

**St. Paul's Episcopal Church  
Easter Day Service  
April 4, 2021**

**WELCOME**

Today is the day the Lord has made, let us rejoice and be glad in it!

**Hymn 175**

Hail Thee, Festival Day  
*Arranged by S. Drummond Wolff*  
*Stanzas 1 - 4 with all refrains*

*Celebrant* We meet in the name of God

*All* **Father, Son and Holy Spirit.**

Alleluia. Christ is risen

*All* **He is risen indeed. Alleluia!**

*To prepare ourselves for worship, we pray together:*

Almighty God, to whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hidden: cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you, and worthily magnify your holy name; through Christ our Lord. Amen.

Our Lord Jesus Christ said: The first commandment is this: "Hear, O Israel, the Lord our God is the only Lord. You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul, with all your mind and with all your strength." The second is

this: "Love your neighbor as yourself." There is no other commandment greater than these.

*All:* **Amen. Lord, have mercy.**

*Silence*

Let us Confess our Sins unto God and our Neighbor

*All:*

**God our Father, we confess to you  
and to our fellow members in the Body of Christ  
that we have sinned in thought, word and deed,  
and in what we have failed to do.**

**We are truly sorry.**

**Forgive us our sins,**

**and deliver us from the power of evil,  
for the sake of your Son who died for us,  
Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.**

Lord, have mercy.

***Christ, have mercy.***

Lord, have mercy.

God has promised in his word that when we confess our sins, he forgives us and cleanses us from all unrighteousness.

*All* **Thanks be to God.**

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.

## THE LITURGY OF THE WORD

### The Collect

O God, who made this most holy night to shine with the glory of the Lord's resurrection: Stir up in your Church that Spirit of adoption which is given to us in Baptism, that we, being renewed both in body and mind, may worship you in sincerity and truth; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

### The First Lesson

#### Isaiah 25:6-9

On this mountain the LORD of hosts will make for all peoples a feast of rich food, a feast of well-aged wines, of rich food filled with marrow, of well-aged wines strained clear.  
And he will destroy on this mountain the shroud that is cast over all peoples, the sheet that is spread over all nations; he will swallow up death forever.

Then the Lord GOD will wipe away the tears from all faces, and the disgrace of his people he will take away from all the earth,  
for the LORD has spoken.  
It will be said on that day, Lo, this is our God; we have waited for him, so that he might save us.  
This is the LORD for whom we have waited;  
let us be glad and rejoice in his salvation.

Reader The Word of the Lord.

People Thanks be to God.

### Psalm 118:1-2, 14-24

#### *Confitemini Domino*

- 1 Give thanks to the LORD, for he is good; \*  
his mercy endures for ever.
- 2 Let Israel now proclaim, \*  
"His mercy endures for ever."
- 14 The LORD is my strength and my song, \*  
and he has become my salvation.
- 15 There is a sound of exultation and victory \*  
in the tents of the righteous:
- 16 "The right hand of the LORD has triumphed! \*  
the right hand of the LORD is exalted!  
the right hand of the LORD has triumphed!"
- 17 I shall not die, but live, \*  
and declare the works of the LORD.

- 18 The LORD has punished me sorely, \*  
but he did not hand me over to death.
- 19 Open for me the gates of righteousness; \*  
I will enter them;  
I will offer thanks to the LORD.
- 20 "This is the gate of the LORD; \*  
he who is righteous may enter."
- 21 I will give thanks to you, for you answered me \*  
and have become my salvation.
- 22 The same stone which the builders rejected \*  
has become the chief cornerstone.
- 23 This is the LORD's doing, \*  
and it is marvelous in our eyes.
- 24 On this day the LORD has acted; \*  
we will rejoice and be glad in it.

## The Epistle

## 1 Corinthians 15:1-11

I would remind you, brothers and sisters, of the good news that I proclaimed to you, which you in turn received, in which also you stand, through which also you are being saved, if you hold firmly to the message that I proclaimed to you--unless you have come to believe in vain.

For I handed on to you as of first importance what I in turn had received: that Christ died for our sins in accordance with the scriptures, and that he was buried, and that he was raised on the third day in accordance with the scriptures, and that he appeared to Cephas, then to the twelve. Then he appeared to more than five hundred brothers and sisters at one time, most

of whom are still alive, though some have died. Then he appeared to James, then to all the apostles. Last of all, as to one untimely born, he appeared also to me. For I am the least of the apostles, unfit to be called an apostle, because I persecuted the church of God. But by the grace of God I am what I am, and his grace toward me has not been in vain. On the contrary, I worked harder than any of them--though it was not I, but the grace of God that is with me. Whether then it was I or they, so we proclaim and so you have come to believe.

