



Season of resurrection

Welcome

Welcome to St. John's on the **fourth Sunday in Easter**, April 21, 2024.

Easter is when everything changed. Easter is an event in the life of God and the world after which nothing was the same again. Nothing could be. In Jesus' rising, death was unseated as the end of existence, as the owner of the last word, and as the hardest wall of absolute certainty.

The empty tomb bears witness to a new truth. Now we live in a different world with different rules. Now we stand up. No longer bound by the limited laws dictated by death, we can live according to the terms of resurrection. We speak and sing and see the world with the language and lenses of this deep and destabilizing power that God has revealed in the risen Jesus.

This takes some getting used to, friends.

We need to practice. It's why we celebrate Easter every year, and why we take fifty days—7 Sundays—to do it. We gather Sunday after Sunday to share the news and tell the stories of the ordinary people and extraordinary power that continue to flow from the dark morning of Jesus' rising.

When we say "Christ is risen!" we don't mean again. We mean still. And this is a claim and a cry we offer a hurting and exhausted world. *Christ is risen still.*

Easter dawns in 2024 still shrouded in the smoke of war. Easter dawns this year on a planet that is still warming and on people who feel unable to slow or stop this creeping catastrophe. It dawns on plants and animals who will enter extinction this year because of human indifference and greed. It dawns on neighbors and neighborhoods who languish beneath and within structures shaped by cruelty and sustained by racism. The feast of Easter calls us to embrace and revel in the reality of resurrection—even as we deal daily with the real and ongoing forces of death at work in our world and in our lives. These are the terms of Resurrection.

—from *Worship Well*, 2022

hallelujah !

Easter brings the return of the "Alleluias" in the service. The word comes from the Hebrew for "praise the Lord." It is a joyous announcement of the Kingdom of Heaven. For weeks we were anticipating the coming of that Kingdom, so we heard instead "Lord, have mercy." Now that it's Easter—and we celebrate the Kingdom made present through Christ's Passion, Death, and Resurrection—the **Alleluias are back in a big way.**

Ministers

Altar Guild	Barb Morales
Sound	Augusta Larsen
Liturgy Greeter	Doug Ramier
Hospitality Greeter	Mary Dillivan
Worship Leader	Diana Anderson
Musicians	Tom Walker
	Kathy Walker
	Mike Galagan
	Kasandra Fell
	Martine Grant
Reader	Mark Smith
Preacher	Rebekah Mason
Intercessor	Jessica Smith
Presider	Susan McEvoy
Communion Server	Bobbi Tyrrel
Communion Server	Laura Greathouse
Communion Bread	Jessica Smith
Coffee Hour	Jen & Oscar Trevino and Jane Woods

prayer concerns

Anglican Cycle of Prayer:

Diocesan Cycle of Prayer: Diocesan Standing Committee; Diocesan Staff;
St. George's, Lusk

<p>Meg & Steve; Hunter, Charlotte & Mike; Martha & Family; Richard & Jennifer; Richmond & Rich; Nelson & Nancy; Carolyn & Family; Laurel & Rusty; Lee & Kelly; Hugh B. & Marge; Tim & Alex; Margie & Josey; Tim & Lynnae; Bobbi & Bentley; Bob & Charlotte</p> <p>Don who resides in an assisted living facility.</p>	<p>Kim, Tuti Rosita, Marlynn, Kathy R., Douglas, Mickey, Mike G., Cynthia, Carra, Rob R., Kathy E., Tammy, Rob K., Bobby B., Larry, Irene, Nancy, Alan, Katy, Sue, Kahli, Ron and Jane</p> <p>Daryn, Justin, Jacob, Patrick, Reece, Coleman, and Bryce who are serving in the military.</p>
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Celebrations

Birthday: Dorian Barker—22nd , Frank Dulin—24th, Sophie Tyra—25th

prelude

“Alleluia,” Eric Whitacre & Eric Whitacre Singers.

