



The Third Sunday of Easter

April 26, 2020

Opening Hymn: *The strife is o'er, the battle won!* (lyrics and accompaniment on screen)

Celebrant: The Lord is risen

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

Christ our Passover (*Pascha nostrum*)

Celebrant and people

Alleluia.

Christ our Passover has been sacrificed for us; *

 therefore let us keep the feast,

Not with old leaven, the leaven of malice and evil, *

 but with the unleavened bread of sincerity and truth. Alleluia.

Christ being raised from the dead will never die again; *

 death no longer has dominion over him.

The death that he died, he died to sin, once for all; *

 but the life he lives, he lives to God.

So also consider yourselves dead to sin, *

 and alive to God in Jesus Christ our Lord. Alleluia.

Christ has been raised from the dead, *

 the first fruits of those who have fallen asleep.

For since by a man came death, *

 by a man has come also the resurrection of the dead.

For as in Adam all die, *

 so in Christ shall all be made alive. Alleluia.

The Collect of the Day

The Celebrant says to the people

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.

The Lessons

A Reading from the Books of the Early Church

Acts 2:14a, 36 - 41

Peter, standing with the eleven, raised his voice and addressed the crowd, “Let the entire house of Israel know with certainty that God has made him both Lord and Messiah, this Jesus whom you crucified.”

Now when they heard this, they were cut to the heart and said to Peter and to the other apostles, “Brothers, what should we do?” Peter said to them, “Repent, and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ so that your sins may be forgiven; and you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit. For the promise is for you, for your children, and for all who are far away, everyone whom the Lord our God calls to him.” And he testified with many other arguments and exhorted them, saying, “Save yourselves from this corrupt generation.” So those who welcomed his message were baptized, and that day about three thousand persons were added.

The Reader may say

This is the resurrection message
People God's spirit resists containment in tombs and walks among us.

Psalm 116: 1 – 3, 10 - 17

1 I love the Lord, because he has heard the voice of my supplication, *
because he has inclined his ear to me whenever I called upon him.

2 The cords of death entangled me;
the grip of the grave took hold of me; *
I came to grief and sorrow.

3 Then I called upon the Name of the Lord: *
"O Lord, I pray you, save my life."

10 How shall I repay the Lord *
for all the good things he has done for me?

11 I will lift up the cup of salvation *
and call upon the Name of the Lord.

12 I will fulfill my vows to the Lord *
in the presence of all his people.

13 Precious in the sight of the Lord *
is the death of his servants.

14 O Lord, I am your servant; *
I am your servant and the child of your handmaid;
you have freed me from my bonds.

15 I will offer you the sacrifice of thanksgiving *
and call upon the Name of the Lord.

16 I will fulfill my vows to the Lord *
in the presence of all his people,

17 In the courts of the Lord's house, *
in the midst of you, O Jerusalem.
Hallelujah!

A Reading from the Epistles of the Early Church

1 Peter 1: 17 - 23

If you invoke as Father the one who judges all people impartially according to their deeds, live in reverent fear during the time of your exile. You know that you were ransomed from the futile ways inherited from your ancestors, not with perishable things like silver or gold, but with the precious blood of Christ, like that of a lamb without defect or blemish. He was destined before the foundation of the world but was revealed at the end of the ages for your sake. Through him you have come to trust in God, who raised him from the dead and gave him glory, so that your faith and hope are set on God.

Now that you have purified your souls by your obedience to the truth so that you have genuine mutual love, love one another deeply from the heart. You have been born anew, not of perishable but of imperishable seed, through the living and enduring word of God.

The Reader may say

You sprinkle words of peace and hope upon us like flowers

People What are we still afraid of? You are with us.

Gradual *On the Road to Find Out* Yusef (lyrics and accompaniment on screen)

Then, all standing, the Deacon or a Priest reads the Gospel, first saying

The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Luke (24: 13 – 35)

People Glory to you, Lord Christ.

