

ST. MICHAEL'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH
THE SECOND SUNDAY OF EASTER – APRIL 16, 2023

READINGS: ACTS 2:1 4A,22-32; PSALM 16;1 PETER 1:3-9; JOHN 20:19-31

THIS MORNING WE WELCOME GERI FURI AS OUR ORGANIST.

Organ: Aria - Paul Manz

Hymn 199, Come Ye Faithful, Raise the Strain of Triumphant Gladness

THE WORD OF GOD

Alleluia! Christ is Risen! The Lord is Risen Indeed! Alleluia!

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.**

Hymnal S-280: Glory to God in the Highest

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.**

The Lord be with you. **And also with you.** Let us pray.

Almighty and eternal God, the strength of those who believe and the hope of those who doubt, may we, who have not seen, have faith and receive the fullness of Christ's blessing, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

A Reading from the Book of Acts

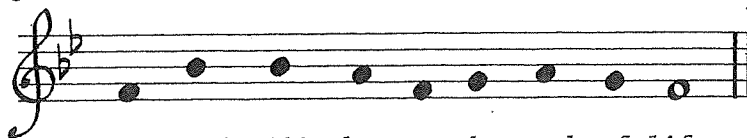
In this lesson Peter preaches the fundamental message of the Resurrection. The time is just after the Pentecost experience and the coming of the Holy Spirit.

Peter, standing with the eleven, raised his voice and addressed the crowd, "You that are Israelites, listen to what I have to say: Jesus of Nazareth, a man attested to you by God with deeds of power, wonders, and signs that God did through him among you, as you yourselves know— this man, handed over to you according to the definite plan and foreknowledge of God, you crucified and killed by the hands of those outside the law. But God raised him up, having freed him from death, because it was impossible for him to be held in its power. For David says concerning him, 'I saw the Lord always before me, for he is at my right hand so that I will not be shaken; therefore my heart was glad, and my tongue rejoiced; moreover my flesh will live in hope. *(continued)*

For you will not abandon my soul to Hades, or let your Holy One experience corruption. You have made known to me the ways of life; you will make me full of gladness with your presence.' "Fellow Israelites, I may say to you confidently of our ancestor David that he both died and was buried, and his tomb is with us to this day. Since he was a prophet, he knew that God had sworn with an oath to him that he would put one of his descendants on his throne. Foreseeing this, David spoke of the resurrection of the Messiah, saying, 'He was not abandoned to Hades, nor did his flesh experience corruption.' This Jesus God raised up, and of that all of us are witnesses."

The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

Psalm 16 is a Psalm of contentment, refuge, and joy in the presence of the Lord. The cantor sings the refrain; all repeat, and sing as indicated.



The Lord will show me the path of life.

O Lord, you are my portion and my cup; it is you who uphold my lot. My boundaries enclose a pleasant land; indeed, I have a goodly heritage. **R.** I will bless the Lord who gives me counsel; my heart teaches me, night after night. I have set the Lord always before me; because he is at my right hand I shall not fall. **R.** My heart, therefore, is glad, and my spirit rejoices; my body also shall rest in hope. For you will not abandon me to the grave, nor let your holy one see the Pit. **R.** You will show me the path of life; in your presence there is fullness of joy, and in your right hand are pleasures for evermore. **R.**

A Reading from the First Letter of Peter

This reading tells of the new birth that Christians receive through baptism. The letter is addressed to former pagans living in the country we now know as Turkey. They have been experiencing some form of persecution. They are encouraged to regard their trials as a testing, and to think of their faith as more precious than gold, which passes purified and unharmed through fire.

Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ! By his great mercy he has given us a new birth into a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead, and into an inheritance that is imperishable, undefiled, and unfading, kept in heaven for you, who are being protected by the power of God through faith for a salvation ready to be revealed in the last time. In this you rejoice, even if now for a little while you have had to suffer various trials, so that the genuineness of your faith-- being more precious than gold that, though perishable, is tested by fire-- may be found to result in praise and glory and honor when Jesus Christ is revealed. Although you have not seen him, you love him; and even though you do not see him now, you believe in him and rejoice with an indescribable and glorious joy, for you are receiving the outcome of your faith, the salvation of your souls.