Reader The Word of the Lord.  
People Thanks be to God.

## Hymn 190

Lift Your Voice, Rejoicing Mary

## THE GOSPEL

*Priest* The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ  
according to John  
*People* Glory to you, Lord Christ

Early on the first day of the week, while it was still dark, Mary Magdalene came to the tomb and saw that the stone had been removed from the tomb. So she ran and went to Simon Peter and the other disciple, the one whom Jesus loved, and said to them, "They have taken the Lord out of the tomb, and we do not know where they have laid him." Then Peter and the other disciple set out and went toward the tomb. The two were running together, but the other disciple outran Peter and reached the tomb first. He bent down to look in and saw the linen

wrappings lying there, but he did not go in. Then Simon Peter came, following him, and went into the tomb. He saw the linen wrappings lying there, and the cloth that had been on Jesus' head, not lying with the linen wrappings but rolled up in a place by itself. Then the other disciple, who reached the tomb first, also went in, and he saw and believed; for as yet they did not understand the scripture, that he must rise from the dead. Then the disciples returned to their homes.

But Mary stood weeping outside the tomb. As she wept, she bent over to look into the tomb; and she saw two angels in white, sitting where the body of Jesus had been lying, one at the head and the other at the feet. They said to her, "Woman, why are you weeping?" She said to them, "They have taken away my Lord, and I do not know where they have laid him." When she had said this, she turned around and saw Jesus standing there, but she did not know that it was Jesus. Jesus said to her, "Woman, why are you weeping? Whom are you looking for?" Supposing him to be the gardener, she said to him, "Sir, if you have carried him away, tell me where you have laid him, and I will take him away." Jesus said to her, "Mary!" She turned and said to him in Hebrew, "Rabbouni!" (which means Teacher). Jesus said to her, "Do not hold on to me, because I have not yet ascended to the Father. But go to my brothers and say to them, 'I am ascending to my Father and your Father, to my God and your God.'" Mary Magdalene went and announced to the disciples, "I have seen the Lord"; and she told them that he had said these things to her.

*Celebrant*                      The Gospel of the Lord.

People:                              Praise to you, Lord Christ.

## **SERMON**

### **Nicene Creed**

*All*

We believe in one God, the Father, the almighty,  
maker of heaven and earth,  
of all that is, seen and unseen.

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ,  
the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father,  
God from God, Light from Light,  
true God from true God,  
begotten, not made, of one substance with the Father.

Through him all things were made.

For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven;  
by the power of the Holy Spirit  
he became incarnate of the Virgin Mary,  
and was made man.

For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate;  
he suffered death and was buried.

On the third day he rose again  
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.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life,  
who proceeds from the Father.

With the Father and the Son,  
he is worshipped and glorified.  
He has spoken through the Prophets.  
We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church.  
We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.  
We look for the resurrection of the dead,  
and the life of the world to come. Amen.

Alleluia. Christ is risen  
All: **He is risen indeed. Alleluia!**

**Hymn 199**            Come Ye Faithful, Raise the Strain

### **PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE**

On this day that the Lord has made, let us rejoice and be glad  
as we pray to the God who raised Jesus from the dead, saying:  
***Alleluia! Hear our prayer.***

For the Church, especially for Michael our Presiding Bishop,  
Trula our Priest, Chris, our District Dean, Dorothy, our District  
Deacon, Alice, our Lay Preacher & Worship Leader, that we  
may be signs of Christ's light for all who have lived in darkness,  
of hope for all who know pain and suffering, and of love for all  
who have been rejected. ***Alleluia! Hear our prayer.***

For this parish family, even though separated by social-  
distancing, that we may be strong in faith, confident in hope,  
and abounding with love for God and neighbor. ***Alleluia! Hear  
our prayer.***

For all the human family, that God will keep safe all who are  
still vulnerable to the disease, restore to health those who are  
ill, and give strength and energy to those who serve and treat  
them. ***Alleluia! Hear our prayer.***

For all those in positions of public trust and leadership, those  
who protect and serve our communities, and all those  
administering the vaccine, that God will strengthen them with  
wisdom and patience. ***Alleluia! Hear our prayer.***

For those celebrating birthdays, especially David Harders,  
Maxine Bailey, John Carril and Mike Medovich. ***Alleluia! Hear  
our prayer.***

