

Welcome
to the
Episcopal Church of the Good Shepherd!

Thank you for joining us for the annual celebration of Easter -
the Resurrection of Our Lord Jesus Christ.

We pray that your experience in worship this day
is uplifting to you in your life.

Whoever you are,
and wherever you find yourself on your journey of faith,
you are welcome here.

May God's blessing and peace be with you.

The Rt. Rev. Deon K. Johnson, *Bishop of Missouri*

The Rev. C. Earl Mahan, *Rector*

The Rev. Dr. Pamela Stuerke, *Assisting Priest*

Bobbi Reese, *Organist and Choir Director*



Please silence cell phones during the church service.

*Though God asks us to lift our voices in praise,
we ask that at this time, for everyone's health and protection,
that you refrain from singing during the service.*

Thank you for your cooperation.



Liturgical Participants for April 4, 2021

Preacher and Presider: Rev. Dr. Pamela Stuerke

Lectors: Diane Stirling

Musicians: Bobbi Reese, Bernard Barth, Connor Donnelly,

Jennifer Holtmann, Joanne Owen, Peter Pancella,

Vicki Thompson, Ron Vince

Altar Guild: Carol Link, Brenda Finch

Videography: Barry Schenck, Mark Dinzler

THE ORDER OF WORSHIP FOR EASTER DAY

Gathering Music

Announcements

Prelude

OPENING HYMN

Jesus Christ Is Risen Today

Sung by the choir

Presider: Alleluia! Christ is risen!

People: **Christ is risen indeed! Alleluia!**

Presider: Almighty God, to you all hearts are open, all desires known, and from you no secrets are hid: 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.**

Gloria

Sung by the choir

Presider: The Lord be with you.

People: **And also with you.**

Presider: Let us pray.

THE OPENING COLLECT

Presider: Almighty God, who through your only-begotten Son Jesus Christ overcame death and opened to us the gate of everlasting life: Grant that we, who celebrate with joy the day of the Lord's resurrection, may be raised from the death of sin by your life-giving Spirit; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

THE WORD OF GOD

THE FIRST LESSON: Acts 10:34-43

Peter began to speak to Cornelius and the other Gentiles: "I truly understand that God shows no partiality, but in every nation anyone who fears him and does what is right is acceptable to him. You know the message he sent to the people of Israel, preaching peace by Jesus Christ--he is Lord of all. That message spread throughout Judea, beginning in Galilee after the baptism that John announced: how God anointed Jesus of Nazareth with the Holy Spirit and with power; how he went about doing good and healing all who were oppressed by the devil, for God was with him. We are witnesses to all that he did both in Judea and in Jerusalem. They put him to death by hanging him on a tree; but God raised him on the third day and allowed him to appear, not to all the people but to us who were chosen by God as witnesses, and who ate and drank with him after he rose from the dead. He commanded us to preach to the people and to testify that he is the one ordained by God as judge of the living and the dead. All the prophets testify about him that everyone who believes in him receives forgiveness of sins through his name."

Reader: Hear what the Spirit is saying to God's People,
People: **Thanks be to God.**

Psalm 118:1-2, 14-24 (read by all)

Confitemini Domino

Give thanks to the LORD, for he is good; *
his mercy endures for ever.
Let Israel now proclaim, *
"His mercy endures for ever."
The LORD is my strength and my song, *
and he has become my salvation.
There is a sound of exultation and victory *
in the tents of the righteous:
"The right hand of the LORD has triumphed! *
the right hand of the LORD is exalted!
the right hand of the LORD has triumphed!"
I shall not die, but live, *
and declare the works of the LORD.
The LORD has punished me sorely, *
but he did not hand me over to death.
Open for me the gates of righteousness; *
I will enter them;
I will offer thanks to the LORD.
"This is the gate of the LORD; *
he who is righteous may enter."
I will give thanks to you, for you answered me *
and have become my salvation.
The same stone which the builders rejected *
has become the chief cornerstone.
This is the LORD's doing, *
and it is marvelous in our eyes.
On this day the LORD has acted; *
we will rejoice and be glad in it

THE SECOND LESSON: 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: Hear what the Spirit is saying to the Churches.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

Sequence Hymn

The Day of Resurrection

Sung by the choir

THE GOSPEL: John 20:1-18

Presider: 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.

Presider: The Gospel of the Lord.

People: **Praise to you, Lord Christ.**

THE SERMON

The Rev. Dr. Pamela Stuerke

THE NICENE CREED

Please stand.

People: 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 Being with the Father;
through him all things were made.
For us and for our salvation
he came down from heaven,
was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the Virgin Mary
and became truly human.
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,
who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified,
who 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.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Presider: “Do not be afraid; I know that you are looking for Jesus who was crucified. He is not here; for he has been raised.” In the light of resurrection’s power we are given new birth in Christ Jesus. Having been made new let us offer our prayers to the Holy One.

Leader: You who in dawn's first light summoned creation anew through the resurrection of Jesus from the dead; summon us afresh to be sentinels of light, hope and resurrection that in a world gripped by death, despair and desolation we may be beacons of life, joy and love. Christ be our light.

People: ***Shine in our hearts.***

Leader: You who framed the brightness of the first light in creation; dispel the arrogance, animosity and anger that shatters the unity of your holy Church. Fill your faithful people with the radiant light of truth, that we may be made one in faith, hope and love. Christ be our light.

People: ***Shine in our hearts.***

Leader: You who delivered your people from the misery of bondage in slavery to the land of promise; set us free us from enslavement to division, disunity and distrust in our public life and labor. Illumine those in authority with the light of vision, that they may lead the peoples of the nations to greater unity and concord. Christ be our light.

