

# All Angels Episcopal Church

8:00 & 10:00 am



*You will show me the path of life;  
in your presence there is fullness of joy  
Psalm 16:11*

April 16, 2023

**Opening Hymn** *This Joyful Eastertide*

1982 Hymnal #192

This joyful Eastertide, away with sin and sorrow!

My Love, the Crucified, hath sprung to life this morrow.

*Refrain:* Had Christ, that once was slain, ne'er burst his three-day prison,  
our faith had been in vain; but now is Christ arisen.

Death's flood hath lost its chill, since Jesus crossed the river:

Lord of all life, from ill my passing life deliver. *Refrain*

My flesh in hope shall rest, and for a season slumber,

till trump from east to west shall wake the dead in number. *Refrain*

*Celebrant* Alleluia. Christ is risen.

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

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.**

The Lord be with you.

**And also with you.**

Let us pray.

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.**

**The Lessons** *Please be seated for the reading of the lessons.*

Introduction: Today's lesson is from the fifth book of the New Testament, *The Acts of Apostles*, which starts with the ascension of Jesus and concludes with the ministry of Paul to the Gentiles. For each of the seven Sundays of Easter, we will read from this book. Today's passage is a speech, delivered by Peter, on the day of Pentecost when the Holy Spirit filled the room. We heard the first part of his sermon on Easter Sunday; today is the second part, and over the next two Sundays we will hear the remainder of it which concludes with Peter baptizing 3,000 people.

A reading the Acts of the Apostles

*Acts 2:14, 22-32*

Peter, standing with the eleven, raised his voice and addressed the crowd, "You that are Israelites, listen to what I have to say: Jesus of Nazareth, a man attested to you by God with deeds of power, wonders, and signs that God did through him among you, as you yourselves know — this man, was handed over according to the definite plan

and foreknowledge of God, was crucified and killed by the hands of those outside the law. But God raised him up, having freed him from death, because it was impossible for him to be held in its power. For David says concerning him,

*'I saw the Lord always before me, for he is at my right hand so that I will not be shaken; therefore my heart was glad, and my tongue rejoiced; moreover my flesh will live in hope.*

*For you will not abandon my soul to Hades, or let your Holy One experience corruption.*

*You have made known to me the ways of life; you will make me full of gladness with your presence.'*

“Fellow Israelites, I may say to you confidently of our ancestor David that he both died and was buried, and his tomb is with us to this day. Since he was a prophet, he knew that God had sworn with an oath to him that he would put one of his descendants on his throne. Foreseeing this, David spoke of the resurrection of the Messiah, saying, *'He was not abandoned to Hades, nor did his flesh experience corruption.'*

This Jesus God raised up, and of that all of us are witnesses.”

The Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

The psalm for this morning is 16.

*Psalms 16*

Protect me, O God, for I take refuge in you;

**I have said to the Lord, "You are my Lord, my good above all other."**

All my delight is upon the godly that are in the land,

**upon those who are noble among the people.**

But those who run after other gods

**shall have their troubles multiplied.**

Their libations of blood I will not offer,

**nor take the names of their gods upon my lips.**

O Lord, you are my portion and my cup;

**it is you who uphold my lot.**

My boundaries enclose a pleasant land;

**indeed, I have a goodly heritage.**

I will bless the Lord who gives me counsel;

**my heart teaches me, night after night.**

I have set the Lord always before me;

**because he is at my right hand I shall not fall.**

My heart, therefore, is glad, and my spirit rejoices;

**my body also shall rest in hope.**

For you will not abandon me to the grave,

**nor let your holy one see the Pit.**

You will show me the path of life; in your presence there is fullness of joy,

**and in your right hand are pleasures for evermore.**

A reading from the First Letter of Peter

*1 Peter 1:3-9*

May the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ be blessed! On account of his vast mercy, he has given us new birth. You have been born anew into a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead. You have a pure and enduring inheritance that cannot perish—an inheritance that is presently kept safe in heaven for you. Through his faithfulness, you are guarded by God's power so that you can receive the salvation he is ready to reveal in the last time.

You now rejoice in this hope, even if it is necessary for you to be distressed for a short time by various trials. This is necessary so that your faith may be found genuine. (Your faith is more valuable than gold, which will be destroyed even though it is itself tested by fire.) Your genuine faith will result in praise, glory, and honor for you when Jesus Christ is revealed. Although you have never seen him, you love him. Even though you do not see him now, you trust him and so rejoice with a glorious joy that is too much for words. You are receiving the goal of your faith: your salvation.

