

Welcome to our Sunday Worship

Please respect our safety and the safety of others:

- ❖ Wear your mask.
- ❖ Maintain a distance from others of at least six feet.
- ❖ Refrain from hand shaking or hugs.

April 18, 2021 9:00 A.M. Rite II

The Third Sunday of Easter

PRELUDE *I Know That My Redeemer Liveth*

Hugh Livingston

(Please remain seated as we sing)

Surely the Presence

Worship # 131

(Please stand)

CALL TO WORSHIP

Celebrant: Alleluia. Christ is risen.

People: **The Lord is risen indeed. Alleluia.**

Celebrant: Almighty God, to you all hearts are open, all desires known, and from you no secrets are hid: Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you, and worthily magnify your holy Name; through Christ our Lord. **Amen**

THE GLORIA

Hymnal # S-280

Glory to God in the highest, and peace to his people on earth. Lord God, heavenly King, almighty God and Father, we worship you, we give you thanks, we praise you for your glory. Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father, Lord God, Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world: have mercy on us; you are seated at the right hand of the Father: receive our prayer. For you alone are the Holy One, you alone are the Lord, you alone are the Most High, Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit, in the glory of God the Father. Amen.

Collect of the Day

Celebrant: The Lord be with you.

People: **And also with you.**

Celebrant: Let us pray: O God, whose blessed Son made himself known to his disciples in the breaking of bread: Open the eyes of our faith, that we may behold him in all his redeeming work; who lives and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

(Please be seated)

The First Reading: *(Lector)* A Reading from the Acts of the Apostles.

All the sermons recorded in Acts contain essentially the same elements. Like all the New Testament, this passage interprets Jesus as fulfilling the prophecy of a suffering Messiah. Though his own people rejected him, this sermon declares, the resurrection of Jesus is the proof that he is the promised Messiah.

Peter addressed the people, "You Israelites, why do you wonder at this, or why do you stare at us, as though by our own power or piety we had made him walk? The God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob, the God of our ancestors has glorified his servant Jesus, whom you handed over and rejected in

the presence of Pilate, though he had decided to release him. But you rejected the Holy and Righteous One and asked to have a murderer given to you, and you killed the Author of life, whom God raised from the dead. To this we are witnesses. And by faith in his name, his name itself has made this man strong, whom you see and know; and the faith that is through Jesus has given him this perfect health in the presence of all of you.

“And now, friends, I know that you acted in ignorance, as did also your rulers. In this way God fulfilled what he had foretold through all the prophets, that his Messiah would suffer. Repent therefore, and turn to God so that your sins may be wiped out.” [3:12-19]

Lector: Hear what the Spirit is saying to God’s people.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

PSALM 4

An attitude of confident trust in God permeates this psalm. Accordingly, it does not become a bitter lament, but a song of faith from someone suffering great distress.

Answer me when I call, O God, defender of my cause; *
you set me free when I am hard-pressed;
have mercy on me and hear my prayer.

**"You mortals, how long will you dishonor my glory; *
how long will you worship dumb idols
and run after false gods?"**

Know that the LORD does wonders for the faithful; *
when I call upon the LORD, he will hear me.

**Tremble, then, and do not sin; *
speak to your heart in silence upon your bed.**

Offer the appointed sacrifices *
and put your trust in the LORD.

**Many are saying, "Oh, that we might see better times!" *
Lift up the light of your countenance upon us, O LORD.**

You have put gladness in my heart, *
more than when grain and wine and oil increase.

**I lie down in peace; at once I fall asleep; *
for only you, LORD, make me dwell in safety.**

The Second Reading: (*Lector*) A reading from the First Letter of John.

The real benefits of faith in Jesus Christ, the Son of God, are clearly stated in this passage. Believers are regarded as the children of God who at Christ's second coming will be like him.

See what love the Father has given us, that we should be called children of God; and that is what we are. The reason the world does not know us is that it did not know him. Beloved, we are God's children now; what we will be has not yet been revealed. What we do know is this: when he is revealed, we will be like him, for we will see him as he is. And all who have this hope in him purify themselves, just as he is pure.