People: ***Shine in our hearts.***

Leader: You who patterned the stars and called the sun in to being, who appointed the moon and chartered the cosmos. Pattern the hearts of people everywhere to see in each other the beauty of the universe and the splendor of creation, that divisions of race, class, gender and ethnicity may dissolve into one common humanity. Christ be our light.

People: ***Shine in our hearts.***

Leader: You who shower comfort and hope to the lowest, the lost and the least; shower the light of compassion on the sick, the sorrowful and the suffering especially those we name [_____]. Help us to be your compassion and hope in the world. Christ be our light.

People: ***Shine in our hearts.***

Leader: You who welcome into the brilliant light of eternity the souls of those who have died; welcome those whose lives have been cut short by violence, warfare and strife. Shine the light of hope on our faithful dead, especially those we now name [_____]. Christ be our light.

People: ***Shine in our hearts.***

Leader: You who delight in the complexity of creation and the splendor of each creature; help us to delight in the diversity of the earth our island home. Inspire your people to care for the earth and its creatures and repent and return when we abuse, misuse and neglect our fellow creatures. Christ be our light.

People: ***Shine in our hearts.***

Presider: May Christ, the Morning-Star who knows no setting, find us ever burning with the light of love, the spirit of truth and the wellspring of hope; that following the way of Jesus and filled with the flame of the Holy Spirit, we may be a holy people whose lives and living inspire, incite and inflame your world with compassion and care. Through Jesus the Christ the light of the world. **Amen.**

THE PEACE

All stand.

Presider: The peace of Christ be always with you.

People: **And also with you.**

The Ministers and People greet one another with the Peace of God.

THE HOLY COMMUNION

Offertory Music

The Holy City

Connor Donnelly, soloist

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

Please stand.

Presider: The Lord be with you.

People: **And also with you.**

Presider: Lift up your hearts.

People: **We lift them up to the Lord.**

Presider: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People: **It is right to give him thanks and praise.**

Presider: It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and every-where to give thanks to you, Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth.

But chiefly are we bound to praise you for the glorious resurrection of your Son Jesus Christ our Lord; for he is the true Paschal Lamb, who was sacrificed for us, and has taken away the sin of the world. By his death he has destroyed death, and by his rising to life again he has won for us everlasting life.

Therefore we praise you, joining our voices with Angels and Archangels and with all the company of heaven, who for ever sing this hymn to proclaim the glory of your Name:

SANCTUS

Sung by the choir

Holy, Holy, Holy Lord

God of power and might

Heaven and earth are full of your glory

Hosanna in the highest

Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord

Hosanna in the highest

Presider: We give thanks to you, O God, for the goodness and love which you have made known to us in creation; in the calling of Israel to be your people; in your Word spoken through the prophets; and above all in the Word made flesh, Jesus, your Son. For in these last days you sent him to be incarnate from the Virgin Mary, to be the Savior and Redeemer of the world. In him, you have delivered us from evil, and made us worthy to stand before you. In him, you have brought us out of error into truth, out of sin into righteousness, out of death into life.

On the night before he died for us, our Lord Jesus Christ took bread; and when he had given thanks to you, he broke it, and gave it to his disciples, and said, "Take, eat: This is my Body, which is given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me."

After supper he took the cup of wine; and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, and said, "Drink this, all of you: This is my Blood of the new Covenant, which is shed for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me."

Therefore, according to his command, O Father,

All: **We remember his death,
We proclaim his resurrection,
We await his coming in glory;**

Presider: And we offer our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving to you, O Lord of all; presenting to you, from your creation, this bread and this wine.

We pray you, gracious God, to send your Holy Spirit upon these gifts that they may be the Sacrament of the Body of Christ and his Blood of the new Covenant. Unite us to your Son in his sacrifice, that we may be acceptable through him, being sanctified by the Holy Spirit. In the fullness of time, put all things in subjection under your Christ, and bring us to that heavenly country where, with all your saints, we may enter the everlasting heritage of your sons and daughters; through Jesus Christ our Lord, the firstborn of all creation, the head of the Church, and the author of our salvation.

By him, and with him, and in him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit all honor and glory is yours, Almighty Father, now and for ever. **Amen.**

Presider: And now as our Savior Christ has taught us, we are bold to pray,

All: **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 BREAKING OF BREAD

The Presider breaks the consecrated Bread. A period of silence is kept.

Presider: Alleluia. Christ, our Passover is sacrificed for us.

People: **Therefore, let us keep the feast. Alleluia.**

AGNUS DEI

sung by the choir

Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world

Have mercy on us

Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world

Have mercy on us

Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world

Grant us your peace

THE INVITATION

Presider: The Gifts of God for the People of God.

Music during Communion

The Post-Communion Prayer

Presider: Let us pray.
Almighty and ever living God,
we thank you for feeding us with spiritual food
of the most precious Body and Blood
of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ;
and for assuring us in these holy mysteries
that we are living members of the Body of your Son,
and heirs of your eternal kingdom.
And now, Father, send us out
to do the work you have given us to do,
and love and serve you
as faithful witnesses of Christ our Lord.
To him, to you and to the Holy Spirit
be honor and glory, now and forever. **Amen.**

THE BLESSING

Presider: The God of peace, who brought again from the dead our Lord Jesus Christ, the great Shepherd of the sheep, through the blood of the everlasting covenant: Make you perfect in every good work to do his will, working in you that which is well-pleasing in his sight; through Jesus Christ, to whom be glory forever and ever. **Amen.**

Closing Hymn

Hail the Day That Sees Him Rise

Sung by the choir

THE DISMISSAL

Presider: Let us go forth in the name of Christ! Alleluia, alleluia!

People: **Thanks be to God! Alleluia, alleluia!**

Postlude