

**The Second Sunday of Easter**

**April 12, 2026**

**The Celebrant:** The Rev. Fr. Daren E. Evans

**Homilist:** The Rev. Patricia Downing

**Verger:** Karen Ragland

**Music Ministry:** St. Thomas Gospel Choir

\*\*\*\*\*

**Order of Service**

**The Prelude**

St. Thomas Music Ministry

**The Opening Hymn- “Down at the Cross”**

Lift Every Voice and Sing (LEVAS) #28

**1) Down at the cross where my Savior died.**

**Down where for cleansing from sin I cried;**

**there to my heart was the blood applied; Glory to His name.**

**Glory to His name. Glory to His name!**

**There to my heart was the blood applied. Glory to His name.**

**2) I am so wondrously saved from sin.**

**Jesus so sweetly abides within; there at the cross where He took me in;**

**Glory to His name. Glory to His name.**

**Glory to His name: There to my heart was**

**the blood applied. Glory to His name.**

**3) O precious fountain that saves from sin,**

**I am so glad I have entered in;**

**There Jesus saves me and keeps me clean; Glory**

**to His name. Glory to His name. Glory to His name.**

**4) Come to this fountain so rich and sweet;**

**Cast your poor soul at the Savior’s feet;**

**Plunge in today, and be made complete;**

**Glory to His name. Glory to His name. Glory to His name.**

**The Opening Salutation**

**The Celebrant:** Alleluia, Christ is Risen!

**The People:** “He is Risen indeed, Alleluia!”

**The Collect for Purity**

**Book of Common Prayer (BCP) Pg. 355**

**The 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 in excelsis**

**The Celebrant and The People**

**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 Proclamation of the Word

### The Collect of the Day

**The Celebrant:** The Lord be with you.

**The People:** And also, with you.

**The Celebrant:** 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**

### A Reading from the Acts of the Apostles.

Carolyn Summers

#### The First Reading: 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, handed over to you according to the definite plan and foreknowledge of God, you 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 Reader:** The Word of the Lord.

**The People:** Thanks be to God.

### Psalm 16

Caryn Rivers

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.**

**The Second Reading: 1 Peter 1:3-9**

Tyrone Keller

**A Reading from the Book of the Apostle Peter.**

Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ! By his great mercy he has given us a new birth into a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead, and into an inheritance that is imperishable, undefiled, and unfading, kept in heaven for you, who are being protected by the power of God through faith for a salvation ready to be revealed in the last time. In this you rejoice, even if now for a little while you have had to suffer various trials, so that the genuineness of your faith-- being more precious than gold that, though perishable, is tested by fire-- may be found to result in praise and glory and honor when Jesus Christ is revealed. Although you have not seen him, you love him; and even though you do not see him now, you believe in him and rejoice with an indescribable and glorious joy, for you are receiving the outcome of your faith, the salvation of your souls.

**The Reader:** The Word of the Lord.

**The People:** Thanks be to God.

**The Gradual Hymn- "Lift Him Up"**

LEVAS #159 (vv. 1-2)

**1) How to reach the masses, those of every birth,  
For an answer Jesus gave the key;  
"And I, if I be lifted up from the earth,  
Will draw all men unto Me." [Chorus]**

**Chorus: Lift Him up. Lift Him up.  
Still, He speaks from eternity  
and I, if I be lifted up from the earth,  
will draw all men unto me.**

**2) Oh! The world is hungry for the living bread,  
Lift the Savior up for them to see,  
Trust Him And do not doubt the words  
that He said, "I'll draw all men unto Me."**

**The Holy Gospel: John 20:19-31**

Fr. Daren Evans

**The Priest: The Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to John.**

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

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 Priest:** The Gospel of the Lord.

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

**The Homily Hymn- "Lift Him Up"**

LEVAS # 159 (vv. 3-4)

**3) Don't exalt the preacher, don't exalt the pew,  
Preach the gospel simple, full and free.  
Prove Him and you will find that promise is true,  
"I'll draw all men unto Me". [Chorus]**

**Chorus: Lift Him up. Lift Him up.  
Still, He speaks from eternity  
and I, if I be lifted up from the earth,  
will draw all men unto me.**

**4) Lift Him up by living as a Christian ought.  
Let the world in you the Savior see;  
Then all will gladly follow Him who once taught,  
"I'll draw all men unto Me." [Chorus]**

**The Homily  
The Call to Christian Discipleship**

The Rev. Patricia Downing  
The Celebrant

**The Nicene Creed  
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 worshipped 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**

Ed Geiger

Father, we pray for your holy Catholic Church;

**That we all may be one.**

Grant that every member of the Church may truly and humbly serve you;

**That your Name may be glorified by all people.**

We pray for all bishops, priests, and deacons;

**That they may be faithful ministers of your Word and Sacraments.**

We pray for all who govern and hold authority in the nations of the world;

**That there may be justice and peace on the earth.**

Give us grace to do your will in all that we undertake

**That our works may find favor in your sight.**

Have compassion on those who suffer from any grief or trouble

**That they may be delivered from their distress.**

Give to the departed eternal rest;

**Let light perpetual shine upon them.**

We praise you for your saints who have entered into joy

**May we also come to share in your heavenly kingdom.**

Let us pray for our own needs and those of others.