Now on that same day two of Jesus' disciples were going to a village called Emmaus, about seven miles from Jerusalem, and talking with each other about all these things that had happened. While they were talking and discussing, Jesus himself came near and went with them, but their eyes were kept from recognizing him. And he said to them, "What are you discussing with each other while you walk along?" They stood still, looking sad. Then one of them, whose name was Cleopas, answered him, "Are you the only stranger in Jerusalem who does not know the things that have taken place there in these days?" He asked them, "What things?" They replied, "The things about Jesus of Nazareth, who was a prophet mighty in deed and word before God and all the people, and how our chief priests and leaders handed him over to be condemned to death and crucified him. But we had hoped that he was the one to redeem Israel. Yes, and besides all this, it is now the third day since these things took place. Moreover, some women of our group astounded us. They were at the tomb early this morning, and when they did not find his body there, they came back and told us that they had indeed seen a vision of angels who said that he was alive. Some of those who were with us went to the tomb and found it just as the women had said; but they did not see him." Then he said to them, "Oh, how foolish you are, and how slow of heart to believe all that the prophets have declared! Was it not necessary that the Messiah should suffer these things and then enter into his glory?" Then beginning with Moses and all the prophets, he interpreted to them the things about himself in all the scriptures.

As they came near the village to which they were going, he walked ahead as if he were going on. But they urged him strongly, saying, "Stay with us, because it is almost evening and the day is now nearly over." So he went in to stay with them. When he was at the table with them, he took bread, blessed and broke it, and gave it to them.

Then their eyes were opened, and they recognized him; and he vanished from their sight. They said to each other, “Were not our hearts burning within us while he was talking to us on the road, while he was opening the scriptures to us?” That same hour they got up and returned to Jerusalem; and they found the eleven and their companions gathered together. They were saying, “The Lord has risen indeed, and he has appeared to Simon!” Then they told what had happened on the road, and how he had been made known to them in the breaking of the bread.

After the Gospel, the Reader says

The Gospel of the Lord.

People Praise to you, Lord Christ.

The Sermon

Rev. Ken Phelps, Jr.

An Easter Affirmation of Faith

Celebrant: We are not alone, we live in God's world.

People: We believe in God: Who has created and is creating,
Who has come in Jesus, The Word made flesh,
to reconcile and make new,

Who works in us and others by the Spirit.

We trust in God. We are called to be the Church:

To celebrate God's presence,

To love and to serve others,

To seek justice and resist evil,

To proclaim Jesus, crucified and risen, our judge and our hope.

In life, in death, in life beyond death, God is with us.

We are not alone. Thanks be to God.

The Prayers of the People

In this Eastertide we celebrate and proclaim the resurrection of Jesus and the triumph of Love, that all might trust in God, and in so doing, enjoy authentic life in his name. That everyone may experience the new life in Christ, even in the midst of the old life of fear and despair, let us pray for all God's people, and for all people everywhere according to their needs, saying: Lord, have mercy.

That amid all the fears which seize us on our road to becoming disciples, Christ's peace may unlock doors and be shared and experienced for the strengthening of faith, *Silence* let us pray to the Lord. Lord, have mercy.

That all who have come to new birth in holy baptism may live in peace with each other. Especially we pray for Michael, our Presiding Bishop; Eugene, our Bishop; and for our brothers and sisters who serve the Gospel at St Mary the Virgin, Baltimore; St Matthias', Baltimore; and, St Michael & All Angels, Baltimore. For Jane G. Mayrer, Nancy A. White, and T. Stewart Lucas. We pray for Ken and Lisa, our clergy. Kip, Patrick, Tom, Deb and Barbara, our Wardens, Steve, our Treasurer, our Vestry and other mission leaders. *Silence* let us pray to the Lord. Lord, have mercy

That those who guide the course of nations may be led to wise decisions and right actions for those whom they serve. Especially we pray for Donald, President of the United States, Larry, Governor of the State of Maryland, and all who serve us in our County and State *Silence* let us pray to the Lord. Lord, have mercy

That your peace may truly reign. We pray for those impacted by war everywhere, friend and foe alike; for the safe return of all those who stand in harm's way, especially those known to us, and for the triumph of reconciling love, *Silence* let us pray to the Lord. Lord, have mercy

That the sick, the infirm, and disturbed might experience the healing power of the Spirit of the risen Christ, especially those we now name before you

(Members are encouraged to pray silently or aloud for those known and unknown to our community. Names of those for whom our prayers have been asked may be found on the Prayer list at the end of the bulletin)

let us pray to the Lord. Lord, have mercy.

