

St. John's Episcopal Church

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The Rev. Mary B. Gregorius, Rector



The Third Sunday of Easter

April 18, 2021

Morning Prayer: Rite Two 9:30^{AM}

Our mission is to restore all people to unity with God and each other, in Christ. (BCP 855)

This morning we celebrate with an abridged service of Morning Prayer. This service is taken from the *1979 Book of Common Prayer*. **Words printed in bold are spoken by the congregation**

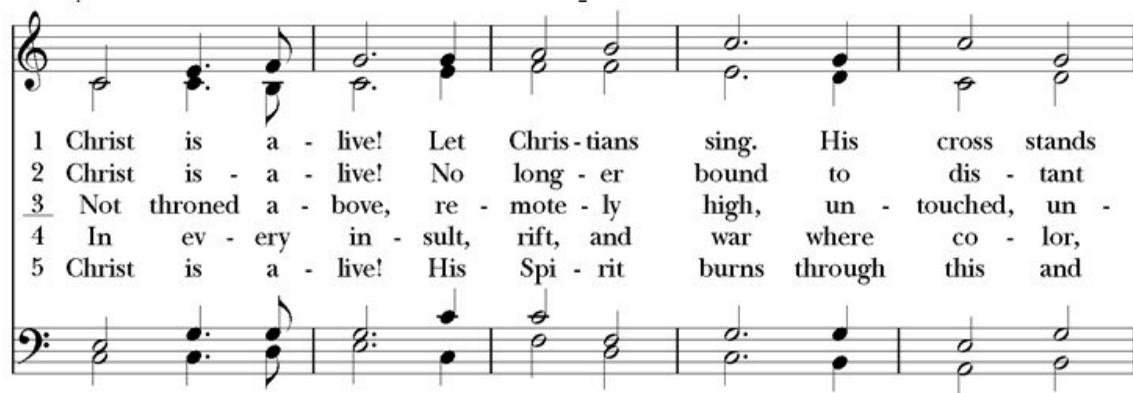
ORDER OF WORSHIP

PRELUDE

OPENING HYMN: 182

Christ is Alive! Let Christians Sing!

Mason



1 Christ is a - live! Let Chris - tians sing. His cross stands
2 Christ is - a - live! No long - er bound to dis - tant
3 Not throned a - bove, re - mote - ly high, un - touched, un -
4 In ev - ery in - sult, rift, and war where co - lor,
5 Christ is a - live! His Spi - rit burns through this and



1 emp - ty to the sky. Let streets and homes with
2 years in Pal - es - tine, he comes to claim the
3 moved by hu - man pains, but dai - ly, in the
4 scorn or wealth di - vide, he suf - fers still, yet
5 ev - ery fu - ture age, till all cre - a - tion

1 prais - es ring. His love in death shall nev - er die.
 2 here and now and con - quer ev - ery place and time.
 3 midst of life, our Sa - vior with the Fa - ther reigns.
 4 loves the more, and lives, though ev - er cru - ci - fied.
 5 lives and learns his joy, his jus - tice, love, and praise.

THE OPENING SENTENCE

Officiant: Alleluia! Christ is risen!
People: **The Lord is risen indeed. Alleluia!**

CONFESSION OF SIN & ABSOLUTION

Deacon: Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

Silence

All: **Most merciful God, we confess that we have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done, and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We are truly sorry and we humbly repent. For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ, have mercy on us and forgive us; that we may delight in your will, and walk in your ways, to the glory of your Name. Amen.**

Officiant: Almighty God have mercy on you, forgive you all your sins through our Lord Jesus Christ, strengthen you in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep you in eternal life. **Amen.**

THE INVITATORY AND PSALTER

Officiant: Lord, open our lips.
People: **And our mouth shall proclaim your praise.**

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit: as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be for ever. Amen.

PSALM 4

1 Answer me when I call, O God, defender of my cause; *
you set me free when I am hard-pressed; have mercy on me and hear my prayer.

2 “You mortals, how long will you dishonor my glory; *
how long will you worship dumb idols and run after false gods?”

