



Season of resurrection

Welcome

Welcome to St. John's on the **sixth Sunday in Easter**, May 5, 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	Jane Woods
Sound	Steve Nickles
Liturgy Greeter	Jim Morales
Hospitality Greeter	Charlotte Patrick
Worship Leader	Kim Dillivan
Reader	Doug Ramier
Preacher	Susan McEvoy
Intercessor	Jessica Smith
Presider	Susan McEvoy
Communion Server	Jen Litterer-Trevino
Communion Server	Oscar Trevino
Communion Bread	Charlotte Patrick
Coffee Hour	Jane Woods, et. al.

Prayer concerns

Anglican Cycle of Prayer: Igreja Episcopal Anglicana do Brasil (The Anglican Episcopal Church of Brazil)

Diocesan Cycle of Prayer: Diocesan Standing Committee; Diocesan Staff; St. Steven's, Casper

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
Don who resides in an assisted living facility.

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

Daryn, Justin, Jacob, Patrick, Reece, Coleman, and Bryce who are serving in the military.

Celebrations

Birthday: Ella Jane Barker—8th

prelude

“Jubilate Deo: VI. Alleluia (Song of the Earth),” Rivertree Singers Festival Chorus.

hymn *Verses 1-2*



Hail thee, fes - ti-val day! Blest day that art hal-lowed for ev - er;



Day when our Lord was raised, break - ing the king - dom of death.



1. All the fair beau - ty of earth from the
 3. God the Al - might - y, the Lord, the
 5. Spir - it of life and of pow'r, now



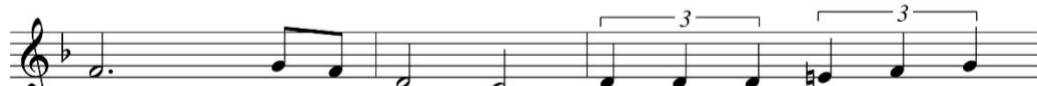
death of the win - ter a - ris - ing! Ev - 'ry good
 rul - er of earth and the heav - ens, Guard us from
 flow in us, fount of our be - ing, Light that en -



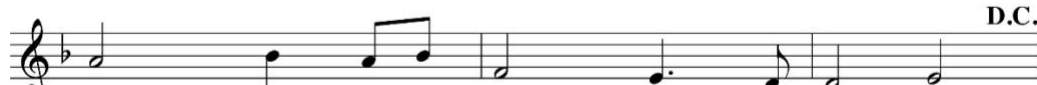
gift of the year now with its mas - ter re - turns.
 harm with - out; cleanse us from e - vil with - in.
 light - ens us all, life that in all may a - bide.



2. Rise from the grave now, O Lord, the au - thor of
 4. Je - sus, the health of the world, en - light - en our
 6. Praise to the giv - er of good! O Lov - er and



life and cre - a - tion. Tread - ing the path - way of
 minds great Re - deem - er. Son of the Fa - ther su -
 Au - thor of con - cord, Pour out your balm on our



death, new life you give to us all.
 preme, on - ly be - got - ten of God.
 days; or - der our ways in your peace.

Text: *Salve festa dies*; Venantius Fortunatus, c.530-609; tr. composite
 Tune: SALVE FESTA DIES, Irregular with refrain; Ralph Vaughan Williams, 1872-1958
 © Oxford University Press

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!

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 1 Corinthians.

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.

God of mercy, hear our prayer.

The Intercessor continues, closing with these words

Risen Christ, 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

Our Father in heaven,
hallowed be your Name,
your kingdom come,
your will be done, on earth as in heaven.

Give us today our daily bread.

Forgive us our sins as we forgive those
who sin against us.

Save us from the time of trial,
and deliver us from evil.

For the kingdom, the power,
and the glory are yours,
now and for ever. **Amen.**

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

“Alleluia,” Hungarian National Chorus.

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:

**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.

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.

AMEN.

The leader breaks the bread. Silence is kept.

Save us, Savior of the world.

By your cross and resurrection, you have set us free.

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

Please come to the table, whether you are single, married or divorced, drinking, using or sober, abled, disabled, or ill, gay, straight, or discovering, wealthy, getting by or in debt. Christ meets us all.

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.

musi

“Alleluia,” Michael John Trotta.

“Hallelujahs,” Chris Rice.

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 1-4. There is no introduction.*

1 Al - le - lu - ia! sing to Je - sus! his the
 *2 Al - le - lu - ia! not as or - phans are we
 3 Al - le - lu - ia! bread of Hea - ven, Thou on
 4 Al - le - lu - ia! King e - ter - nal, thee the
 *5 Al - le - lu - ia! sing to Je - sus! his the

1 scep - ter, his the throne; Al - le - lu - ia! his the
 2 left in sor - row now; Al - le - lu - ia! he is
 3 earth our food, our stay! Al - le - lu - ia! here the
 4 Lord of lords we own: Al - le - lu - ia! born of
 5 scep - ter, his the throne; Al - le - lu - ia! his the

1 tri - umph, his the vic - to - ry a - lone; Hark! the
 2 near us, faith be - lieves, nor ques - tions how: though the
 3 sin - ful flee to thee from day to day: In - ter -
 4 Ma - ry, earth thy foot - stool, heaven thy throne: thou with -
 5 tri - umph, his the vic - to - ry a - lone; Hark! the

1 songs of peace - ful Zi - on thun - der like a
 2 cloud from sight re - ceived him, when the for - ty
 3 ces - sor, friend of sin - ners, earth's Re - deem - er,
 4 in the veil hast en - tered, robed in flesh, our
 5 songs of ho - ly Zi - on thun - der like a

1 might - y flood; Je - sus out of ev - ery
 2 days were o'er, shall our hearts for - get his
 3 plead for me, where the songs of all the
 4 great High Priest: thou on earth both Priest and
 5 might - y flood; Je - sus out of ev - ery

1 na - tion hath re - deemed us by his blood.
 2 prom - ise, "I am with you ev - er - more"?
 3 sin - less sweep a - cross the crys - tal sea.
 4 Vic - tim in the eu - cha - ris - tic feast.
 5 na - tion hath re - deemed us by his blood.

Words: William Chatterton Dix (1837-1898). Music: *Hyfrydol*, Rowland Hugh Prichard (1811-1887).

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

"Halleluja," Massimo Faraò Trio, Giampaolo Casati.

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.