hymn *Verses 1, 5*



1. Come, ye faith - ful, raise the strain Of tri - um - phant
2. 'Tis the spring of souls to - day; Christ has burst his
3. Now the queen of sea - sons bright With the day of
4. Nei - ther could the gates of death, Nor the tomb's dark
5. "Al - le - lu - ia!" now we cry To our King im -



1. glad - ness; God has brought his Is - ra - el
2. pris - on, And from three days' sleep in death
3. splen - dor, With the roy - al feast of feasts
4. por - tal, Nor the watch - ers, nor the seal
5. mor - tal, Who, tri - um - phant, burst the bars



1. In - to joy from sad - ness; Loosed from Pha-raoh's bit - ter
2. As a sun has ris - en; All the win - ter of our
3. Comes its joy to ren - der; Comes to glad - den faith - ful
4. Hold him as a mor - tal; But to - day a - mong the
5. Of the tomb's dark por - tal; "Al - le - lu - ia!" with the



1. yoke Ja - cob's sons and daugh - ters; Led them with un -
2. sins, Long and dark is fly - ing From his light, to
3. hearts Who with true af - fec - tion Wel - come in un -
4. twelve Christ ap - peared, be - stow - ing Last - ing peace which
5. Son, God the Fa - ther prais - ing; "Al - le - lu - ia!"



1. moist - ened foot Through the Red Sea wa - ters.
2. whom we give Laud and praise un - dy - ing.
3. wea - ried strains Je - sus' res - ur - rec - tion.
4. ev - er - more Pass - es hu - man know - ing.
5. yet a - gain To the Spir - it rais - ing.

Text: 76 76 D; based on Exodus 15; St. John of Damascus, 8th cent.; tr. by John M. Neale, 1818–1866, alt.
Music: Johann Horn, ca. 1495–1547.

acclamation

From the darkness of the grave
Christ the Lord is risen today.

Alleluia!

From the triumph that is won
over the power and fear of death:
Christ the Lord is risen today!

Alleluia!

Walking from the empty tomb,
opening wide the gates of life:
Christ the Lord is risen today!

Alleluia!

Lord of life,
you defeated death to show that we can rise
from all that binds us to the world:
pride, envy, anger, fear,
the debt of sin that holds us here.
Christ the Lord is risen today!

Alleluia!

Lord of life,
You defeated death to demonstrate a love that is
beyond our understanding, that reaches out to all.
Saving grace to all who hear.
Christ the Lord is risen today!

Alleluia!

Lord of life,
We pray for all who bring your word of life
as a light to those in darkness;
for those who bring your word of peace
to those enslaved by fear;
for those who bring your word of love
to those in need of comfort.
Lord of love and Lord of peace,
Lord of resurrection life,
be known through our lives
and through Your power.
Christ the Lord is risen today!

Alleluia!

acclamation *We sing together, repeating at the double bar*



scripture

We sit.

Holy One, by the power of your Spirit
roll away the stone and reveal to us the Word of Life. **Amen.**

A reading from Thessalonians.

After the reading

Word of God, word of resurrection.

Thanks be to God.

sermon

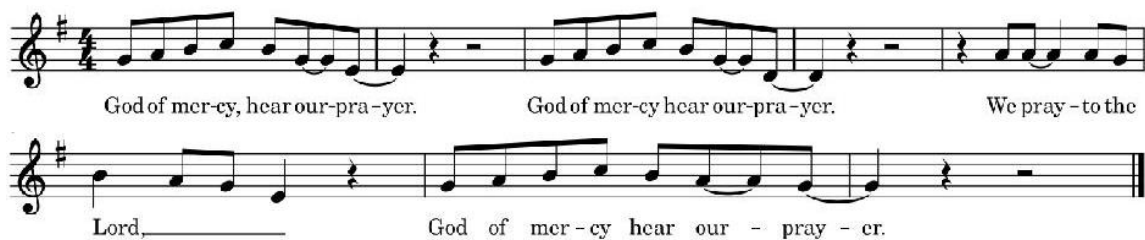
intercessions

Risen Christ, on the first Easter morning, you appeared in a garden,
showing us that your death and resurrection have implications for all of creation.