The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God**

**Gradual Hymn**      *Jesus is Lord of all the Earth*      1982 Hymnal #178

*Refrain:* Alleluia, alleluia! Give thanks to the risen Lord.  
Alleluia, alleluia! Give Praise to his Name.

Jesus is Lord of all the earth. He is the King of creation. *Refrain*

Spread the good news o'er all the earth: Jesus has died and has risen. *Refrain*

The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to John

**Glory to you, Lord Christ.**      *John 20:19-31*

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 Gospel of the Lord. **Praise to you, Lord Christ.**

**Gradual Hymn**      *Jesus is Lord of all the Earth*      1982 Hymnal #178

*Refrain:* Alleluia, alleluia! Give thanks to the risen Lord.  
Alleluia, alleluia! Give Praise to his Name.

We have been crucified with Christ. Now we shall live for ever. *Refrain*

Come, let us praise the living God, joyfully sing to our Savior. *Refrain*

**The Sermon**

The Rev. David J. Marshall

**The Nicene Creed** *(The word “catholic” means universal or global body of Christian believers)*

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

**The Prayers of the People** *(Please stand or kneel or sit as you are able)*

Let us pray to God on behalf of the Church, the world, and all people.

*A brief silence*

Fill us with joy from the Holy Spirit, so we may believe and live into this truth: that because death has no dominion over you, neither shall it have any power over us. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Adorn your beautifully-decorated Church with the beauty of your holiness and the light of your love. Make it resplendent with faith, hope, and charity so that in love we may lift the burdens of others.

Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Give peace to those who suffer persecution for their faith. Grant them the joy of your saving help. Hasten the day when all people are drawn to you in repentance and faith. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Deliver all people from the powers of sin, evil, and death. Raise up leaders who seek to do your will. Especially we pray for our elected and appointed leaders, and for the welfare of this country. We pray for peace, especially for those in Ukraine; hasten the coming of the day when you wipe the tears from all faces; and for the leaders who push their countries to war, bring them into right relationship with you.

Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Look with kindness upon all who tend the land and feed the nations with the fruits of their labor. Make them wise and faithful stewards of your bounty. Grant sun and rain in due measure, and preserve your good land from blight, drought, flood, wind, and fire. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

We pray on behalf of all whose needs of body, soul and mind are great. Especially we lift before you the needs of: Downs IV, Holden, Barbara, Anne, Victoria and Anne Louise. For those going through cancer treatments, especially, Margaret, Bill, Downs III, Victoria, Alex, Connie, Douglas, Georgiana, Frank and Gerta. Visit and comfort all who are under the care of skilled nursing, especially Timothy, Barbara, Kim and Lou (Getz). Be near to all who are in hospice care.

Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Lord Jesus, we thank you for fulfilling all your promises to those who died trusting in you; especially those who we name now. *Silence*

Comfort those who mourn. Walk with us throughout our life's journey.

Transform us into your likeness and let us with perfect clarity see you also in the faces of our neighbors and friends.

Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

*Celebrant:*

Grant to us all that is in accordance with your will, dear Jesus, and accomplish your salvation among us; for you are alive and dwell in majesty with your Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

The Peace of the Lord be with you.

**And also with you.**

## **Greetings, Announcements and Introductions**

### **Offertory Anthem**

*We Walk By Faith and Not By Sight*

Henry Afford & Samuel MacFarland

We walk by faith and not by sight; with gracious words draw near,  
O Christ, who spoke as none e'er spoke: "My peace be with you here."

We may not touch your hands and side, nor follow where you trod;  
But in your promises we rejoice, and cry, "My Lord and God!"

Help then, O Lord, our unbelief; and may our faith abound  
to call on you when you are near and seek where you are found:

That, when our life of faith is done, in realms of clearer light  
we may behold you as you are, with full and endless sight.

## **The Doxology**

**Praise God from whom all blessings flow,  
praise him all creatures here below, Alleluia, Alleluia.  
Praise him above ye heavenly host:  
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost, Alleluia, Alleluia.**

## **The Holy Eucharist Prayer B**

BCP 367

The Lord be with you.

**And also with you.**

Lift up your hearts.

