

The Resurrection of Our Lord, Jesus Christ: Easter Day
April 9, 2023 - 10:00 AM – Holy Baptism and Communion.

We rejoice that you are with us to share in the joy of Easter, and we invite you to participate fully in this worship service. Your responses in the service are printed in boldface; hymns are in the blue hymnal.

Organ: The Risen Lord – arr. E. Tench Rogers

The Word of God

All stand at the entrance of the choir and celebrant.

This is the day when our Lord Jesus Christ was raised gloriously from the dead, crushing the power of sin and destroying the sting of death. Throughout the world, Christians celebrate the mighty power of God as Christ calls us out of darkness to share in his marvelous light. May we, and all Christ's people, shine as lights in the world to the glory of God: Creator, Redeemer and Sanctifier.

Christ yesterday and today, Alpha and Omega; **The beginning and the end,**
All time belongs to him, and all ages;
To Him be all glory and power, through every age and for ever. Amen.

Let us pray: O God, through your Son you have bestowed upon your people the brightness of your resurrection light: Accept the offering of this candle in your honor, made from the wax of your creatures, the bees. May its light drive away all darkness, so that in this Paschal feast we may burn with heavenly desires that lead us to the festival of everlasting light. All this we ask through Christ, the Morning Star, who gives his light to all creation, and who lives and reigns for ever and ever. **Amen.**

Alleluia! Christ is risen. **The Lord is risen indeed. Alleluia!**
Let us go forth in peace. **In the Name of Christ. Amen.**

Hymn 210, The Day of Resurrection, Earth Tell It Out Abroad

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

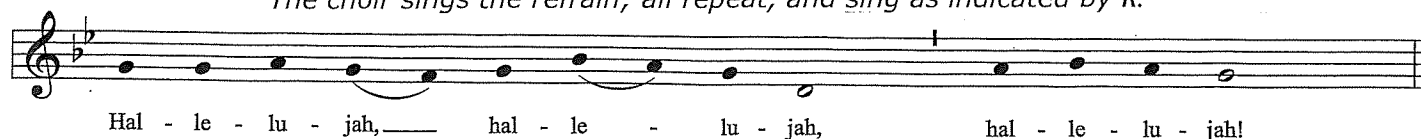
Glorious Lord of Light, we praise you that through Jesus Christ you have overcome death and opened to us the gate of everlasting life. Let us celebrate with joy the day of our Lord's resurrection, that He may raise us from the death of sin into lives of righteousness; through him who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.** *(please be seated)*

First Lesson: Acts of the Apostles - Peter preaches the risen Christ

after the reading: The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

GRADUAL PSALM 114

The choir sings the refrain; all repeat, and sing as indicated by R.



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Hallelujah! When Israel came out of Egypt, the house of Jacob from a people of strange speech,
Judah became God's sanctuary and Israel his dominion. **R.**

The sea beheld it and fled; Jordan turned and went back. The mountains skipped like rams, and the little hills like young sheep. **R.**

What ailed you, O sea, that you fled? O Jordan, that you turned back? You mountains, that you skipped like rams? You little hills like young sheep? **R.**

Tremble, O earth, at the presence of the Lord, at the presence of the God of Jacob, who turned the hard rock into a pool of water and flint-stone into a flowing spring. **R.**

Second Lesson: The Church in Colossae is Urged to Seek Heavenly Things

after the reading: The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

The Great Alleluia

Cantor: Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia; **All: Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia.**

The alleluia is repeated twice, each time beginning on a higher pitch.

The Lord be with you. **And also with you.**

The Resurrection of our Lord Jesus Christ, according to Matthew.

Glory to you, Lord Christ.

