

“Stop doubting
and
BELIEVE.”



JOHN 20:27, NIV

April 08, 2018

The Easter season is a week of weeks, seven Sundays when we play in the mystery of Christ's presence, mostly through the glorious Gospel of John. Today we gather with the disciples on the first Easter, and Jesus breathes the Spirit on us. With Thomas we ask for a sign, and Jesus offers us his wounded self in the broken bread. From frightened individuals we are transformed into a community of open doors, peace, forgiveness, and material sharing such that no one among us is in need.

All invitations to stand or kneel are for those who are able.

GATHERING . . . WORD . . . MEAL . . . SENDING

Singing Bowl

During the ringing of the bowl, you are encouraged to center your thoughts on God the Creator, Christ the Redeemer, and the Holy Spirit our Comforter.

PRELUDE . . . Leilani Camara and Michael Keating

WELCOME

Please Stand

SHARING OF THE PEACE

P: May the peace of the risen Lord Jesus be with you all.

All: And also with you.

THANKSGIVING FOR BAPTISM

P: Alleluia! Christ is risen.

All: Christ is risen indeed. Alleluia!

P: Just as God's work of creation never ends, so the gifts received in baptism are renewed every day.

All: Let us give thanks together for the life given in baptism.

P: We give you thanks, O God, for the waters of life: for water to bathe in, water to drink, for waters to play in and waters that inspire wonder, for water that gives life to our planet.

All: We give you thanks, O God, for the waters of life.

P: We give you thanks for your salvation through water: for delivering Noah and his family through the floodwaters, for leading your people Israel through the sea into freedom, for preserving your prophet Elijah through the time of drought, for guiding your people across the Jordan into a new land, for quenching the Samaritan woman's thirst with living water.

All: We give you thanks for your salvation through water.

P: We give you thanks for the life of all the baptized, and for all who gather here; for godparents and baptismal sponsors, for children and grandchildren, for our brothers and sisters in Christ whom we have never seen but to whom we are bound.

All: We give you thanks for the life of all the baptized.

P: We give you thanks for life in Christ through your Holy Spirit: for our entry into Jesus' death through these waters, for our new birth into a life of freedom and service, for our calling to be your people, sent out for the life of the world.

All: We give you thanks, blessed and holy Trinity, now and forever. Amen.

GREETING

P: Alleluia! Christ is risen!

All: Christ is risen indeed. Alleluia!

OPENING HYMN . . . "Christ the Lord Is Risen Today; Alleluia!" vs 1, 4

Text: Wipo of Burgundy - Tune: Robert Williams - Cranberry Book #3



1 Christ the Lord is ris'n to - day; Al - le - lu - ia!
4 Chris-tians, on this ho - ly day, Al - le - lu - ia!



Chris-tians, has - ten on your way; Al - le - lu - ia!
all your grate - ful hom - age pay; Al - le - lu - ia!



of - fer praise with love re - plete, Al - le - lu - ia!
Christ the Lord is ris'n on high; Al - le - lu - ia!



at the pas - chal vic - tim's feet. Al - le - lu - ia!
now he lives, no more to die. Al - le - lu - ia!

alleluia

INVOCATION

P: Worship the Lord in the beauty of holiness. Let the heavens rejoice and the earth be glad. The God who created the world and fills it with life is with you all.

All: And also with you.

KYRIE



L: In peace, let us pray to the Lord.



All: Lord, oh Lord have mer - cy.



L: For the peace that comes from a - bove, For the



heal - ing of our bro - ken - ness and sin, Let us



pray, Let us pray to the Lord.



All: Lord, oh Lord have mer - cy.



L: For the peace of all God's cre - a - tion, For the



u - ni - ty of all God's peo - ple, Let us



pray, Let us pray to the Lord.

All: Lord, oh Lord have mer - cy.

L: For this ho-ly house of God, For all who
of - fer here their wor - ship and praise, Let us
pray, Let us pray to the Lord.

All: Lord, oh Lord have mer - cy.

L: Help, save, com-fort and de-fend us gra-cious Lord.

All: A - men.