**We lift them to the Lord.**

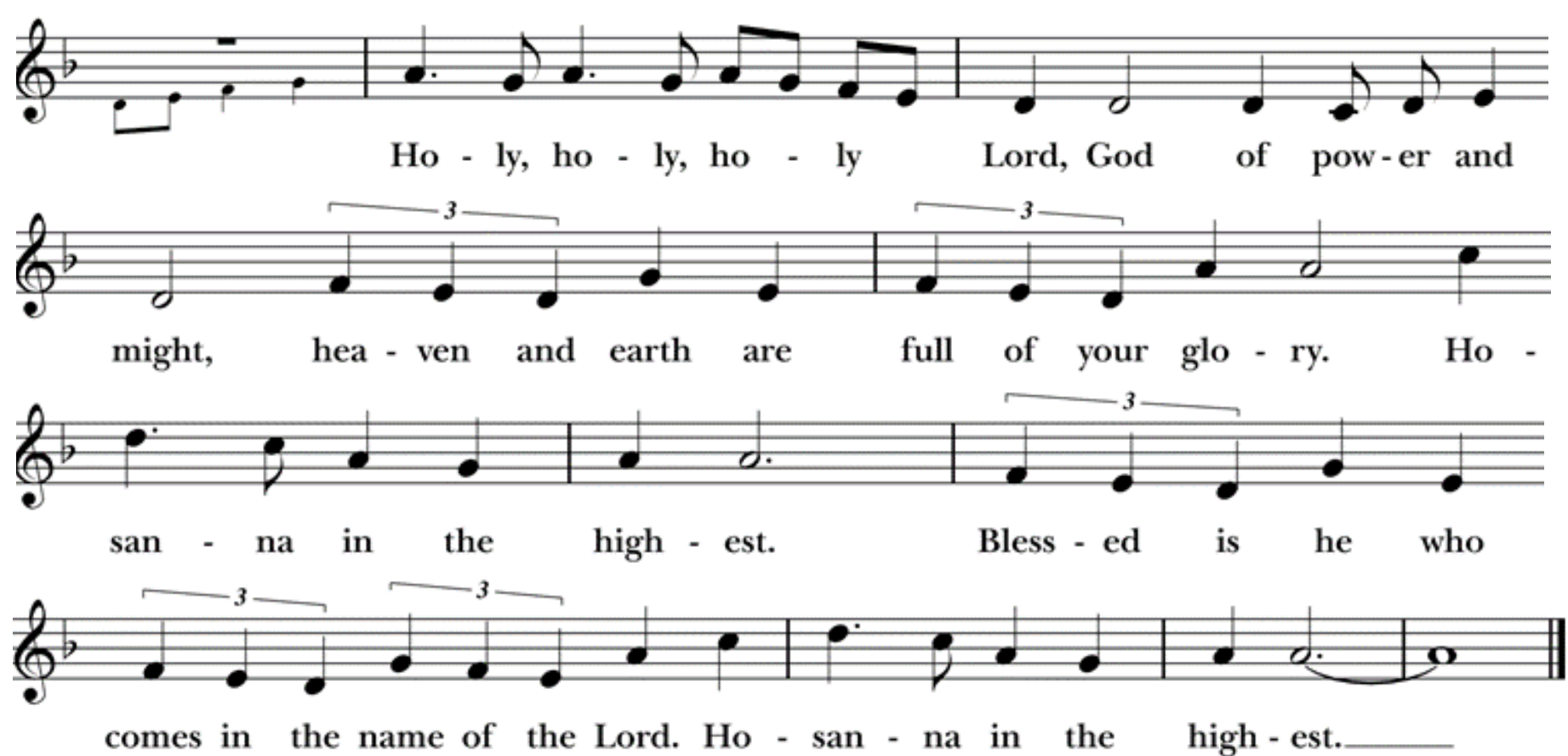
Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**It is right to give God thanks and praise.**

It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you,  
Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth. Through Jesus Christ our Lord;  
who on the first day of the week overcame death and the grave,  
and by his glorious resurrection opened to us the way of everlasting life.

Therefore we praise you, joining our voices with Angels and Archangels and with all  
the company of heaven, who for ever sing this hymn to proclaim the glory of your  
Name:





We give thanks to you, O God, for the goodness and love which you have made known to us in creation; in the calling of Israel to be your people; in your Word spoken through the prophets; and above all in the Word made flesh, Jesus, your Son. For in these last days you sent him to be incarnate from the Virgin Mary, to be the Savior and Redeemer of the world. In him, you have delivered us from evil, and made us worthy to stand before you. In him, you have brought us out of error into truth, out of sin into righteousness, out of death into life.