For all who serve in the armed forces, especially Shannon  
Murray Tessmer, Gregory Cello, Jr., Adam Jacquet, Nick  
Tessmer, Daniel Murray, Emmily Botts, Jenna Keathly and Tim  
Garland. ***Alleluia! Hear our prayer.***

For all teachers, students, and parents, and especially for our  
college students, Mary Standinger, Larissa Hankey, Kayla  
Hankey, Laura Robertson, Mikayla Sedlacek and Andrew Clark.  
***Alleluia! Hear our prayer.***

For all who are confined to their homes, and for those who  
cannot be with family and loved ones, remembering especially  
Pauline Stoner, Susan Beattie, Esther Thomas, Julia Zepkowski,  
Johanna Masters, Diane Conneman, Eli Ames, Jean Radice,  
Joan Gibbs, Jane Cornett, Joseph Murphy, Dorette Burnham,  
Melanie, Noelle, Chris Mann, Grace Ellis, Greg Cello Sr., Louise

Woodburn, Gail Yost Moyka, Joan Meddaugh, Johnny Wall, Doug Worthing, Matthew Smithkors, John Wall, Florence Sawyer, Violet Geller, Father Lee Love, Anthony Fusco, Marge Jackson, Maxine Bailey, Joan Babcock, Wylie Duerson, Darlene Allen, Joan Pascuzzo, Laura Engram, Daniel Cornwell and for those who love and care for them, and for those we now name..... (pause) that as they hear the Good News of the Resurrection, they may be bound together in love. **Alleluia! Hear our prayer**

For those who have died, remembering especially Barry Vallequette... that they may rest in Christ and be raised into his glory. **Alleluia! Hear our prayer.**

Lifting our voices with all creation, with Mary the God-bearer and all the saints who have borne witness to the Risen Christ, let us offer ourselves and one another to the living God through Christ. **Alleluia! To you, O Risen Lord, we give praise and glory.**

*Celebrant* Blessed are you, O Holy God, who destroyed death and brought life and immortality to light, hear the prayers we offer in the hope of eternal glory, and grant that we who have received new life in baptism may live forever in the joy of the resurrection. Glory to you, Father, Son and Holy Spirit, now and always and unto the ages of ages. **Amen.**

Lord Jesus Christ, you said to your apostles: 'I leave you peace, my peace I give you.' Look not on our sins but on the faith of your Church, and grant us the peace and unity of your kingdom where you live for ever and ever. **Amen.**

## Spiritual Communion

### ACT OF RECEPTION

*The Celebrant continues*

In union, blessed Jesus, with the faithful gathered at every altar of your Church where your blessed Body and Blood are offered this day remembering particularly St. Paul's and all those worshipping here today, we long to offer you praise and thanksgiving, for creation and all the blessings of this life, for the redemption won for us by your life, death, and resurrection, for the means of grace and the hope of glory.

And particularly for the blessings given us (pause) ...

We believe that you are truly present in the Holy Sacrament, and, since we cannot at this time receive communion, we pray you to come into our hearts.

We unite ourselves with you and embrace you with all our heart, our soul, and our minds. Let nothing separate us from you; let us serve you in this life until, by your grace, we come to your glorious kingdom and unending peace. *Amen.*

### The Lord's Prayer

And now, as our Savior Christ has taught us, we are bold to say,

*People and Celebrant*

Our Father, who art in heaven,

hallowed be thy Name,

thy kingdom come,

thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven.

Give us this day our daily bread.

And forgive us our trespasses,

as we forgive those who trespass against us.  
And lead us not into temptation,  
but deliver us from evil.  
For thine is the kingdom,  
and the power, and the glory,  
forever and ever. Amen.

### **The Blessing**

*The Priest blesses the people, saying*

The blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be upon you and remain with you for ever. *Amen.*

### **Hymn 175**

Jesus Christ Is Risen Today

*Arranged by Jim Engebretson*

**ANNOUNCEMENTS:** Linda Stanley, Guest Organist, Patti O'Connell, French horn and St. Paul's Choir provided the celebratory music for today.

### **Happy Easter!**

**St. Paul's will be re-gathering in person beginning May 2<sup>nd</sup>!**

### **Organ Postlude:**

Easter Toccata *by John Rutter*

### **Dismissal**

Eternal God and Father, whose Son prayed that his disciples might be one, as he is one with you: draw us closer to him,

that in common love and obedience to you we may be united to one another in the fellowship of the one Spirit, that the world may believe that He is Lord, to your eternal glory; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

We go into the world to walk in God's light, to rejoice in God's love and to reflect God's glory.

**All Alleluia!**

Let us Bless the Lord

**All Thanks be to God, Alleluia, Alleluia**

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