After the sabbath, as the first day of the week was dawning, Mary Magdalene and the other Mary went to see the tomb. And suddenly there was a great earthquake; for an angel of the Lord, descending from heaven, came and rolled back the stone and sat on it. His appearance was like lightning, and his clothing white as snow. For fear of him the guards shook and became like dead men. But the angel said to the women, "Do not be afraid; I know that you are looking for Jesus who was crucified. He is not here; for he has been raised, as he said. Come, see the place where he lay. Then go quickly and tell his disciples, 'He has been raised from the dead, and indeed he is going ahead of you to Galilee; there you will see him.' This is my message for you." So they left the tomb quickly with fear and great joy, and ran to tell his disciples. Suddenly Jesus met them and said, "Greetings!" And they came to him, took hold of his feet, and worshiped him. Then Jesus said to them, "Do not be afraid; go and tell my brothers to go to Galilee; there they will see me."

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

Hymn 187, Through the Red Sea Brought at Last

Through the Red Sea brought at last, Alleluia! Egypt's chains behind we cast, Alleluia!
Deep and wide flows the tide severing us from bondage past, Alleluia!

Like the cloud that overhead, Alleluia! Through the billows Israel led, Alleluia!
By his tomb Christ makes room, souls restoring from the dead. Alleluia!

In that cloud and in that sea, Alleluia! Buried and baptized were we, Alleluia!
Earthly night brought us light which is ours eternally, Alleluia!

Sermon – The Rev. Michael L. Bradley, Rector

Holy Baptism

Parents and godparents, please present the candidate for Baptism, saying together:

We present Monroe Violet Bramwell to be baptized and made a member of the Body of Christ, the Church.

From the beginning, the Church has received, by baptism, believers into the Christian faith. Believers' children have also been baptized so that with help and encouragement they should grow up in Christ and by the grace of God serve Christ all the days of their life. On the day when the apostles first preached the Gospel of Christ's resurrection, Peter urged his hearers, "For the promise is to you and to your children, and to all who are far away, everyone whom the Lord our God may call."

Morgan, Jake, Charlotte, Miranda, Alejandro:

How do you respond to this promise?

We hear God's call in our lives, and on behalf of Monroe, we ask for her baptism.

Do you renounce all influences and powers that rebel against God?

I renounce them.

Do you trust in God's victory as seen in Christ, which brings forgiveness, freedom and life?

In faith I turn to the way of Christ as my way, my truth, my life, as I care for this child.

How then will you care for this child?

We will love this child and share our faith with her.

As the community of faith, we rejoice at this baptism and we will share with Monroe what we ourselves have received: a delight in prayer, a love for the word of God, a desire to follow the way of Christ, and food for the journey.

Monroe, you are soon to be a pilgrim with us. As a member of Christ's body, the Church, you will be challenged to affirm your faith in God and receive the laying on of hands in confirmation. May you grow in the Holy Spirit, fulfill your ministry and follow the way of Christ your whole life long.

God bless you all with wisdom and love; may this child find in you, your homes and families, Christ's love and understanding. **All: Amen.**

Let us now pray for Monroe who is to receive the Sacrament of new birth.

Deliver her, O Lord, from the way of sin and death.

R. Lord, hear our prayer.

Open her heart to your grace and truth. **R.**

Fill her with your holy and life-giving Spirit. **R.**

Keep her in the faith and communion of your holy Church. **R.**

Teach her to love others in the power of the Spirit. **R.**

Send her into the world in witness to your love. **R.**

Bring her to the fullness of your peace and glory. **R.**

Grant, O Lord, that all who are baptized into the death of Jesus Christ your Son may live in the power of his resurrection and look for him to come again in glory; who lives and reigns now and for ever. **Amen.**

The Affirmation

Praise to God, who has given us life. **Blessed be God, for the gift of love.**
Praise to God, who forgives our sin. **Blessed be God, who sets us free.**
Praise to God, who kindles our faith. **Blessed be God, our strength, our hope.**
Let us, the baptized, affirm that we renounce fear and
commit our lives to the way of Christ. **Blessed be God, Jesus is Lord!**

What is your faith?

I believe and trust in God the Father, maker and sustainer of all things; and in God the Son, my savior, Jesus Christ; and in God the Holy Spirit, giver of life and truth. This is my faith.

How will you share your faith?

With God's help, I will proclaim by word and example the Good News of God in Christ.