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 of the new Covenant, which is shed for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me."

Therefore, according to his command, O Father,

**We remember his death,**

**We proclaim his resurrection,**

**We await his coming in glory;**

And we offer our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving to you, O Lord of all; presenting to you, from your creation, this bread and this wine.

We pray you, gracious God, to send your Holy Spirit upon these gifts that they may be the Sacrament of the Body of Christ and his Blood of the new Covenant.

Unite us to your Son in his sacrifice, that we may be acceptable through him, being sanctified by the Holy Spirit.

In the fullness of time, put all things in subjection under your Christ, and bring us to that heavenly country where, with all your saints, we may enter the everlasting heritage of your sons and daughters; through Jesus Christ our Lord, the firstborn of all creation, the head of the Church, and the author of our salvation.

By him, and with him, and in him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit all honor and glory is yours, Almighty Father, now and for ever. **AMEN.**

And now, as our Savior Christ has taught us, we are bold to say,  
**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.**

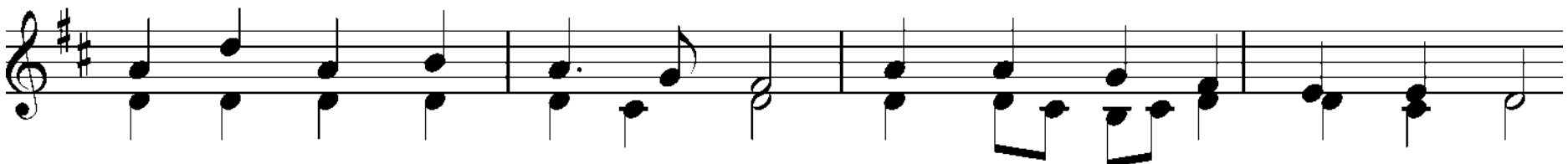
*The Celebrant breaks the consecrated Bread. A period of silence is kept.*

Alleluia. Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us;  
**Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia.**

The Gifts of God for the People of God.

*Jesus invites everyone to meet him here. If you would like to receive the bread or a blessing, please come forward. If you would prefer to have communion brought to you, please let one of the ushers know and we will bring it to you.*

**Communion Hymn** *At the Lambs High Feast We Sing* 1982 Hymnal #174



1 At the Lamb's high feast we sing praise to our vic - to - rious King,  
2 Where the Pas - chal blood is poured, death's dark an - gel sheathes his sword;  
3 Might - y vic - tim from on high, hell's fierce powers be - neath thee lie;  
4 Eas - ter tri - umph, Eas - ter joy, these a - lone do sin de - stroy.



who hath washed us in the tide flow - ing from his pierc - ed side;  
Is - rael's hosts tri - um - phant go through the wave that drowns the foe.  
thou hast con - quered in the fight, thou hast brought us life and light:  
From sin's power do thou set free souls new - born, O Lord, in thee.



praise we him, whose love di - vine gives his sa - cred Blood for wine,  
Praise we Christ, whose blood was shed, Pas - chal vic - tim, Pas - chal bread;  
now no more can death ap - pall, now no more the grave en - thrall;  
Hymns of glo - ry, songs of praise, Fa - ther, un - to thee we raise:



gives his Bo - dy for the feast, Christ the vic - tim, Christ the priest.  
with sin - cer - i - ty and love eat we man - na from a - bove.  
thou hast o - pened par - a - dise, and in thee thy saints shall rise.  
ris - en Lord, all praise to thee with the Spi - rit ev - er be.



Opt. Hymn *Alleluia, Alleluia! Hearts and Voices Heavenward Raise* Hymnal #191



1 Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia! Hearts and voic - es heaven-ward raise:  
2 Now the i - ron bars are bro - ken, Christ from death to life is born,  
3 Christ is ris - en, Christ, the first-fruits of the ho - ly har - vest - field,  
4 Christ is ris - en, we are ris - en! Shed up - on us heaven - ly grace,  
5 Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia! Glo - ry be to God on high;

1 sing to God a hymn of glad-ness, sing to God a hymn of praise.  
2 glor - ious life, and life im - mor - tal, on his re - sur - rec - tion morn.  
3 which with all its full a - bun-dance at his sec - ond com - ing yield:  
4 rain and dew and gleams of glo - ry from the bright-ness of thy face;  
5 Al - le - lu - ia! to the Sa - vior who has won the vic - to - ry;