As flowers bloom and trees come to life,
as grass springs from the ground and birds signal the morning,
may we rejoice and sing with all living things
that you have overcome death and the grave.

You have risen from the dead, and so will all the earth.

We sing together



The Intercessor continues, closing with these words

May we live with courage, knowing that through your death and resurrection,
you have erased the power of the grave, giving hope to all of creation,
and may our lives share your life-giving love with the world. **Amen.**

lord 's prayer *We sing together.*



Our Fa - ther - in - hea - ven - hal - lo - wed be your - name. Your



King - dom come - your - will be done - on earth as it is in - hea - ven. Give us to - day our



dai - ly bread. For - give us - our sins, as - we for - give those who sin - a - gain - st



us. Save us from the time of - trial. De - li - ver us from e - vil, for the



king - dom, the power and the glo - ry - are yours now and - for ev - er! _____ A -



men.

peace

We stand.

May the peace of Christ be always with you.

And also with you.

We greet each other in the name of God.

announcements

offertory

God of hope, you poured out your life and rose from the grave,
and you call us to live according to the terms of resurrection.

**Terms of generosity and kindness,
terms of hope poured out in abundance for the world.**

Move us, O God, toward love, service, and lives that are open.

**Bless the gifts we bring and multiply them
to bring hope to a world in need.**

music

“Be ye Glad,” Michael Kelly Blanchard.

The great thanksgiving

Christ is risen!

Christ is risen indeed.

Lift up your hearts

We lift them up to God.

Let us give thanks to God.

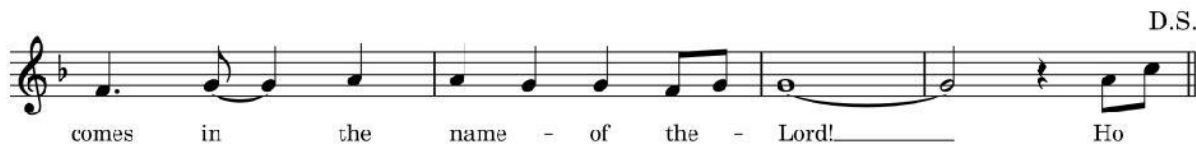
It is right to give our thanks and praise.

Glorious God, we give you thanks and praise,
for on this day creation sings, Christ is risen from the dead!

He has burst forth from the tomb
to break the tangles of despair and death.

Love is come again.

Therefore we praise you, joining our voices
with the eternal chorus of rejoicing who forever sing:



All-embracing God, we give thanks for Jesus, the risen Lord of life,
 who rose victorious from the grave and made the whole creation new.
 He broke bread with sinners, fed the hungry, and healed the oppressed,
 then he poured out his life in death that we might live in love.

Christ is risen from the dead. Love is come again.

We thank you that 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.

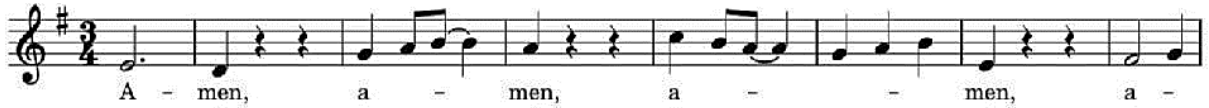
After supper he took the cup of wine; and when he had given thanks,
 he gave it to them and said,

Drink this all of you: This is my blood poured out for you and for all
 for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it,
 do this for the remembrance of me.

Christ is risen from the dead. Love is come again.

