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# THE SHEPHERD'S VOICE

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*Daily Devotion at Zion + April 2024 AD + Kenosis: Emptied Out*

### ***Kenosis: Emptied Out***

*Christ Jesus . . . emptied Himself.* So writes St. Paul in Philip-  
pians 2:7, employing the Greek word *kenosis* for *emptied*. That  
word has become a sort of shorthand for describing Christ's work  
on our behalf, and like all of Holy Scripture, it's a word that never  
exhausts itself.

What do we see in Christ Jesus' death and resurrection? We  
see God *emptying Himself* for mankind, not in a way that leaves  
Him used-up and exhausted, but like the widow's jar of oil in 1  
Kings 17. At the prophet Elijah's word, that little jar poured out  
continually, emptying but never emptied, to satisfy the widow's  
household with bread. So it goes in the household of God.

Christ is our little jar of oil. Even in the resurrection, He  
pours Himself out for His people, His body having become the  
eternal fountain and source of resurrection and renewal for the  
whole universe. He poured Himself into our flesh, becoming a  
man; He poured Himself into our death, becoming a crucified  
man; now He pours Himself into the Church, a risen man full of  
Spirit.

*We were all made to drink of one Spirit* (1 Cor. 12:13), and *he  
who is joined to the Lord becomes one spirit with Him* (1 Cor.  
6:17). With Christ poured into us, we are likewise poured out,  
like holy Mary's jar of perfume on Christ's feet (John 12:3), in  
devotion to God and devotion to our neighbors, loving both for  
the sake of Him who loved us first (1 John 4:19). In devotion, we  
are part of the Lord's *kenosis*.

### **About the Cover Art**

Zion's windows, designed by the T. C. Esser studio and assem-  
bled by Mr. Erhard Stoettner, features this medallion of the victo-  
rious Lamb at the summit of the Great South Window (by the or-  
gan). It symbolizes Jesus, the Lamb of God, holding the banner  
of resurrection and emptying His blood into a chalice for His  
Church to drink. Even in His resurrection, He sheds His blood,  
not in suffering for sins, but in proclamation of His victory over  
death and forgiveness.

### Daily Readings for the Week of Easter 1 (March 31)

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|---|---|
| <b>S</b> Exodus 12:1-14<br>John 1:1-18<br>Luke 24:13-35               | <b>Th</b> Exodus 13:3-10<br>1 Corinthians 15:41-50<br>Matthew 28:16-20      |
| <b>M</b> Exodus 12:14-27<br>1 Corinthians 15:1-11<br>Mark 16:1-8      | <b>F</b> Exodus 13:1-2, 11-16<br>1 Corinthians 15:51-58<br>Luke 24:1-12     |
| <b>T</b> Exodus 12:28-39<br>1 Corinthians 15:12-28<br>Mark 16:9-20    | <b>Sa</b> Exodus 13:17—14:4<br>2 Corinthians 4:16—<br>5:10<br>Mark 12:18-27 |
| <b>W</b> Exodus 12:40-51<br>1 Corinthians 15:29-41<br>Matthew 28:1-16 |   |

*These readings correspond to pages 1041—1073 in Volume III of For All the Saints.*

### Daily Readings for the Week of Easter 2 (April 7)

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|---|---|
| <b>S</b> Exodus 14:5-22<br>1 John 1:1-7<br>John 14:1-7      | <b>Th</b> Exodus 16:10-21<br>1 Peter 2:11—3:12<br>John 15:12-27 |
| <b>M</b> Exodus 14:21-31<br>1 Peter 1-12<br>John 14:1-17    | <b>F</b> Exodus 16:22-36<br>1 Peter 3:13—4:6<br>John 16:1-15    |
| <b>T</b> Exodus 15:1-21<br>1 Peter 1:13-25<br>John 14:18-31 | <b>Sa</b> Exodus 17:1-16<br>1 Peter 4:7-19<br>John 16:16-33     |

**W** Exodus 15:22—16:10  
1 Peter 2:1-10  
John 15:1-11

*These readings correspond to pages 1073—1110 in Volume III of For All the Saints.*

### Daily Readings for the Week of Easter 3 (April 14)

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|---|---|
| <b>S</b> Exodus 18:1-12<br>1 John 2:7-17<br>John 20:11-18           | <b>Th</b> Exodus 20:1-21<br>Colossians 1:24—2:7<br>Matthew 4:1-11                               |
| <b>M</b> Exodus 18:13-27<br>1 Peter 5:1-14<br>Matthew 1:1-17; 3:1-6 | <b>F</b> Exodus 24:1-18<br>Colossians 2:8-23<br>Matthew 4:12-17                                 |
| <b>T</b> Exodus 19:1-16<br>Colossians 1:1-14<br>Matthew 3:7-12      | <b>Sa</b> Exodus 25:1-22<br>Colossians 3:1-17<br>Matthew 4:18-25                                |
| <b>W</b> Exodus 19:16-25<br>Colossians 1:15-23<br>Matthew 3:13-17   | <i>These readings correspond to pages 1111—1144 in Volume III of <u>For All the Saints</u>.</i> |

### Daily Readings for the Week of Easter 4 (April 21)

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|---|---|
| <b>S</b> Exodus 28:1-4, 30-38<br>1 John 2:18-29<br>Mark 6:30-44       | <b>Th</b> Exodus 34:1-17<br>1 Thessalonians 2:13-20<br>Matthew 5:21-26                          |
| <b>M</b> Exodus 32:1-20<br>Colossians 3:18—4:18<br>Matthew 5:1-10     | <b>F</b> Exodus 34:18-35<br>1 Thessalonians 3:1-13<br>Matthew 5:27-37                           |
| <b>T</b> Exodus 32:21-34<br>1 Thessalonians 1:1-10<br>Matthew 5:11-16 | <b>Sa</b> Exodus 40:18-38<br>1 Thessalonians 4:1-12<br>Matthew 5:38-48                          |
| <b>W</b> Exodus 33:1-23<br>1 Thessalonians 2:1-12<br>Matthew 5:17-20  | <i>These readings correspond to pages 1144—1176 in Volume III of <u>For All the Saints</u>.</i> |