The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

all stand – Hymn 205, vs. 1

**Good Christians all, rejoice and sing! Now is the triumph of our King!
To all the world glad news we bring: "Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!"**

The Holy Gospel of our Lord, Jesus Christ, according to John.
Glory to you, Lord Christ.

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.' (*continued*)

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.

The Gospel of the Lord. Praise to you, Lord Christ.

Sermon Hymn 209, We Walk by Faith and Not By Sight

Sermon -- The Rev. Michael Bradley, Rector

Our Affirmation of Faith - What do we believe?

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: by the power of the Holy Spirit he became incarnate from 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 and the Son. With the Father and the Son he is worshiped 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.

Prayers of the People

Prayers are offered on behalf of the world and our nation; the Church and its members; our family, friends and loved ones; for those in need, trouble, want or sickness; and for the departed. Opportunity is extended to those present to offer their own petitions. The response to our prayers: "Hear us, O Risen Christ."

Special prayers, intentions and thanksgivings are offered.

We pray also for the forgiveness of our sins. *Silence is kept, then all pray together:*

Have mercy upon us, most merciful God; in your compassion forgive us our sins, known and unknown, things done and left undone; and so uphold us by your Spirit that we may live and serve you in newness of life, to the honor and glory of your Name; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Forgive us our sins, merciful God, and receive these prayers. Transform us through penitence and petition, that we may have eyes to see and hearts to understand not only what you do on our behalf, but what you call us to do so that your realm will come to fruition in glory. Amen.

HOLY COMMUNION

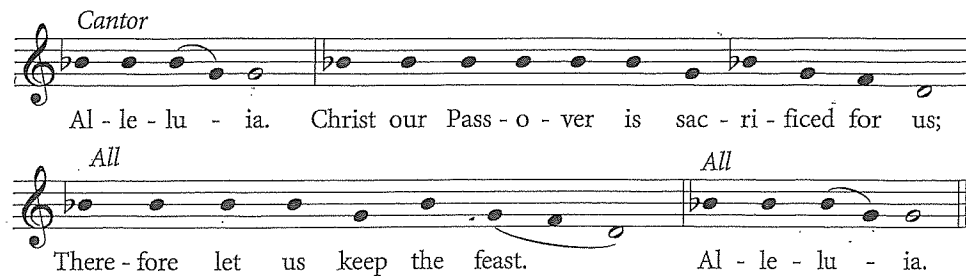
Offertory Hymn 209, We Walk by Faith – St. Botolph

The Lord be with you. And also with you.
Lift up your hearts. We lift them up to the Lord.
Let us give thanks to the Lord our God. It is right to give God thanks and praise.

It is our duty and our joy to give you thanks and praise . . . singing the hymn of your unending praise:

Holy, Holy, Holy Lord; God of power and might. Heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest,
hosanna in the highest. Blessed are they who come in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest,
hosanna in the highest.

The celebrant continues with the Prayer of Consecration, Memorial Acclamation, and Great Amen.



The gifts of God for the People of God. Take them and rejoice that Christ is truly raised from the dead,
and feed on him in your hearts by faith, with thanksgiving.

Music during Communion: Reflection on the hymn tune "Salzburg" – Emma Lou Diemer (b. 1927)

After all have received, please stand.

Eternal God; We have seen with our eyes and touched with our hands the bread of life. Strengthen our faith, that
we may grow in love for you and for each other; through Jesus Christ the risen Lord. Amen.

May God, who through the water of baptism has raised us from sin into newness of life, make you holy and worthy to
be united with Christ; and the blessing of God Almighty, Creator, Redeemer and Sustainer, be upon you and remain
with you forever. Amen.

Let us go forth in the name of Christ, alleluia, alleluia.
Thanks be to God. Alleluia, alleluia.

Hymn 193, That Easter Day with Joy Was Bright, the Sun Shone Out with Fairer Light

Organ: That Easter Day with Joy Was Bright - Robert Hobby

A JOYOUS EASTER TO ALL!

Our Mission: We share the light of Christ
by loving and serving our neighbors in the world.

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