Recalling his life, death, and glorious resurrection, we offer you these gifts of bread and wine, and our lives in thanks and praise. Pour out your Spirit upon these gifts that they may be for us the body and blood of our Savior Jesus Christ.

Breathe your Spirit upon the whole earth, that we may proclaim good news to all the world and rise together as children of your new creation. Then bring us to that new heaven here on earth, O God, where death and pain are no more and you dwell with us forever. Through Christ, with Christ, in Christ, by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, we worship you eternally in songs of pure unbounded praise.



The leader breaks the bread. Silence is kept.



The risen Christ is our host, and he bids us come and celebrate the feast, to know the power of resurrection, the joy of heaven, the glory of God's grace. **We come to the table for the gifts of God.**

communion

We approach the altar beginning with those sitting in the last rows; they shall be first. Approach the rail from the left aisle and take a cup; used cups go on the tray on the right. You may receive only bread or only wine. Our Eucharistic bread is handmade and robust. If you prefer a wafer, please tell your server.

Receiving the bread and wine is a central act of worship in the Episcopal Church. We invite everyone here today to the table.

music

“Cornerstone,” Tom Walker.

“My Hope is Built on Nothing Less,” Edward Mote.

prayer of thanks

We stand.

Holy, gracious God,

here at this table your promise of life is made tangible.

We have rested in the depth of your love;

We have tasted your nourishing, nurturing presence;

We accept you into our bodies, into our lives.

Together, at this table, you have offered us life.

Together, by your grace, we accept the life you offer.

And we give you thanks. Amen.

hymn *Verses 1, 2 and 4*



1. The day of res - ur - rec - tion! Earth, spread the news a - broad;
2. Our hearts be free from e - vil That we may see a - right
3. His love is ev - er - last - ing; His mer - cies nev - er cease;
4. Now let the heav'ns be joy - ful, And earth her song be - gin;



1. The Pas - chal feast of glad - ness, The Pas - chal feast of God.
2. The Sav - ior res - ur - rect - ed In his e - ter - nal light,
3. The res - ur - rect - ed Sav - ior, Will all our joys in - crease.
4. The whole world keep high tri - umph And all that is there - in;



1. From death to life e - ter - nal, From earth to heav-en's height
2. And hear his mes-sage plain - ly, De - liv - ered calm and clear:
3. He'll keep us in his fa - vor, Sup - ply - ing ho - ly grace,
4. Let all things in cre - a - tion Their notes of glad-ness blend,



1. Our Sav - ior Christ has brought us, The glo - rious Lord of Light.
2. "Re - joice with me in tri - umph, Be glad and do not fear."
3. To all his pil - grim peo - ple Who seek his heav'n-ly place.
4. For Christ the Lord is ris - en, Our joy that has no end.

Text: 76 76 D; vss. 1, 2, 4, John of Damascus, 8th cent.; tr. by John Mason Neale, 1818–1866, alt. Vs. 3 © 1972, John Dunn. All rights reserved. Used with permission.

sending

Lift up your heads, Beloved.
Christ Jesus has opened your graves.
Walk in freedom and life.
Go out in peace.
Thanks be to God. Alleluia! Alleluia!

postlude

“Halle Hallelujah,” Rene Franc & Bootleggers.

sources

Acclamation

Adapted from “Prayers on a Theme of Easter” by John Birch, a Methodist lay preacher and worship leader from Wales.

Intercessions

Adapted by Susan McEvoy and Diana Anderson from “Terms of Resurrection,” by Worship Well, Easter, 2022.

Confession, Offertory, and Sending

Adapted from “Terms of Resurrection,” by Worship Well, Easter, 2022.

Great Thanksgiving

Feasting on the Word® Worship Companion, © 2013 Westminster John Knox Press, Louisville, Kentucky.

Prayer of Thanks

Joanna Harader, Spacious Faith blog, <http://spaciousfaith.com/>

Easter Mass

Tom Walker, ©2024, Dulcet River Music.