**The Concluding Collect**

The Celebrant

**The Confession**

BCP 360

**The Celebrant:** If we say that we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. But if we confess our sins, God, who is faithful and just, will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness. Let us kneel and confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

(Silence is kept)

**The Celebrant and The People:**

**Most merciful God, we confess that we have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done, and what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We are truly sorry and we humbly repent. For the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us and forgive us; that we may delight in your will and walk in your ways, to the glory of your Name. AMEN**

**The Absolution**

The Celebrant

Almighty God, have mercy on you, forgive you all your sins through our Lord, Jesus Christ, strengthen you in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep you in eternal life. **AMEN**

**The Peace**

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

**The People:** And also with you.

## The Holy Eucharist

### The Offertory Sentence and Offering

Offer your gift now via text : Text “AECST” to 73256

Or use the QR Code on page 1

### The Offertory Musical Selection

St. Thomas Gospel Choir

#### The Great Thanksgiving

**The Celebrant: The Lord be with you.**

**The People:** And also with you.

**The Celebrant: Lift up your hearts.**

**The People:** We lift them to the Lord.

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

**The People:** 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.

For you are the source of light and life; you made us in your image and called us to new life in Jesus Christ our Lord.

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

#### The Sanctus

**The Celebrant and the 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.**

**The Celebrant:** Holy and gracious Father: In your infinite love you made us for yourself; and, when we had fallen into sin and become subject to evil and death, you in your mercy, sent Jesus Christ, your only and eternal Son, to share our human nature, to live and die as one of us, to reconcile us to you, the God and Father of all.

He stretched out his arms upon the cross, and offered himself in obedience to your will, a perfect sacrifice for the whole world.

On the night He was handed over to suffering and death, 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, we proclaim the mystery of faith:

**The Memorial Acclamation**

**Christ has died.**

**Christ is risen.**

**Christ will come again.**

**The Celebrant:** We celebrate the memorial of our redemption, O Father, in this sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving. Recalling his death, resurrection, and ascension, we offer these gifts.

Sanctify them by your Holy Spirit to be for your people the Body and Blood of your Son, the holy food and drink of new and unending life in him. Sanctify us also that we may faithfully receive this holy Sacrament, and serve you in unity, constancy, and peace; and at the last day bring us with all your saints into the joy of your eternal kingdom.

All this we ask through your Son Jesus Christ. 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 forever. **AMEN**

### **The Lord's Prayer**

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

**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, forever and ever. AMEN**

### **The Breaking of the Bread**

**The Celebrant:** Alleluia, Christ our Passover is sacrificed.

**The People:** Therefore, let us keep the feast. Alleluia!

### **The Agnus Dei**

**The Celebrant:** Lamb of God who takes away the sins of the world.

**The People:** Have mercy upon us.

**The Celebrant:** Lamb of God who takes away the sins of the world.

**The People:** Have mercy upon us.

**The Celebrant:** Lamb of God who takes away the sins of the world.

**The People:** Grant us thy peace.

### **The Prayer of Humble Access**

**Let us pray:** We do not presume to come to this thy Table, O merciful Lord, trusting in our own righteousness, but in thy manifold and great mercies. We are not worthy so much as to gather up the crumbs under thy Table. But thou art the same Lord, whose property is always to have mercy; Grant us therefore, gracious Lord, so to eat the flesh of thy dear Son Jesus Christ, and to drink his blood, that our sinful bodies may be made clean by his body, and our souls washed through his most precious blood, and that we may evermore dwell in him, and he in us. **AMEN**

**The Celebrant:** The Gifts of God for the People of God. Take them in remembrance that Christ died for you, and feed on him in your hearts by faith, with thanksgiving.

### **The Distribution of Communion**

#### **The Post-Communion Prayer**

**The Celebrant and the People:**

**Eternal God, heavenly Father, you have graciously accepted us as living members of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ, and you have fed us with spiritual food in the Sacrament of his Body and Blood. Send us now into the world in peace and grant us strength and courage to love and serve you with gladness and singleness of heart; through Christ our Lord. AMEN**

#### **Sending Forth of the Lay Eucharistic Visitors**

**The Celebrant:** In the healing name of Jesus and with the compassionate embrace of this parish family, I send you forth bearing these Holy Gifts to those to whom you go today, so that they may share with us in the Communion of Christ's Body and Blood.

**The People:** We who are many are one body, and we all share one bread and one cup.

**The Announcements**  
**The Recognition of Visitors and Guests**  
**The Blessing of Birthdays, Anniversaries and Travel**

Richard Jones, Rector's Warden

**The Final Blessing / Benediction**

The Celebrant

**The Closing Hymn—"Jesus in the Morning"**

**1) Jesus, Jesus, Jesus in the morning, Jesus in the noontime,  
Jesus, Jesus, Jesus when the sun goes down.**

**2) Praise Him, Praise Him, Praise Him in the morning,  
Praise Him in the noontime, Praise Him, Praise Him  
Praise Him when the sun goes down**

**3) Love Him, Love Him, Love Him in the morning,  
Love Him in in the noontime, Love Him,  
Love Him, Love Him when the sun goes down.**

**4) Serve Him, Serve Him, Serve Him in the morning,  
Serve Him in the noontime, Serve Him, Serve Him,  
Serve Him when the sun goes down.**

**The Dismissal**

**The Blessing / Benediction**

During Sundays of Easter, the Celebrant will offer the Blessing with the Blessed Sacrament (The Body of Jesus). When the Monstrance is lifted, the practice of the church is to reverently make the sign of the Cross.