mercy, let us joyfully proclaim God’s glory!

Gloria

Glory to God in the highest,
and on earth peace to people of good will.

We praise you, we bless you,
we adore you, we glorify you,
we give you thanks for your great glory,
Lord God, heavenly King, O God almighty Father.

Lord Jesus Christ, Only Begotten Son,
Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Father,
you take away the sins of the world, have mercy on us;
you take away the sins of the world, receive our prayer;
you are seated at the right hand of the Father, have mercy on us.

For You alone are the Holy One, you alone are the Lord, you alone are the Most High, Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit, in the glory of God the Father. Amen.

Let us now be attentive to the Holy Gospel.
Gospel Acclamation | John 10:14

Reader: Alleluia, alleluia!

Alleluia, alleluia!

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

Alleluia, alleluia!

Gospel | John 10:1-10

Reader: A reading from the holy Gospel according to John.

Glory to you, O Lord.

Jesus said:
“Amen, amen, I say to you, whoever does not enter a sheepfold through the gate but climbs over elsewhere is a thief and a robber. But whoever enters through the gate is the shepherd of the sheep. The gatekeeper opens it for him, and the sheep hear his voice, as the shepherd calls his own sheep by name and leads them out. When he has driven out all his own, he walks ahead of them, and the sheep follow him, because they recognize his voice. But they will not follow a stranger; they will run away from him, because they do not recognize the voice of strangers.” Although Jesus used this figure of speech, the Pharisees did not realize what he was trying to tell them.

So Jesus said again, “Amen, amen, I say to you, I am the gate for the sheep. All who came before me are thieves and robbers, but the sheep did not listen to them. I am the gate. Whoever enters through me will be saved, and will come in and go out and find pasture. A thief comes only to steal and slaughter and destroy; I came so that they might have life and have it more abundantly.”

*The Gospel of the Lord*

Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.
It is important to think about how the Gospel changes our lives. Let us take a few moments to reflect on what we have heard and speak about how the Gospel calls us to live at this time.

Shared Reflection on the Word

If your pastor has shared with you a reflection on this week’s readings, please share that with the group at this time. Following are questions for prayer to help people discuss their reaction to the readings and, if available, the reflections provided by the clergy.

- [if available] How will the homily you heard help you live these readings over the next week?
- [if available] How has the homily offered a positive challenge to how to live our faith at this time?
- What images, phrases, or notions from the readings most impacted you? Why?
- Do you notice a consistent theme across today’s readings? Where in the readings do you find this theme?
- How can we support the livelihood of others during this time of disease and distress?
- What words of truth have you heard this week, and how have they brought you consolation?

Remembering that the Good News always calls us to be followers of Christ, let us entrust ourselves to him now with our petitions.
General Intercessions

We pray for our Church, that we may continue to be a beacon of faith, hope, and love during this difficult time. We pray to the Lord.

Lord, hear our prayer.

We pray for leaders in our Church, that they may be encouraged in faith and continue proclaiming the Good News. We pray to the Lord.

Lord, hear our prayer.

We pray for those clergy who are not able to celebrate with their parishioners, that they remain bold in spirit and consoled in their vocations. We pray to the Lord.

Lord, hear our prayer.

We pray for our civic leaders, that they respond attentively to those who are in need during this time of difficulty. We pray to the Lord.

Lord, hear our prayer.

We pray for the needs of those who have no one to pray for them, for those who have no safe place to shelter, and for those who have no access to healthcare during this difficult time, that they might receive the support of their community to promote their well-being. We pray to the Lord.

Lord, hear our prayer.

We pray for healthcare workers, that they may remain safe, healthy, and cared for during this time of stress and danger. We pray to the Lord.

Lord, hear our prayer.

For whom and for what else shall we pray at this time?

[after the last prayer, pause a few moments]

We pray to the Lord.

Lord, hear our prayer.
Profession of Faith

Let us together profess the mark of our faith:

I believe in one God,
the Father almighty,
maker of heaven and earth,
of all things visible and invisible.

I believe in one Lord Jesus Christ,
the Only Begotten Son of God,
born of the Father before all ages.
God from God, Light from Light,
true God from true God,
begotten, not made, consubstantial with the Father;
through him all things were made.
For us men and for our salvation
he came down from heaven,
(bowing) and by the Holy Spirit was incarnate of the Virgin Mary,
and became man.

(standing upright) For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate,
he suffered death and was buried,
and rose again on the third day
in accordance with the Scriptures.
He ascended into heaven
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.
He will come again in glory
to judge the living and the dead
and his kingdom will have no end.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,
who with the Father and the Son is adored and glorified,
who has spoken through the prophets.

I believe in one, holy, catholic and apostolic Church.
I confess one Baptism for the forgiveness of sins
and I look forward to the resurrection of the dead
and the life of the world to come. Amen.
The Lord’s Prayer

At the savior’s command, and formed by divine teaching, we dare to say:

Our Father...

Deliver us, Lord, we pray, from every evil
Graciously grant peace in our days,
That, by the help of your mercy,
We may be always free from sin
And safe from all distress,
As we await the blessed hope
And coming of our Savior, Jesus Christ.

For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours, now and forever. Amen.

We are thankful to God for his Word and for our communion in faith. As we conclude our prayer, let us remember that God remains with us and that we remain his Church.

Concluding Rite

(While all make the sign of the cross)
May almighty God bless us,
Protect us from all evil,
And bring us to everlasting life.

Amen.

Let us go in peace, glorifying the Lord by our lives.

Thanks be to God! Alleluia, alleluia!