

SERVICE OF MORNING PRAYER

A Diocesan Wide Worship Service for the Second Sunday of Easter
Sunday, April 11, 2021

Prelude

Hail Thou Once Despised Jesus
Church of the Resurrection, Alexandria

Opening Sentence

The Rt. Rev. Susan E. Goff
Bishop Suffragan and Ecclesiastical Authority

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

If anyone is in Christ, there is a new creation: everything old has passed away; see, everything has become new. *2 Corinthians 5:17*

Confession of Sin

The Rev. Chris Miller
Immanuel, Old Church, Mechanicsville

Let us confess our sins to God.

Silence may be kept.
Officiant and People together

God of all mercy,
we confess that we have sinned against you,
opposing your will in our lives.
We have denied your goodness in each other,
in ourselves, and in the world you have created.
We repent of the evil that enslaves us,
the evil we have done,
and the evil done on our behalf.
Forgive, restore, and strengthen us
through our Saviour Jesus Christ,
that we may abide in your love
and serve only your will. Amen.

The Officiant alone says

Almighty God have mercy on you, forgive you all your sins through the grace of Jesus Christ, strengthen you in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep you in eternal life. ***Amen.***

The Invitatory and Psalter

*Mr. Garway A.D. Bright
Christ Church, Glen Allen*

Officiant Lord, open our lips.

People **And our mouth shall proclaim your praise.**

Officiant and People

**Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit:
as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen. Alleluia.**

Alleluia. The Lord is risen indeed: Come let us adore him. Alleluia.

Christ our Passover *Pascha nostrum*

1 Corinthians 5:7-8; Romans 6:9-11; 1 Corinthians 15:20-22

Read in unison

Alleluia.

Christ our Passover has been sacrificed for us; *

therefore let us keep the feast,

Not with the old leaven, the leaven of malice and evil, *

but with the unleavened bread of sincerity and truth. Alleluia.

Christ being raised from the dead will never die again; *

death no longer has dominion over him.

The death that he died, he died to sin, once for all; *

but the life he lives, he lives to God.

So also consider yourselves dead to sin, *

and alive to God in Jesus Christ our Lord. Alleluia.

Christ has been raised from the dead, *

the first fruits of those who have fallen asleep.

For since by a man came death, *

by a man has come also the resurrection of the dead.

For as in Adam all die, *
so in Christ shall all be made alive. Alleluia.

Psalm 133 *Ecce, quam bonum!*

Ms. Cindy Helton
St. George's, Fredericksburg

Read in unison

Oh, how good and pleasant it is, *
when brethren live together in unity!
It is like fine oil upon the head *
that runs down upon the beard,
Upon the beard of Aaron, *
and runs down upon the collar of his robe.
It is like the dew of Hermon *
that falls upon the hills of Zion.
For there the LORD has ordained the blessing: *
life for evermore.

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit: *
as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen.

The Lessons

A Reading from the Acts of the Apostles. (*Acts 4:32-35*)

The Rev. Pedro Cuevas
San Marcos, Alexandria

Now the whole group of those who believed were of one heart and soul, and no one claimed private ownership of any possessions, but everything they owned was held in common. With great power the apostles gave their testimony to the resurrection of the Lord Jesus, and great grace was upon them all. There was not a needy person among them, for as many as owned lands or houses sold them and brought the proceeds of what was sold. They laid it at the apostles' feet, and it was distributed to each as any had need.

Canticle 18 A Song to the Lamb

Revelation 4:11; 5:9-10, 13

Ms. Barbara McMurry
Grace, Keswick

Read in unison

Splendor and honor and royal power*
are yours by right, O God most High,

For you created everything that is,*
and by your will they were created and have their being;

And yours by right, O Lamb that was slain,*
for with your blood you have redeemed for God,
From every family, language, people and nation,*
a royal priesthood to serve our God.

And so, to the One who sits upon the throne,*
and to Christ the Lamb,
Be worship and praise, dominion and splendor,*
for ever and for evermore.

A Reading from the First Letter of John. (1 John 1:1-2:2)

*The Rev. Webster Gibson
Christ Church, Winchester*

We declare to you what was from the beginning, what we have heard, what we have seen with our eyes, what we have looked at and touched with our hands, concerning the word of life- this life was revealed, and we have seen it and testify to it, and declare to you the eternal life that was with the Father and was revealed to us- we declare to you what we have seen and heard so that you also may have fellowship with us; and truly our fellowship is with the Father and with his Son Jesus Christ. We are writing these things so that our joy may be complete.

This is the message we have heard from him and proclaim to you, that God is light and in him there is no darkness at all. If we say that we have fellowship with him while we are walking in darkness, we lie and do not do what is true; but if we walk in the light as he himself is in the light, we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus his Son cleanses us from all sin. If we say that we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. If we confess our sins, he who is faithful and just will forgive us our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness. If we say that we have not sinned, we make him a liar, and his word is not in us.