Everyone who commits sin is guilty of lawlessness; sin is lawlessness. You know that he was revealed to take away sins, and in him there is no sin. No one who abides in him sins; no one who sins has either seen him or known him. Little children, let no one deceive you. Everyone who does what is right is righteous, just as he is righteous. [3:1-7]

Lector: Hear what the Spirit is saying to God's people.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

Gradual: *Celtic Alleluia*

Worship # 736

THE GOSPEL *(Please stand)*

Celebrant: The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Luke.

People: **Glory to you, Lord Christ.**

The post-resurrection appearances of Jesus recorded in the four gospels have a common purpose: to prepare the faithful for life in the world as witnesses to the resurrection. The early Church could now proclaim that repentance and forgiveness of sins, i.e. a whole new life, were now available through faith in the risen Christ.

Jesus himself stood among the disciples and said to them, "Peace be with you." They were startled and terrified, and thought that they were seeing a ghost. He said to them, "Why are you frightened, and why do doubts arise in your hearts? Look at my hands and my feet; see that it is I myself. Touch me and see; for a ghost does not have flesh and bones as you see that I have." And when he had said this, he showed them his hands and his feet. While in their joy they were disbelieving and still wondering, he said to them, "Have you anything here to eat?" They gave him a piece of broiled fish, and he took it and ate in their presence. Then he said to them, "These are my words that I spoke to you while I was still with you—that everything written about me in the law of Moses, the prophets, and the psalms must be fulfilled." Then he opened their minds to understand the scriptures, and he said to them, "Thus it is written, that the Messiah is to suffer and to rise from the dead on the third day, and that repentance and forgiveness of sins is to be proclaimed in his name to all nations, beginning from Jerusalem. You are witnesses of these things.

[24:36b-48]

Celebrant: The Gospel of the Lord.

People: **Praise to you, Lord Christ.**

Gradual: *Celtic Alleluia*

Worship # 736

SERMON *(Please be seated)*

NICENE CREED *(Please stand)*

We believe in one God, the Father the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, and 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.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE VI *(please stand or kneel)*

The Leader: In peace, we pray to you, Lord God.

(Silence)

For all people in their daily life and work;

For our families, friends, and neighbors, and for those who are alone.

For Joe our President, Ron our Governor, our county commissioners and those who advise them. For this community, the nation, and the world;

For all who work for justice, freedom, and peace.

For the just and proper use of your creation;

For the victims of hunger, fear, injustice, and oppression.

For all who are in danger, sorrow, or any kind of trouble;

For those who minister to the sick, the friendless, and the needy.

For the peace and unity of the Church of God;

For all who proclaim the Gospel, and all who seek the Truth.

For Justin the Archbishop of Canterbury, Michael our Presiding Bishop, Dabney our Bishop, Tom our Rector; for this Church of St. Paul's, our vestry, staff, people, and our ministries, and for all bishops and other ministers.

For all who serve God in his Church.

For the special needs and concerns of this congregation. For Jan Pitcher, _____ and all those on our parish prayer list.

(Silence, the people may add their own petitions)

Hear us, Lord;

For your mercy is great.

We thank you, Lord, for all the blessings of this life. We give thanks for those having birthdays this week: especially Jada Ramsey, Elaine Speice, Gedeon Anis, Barbara Pearce, William Woods, and Jacqueline Mortman, and all those celebrating anniversaries: especially David & Judy Hall, Michael & Marilyn Grindstaff, George & Sandra McGowan, Ferb & Carol Tracy, and Diane & Edward Lebida.

(Silence, the people may add their own thanksgivings)

We will exalt you, O God our King;

And praise your Name for ever and ever.

We pray [especially for _____, who died recently and] for all who have died, that they may have a place in your eternal kingdom.

(Silence, the people may add their own petitions)

Lord, let your loving-kindness be upon them;

Who put their trust in you.

THE PEACE

Celebrant: The peace of the Lord be always with you.

People: **And also with you.**

ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRESENTATION OF GIFTS (Please stand)

(Please be seated during hymn)

OFFERTORY Christ is alive, let Christians sing

Worship # 312 vs 1,2,5

Doxology (Please stand)

EUCCHARISTIC PRAYER

Celebrant: The Lord be with you.

