

Easter 3, April 18, 2021

Prelude

Opening Acclamation

Celebrant Alleluia, Christ is risen!

People **The Lord is risen indeed, alleluia!**

Song of Praise **Great and Wonderful** (together)

- 1 Great and wonderful are your deeds
O Lord God the almighty
O Sovereign of the nations
- 2 Who shall not revere and praise your name O' Lord?
For you alone are holy
- 3 All nations shall come and worship in your presence
for your just dealings have been revealed
- 4 To the One who is seated on the throne and to the Lamb:
be blessing and honour, glory and might
for ever and ever. Amen

Celebrant May God be with you

People And also with you

Celebrant Let us pray together.

Collect of the Day (together)

O God whose greeting we miss and whose departure we delay: make our hearts burn with insight on our ordinary road; that, as we grasp you in the broken bread, we may also let you go, and return to speak your word of life in the name of Christ, **Amen.**

First Lesson Acts 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.”

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 God does wonders for the faithful; *
when I call, God will hear me.

- 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 Most High.
- 6 Many are saying, “Oh, that we might see better times!” *
 Lift up the light of your countenance upon us, O God.
- 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, God, make me dwell in safety.

Second Lesson 1 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.

The Gospel 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.

The Sermon

Prayers of the People

Living Christ, you are risen from the dead! You are eternal life, stronger than death. Open our eyes to see you as we ask for your merciful grace.

We pray for the Church, the Body of Christ, especially.... In the Anglican Cycle of Prayer, we pray for the Church of Ireland. In the Diocesan Cycle of Prayer, we pray for San Jorge’s, Central Falls; and

St. George's School, Middletown.. We joyfully celebrate your resurrection with our brothers and sisters around the world. Imbue your people with a sense of your risen presence, today and always. For this we pray,
Risen Christ, hear our prayer.

We pray for all nations of the earth, especially..... God of Creation, you have given us a world of wondrous diversity. Open our eyes to see the beauty of your cosmic weaving. Give us open hearts and the confidence to invite all into the bond of your love, that in unity with you, we may bring your reign of peace to all peoples. For this we pray,
Risen Christ, hear our prayer.

We pray for our nation and its leaders. God of Hope teach us the difference between reaching down and reaching out. Guide the privileged few who determine the destinies of the many. Lead us not only to share our abundance, but also to enter with hope into the poverty of others with less. We remember especially..... For this we pray,
Risen Christ, hear our prayer.

We pray for our community, especially..... and for those who have birthdays: Daniel Fisher, Jennifer Snyder Beasley and Harper Letendre. God, who came to earth as one of us, help us to see you in each member of this community. Bless the many gifts of our members and keep before us the image of Servant Jesus, that in him we remain ready to serve one another and those whom you continue to bring into our midst. For this we pray,
Risen Christ, hear our prayer.

We pray for all who suffer and struggle, especially . . .

God of Compassion open our hearts to bind wounds and heal. Bless each person who asks for our prayers. Be present, through your people, to all who need your comfort. For this we pray,

Risen Christ, hear our prayer.

We pray for all who have died, especially . . . that your will for them may be fulfilled. God who loved us from before our birth and who loves us beyond the grave, we remember those who have died in the hope of the resurrection. And we remember those who mourn, that they may be assured of that same hope. For this we pray,

Risen Christ, hear our prayer.

We pray that our risen life include greater care of the creation you have entrusted to us. Help us to be champions for this fragile planet. We remember especially.....

For this we pray.

Risen Christ, hear our prayer.

All: O God, who created all people in your image, we thank you for the wonderful diversity of races and cultures in this world. Enrich our lives by ever widening circles of fellowship and show us your presence in those who differ most from us, until our knowledge of your love is made perfect in our love for all your children; through Jesus Christ our Lord. ***Amen.***

The Peace *The people stand as they are able.*

Celebrant: The peace of Christ be with you.

People: **And also with you.**

The Eucharist (*people's responses*)

Opening Acclamation

Celebrant May God be with you

People And also with you

Celebrant Lift up your hearts

People We lift them up to the Lord

Celebrant Let us give thanks to the Lord our God

People It is right to give our thanks and praise.

Sanctus

Holy, Holy, Holy Lord, God of power and might,
Heaven and earth are full of your glory.

Hosanna in the highest.

Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord.

Hosanna in the highest.

Memorial Acclamation

Dying, you destroyed our death.

Rising, you restored our life.

Christ Jesus, come in glory!

At the fraction: *Celebrant:* We break this bread to share in the
body of Christ.

Response: We who are many are one body, for
we all share in the one bread.

Post Communion Prayer

Celebrant Let us pray together.

God of all, we give you thanks and praise that when we were still far off you met us in your Son and brought us home. Dying and living, Jesus declared your love, gave us grace, and opened a new way of living. May we who share Christ's body, live his risen life; we who drink his cup bring life to others; we whom the Spirit lights, give light to the world. Keep us firm in the hope you have set before us; so we and all your children shall be free, and the whole earth live to praise your name. AMEN.

The Dismissal

Celebrant Let us go forth into the world rejoicing in the power of the Spirit. Alleluia, Alleluia.

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

Postlude

Announcements: Upon entering or exiting, please put your offertory in the plate on the table.