1 He, who on the cross a vic - tim, for the world's sal - va - tion bled,  
2 Christ has tri - umphed, and we con - quer by his might - y en - ter - prise:  
3 then the gold - en ears of har - vest will their heads be - fore him wave,  
4 that, with hearts in hea - ven dwell - ing, we on earth may fruit - ful be,  
5 Al - le - lu - ia! to the Spi - rit, fount of love and sanc - ti - ty:

1 Je - sus Christ, the King of glo - ry, now is ris - en from the dead.  
2 we with him to life e - ter - nal by his re - sur - rec - tion rise.  
3 ri - pened by his glo - rious sun - shine from the fur - rows of the grave.  
4 and by an - gel hands be gath - ered, and be ev - er, Lord, with thee.  
5 Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia! to the Tri - une Ma - jes - ty.

Prayer After Communion

Let us pray.  
Almighty and everliving God,  
we thank you for feeding us with the spiritual food  
of the most precious Body and Blood  
of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ;  
and for assuring us in these holy mysteries  
that we are living members of the Body of your Son,  
and heirs of your eternal kingdom.  
And now, Father, send us out  
to do the work you have given us to do,  
to love and serve you  
as faithful witnesses of Christ our Lord.  
To him, to you, and to the Holy Spirit,  
be honor and glory, now and for ever. Amen.

The Blessing

Musical notation for the hymn 'Christ is Alive!' in G major, 4/4 time. The melody is simple and hymn-like, with a key signature of one sharp (F#) and a common time signature of 4/4. The lyrics are printed below the notes, with five verses of text.

1 Christ is a - live! Let Chris - tians sing. His cross stands  
2 Christ is - a - live! No long - er bound to dis - tant  
3 Not throned a - bove, re - mote - ly high, un - touched, un -  
4 In ev - ery in - sult, rift, and war where co - lor,  
5 Christ is a - live! His Spi - rit burns through this and

1 emp - ty to the sky. Let streets and homes with  
2 years in Pal - es - tine, he comes to claim the  
3 moved by hu - man pains, but dai - ly, in the  
4 scorn or wealth di - vide, he suf - fers still, yet  
5 ev - ery fu - ture age, till all cre - a - tion

1 prais - es ring. His love in death shall nev - er die.  
2 here and now and con - quer ev - ery place and time.  
3 midst of life, our Sa - vior with the Fa - ther reigns.  
4 loves the more, and lives, though ev - er cru - ci - fied.  
5 lives and learns his joy, his jus - tice, love, and praise.

The Dismissal

Let us go forth in the name of Christ. Alleluia. Alleluia. Alleluia  
Thanks be to God. Alleluia. Alleluia. Alleluia

Postlude

New to All Angels? Welcome! Be sure to sign the guest registry in the lobby.



Flower Dedication

The flowers today are given by Ed & Ginny Upshaw,  
in celebration of their 11th Wedding Anniversary.  
"In as much as love grows in you, so in you beauty grows.  
For love is the beauty of the soul."

St. Augustine.



# Announcements

**Spring Fling!** Get your tickets for the Spring Fling, **April 20th at 5:30 in the Parish Hall.** \$30 is for Mission BBQ and beverages. If you are signed up and haven't paid, please put your checks or cash in envelope on Gallery Table or bring to the office today. Let's celebrate the wonderful season we have had!

**Gallery Artist** Our featured artist for April is Frances Powers. Please stop by and enjoy the work of this talented local artist. Checks should be written to All Angels by the Sea.

**Not in Our Town** Meeting at Temple Beth Israel, Monday, April 24th, 7:00 PM  
Register by April 21 to attend in person or to watch livestream:  
Call 941-383-3428 or e-mail [office@longboatkeytemple.org](mailto:office@longboatkeytemple.org)

**Birthdays & Anniversaries** If you have a birthday or anniversary coming up next month, please email Linn Torres at [lt@allangelslbk.org](mailto:lt@allangelslbk.org)

**Visit our Website** Video of Today's Service, Discussion Group Articles, Gallery Artist, and our weekly Tidings can all be found on our website: **[www.allangelslbk.org](http://www.allangelslbk.org)**.