How will you live a Christian life?

**With God's help, I will continue in the apostles' teaching and fellowship,
in the breaking of bread, and in the prayers.**

How will you confront injustice in the world and respond to sin?

**With God's help, I will persevere in resisting evil,
and when I fall into sin, I will repent and return to the Lord.**

How will you encounter those of differing faith?

**With God's help, I will seek and serve Christ in all persons,
and love my neighbor as I am loved by God.**

How will your life and ministry bring about God's kingdom on earth?

**With God's help, I will strive for justice and peace among all people,
and respect the dignity of every human being.**

The Blessing of Water and Baptism

The Lord be with you. **And also with you.**

Praise God, who made heaven and earth. **Whose promise endures for ever.**

We thank you, God, for your love in all creation, especially for your gift of water that sustains, refreshes and cleanses all life. We thank you for your covenant with your people Israel; through the Red Sea waters you led them to freedom in the promised land. In the waters of the Jordan your Son was baptised by John and anointed with the Holy Spirit. Through the deep waters of death Jesus fulfilled his baptism. He died to set us free and was raised to be exalted Lord of all. It is Christ who baptizes with the Holy Spirit and with fire.

Amen. Come, Holy Spirit.

We thank you that through the waters of baptism you cleanse us, renew us by your Spirit, and raise us to new life. In the new covenant we are made members of your Church and share in your eternal kingdom. Through your Holy Spirit, fulfill once more your promises in this water of rebirth, set apart in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ.

Amen! Praise and glory and wisdom, thanksgiving and honor, power and might, be to our God for ever and ever. Amen.

Monroe Violet Bramwell,
I baptize you in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

God receives you by baptism into the church.
Child of God, blessed in the Spirit, welcome to the family of Christ. Amen.

using oil of chrism, the candidate is signed on her forehead;
We sign you with the cross, the sign of Christ.
Never be afraid to proclaim Christ crucified. Amen.

a candle is lighted from the Paschal Candle and presented;
Walk in the faith of Christ, crucified and risen.
Shine with the light of Christ. Amen.

Let us welcome the newly baptized.
Heavenly Father; We thank you that by water and the Holy Spirit you have bestowed upon Monroe the forgiveness of sin and have raised her to the new life of grace. Sustain her, O Lord, in your Holy Spirit. Give her an inquiring and discerning heart, the courage to will and to persevere, a spirit to know and to love you, and the gift of joy and wonder in all your works. **Amen.**

My sisters and brothers in Christ, I present to you the newest member of Christ's Church. Your applause is welcome.

May God's peace be with you always. **And also with you.**

Holy Communion

Your offering of money for the work of the church is received during the anthem; it is presented, along with bread and wine, during the singing of the offertory hymn.

Anthem: Rejoice! He Is Alive – words and music: Jean Anne Shafferman
Rejoice, He is alive! Jesus crucified, Jesus Christ is risen! Rejoice, He is alive! Death has been denied! Christ our Lord is risen! O sing joyfully, shout joyfully, clap your hands in praise, for Jesus crucified, cannot be denied! Sing glad songs of joy! Rejoice, He is alive! Jesus crucified, Jesus Christ is risen! Rejoice, He is alive! Death has been denied! Sing praise to the Lord, the Almighty; Sing praise, O my soul, to the King! For He is my strength and salvation! Rejoice! Rejoice and sing! Rejoice, ye pure in heart, rejoice, give thanks and sing! Your festal banner wave on high, the cross of Christ your King. Rejoice, give thanks and sing! Rejoice, He is alive!

Offertory Hymn 203, O Sons and Daughters, Let Us Sing!

Alleluia! Christ is risen! **The Lord is risen indeed. Alleluia!**
Lift up your hearts. **We lift them to the Lord.**
Let us give thanks to the Lord our God. **It is right to give him thanks and praise.**

Thanks and praise fill our hearts, . . . 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. Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest, hosanna in the highest.

The celebrant continues with the Prayer of Consecration.