People: **And also with you.**

Celebrant: Lift up your hearts.

People: **We lift them to the lord.**

Celebrant: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People: **It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

Celebrant: We praise you and we bless you, holy and gracious God, source of life abundant. From before time you made ready the creation. Your Spirit moved over the deep and brought all things into being: sun, moon, and stars; earth, winds, and waters; and every living thing. You made us in your image, and taught us to walk in your ways. But we rebelled against you, and wandered far away; and yet, as a mother cares for her children, you would not forget us. Time and again you called us to live in the fullness of your love. And so this day we join with Saints and Angels in the chorus of praise that rings through eternity, lifting our voices to magnify you as we sing:

Celebrant & People sing: *Holy, Holy, Holy Lord*

Worship # 738

Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might, heaven and earth are filled with your glory. Hosanna in the highest. Blessed is He who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest. Hosanna in the highest.

(The people kneel or stand as the Celebrant continues)

Celebrant: Glory and honor and praise to you, holy and living God.

To deliver us from the power of sin and death and to reveal the riches of your grace, you looked with favor upon Mary, your willing servant, that she might conceive and bear a son, Jesus the holy child of God. Living among us, Jesus loved us. He broke bread with outcasts and sinners, healed the sick, and proclaimed good news to the poor. He yearned to draw all the world to himself, yet we were heedless of his call to walk in love. Then, the time came for him to complete upon the cross the sacrifice of his life, and to be glorified by you.

On the night before he died for us, Jesus was at table with his friends. He took bread, gave thanks to you, broke it, and gave it to them, and said: "Take, eat: This is my Body, which is given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me."

As supper was ending, Jesus took the cup of wine. Again, he gave thanks to you, gave it to them, and said: "Drink this, all of you: This is my Blood of the new Covenant, which is poured out for you and for all for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me."

Now gathered at your table, O God of all creation, and remembering Christ, crucified and risen, who was and is and is to come, we offer to you our gifts of bread and wine, and ourselves, a living sacrifice. Pour out your Spirit upon these gifts that they may be the Body and Blood of Christ.

Breathe your Spirit over the whole earth and make us your new creation, the Body of Christ given for the world you have made. In the fullness of time bring us, with the Blessed Virgin Mary, Blessed Joseph, Blessed Paul, and all your saints, from every tribe and language and people and nation, to feast at the banquet prepared from the foundation of the world.

Through Christ and with Christ and in Christ, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, to you be honor, glory, and praise, for ever and ever.

GREAT AMEN *Amen, Amen, Alleluia, Amen*

THE LORD'S PRAYER

Celebrant: And now, as our Savior Christ hath taught us, we are bold to pray.

Celebrant & People sing: *The Lord's Prayer*

Worship #740

BREAKING OF THE BREAD

Celebrant & People sing:

Fraction Anthem *Eat This Bread*

Worship # 697 (ref x 2)

Eat this bread, drink this cup, come to me and never be hungry.

Eat this bread, drink this cup, trust in me and you will not thirst.

For those unable to worship with us in person we pray:

O most blessed Savior, in union with the faithful at every altar of your Church where your blessed Body and Blood are being offered to the Father, I desire to offer you praise and thanksgiving, I present to you my soul and body with the earnest wish that I may always be united to you. And since I cannot now receive you sacramentally, I beseech you to come spiritually into my heart; I unite myself to you and embrace you with all the affections of my soul. Amen

People: Come, Lord Jesus, and dwell in my heart.

COMMUNION

All baptized Christians are welcome to receive Holy Communion. If you wish a blessing instead, please fold your hands across your chest and the priest will give you a blessing.

COMMUNION HYMN

Instrumental

PRESENTATION OF GIFTS *(Please stand)*

Celebrant: All things come of Thee, O Lord.

People: And of Thine own have we given thee.

POST COMMUNION PRAYER *(Please stand or kneel)*

Celebrant and People: God of abundance, you have fed us with the bread of life and the cup of salvation; you have united us with Christ and one another; and you have made us one with all your people in heaven and on earth. Now send us forth in the power of your Spirit that we may proclaim your redeeming love to the world and continue forever in the risen life of Christ our Savior. Amen.