## Today's presenters:

*8:00 am*

BJ Bishop— Chalice  
BJ Bishop— Lector and Prayers  
Dave Bishop— Usher

*10:00 am*

Ed Upshaw, Larry Elder — Chalice  
Terry Cobb — Lector  
Pam Toft — Prayers  
Philip Deming, Graham Toft — Ushers  
Ethan Marshall — Acolyte  
Elijah Marshall— A/V tech  
Scott Wuesthoff — Zoom host  
Gloria Detwiler — Altar Guild  
Pam Elder — Flowers  
Allen McGee, Pam Elder — Offering Counters  
Ed and Ginny Upshaw — Coffee Hour

David Stasney— Organist  
The Rev. Dave Marshall  
The Rev. Fred Emrich  
The Rev. Maggie Gat

## Vestry

Cathie Wilt, *Senior Warden*  
Brian Davis, *Junior Warden*  
Sandy Wood, *Treasurer*  
Barbara Pickrell  
Hank Kochan  
Cade Sibley  
Ginny Upshaw  
David Bishop  
Donna Smith  
  
The Rev. David J. Marshall, *Rector*

563 Bay Isles Road, Longboat Key, Florida  
The Rev. David J. Marshall  
941-383-8161  
[www.allangelslbk.org](http://www.allangelslbk.org).

Our mission is to bring the living Christ to those  
inside and outside the church.



## Reflection

### *Huckleberry*

I grew up hiking in the mountain ranges of the Pacific Northwest. Two of the best things about hiking involved drinking fresh, quick moving river water on a hot summer day and eating huckleberries. Once, in late August, when snowmelt is the lowest and rivers run slow or become non-existent, we hiked past two watering holes with no luck. We were getting worried we'd have to boil lake water or use horrible iodine tablets to make our water safe to drink. Luckily, around the next bend, we heard a life-giving rushing sound. We dropped our packs, grabbed our empty canteens, and bounded off trail, over rocks and fallen fir trees, in search of that which will hydrate us. When we got there, we stuck our faces right into the cold rushing stream and drank as much as we could. I have experienced no liquid more refreshing or delicious as that.

The other thing I would keep an eye out for were huckleberries. In particular, I would search for the Red Huckleberry which grows during the summer months in the Cascade Range between the elevations of 1,000 to 5,000 feet. If you are not familiar with it, like its cousin the blueberry, the wild huckleberry has a sweet ripe flavor, but is accentuated by a tart acidity. Its skin is notably thicker and the seeds give it an almost crunchy texture. Huckleberry enthusiasts describe the flavor as earthy and more intense than a blueberry. It can be used in exchange for blueberries in most recipes but add some huckleberries to a fresh caught salmon filet and you'll be in Northwest culinary heaven!

Wild huckleberries are a beneficial source of nutrients and other health compounds. They are the main source of food for various wildlife including deer, birds, and bears. It is estimated that up to 1/3 of a grizzly bear's sustenance comes from huckleberries. Humans can benefit from the huckleberry's abundant antioxidants and anti-aging properties that are said to help prevent inflammation and increase tissue strength. Huckleberries also contain a plant compound named arbutin that helps fight the bacteria that contribute to urinary tract and bladder infections – which is helpful when drinking river water. They also make great face paint and the dye is nearly impossible to get out of clothes (just ask my mom).

There is a mystery to the huckleberry's origin like the paradox of the chicken-and-the-egg. We tried to plant huckleberries around the camp but they all failed. The reason why is simple: the huckleberry seeds must be digested by a deer in order to plant, sprout and grow. The best way to find a huckleberry plant is to ask oneself where a deer would, well, poop in the woods. Find the deer's toilet and you'll find huckleberry plants. There is an old allegorical Pacific Northwest Indian tale about a boy who tried to train a deer to scat near where he lived. It didn't work because deer won't scat on command. (Similar to the phrase: you can bring a horse to water but can't make it drink)

The other Indian tale – edited for content in a church publication – goes something like this: no matter how bad the day, or how high the dung is piled, eventually there will be some fruit to glean from it. That saying may have something to do with this idiom: one man's trash is another's treasure.

I have never tasted a berry so delicious as that of a red huckleberry of the Cascades. Does it matter that a deer's digestive system was paramount in the experience; not to me. I also think that if the red huckleberry existed in the Mediterranean ecosystem of Roman-occupied Palestine in the 1<sup>st</sup> century, Jesus certainly would have come up with a parable about it. As it stands, however, we can learn from the indigenous peoples of the Northwest that everything in God's creation is important, even scat from a deer. Just imagine then, how important you and your life is to the Creator God and even in a scat-filled day, God can grow fruit from it.

- Rev. Dave