



The Fourth Sunday of Easter

May 3, 2020

Opening Hymn: TBD (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 Son Jesus is the good shepherd of your people: Grant that when we hear his voice we may know him who calls us each by name, and follow where he leads; who, with you and the Holy Spirit, lives and reigns, one God, for ever and ever. Amen.

The Lessons

A Reading from the Books of the Early Church

Acts 2: 42 - 47

They devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching and fellowship, to the breaking of bread and the prayers.

Awe came upon everyone because many wonders and signs were being done by the apostles. All who believed were together and had all things in common; they would sell their possessions and goods and distribute the proceeds to all, as any had need. Day by day, as they spent much time together in the temple, they broke bread at home and ate their food with glad and generous hearts, praising God and having the goodwill of all the people. And day by day the Lord added to their number those who were being saved.

The Reader may say

This is the resurrection message

People God's spirit resists containment in tombs and walks among us.

Psalm 23

1 The Lord is my shepherd; *

I shall not be in want.

2 He makes me lie down in green pastures *

and leads me beside still waters.

3 He revives my soul *

and guides me along right pathways for his Name's sake.

4 Though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death,

I shall fear no evil; *

for you are with me;

your rod and your staff, they comfort me.

5 You spread a table before me in the presence of those who trouble me; *

you have anointed my head with oil,

and my cup is running over.

6 Surely your goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life, *

and I will dwell in the house of the Lord for ever.

A Reading from the Epistles of the Early Church

1 Peter 2: 19 – 25

It is a credit to you if, being aware of God, you endure pain while suffering unjustly. If you endure when you are beaten for doing wrong, what credit is that? But if you endure when you do right and suffer for it, you have God's approval. For to this you have been called because Christ also suffered for you, leaving you an example, so that you should follow in his steps.

“He committed no sin,
and no deceit was found in his mouth.”

When he was abused, he did not return abuse; when he suffered, he did not threaten; but he entrusted himself to the one who judges justly. He himself bore our sins in his body on the cross, so that, free from sins, we might live for righteousness; by his wounds you have been healed. For you were going astray like sheep, but now you have returned to the shepherd and guardian of your souls.

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 TBD (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 John (10: 1 – 10)

People Glory to you, Lord Christ.

Jesus said, “Very truly, I tell you, anyone who does not enter the sheepfold by the gate but climbs in by another way is a thief and a bandit. The one who enters by the gate is the shepherd of the sheep. The gatekeeper opens

the gate for him, and the sheep hear his voice. He calls his own sheep by name and leads them out. When he has brought out all his own, he goes ahead of them, and the sheep follow him because they know his voice. They will not follow a stranger, but they will run from him because they do not know the voice of strangers.” Jesus used this figure of speech with them, but they did not understand what he was saying to them.

So again Jesus said to them, “Very truly, I tell you, I am the gate for the sheep. All who came before me are thieves and bandits; but the sheep did not listen to them. I am the gate. Whoever enters by me will be saved and will come in and go out and find pasture. The thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy. I came that they may have life and have it abundantly.”

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 Epiphany, Odenton; St Alban's, Glen Burnie; and, St Andrew's, Pasadena; and for Thomas W. Bauer, Richard A. Ginnever, and Paul D. Tunkle. 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, 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.

People And also with you.

Announcements

The Holy Communion

The Offertory TBD (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 *TBD* (lyrics and accompaniment on screen)

Dismissal