3 Know that the Lord does wonders for the faithful *
and will hear me when I call.

4 Tremble, then, and do not sin; *
speak to your heart in silence upon your bed.

5 Offer the appointed sacrifices *
and put your trust in the Lord.

6 Many are saying, “Oh, that we might see better times!” *
Lift up the light of your countenance upon us, O Lord.

7 You have put gladness in my heart, *
more than when grain and wine and oil increase.

8 I lie down in peace; at once I fall asleep; *
for only you, Lord, make me dwell in safety. to God

ANTIPHON

Officiant: Alleluia! The Lord is risen indeed:

People: **Come let us adore him. Alleluia!**

CANTICLE: *Gloria in excelsis*

**Glory to God in the highest,
and peace to his people on earth.
Lord God, heavenly King,
almighty God and Father,
we worship you, we give you thanks,
we praise you for your glory.
Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father,
Lord God, Lamb of God,
you take away the sin of the world:
have mercy on us;
you are seated at the right hand of the Father:
receive our prayer.**

**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.**

A READING FROM THE ACTS OF THE APOSTLES 3: 12-19

Peter addressed the people, “You Israelites, why do you wonder at this, or why do you stare at us, as though by our own power or piety we had made him walk? The God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob, the God of our ancestors has glorified his servant Jesus, whom you handed over and rejected in the presence of Pilate, though he had decided to release him. But you rejected the Holy and Righteous One and asked to have a murderer given to you, and you killed the Author of life, whom God raised from the dead. To this we are witnesses. And by faith in his name, his name itself has made this man strong, whom you see and know; and the faith that is through Jesus has given him this perfect health in the presence of all of you.

“And now, friends, I know that you acted in ignorance, as did also your rulers. In this way God fulfilled what he had foretold through all the prophets, that his Messiah would suffer. Repent therefore, and turn to God so that your sins may be wiped out.”

Reader: Hear what the Spirit is saying to the Church.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

CANTICLE: CHRIST OUR PASSOVER

Alleluia.

Christ our Passover has been sacrificed for us; *
therefore let us keep the feast,
Not with the old leaven, the leaven of malice and evil, *
but with the unleavened bread of sincerity and truth. Alleluia.

Christ being raised from the dead will never die again; *
death no longer has dominion over him.
The death that he died, he died to sin, once for all; *
but the life he lives, he lives to God.
So also consider yourselves dead to sin, *
and alive to God in Jesus Christ our Lord. Alleluia.

Christ has been raised from the dead, *
the first fruits of those who have fallen asleep.

For since by a man came death, *
by a man has come also the resurrection of the dead.
For as in Adam all die, *
so in Christ shall all be made alive. Alleluia.

A READING FROM THE FIRST EPISTLE OF JOHN 3:1-7

See what love the Father has given us, that we should be called children of God; and that is what we are. The reason the world does not know us is that it did not know him. Beloved, we are God's children now; what we will be has not yet been revealed. What we do know is this: when he is revealed, we will be like him, for we will see him as he is. And all who have this hope in him purify themselves, just as he is pure.

Everyone who commits sin is guilty of lawlessness; sin is lawlessness. You know that he was revealed to take away sins, and in him there is no sin. No one who abides in him sins; no one who sins has either seen him or known him. Little children, let no one deceive you. Everyone who does what is right is righteous, just as he is righteous.

Reader: Hear what the Spirit is saying to the Church.
People: **Thanks be to God**

A READING FROM THE GOSPEL ACCORDING TO LUKE 24:36B-48

Jesus himself stood among the disciples and said to them, "Peace be with you." They were startled and terrified, and thought that they were seeing a ghost. He said to them, "Why are you frightened, and why do doubts arise in your hearts? Look at my hands and my feet; see that it is I myself. Touch me and see; for a ghost does not have flesh and bones as you see that I have." And when he had said this, he showed them his hands and his feet. While in their joy they were disbelieving and still wondering, he said to them, "Have you anything here to eat?" They gave him a piece of broiled fish, and he took it and ate in their presence. Then he said to them, "These are my words that I spoke to you while I was still with you—that everything written about me in the law of Moses, the prophets, and the psalms must be fulfilled." Then he opened their minds to understand the scriptures, and he said to them, "Thus it is written, that the Messiah is to suffer and to rise from the dead on the third day, and that repentance and forgiveness of sins is to be proclaimed in his name to all nations, beginning from Jerusalem. You are witnesses of these things."