That all who have died in the faith, especially, Frances Jordan, Mary Bourdeau+, may serve as examples to us who continue in our pilgrimage on earth, Silence let us pray to the Lord. Lord, have mercy.

The celebrant continues

Lord, we do trust you and want to respond to your call. Help us in our moments of confusion and despair, and lead us into acts of kindness, compassion and reconciliation, for the sake of the one who died and lives again, even Jesus Christ, the first and the last, the living one, in whose name we pray. Amen.

The Peace

All stand. The Celebrant says to the people

The peace of the Lord be always with you.

And also with you.

People

Announcements

The Holy Communion

The Offertory There is a balm in Gilead Traditional (lyrics and accompaniment on screen)

The Great Thanksgiving

The Celebrant, whether bishop or priest, faces them and sings or says

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 God thanks and praise.*

The Celebrant continues

All thanks and praise are yours at all times and in all places, our true, loving and ever living God; through Jesus Christ, embodiment of your eternal Word. You laid the foundations of the world and enclosed the sea when it burst out from the womb; You brought forth all creatures of the earth and gave breath to humankind. Wondrous are you, Holy One of Blessing, all that you create stands as a sign of hope for our journey; and so as the morning stars sing your praises we join the heavenly beings and all creation as we shout with joy:

Celebrant and People

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.

Then the Celebrant continues

Glory and honor are yours, Creator of all, your Word has never been silent; you called a people to yourself, as a light to the nations, you delivered them from bondage and led them to a land of promise.

Of your grace, you sent Jesus to be among us, to share our life, to proclaim the coming of your holy reign and give himself for us, even offering his life. Through Jesus, you have freed us from the grip of sin, brought us into your life, reconciled us to you and each other, and restored us to the glory you intend for us.

We thank you that on the night before he died, Jesus took bread, and when he had given thanks to you, he broke it, gave it to his friends and said: "Take and eat, this is my Body, broken for you. Do this for the remembrance of me."

After supper Jesus took the cup of wine, said the blessing, gave it to his friends and said: "Drink this, all of you: this cup is the new Covenant in my Blood, poured out for you and for all for the forgiveness of sin. Do this for the remembrance of me."

And so, remembering the cross, the tomb, the resurrection and ascension, and longing for Christ's coming to us, and presenting to you these gifts your earth has formed and human hands have made, we acclaim you, O Christ:

Celebrant and People:

Dying, you destroyed our death.
Rising, you restored our life.
Christ Jesus, come in glory!

The Celebrant continues

Send your Holy Spirit upon us and upon these gifts of bread and wine that they may be to us the Body and Blood of your Christ. Grant that we, burning with your Spirit's power, may be a people of hope, justice and love. Giver of Life draw us together in the Body of Christ, and in the fullness of time gather us with all your blessed people into the joy of our true eternal home.

Through Christ and with Christ and in Christ, by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, we worship you our God and Creator in voices of unending praise. Amen.

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

People and Celebrant

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 Breaking of the Bread

Celebrant: We are one people; one body in Christ, for we eat of one
loaf and drink from one cup.

*People: Thank you, gracious God, for the food that makes us one with you,
and one with each other*

After Communion, the Celebrant says

Let us pray.

Celebrant and People

My Jesus, I believe that you are truly present in the Blessed Sacrament of the Altar. I love you above all things, and long for you in my soul. Since I cannot now receive you sacramentally, come at least spiritually into my heart. As though you have already come, I embrace you and unite myself entirely to you; never permit me to be separated from you. Amen.

Benediction

Closing Hymn *Come risen Lord, and be our guest* (lyrics and accompaniment on screen)

Dismissal