HYMN OF PRAISE

3
Cre - a - ted for a life to - geth - er, we
With sun and moon and stars of hea - ven we

come a - live in you. Now, in your fel-low-ship you
name you as our light; In mor - ning star and pas - chal

birth us, and give us life a - new. To - day we
can - dle You make our dark-ness bright. In wind or

come to sing your prais - es; Our hearts made one in
calm, in storm or sun - shine the earth sings forth your

song to Fath - er, Son, and Ho - ly Spi - rit in
praise; With trees and fields and flow - ing ri - ver we

whom we all be - long. We
owe you all our days. We

sing to the God of sun-rise, of kindled hearts and emp - ty
sing to our God who knows us in joy or sor - row, pain or

tomb. We sing to the God of sha-dows, of shat-tered pleasure. We sing to our God now with us, Im-man-u-dreams and bar-ren womb; We sing to our God of el, our price-less treasure; We sing to our God of Love! With sun and Love! We sing to our God of Love!

THE PRAYER OF THE DAY

L: Almighty God, with joy we celebrate the day of our Lord's resurrection.

All: **By the grace of Christ among us, enable us to show the power of the resurrection in all that we say and do, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.**

Be Seated

CHOIR ANTHEM . . . "Alleluia! Sing to Jesus!"

GATHERING . . . **WORD** . . . MEAL . . . SENDING

READING . . . Acts 4:32-35

While the apostles testified to others about the resurrection of Jesus, the early Christian community shared what they owned or sold their possessions to help their fellow believers who were in need.

Now the whole group of those who believed were of one heart and soul, and no one claimed private ownership of any possessions, but everything they owned was held in common. With great power the apostles gave their testimony to the resurrection of the Lord Jesus, and great grace was upon them all. There was not a needy person among them, for as many as owned lands or houses sold them and brought the proceeds of what was sold. They laid it at the apostles' feet, and it was distributed to each as any had need.

L: Holy wisdom, Holy word.

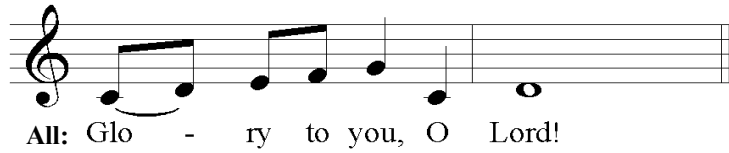
All: **Thanks be to God.**

Please Stand

ALLELUIA

Al-le-lu-ia! Al-le-lu-ia! Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the words of e-ter-nal life. Al-le-lu-ia! Al-le-lu-ia!

P: The Holy Gospel according to John, the Twentieth chapter.



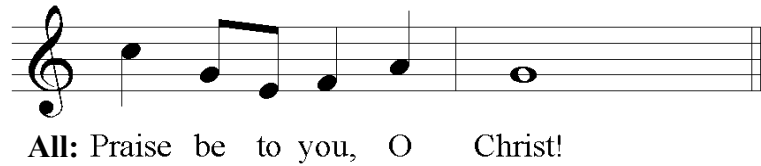
GOSPEL . . . John 20:19-31

The unprecedented events of the day of resurrection continue as the risen Jesus appears to his fearful disciples. A week later, after Thomas worships Jesus, Jesus pronounces that the blessings of the resurrection are also for those who "have not seen and yet believe."

When it was evening on that day, the first day of the week, and the doors of the house where the disciples had met were locked for fear of the Jews, Jesus came and stood among them and said, "Peace be with you." After he said this, he showed them his hands and his side. Then the disciples rejoiced when they saw the Lord. Jesus said to them again, "Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, so I send you." When he had said this, he breathed on them and said to them, "Receive the Holy Spirit. If you forgive the sins of any, they are forgiven them; if you retain the sins of any, they are retained." But Thomas (who was called the Twin), one of the twelve, was not with them when Jesus came. So the other disciples told him, "We have seen the Lord." But he said to them, "Unless I see the mark of the nails in his hands, and put my finger in the mark of the nails and my hand in his side, I will not believe." A week later his disciples were again in the house, and Thomas was with them. Although the doors were shut, Jesus came and stood among them and said, "Peace be with you." Then he said to Thomas, "Put your finger here and see my hands. Reach out your hand and put it in my side. Do not

doubt but believe." Thomas answered him, "My Lord and my God!" Jesus said to him, "Have you believed because you have seen me? Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have come to believe." Now Jesus did many other signs in the presence of his disciples, which are not written in this book. But these are written so that you may come to believe that Jesus is the Messiah, the Son of God, and that through believing you may have life in his name.