Deacon: The Word of the Lord.
People: **Thanks be to God.**

THE HOMILY

The Rev. Lynn Werdal

THE PEACE

May the peace of the Lord be always with you.

And also with you

THE OFFERTORY SENTENCE: Walk in love, as Christ loved us and gave himself for us an offering and a sacrifice to God.

Offertory Hymn 191 vs. 1,3,&4 *Alleluia! Alleluia Hearts & Voices Heavenward Raise Sullivan*

1 Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia! Hearts and voic - es heaven-ward raise:
2 Now the i - ron bars are bro - ken, Christ from death to life is born,
3 Christ is ris - en, Christ, the first-fruits of the ho - ly har - vest - field,
4 Christ is ris - en, we are ris - en! Shed up - on us heaven - ly grace,
5 Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia! Glo - ry be to God on high;

1 sing to God a hymn of glad-ness, sing to God a hymn of praise.
2 glor - ious life, and life im - mor - tal, on his re - sur - rec - tion morn.
3 which with all its full a - bun - dance at his sec - ond com - ing yield:
4 rain and dew and gleams of glo - ry from the bright-ness of thy face;
5 Al - le - lu - ia! to the Sa - vior who has won the vic - to - ry;

1 He, who on the cross a vic-tim, for the world's sal - va - tion bled,
 2 Christ has tri - umphed, and we con-quer by his might - y en - ter-prise:
 3 then the gold - en ears of har - vest will their heads be - fore him wave,
 4 that, with hearts in hea - ven dwell-ing, we on earth may fruit - ful be,
 5 Al - le - lu - ia! to the Spi - rit, fount of love and sanc - ti - ty:

1 Je - sus Christ, the King of glo - ry, now is ris - en from the dead.
 2 we with him to life e - ter - nal by his re - sur - rec - tion rise.
 3 ri - pened by his glo - rious sun - shine from the fur - rows of the grave.
 4 and by an - gel hands be gath - ered, and be ev - er, Lord, with thee.
 5 Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia! to the Tri - une Ma - jes - ty.

THE APOSTLES' CREED

I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth;

I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord. He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit and born of the Virgin Mary. He suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried. He descended to the dead. On the third day he rose again. He ascended into heaven, and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

THE PRAYERS

Officiant: The Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

Officiant: Let us pray.

Officiant and People

Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your Name, your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us. Save us from the time of trial, and deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours, now and for ever. Amen.

SUFFRAGES: SET A

- V. Show us your mercy, O Lord;
R. And grant us your salvation.
V. Clothe your ministers with righteousness;
R. Let your people sing with joy.
V. Give peace, O Lord, in all the world;
R. For only in you can we live in safety.
V. Lord, keep this nation under your care;
R. And guide us in the way of justice and truth.
V. Let your way be known upon earth;
R. Your saving health among all nations.
V. Let not the needy, O Lord, be forgotten;

PRAYER LIST

We pray for all those suffering with COVID-19.

We pray for all those struggling to find the light of Christ in this skeptical world

We pray for peace and unity among us as we seek a new way forward as people of faith.

We pray for our Nation may we work to build harmony.

We pray for those who are in the hospital or home recuperating, especially: **Bob** Gowen, **Yumi, Linda** Hill, **Ronald** Garvey, **Max, Anne, Cathy, Barbara, Hudson** Beauregard; **Ellie** Ruvo, **Steven** Schubert, **Martha** Thornley and **Shlomo** Teladano

We pray for those who are homebound: **Esmerilda** Hastings, **Margaret** Vaccaro, **John & Lee** Williams, **Dorothy** Dushin, **Jim, Marge, Joe** Smith, **Carolyn** Damiano, **Deanna** Ammirato and **Bill & Dorothy** D'Amato.

We pray for those struggling with chronic illness, especially: **Liz & Jeff** Daniele, **Andrew** Tom, **Rebecca**, **Vince** Servio, **Sarah** Paruolo, **Annaliese** Haag, **Gerald**, **Marilyn** Griffin, **Joyce**, **Paul** Ruvo, **Helene**, **Jason**, **Peter**, **Hannelore**, and **Jeff**.

We pray for **Edwin Sanchez and the students at El Hogar School**, and the American **Friends of the Episcopal Diocese of Jerusalem**.