. . . Therefore we proclaim the mystery of faith.
Christ has died, Christ has risen, Christ will come again.

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, for ever and ever. Amen.

After the breaking of the bread:

Alleluia. Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us. **Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia.**

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

All persons are invited to share in Christ's Resurrection and to receive the gifts of Christ Presence in bread and wine. The bread is received in the palm of the right hand supported by the left; the wine by sipping from the cup or dipping the bread. If you desire a blessing instead of receiving Communion, kindly keep your hands folded on the Communion Rail. Communion can also be brought to you where you are seated, if that is more convenient; please speak with a greeter.

Music during Communion: **Hymn 204, Now the Green Blade Riseth**

After all have received Communion, please stand and pray together:

Eternal God; You have graciously accepted us as living members of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ, and you have fed us with spiritual food in the Sacrament of his Body and Blood. Send us now into the world in peace, and grant us strength and courage to love and serve you with gladness and singleness of heart; through Christ our Lord. Amen.

May God, who has redeemed us through the resurrection of Jesus Christ, bestow upon us the riches of his blessing. **Amen.**

May God, who has redeemed us from the power of sin, bring us to our eternal inheritance with the risen Christ. **Amen.**

May God, who has raised us up from death, make us to be united with Christ forever. **Amen.**

And the blessing of God, Creator, Redeemer and Sustainer, be upon you and remain with you,
this Easter Day and for evermore. **Amen.**

Alleluia! Christ is risen! **The Lord is risen indeed! Alleluia!**

Hymn 207, Jesus Christ is Risen Today, Alleluia!

Organ: Toccata (Fifth Organ Symphony) – Charles Marie Widor
The people are invited to be seated during the organ postlude.

A JOYOUS EASTER TO ALL!

Thanks to our musicians this morning: Carolyn Thibideau, organist; Stephanie Dean, soprano;
Kaity Wiegand, alto; Chris Aranda, bass; and the choir of St. Michael's Church.

Notes on the Worship for Easter Day, the Queen of Seasons

Easter is the most important celebration in the Christian Calendar. In the Church's reckoning today is not Sunday, it is Easter Day. Easter is always celebrated on the Sunday after the Full Moon which itself falls on or after March 21st. The decorations and adornments of flowers and altar, the music, the ceremonial – all are the best and most glorious that can be offered to God.

Candles and lamps are lighted from New Fire, kindled from steel and flint before sunrise. The Paschal, or Easter Candle, is newly-made for each Easter season. The candle burns daily for the first 8 days of Easter, then on all the Sundays of Easter through Pentecost, and then at baptisms, funerals, memorial services and on All Saints Day. The five gold crosses are incense nails; nails with heads wrapped in incense-encased wax; symbols of the five wounds of Jesus, now made glorious by his Resurrection. The candle is inscribed with the Alpha and Omega and the numerals 2023. Baptism is especially appropriate to Easter Day, either at the Easter Vigil or at the principal morning service. The water for the baptism was commingled with water blessed at the sunrise service, as a reminder of the dew that provided drink to the Israelites during the Exodus. As at all baptisms, we renew our own baptismal vows as the sponsors are making their vows on behalf of the candidate.

The hymns and music are from a variety of times, sources, and places. "The Day of Resurrection" is an 8th century text by John of Damascus, set to an 18th century German tune. "Through the Red Sea" is by Ronald Knox (1888-1957), also set to a German hymn tune. "O Sons and Daughters, Let us Sing!" is a 17th century French tune (made popular by its use at Notre Dame Cathedral), and paired with 15th century words. "Now the Green Blade Riseth" is poem by John Campbell Crum (1872-1958) set to a medieval French carol. No Easter Day service is complete without the singing of "Jesus Christ is Risen Today", a 14th century Latin hymn, well-translated by Charles Wesley and made popular not only for the effective prose but also for its energetic 18th century British tune.

The offertory anthem, "Rejoice, He is Alive!" is by the contemporary author and composer Jean Anne Shafferman. It had been scheduled for performance on Easter Day, 2020. The choir is delighted that, at last, they can sing it at worship for this Easter Day.