P: The Gospel of the Lord.



Be Seated

CHILDREN'S TIME . . . Pastor Tim

Please Stand

SONG . . . "We Walk by Faith and Not by Sight" vs. 1, 2, 3

Text: Henry Alford - Tune: Samuel McFarland - Blue Book #675

1 We walk by faith and not by sight; with
 2 We may not touch your hands and side, nor

gra - cious words draw near, O Christ, who spoke as
 fol - low where you trod; but in your prom - ise

none e'er spoke: "My peace be with you and here."
 we re - joice, and cry, "My Lord and God!"

HOMILY . . . Pastor Tim

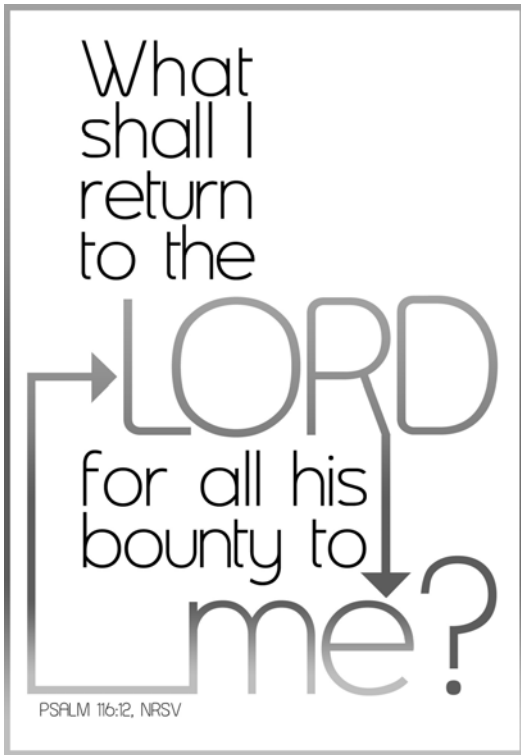
GATHERING . . . WORD . . . MEAL . . . SENDING

INVITATION TO OFFERING

L: God is our chosen portion, the cup of our salvation, the bread of life.

All: Let us share our gratitude for God’s gift of everlasting presence as we share a portion of God’s many abundant gifts with a world in need of the Easter miracle.

THANKFUL OFFERING



OFFERTORY RESPONSE

Now is the time to ban-ish all dark-ness;
Here we are made to shine in God's glo-ry.

Christ is our way, our truth and light.
Here we're made whole as the bo-dy of Christ.

Come to the Lord's fes-tive ta-ble
clothed in the ho-li-ness of God.
ho-ly com-mun-ion in Christ.

Je-sus him-self at our feast pre-sides.

OFFERTORY PRAYER

L: Our hearts are glad, O God, as we rejoice in your Easter miracle.

All: We come with gratitude and joy for the many gifts you have given, but most of all for the gift of Christ.

L: Bless these gifts we return to you, that they may become gifts of new life to those who are haunted by signs of death: despair, poverty, sorrow, violence and loneliness.

All: Help us live the Easter miracle that we may ourselves be signs of resurrection hope for the other. In the name of the risen Christ, we pray. Amen.

THE PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

L: Rejoicing in the life, death, and resurrection of Jesus Christ, we pray for the witness of the church, the wholeness of creation, and all who are in need. Holy God, you speak peace in the presence of fear. Give us courage to testify to your grace with our lives. Embolden prophets, preachers, and teachers to speak your truth. Lord, in your mercy,

All: hear our prayer.

L: Holy God, you are peace in a violent world. Heal neighborhoods ravaged by crime. Reconcile political factions at war. Build relationships where suspicion keeps us apart, and bring us to the day of unity. Lord, in your mercy,

All: hear our prayer.

L: Holy God, you bring peace to a hurting world. Fill the stomachs of the hungry. Bind up the shattered. Give rest to the weary and hope to the disillusioned. Restore the sick. Lord, in your mercy,

All: hear our prayer.

L: Holy God, you breathe your Spirit of peace into us. Enlivened by the Spirit, equip us to bring new life to all we meet in our work and in our play. Lord, in your mercy,

All: hear our prayer.

L: God of all, hear the prayers of our heart said silently or aloud.

Here other prayers may be offered.

L: Lord, in your mercy,

All: hear our prayers.