We pray for those who have died, especially the over 550,000 in this country who have died from COVID-19

Officiant: Lord Jesus Christ, you stretched out your arms of love on the hard wood of the cross that everyone might come within the reach of your saving embrace: So clothe us in your Spirit that we, reaching forth our hands in love, may bring those who do not know you to the knowledge and love of you; for the honor of your Name. **Amen.**

THE COLLECT OF THE DAY

O God, whose blessed Son made himself known to his disciples in the breaking of bread: Open the eyes of our faith, that we may behold him in all his redeeming work; who lives and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

A COLLECT FOR PEACE

Almighty God, kindle, we pray, in every heart the true love of peace, and guide with your wisdom those who take counsel for the nations of the earth, that in tranquility your dominion may increase until the earth is filled with the knowledge of your love; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. . **Amen.**

THE GENERAL THANKSGIVING

Officiant and People

Almighty God, Father of all mercies, we your unworthy servants give you humble thanks for all your goodness and loving-kindness to us and to all whom you have made. We bless you for our creation, preservation, and all the blessings of this life; but above all for your immeasurable love in the redemption of the world by our Lord Jesus Christ; for the means of grace, and for the hope of glory. And, we pray, give us such an awareness of your mercies, that with truly thankful hearts we may show forth your praise, not only with our lips, but in our lives, by giving up our selves to your service, and by walking before you in holiness and righteousness all our days; through Jesus Christ our Lord, to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit, be honor and glory throughout all ages. **Amen.**

ANNOUNCEMENTS

THE BLESSING

CLOSING HYMN 493 vs 1, 3, &4

O For a Thousand Tongues to Sing!

Mason

The image shows a musical score for the hymn 'O For a Thousand Tongues to Sing!' by Mason. It consists of two systems of music. Each system has a vocal line (treble clef) and a piano accompaniment line (bass clef). The key signature is one sharp (F#), and the time signature is common time (C). The lyrics are printed below the vocal line of each system.

1 O for a thou - sand tongues to sing my dear Re - deem - er's praise,
2 My gra - cious Mas - ter and my God, as - sist me to pro - claim
3 Je - sus! the Name that charms our fears and bids our sor - rows cease;
4 He speaks; and, lis - tening to his voice, new life the dead re - ceive,
5 Hear him, ye deaf; ye voice - less ones, your loos - ened tongues em - ploy;

1 the glo - ries of my God and King, the tri - umphs of his grace!
2 and spread through all the earth a - broad the hon - ors of thy Name.
3 'tis mu - sic in the sin - ner's ears, 'tis life and health and peace.
4 the mourn - ful bro - ken hearts re - joice, the hum - ble poor be - lieve.
5 ye blind, be - hold, your Sa - vior comes; and leap, ye lame, for joy!

DISMISSAL

Deacon:

Alleluia! Alleluia! Let us bless the Lord!

People:

Thanks be to God! Alleluia! Alleluia!

POSTLUDE

STEWARDSHIP

“...[Christ’s] name itself has made this man strong, whom you see and know; “ (Acts 3) Our strength comes from God, Creator of all; from Christ, Redeemer of all; and the Holy Spirit, Sustainer of all. If we believe this, how can we not step into the work of building the Kingdom of God? Each of us adding our strengths to building up, since God is for us, who can stand against us? Thank you for your support of the work of building up the Kingdom of God.

MIDNIGHT RUN SOCKS AND UNDIES DRIVE: Everybody needs a little change now and then! Join us in the Annual Brenda Lawlor Socks & Undies drive! Don’t be the one who forgets to contribute in honor of one of our most dedicated Mid-Night Run supporters! New Socks & Undies needed for the Mid-Night Run. Please bring new socks, T-shirts & underwear to St. John's by May 15th. Primarily size large, but a few XL and M would be appreciated as well. Get out there and shop!

TUESDAY NOON ZOOM PRAYERS & CHAT: Join us via ZOOM for a brief moment of calm in your all too hectic day.

THURSDAY BIBLE STUDY: at 11am; ZOOM link sent out in This Week @ St. John’s. We are working our way through Paul’s Letter to the Romans, now on Chapter 8. You are welcome to join us.

ST. JOHN’S STAFF:

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