My little children, I am writing these things to you so that you may not sin. But if anyone does sin, we have an advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ the righteous; and he is the atoning sacrifice for our sins, and not for ours only but also for the sins of the whole world.

Anthem

These Things Did Thomas Count As Real
Thomas Troeger/Bradley Lehman
Choir of Emmanuel, Harrisonburg
Dr. Linell Gray Moss, Music Director

A Reading from the Gospel according to John. (John 20:19-31)

The Rev. Catherine Campbell, San Jose and Cristo Rey, Arlington
The Rt. Rev. Porter Taylor, Assisting Bishop

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." 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 Sermon

The Rt. Rev. Susan E. Goff
Bishop Suffragan and Ecclesiastical Authority

The Apostles' Creed

Ms. Cheryl Groce-Wright
Church of the Holy Comforter, Richmond

Officiant and People together.

I believe in God, the Father almighty,
creator of heaven and earth;
I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.
He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit
and born of the Virgin Mary.
He suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died, and was buried.
He descended to the dead.
On the third day he rose again.
He ascended into heaven,
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.
He will come again to judge the living and the dead.
I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy catholic Church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins
the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting. Amen.

The Prayers

Ms. Cheryl Groce-Wright
Church of the Holy Comforter, Richmond

Officiant The Lord be with you.

People **And also with you.**

Officiant Let us pray.

Officiant and People

**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.**

The Suffrages

*The Rev. Jo Belser
Church of the Resurrection, Alexandria*

V. Show us your mercy, O Lord;
R. **And grant us your salvation.**

V. Clothe your ministers with righteousness;
R. **Let your people sing with joy.**

V. Give peace, O Lord, in all the world;
R. **For only in you can we live in safety.**

V. Lord, keep this nation under your care;
R. **And guide us in the way of justice and truth.**

V. Let your way be known upon earth;
R. **Your saving health among all nations.**

V. Let not the needy, O Lord, be forgotten;
R. **Nor the hope of the poor be taken away.**

V. Create in us clean hearts, O God;
R. **And sustain us with your Holy Spirit.**

The Collects

*Mr. George Omohundro, St. Luke's, Alexandria
The Rev. Pedro Cuevas, San Marcos, Alexandria*

Almighty and everlasting God, who in the Paschal mystery established the new covenant of reconciliation: Grant that all who have been reborn into the fellowship of Christ's Body may show forth in their lives what they profess by their faith; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

O God, you make us glad with the weekly remembrance of the glorious resurrection of your Son our Lord: Give us this day such blessing through our worship of you, that the week to come may be spent in your favor; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Lord Jesus Christ, you stretched out your arms of love on the hard wood of the cross that everyone might come within the reach of your saving embrace: So clothe us in your Spirit that we, reaching forth our hands in love, may bring those who do not know you to the knowledge and love of you; for the honor of your Name. ***Amen.***

The Offertory

O Sons and Daughters
arr. Martha Jones Burford

General Thanksgiving

The Rt. Rev. Jennifer Brooke-Davidson
Assistant Bishop

Accept, O Lord, our thanks and praise for all that you have done for us. We thank you for the splendor of the whole creation, for the beauty of this world, for the wonder of life, and for the mystery of love.

We thank you for the blessing of family and friends, and for the loving care which surrounds us on every side.

We thank you for setting us at tasks which demand our best efforts, and for leading us to accomplishments which satisfy and delight us.

We thank you also for those disappointments and failures that lead us to acknowledge our dependence on you alone.

Above all, we thank you for your Son Jesus Christ; for the truth of his Word and the example of his life; for his steadfast obedience, by which he overcame temptation; for his dying, through which he overcame death; and for his rising to life again, in which we are raised to the life of your kingdom.

Grant us the gift of your Spirit, that we may know Christ and make him known; and through him, at all times and in all places, may give thanks to you in all things. ***Amen.***

A Prayer of St. Chrysostom

Mr. Preston Sudduth
St. George's, Stanley

Almighty God, you have given us grace at this time with one accord to make our common supplication to you; and you have promised through your well-beloved Son that when two or three are gathered together in his Name you will be in the midst of

them: Fulfill now, O Lord, our desires and petitions as may be best for us; granting us in this world knowledge of your truth, and in the age to come life everlasting. **Amen.**

The Dismissal

*The Rt. Rev. Susan E. Goff
Bishop Suffragan and Ecclesiastical Authority*

Officiant Let us bless the Lord. Alleluia, alleluia.

People **Thanks be to God. Alleluia, alleluia.**

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit, be with us all evermore. **Amen.** 2 Corinthians 13:14

Closing Hymn

Jesus, nuestra Pascua
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