L: We entrust all our prayers to you, gracious God. Receive them by the power of the Holy Spirit and the love of your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

All: Amen.

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING



L: The Lord be with you.



All: And al - so with you.



L: Lift up your hearts.



All: We lift them up to the Lord.



L: Let us give thanks to the Lord, our God.



All: It is right to give God thanks and praise.

P: Holy God, our Maker, Redeemer, and Healer, in the harmonious world of your creation, the plants and animals, the seas and stars were whole and well in your praise. When sin had scarred the world, you sent your Son to heal our ills and to form us again into one. In the night in which he was betrayed, our Lord Jesus took

bread, and gave thanks; broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying: "Take and eat; this is my body, given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me." Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks and gave it for all to drink, saying: "This cup is the new covenant in my blood, shed for you and all people for the forgiveness of sin. Do this for the remembrance of me." Remembering, therefore, his acts of healing, and his victory over death, we await that day when all the peoples of the earth will come to the river to enjoy the tree of life. Send your Spirit upon this meal: as grains scattered on the hillside become one bread, so let your Church be gathered from the ends of the earth, that all may be fed with the Bread of life, your Son.

All: Through Christ all glory and honor is yours, Almighty Father, with the Holy Spirit, in your holy church, both now and forever. Amen.

THE LORD'S PRAYER

P: Lord, remember us in your kingdom, and teach us to pray:

All: 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 forever. Amen.

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

P: The disciples knew the Lord Jesus in the breaking of the bread!

All: We come to the table of the risen Christ where we are known and loved.

The ushers will invite you to the Lord's Table after the Lamb of God is sung.

Be Seated

THE LAMB OF GOD

Oh Christ, the Lamb of God, you take a-way the
 sin of the world, Have mer - cy on us. Oh
 mer - cy on us. Oh grant us peace,
 grant us peace, grant us peace.

Holy Communion is open to all.
 Grape juice is white, wine is red
 If you desire communion brought to you,
 please let an usher know.

DISTRIBUTION



COMMUNION HYMN . . . “The Risen Christ”

Text: Nigel Weaver - Tune: Walter Greatorex - Cranberry Book #390



1 The ris - en Christ, who walks on wound-ed feet
 2 The ris - en Christ, who stands with wound-ed side,
 3 The ris - en Christ, who breaks with wound-ed hand
 4 May we, Christ's bod - y, walk and serve and stand



from gar - den tomb through dark-ened cit - y street,
 breathes out his Spir - it on them to a - bide
 the bread for those who fail to un - der - stand,
 with those op - pressed in this and ev - 'ry land,



un - locks the door of grief, de - spair, and fear,
 whose faith still wa - vers, who dare not be - lieve;
 re - veals him - self, de - spite their lin - g'ring tears,
 till all are blessed and can a bless - ing be,

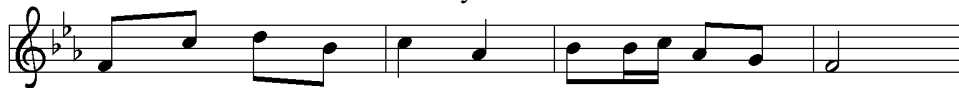


and speaks a word of peace to all who hear.
 new grace, new strength, new pur - pose they re - ceive.
 en - flames their hearts, then quick - ly dis - ap - pears.
 re - stored in Christ to true hu - man - i - ty.



COMMUNION HYMN . . . “Now the Green Blade Rises”

Text: John MacLeod Campbell Crum – Tune: French carol
 Cranberry Book #379



1 Now the green blade ris - es from the bur - ied grain,
 2 In the grave they laid him, love by ha - tred slain,
 3 Forth he came at Eas - ter like the ris - en grain,
 4 When our hearts are win - try, griev - ing, or in pain,



wheat that in dark earth man - y days has lain;
 think - ing that he would nev - er wake a - gain,
 he that for three days in the grave had lain;
 your touch can call us back to life a - gain,



love lives a - gain, that with the dead has been;
 laid in the earth like grain that sleeps un - seen;
 raised from the dead, my liv - ing Lord is seen;
 fields of our hearts that dead and bare have been;



love is come a - gain like wheat a - ris - ing green.



Singing Bowl

Please Stand

POST-COMMUNION BLESSING

P: We have tasted your goodness, O God, in your gifts of word and sacrament.

