

METROPOLITAN COMMUNITY CHURCH OF NORTHERN VIRGINIA

May 11, 2025

Easter IV

There is a book at the Sanctuary entry where prayer requests may be entered.

There is also a Square device at the Sanctuary entry if you would like to make your Offering Donation via credit card.

Spirit, Community, Action – Inside & “Out” Celebrating 44 Years of Being Out in Northern Virginia

Like Life, The Order of Worship is Subject to Change Without Notice

Gathering Music

Jorge Martinez

Welcome & Announcements

Rev. Emma Chattin

Centering

*At the sound of the singing bowl,
please take a few moments to prepare yourself for our worship together*

Illumination

Tee

Prayers of the Community

Dale Bradshaw

Choir Response

Alleluia

Choir

First Reading ~ *Acts 9:36-43*

Vanessa Lambert

Now in Joppa there was a disciple whose name was Tabitha in Aramaic (“Gazelle”), “Dorcas” in Greek. She was devoted to good works and acts of charity. At that time she became ill and died. When they had washed her, they laid her in a room upstairs. Since Lydda was near Joppa, the disciples, who heard that Peter was there, sent two messengers to him with the request, “Please come to us without delay.” So Peter got up and went with them; and when he arrived, they took him to the room upstairs. All the widows stood beside him, weeping and showing tunics and other clothing that Dorcas had made while she was with them.

Peter put all of them outside, and then he knelt down and prayed. He turned to the body and said, “Tabitha, arise. Stand up.” She opened her eyes. When she saw Peter, she sat up. He gave her his hand and helped her up. Then calling the saints and widows, he showed her to be alive. This became known throughout Joppa, and many believed in God. Peter remained a while in Joppa, staying with Simon, a leather tanner.

Second Reading

Margot Scheiffley

~ adapted from Rev. Nadia Boltz-Webber in “We Could Use Some Resurrection”

I need stories of resurrection. I mean, I'm sort of desperate for them. I know of all the stories in the Bible that are hard for us modern folks to believe, that stories of people rising from the dead can sound especially crazy, defying as they do the laws of both physics and mortality. But I love them. I love stories of resurrection. I love stories of resurrection. Because I'm someone who's desperate for second chances and third chances and really just like ALL the chances. I love stories of resurrection because they're messy and they're weird, and stories of resurrection sync a hook of hope into me like nothing else can. And we could use some divine hope right now, could we not? We could use some resurrection up in here. We could use something a little more powerful than our virtues, a little more hopeful than our attempts to just try harder. I've tried trying harder. It doesn't make me free. It just makes me tired.

(continued)

So I have a prayer for us today: God of compassion, I pray. Enter our city gates, enter into the somber roads down which our hearses drive and the glad streets down which our children play. Walk uninvited into mansions and public housing and dorms and cheap motel rooms that charge by the hour. Stroll into the cool air freezer section where the pregnant women escape the heat and the bus stop benches where the weary wait. Enter every law office and adult bookstore. Step into the spaces we say we feel your awesomeness, and the places we claim your forsakenness.

Teach us to see each other with your heart and not our own. God of compassion, touch the lifeless places, and touch us with the words.. Rise up... Get up... Arise. What I'm saying is... create a holy uprising today. To those who think they're not worthy to be loved, who medicate themselves with food and booze and shopping... say "Arise." To us who have been hurt by those who say they follow you... say "Arise." To the ones who have simply given up, say... "Get Up.. Rise up.. Arise!"

Reflection TURNAROUND Arise

Community Dialogue Rev. Emma Chatin

Offering Invitation

>Welcome To The Table!

Kurt Jaeger & Ken Williamson

Sung Words of Institution:

"Let Us Be Bread" By Thomas J. Porter

The Leader will sing the verses. Please join together on the refrain:

Let us be bread, blessed by our God, broken and shared, life for the world.

Let us be wine, love freely poured. Let us be one in our God.

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Invitation to the Table

Sharing The Open Meal of Christ

Community Blessing Kurt Jaeger

Closing Song We Are The Church Alive Insert

Benediction and Sending Forth Rev. Emma Chattin

Postlude

Go in Peace