BLESSING

Celebrant: And finally my brothers and sisters, live in harmony and with compassion. Show kindness and humility. Return no evil nor slander but return blessings to all. Bless and do not curse for such is your call in Christ Jesus our Lord. And the blessing of God Almighty, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit shall be with you this day and all the days of your life.

(Please stand)

CLOSING HYMN *Alleluia, Alleluia! Hearts to heaven*

Worship # 289 vs 1,2,4

Celebrant and People: Almighty and everlasting God, make our parish of St. Paul's truly a community of prayer and belonging. Raise up in our midst the resources and leadership which will enable us to act upon what you would have us do, in this place and in a ministry of love and concern for others. Open my mind and heart to discern what you would have me do; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen

The Celebrant issues the DISMISSAL

People: Thanks be to God. Alleluia. Alleluia

POSTLUDE

Exultation

James A. Dasher

Today's 9:00 a.m. Worship Leaders: *Celebrant & Homilist:* The Rev. Dr. Thomas Thoeni, *Eucharistic Ministers:* Bev Whiteman, *Lector & Intercessor:* Nora Broszeit, *Music Director / Organist:* Eleanor Phelps, *Usher:* Barb & David Abernethy

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Active Altar Guild Members: Judy Allen- Lee Barron
Van Geoghegan - Nancy Smith - Carol Tracy - Cindy Tysiak

Honorary Altar Guild Members: Linda Condon - Melene & Ray Davila
Jean Hayes – Joan Menslage- Tootie Steineger – Bev Sweet

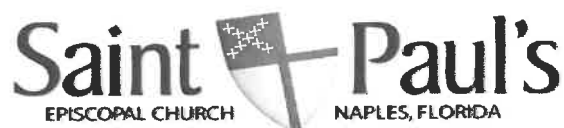
Other St. Paul's Sunday Worship Services
5 pm Worship in Creole

St. Paul's Staff

The Rev. Dr. Thomas Thoeni, Rector
The Rev. Panel Guerrier, Assisting Priest for Creole Worship
Deb Avery, Parish Administrative Assistant
Virgil Manuel, Comptroller
Eleanor J. Phelps, Music Director

St. Paul's Vestry Members

Senior Warden-Rich Shea, **Junior Warden**- Joyce Cashin, **Treasurer**-David Abernethy,
Judy Allen, Don Anderson, Richard Breithaupt, Nora Broszeit,
Dick Emerson, Van Geoghegan



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April 18, 2021

CALL TO WORSHIP:

Surely the presence of the Lord

Surely the presence of the Lord is in this place;
I can feel his mighty power and his grace.
I can hear the brush of angels' wings, I see glory on each face;
Surely the presence of the Lord is in this place.

OFFERTORY HYMN:

Christ is alive! Let Christians sing

Christ is alive! Let Christians sing. The cross stands empty to the sky.
Let streets and homes with praises ring. Love, drowned in death, shall never die.

Christ is alive! No longer bound to distant years in Palestine,
but saving, healing, here and now, and touching every place and time.

Christ is alive! and comes to bring good news to this and every age;
till earth and sky and ocean ring with joy, with justice, love, and praise.

CLOSING HYMN:

Alleluia, alleluia! Hearts to heaven and voices raise

Alleluia, alleluia! Hearts to heaven and voices raise:
sing to God a hymn of gladness, sing to God a hymn of praise;
he who on the cross a victim for the world's salvation bled -
Jesus Christ, the King of Glory, now is risen from the dead.

Alleluia, Christ is risen! Death at last has met defeat:
see the ancient powers of evil in confusion and retreat;
once he died, and once was buried: now he lives forevermore,
Jesus Christ, the world's Redeemer, whom we worship and adore.

Alleluia, alleluia! Glory be to God on high:
Alleluia to the Savior who has gained the victory;
Alleluia to the Spirit, fount of love and sanctity!
Alleluia, alleluia to the Triune Majesty!