All: May our hearts burn within us, that we may proclaim your mighty acts and joyfully live as your chosen people; through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

POST COMMUNION PRAYER

L: Loving God, in this meal you sustain the weary and heal the broken.

All: May the gift of your word made flesh, the body and blood of Christ, inspire our tongues to praise you and proclaim to the entire world the risen Savior, Jesus Christ. Amen.

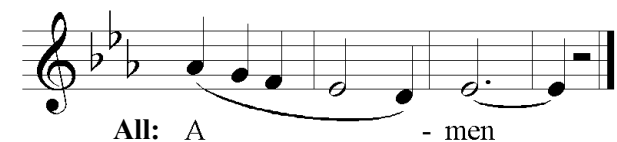
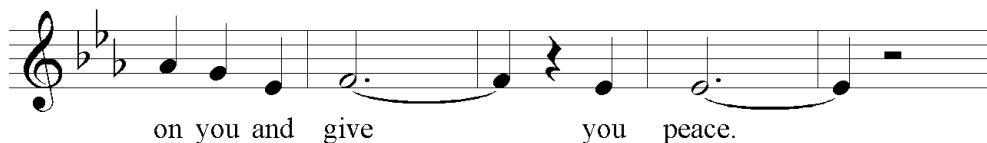
Be Seated

COMMUNITY ANNOUNCEMENTS

Please Stand

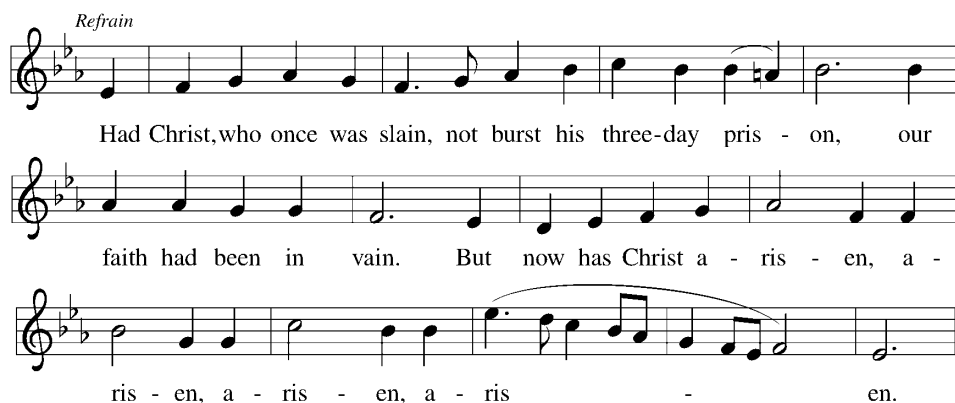
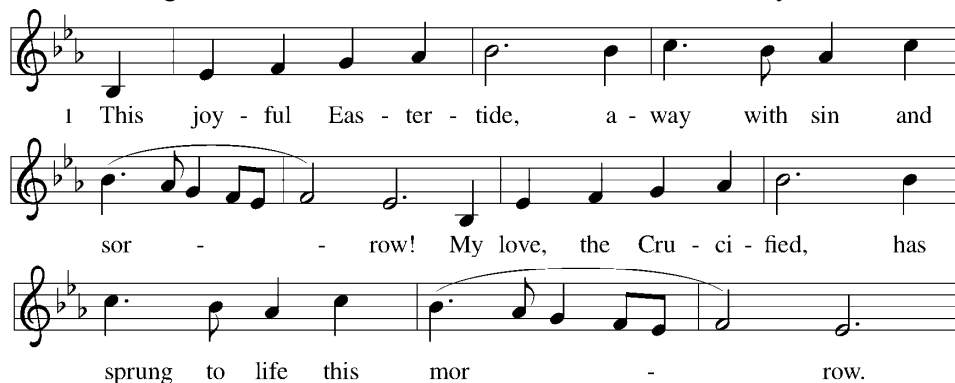
GATHERING . . . WORD . . . MEAL . . . SENDING

BENEDICTION



SENDING OUT HYMN . . . "This Joyful Eastertide" vs 1

Text: George R. Woodward - Tune: Dutch folk tune - Cranberry Book #391



DISMISSAL

L: Go in Easter Peace and Joy!

All: Thanks be to God!