The bread and wine for Holy Communion are newly consecrated on Easter Day; the Reserved Sacrament having been consumed on Good Friday. For the remainder of the church year, bread and wine from this service are mixed with bread and wine from each subsequent Sunday celebration, so that this Easter Day continues in spirit and sacrament from Sunday to Sunday, until Easter, the Queen of Seasons, returns again.

EASTER FLOWER DONATIONS

*The Easter Flowers are given to the Glory of God.
They have been provided through generous gifts from:*

<i>Sharon Amluxen</i>	<i>In Memory of Richard Amluxen</i>
<i>David & Elaine Backhurst</i>	<i>In Memory of our Parents</i>
<i>Edward & Michelle Bailey</i>	<i>In memory and a thank offering for Mr. & Mrs. J. Edward Bailey III & Mr. & Mrs. Willie A. Gordon Sr.</i>
<i>Nancy Bierley</i>	<i>A Thank Offering for all my blessings</i>
<i>Kathie Crook</i>	<i>Bill & Mary Duster</i>
<i>John & Helen Finkelman</i>	<i>In Memory of Charlotte & William Howe, William Howe Jr., Eleanor & John Finkelmann, and Stephen Peck</i>
<i>Jeanne, John, & Fiona Flynn</i>	<i>In Memory of Loved Ones of the Braman & Flynn Families</i>
<i>Elly Garzel</i>	<i>In Memory of Roger Garzel and Catherine & Robert Waters</i>
<i>Laura Gaskin</i>	<i>In Memory of Dr. Bijay Nayak with thanksgiving for the many blessings</i>
<i>The Gibson Family</i>	<i>In Memory of our parents, brother, and grandparents.</i>
<i>Anne Grayr</i>	<i>In Memory of George Grayr and my sister Rose Albrecht; and a Thank Offering for my daughters JuliAnne and Brenda.</i>
<i>Peter & Kathie Groschner</i>	<i>In Memory of Robert & Margaret Groschner and Albert & Margaret Ware</i>
<i>Norm Hahn</i>	<i>In Memory of Judy Hahn and Carl & Irene Hahn</i>
<i>Phyllis Harper & Family</i>	<i>In Memory of Vic Harper</i>
<i>Cheryl & Lynn Helland</i>	<i>In Loving Memory of John Huckins</i>
<i>Don & Sarah Ludlow</i>	<i>In Memory of Abraham & Della Gray, Norma & Cecil Ludlow, Mary Zedan, Ruth Hatcher, Rose Albrecht, Robert Ludlow, Gary Ludlow</i>
<i>Cheryl Mac Donald</i>	<i>In Memory of Loved Ones</i>
<i>Barbara Malley</i>	<i>In Memory of family and Loved Ones</i>
<i>Jim & Karen McLeod</i>	<i>A thanksgiving for family & friends</i>
<i>Martha Miller</i>	<i>In Memory of Loved Ones</i>
<i>Gayle Peller</i>	<i>A Thank Offering for my family, children, grandchildren, and especially my great grandchildren</i>
<i>Tracie Peller</i>	<i>In Memory of Loved Ones, my mom and grandmothers, and in celebration of my two wonderful grandchildren, Leo and Monroe</i>
<i>Elizabeth Schmitt-Matzen</i>	<i>In Memory of Brothers Michael & Dennis Larish</i>
<i>Dale & Mary Scrace</i>	<i>A Thank Offering for family & friends, and in memory of Donald, Charlene, & Jerry Scrace, Barbara Zimmer, Audrey Henderson, Robert & Eleanor Harris, and Mary Cohen</i>
<i>Judy Sheehy</i>	<i>In Memory of Robert Sheehy</i>
<i>Carolyn Skaff</i>	<i>In Loving Memory of Michael S. Skaff and our parents Michael, Geneva, Samuel and Mary</i>
<i>Laurie Wood</i>	<i>MaryLou Isenberg, John Wood, George Helwig, and Loved Ones</i>