

The Resurrection of Our Lord, Jesus Christ: Easter Day
March 31, 2024 - 10:00 AM – Festival Holy 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: From "The Mystical Hours" – Prelude #111 – Leon Boellmann 1862-1897

The Word of God

All stand at the entrance of the choir and celebrant.

Choir: Make a joyful noise unto the Lord, O sing the honor of his holy Name, give him glory evermore.

Words: German adapt.; Music: Singt Dem Herren, Michael Praetorius

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 knows no setting, and who gives his light to all creation, now and for ever. **Amen.**

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

Hymn 199, Come Ye Faithful, Raise The Strain Of Triumphant Gladness

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 Reading: Acts of the Apostles 10:34-43 - Peter Preaches the Risen Christ.

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

GRADUAL PSALM 118

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

On this day the Lord has act - ed; we will re-joice and be glad in it.

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!" R. 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. R. 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. R. On this day the Lord has acted; we will rejoice and be glad in it. Hosannah, Lord, hosannah! Lord, send us now success. R.

Second Reading: 1 Corinthians 15:1-11 Christians are Urged to Seek Heavenly Things
after the reading: The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

The Great Alleluia

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, ac-cor-ding to Mark. (16:1-8)

Glory to you, Lord Christ.

When the sabbath was over, Mary Magdalene, and Mary the mother of James, and Salome bought spices, so that they might go and anoint him. And very early on the first day of the week, when the sun had risen, they went to the tomb. They had been saying to one another, 'Who will roll away the stone for us from the entrance to the tomb?' When they looked up, they saw that the stone, which was very large, had already been rolled back. As they entered the tomb, they saw a young man, dressed in a white robe, sitting on the right side; and they were alarmed. But he said to them, 'Do not be alarmed; you are looking for Jesus of Nazareth, who was crucified. He has been raised; he is not here. Look, there is the place they laid him. But go, tell his disciples and Peter that he is going ahead of you to Galilee; there you will see him, just as he told you.' So they went out and fled from the tomb, for terror and amazement had seized them; and they said nothing to anyone, for they were afraid.

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

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

Sermon – The Rev. Michael L. 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.

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.

Choir: Easter Fanfare --- Words and music: David Penninger

Christ is risen, Alleluia! Christ is risen from the dead! He hath burst his three-day prison, and hath triumphed as He said! Christ is risen, Alleluia! Christ is risen from the dead! Sing now alleluia, He hath triumphed though his precious blood was shed! Christ is risen, Alleluia! He is victor o'er the grave, through His death and resurrection, Christ, in love, our souls doth save! Alleluia! Amen.

Offertory Hymn

That Easter day with joy was bright, the sun shone out with brilliant light, Alleluia, alleluia!
When, to their longing eyes restored, the women saw their risen Lord. Alleluia! (5x)

His risen flesh with radiance glowed, his wounded hands and feet he showed, Alleluia, alleluia!
Those scars their solemn witness gave that Christ was risen from the grave. Alleluia! (5x)

O Lord of all with us abide in this, our joyful Eastertide, Alleluia, alleluia!
From ev'ry fear that death can yield your own redeemed for ever shield. Alleluia! (5x)

All praise, O risen Lord, we give! For you did die, but now you live; Alleluia, alleluia!
To God the Father equal praise, and God the Spirit, let us raise: Alleluia! (5x)

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.

It is right and a good and joyful thing . . . who forever sing this hymn to proclaim the glory of your Name:

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow - er and might,
heaven and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho -
san - na in the high - est. Ho - san - na in the high - est.
Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Ho -
san - na in the high - est. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

Setting: From *A Community Mass*; Richard Proulx (b. 1937)

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.

After the breaking of the bread:



Al - le - lu - ia, al - le -
lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia. Christ our Pass - o - ver is
sac - ri - ficed for us; there - fore let us keep the feast.
Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

The Gifts of God for the People of God. Take them in remembrance that Christ is truly raised from the dead.
Feed on him in your hearts, and be filled with thanks.

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: Voluntary in C – J.C. Beckel 1811-1905

The people are invited to be seated during the organ postlude.

A JOYOUS EASTER TO ALL!

Thanks to our musicians this morning: Renée Brown, organist; Stephanie Dean, soprano;
Kaity Wiegand, alto; Daniel Santos, bass; and the choir of St. Michael's Church.