

Church of the Messiah
Woods Hole, Massachusetts

A Liturgy of Morning Prayer for the First Sunday of Easter
April 19, 2020

Prelude "Erstanden ist der heilige Christ" (BWV 628) by J.S. Bach

Welcome

Opening Hymn 193 "That Easter day with joy was bright" Puer nobis



1 That Eas - ter day with joy was bright, the
2 His ris - en flesh with ra - diance glowed; his
3 O Je - sus, King of gen - tle - ness, do
4 O Lord of all, with us a - bide in
5 All praise, O ris - en Lord, we give to



1 sun shone out with fair - er light, when, to their long - ing
2 wound - ed hands and feet he showed; those scars their sol - emn
3 thou thy - self our hearts pos - sess that we may give thee
4 this our joy - ful Eas - ter - tide; from ev - ery wea - pon
5 thee, who, dead, a - gain dost live; to God the Fa - ther



1 eyes re - stored, the a - pos - tles saw their ris - en Lord.
2 wit - ness gave that Christ was ris - en from the grave.
3 all our days the will - ing tri - bute of our praise.
4 death can wield thine own re - deemed for ev - er shield.
5 e - qual praise, and God the Ho - ly Ghost, we raise.

Opening Sentences

Alleluia! Christ is risen.
The Lord is risen indeed. Alleluia!

On this day the Lord has acted;
we will rejoice and be glad in it.

Christ our Passover

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.

Psalms 16

- ¹Protect me, O God, for I take refuge in you; *
I have said to the Lord, "You are my Lord,
my good above all other."
²All my delight is upon the godly that are in the land, *
upon those who are noble among the people.
³But those who run after other gods *
shall have their troubles multiplied.
⁴Their libations of blood I will not offer, *
nor take the names of their gods upon my lips.
⁵O LORD, you are my portion and my cup; *
it is you who uphold my lot.
⁶My boundaries enclose a pleasant land; *
indeed, I have a goodly heritage.
⁷I will bless the LORD who gives me counsel; *
my heart teaches me night after night.
⁸I have set the LORD always before me; *
because he is at my right hand I shall not fall.
⁹My heart, therefore, is glad, and my spirit rejoices; *
my body also shall rest in hope.

¹⁰For you will not abandon me to the grave, *
nor let your holy one see the Pit.
¹¹You will show me the path of life; *
in your presence there is fullness of joy,
and in your right hand are pleasures forevermore.

Song of Moses

I will sing to the Lord, for he is lofty and uplifted; *
the horse and its rider has he hurled into the sea.
The Lord is my strength and my refuge; *
the Lord has become my Savior.
This is my God and I will praise him, *
the God of my people and I will exalt him.
The Lord is a mighty warrior; *
Yahweh is his Name.
The chariots of Pharaoh and his army has he hurled into the sea; *
the finest of those who bear armor have been drowned in the Red Sea.
The fathomless deep has overwhelmed them; *
they sank into the depths like a stone.
Your right hand, O Lord, is glorious in might; *
your right hand, O Lord, has overthrown the enemy.

First Lesson Acts 2:14a, 22-32

Peter, standing with the eleven, raised his voice and addressed [the crowd], “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.’

Song of Moses (continued)

Who can be compared with you, O Lord, among the gods? *
who is like you, glorious in holiness,
awesome in renown, and worker of wonders?
You stretched forth your right hand; *
the earth swallowed them up.
With your constant love you led the people you redeemed; *
with your might you brought them in safety to
your holy dwelling.
You will bring them in and plant them *
on the mount of your possession,
The resting-place you have made for yourself, O Lord, *
the sanctuary, O Lord, that your hand has established.
The Lord shall reign *
forever and forever.

Second Reading

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 Prayers

The Lord's Prayer *(said by all – with microphones muted)*

Collect for the Day

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 Collect for Sundays

O God, you make us glad with the weekly remembrance of the glorious resurrection of your Son our Lord: Give us this day such blessing through our worship of you, that the week to come may be spent in your favor; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

A Prayer for this day

Eternal Father,
through the resurrection of your Son,
help us to face the future
with courage and assurance,
knowing that nothing in death or life
can ever separate us from your love.
This we ask through the same Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

- from *A New Zealand Prayer Book* (1988) p. 595

For the Absent

O God, whose fatherly care reaches to the uttermost parts of the earth: We pray that you graciously behold and bless those whom we love, now absent from us. Defend them from all dangers of soul and body; and grant that both they and we, drawing nearer to you, may be bound together by your love in the communion of your Holy Spirit, and in the fellowship of saints; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

A General Thanksgiving

Accept, O Lord, our thanks and praise for all that you have done for us. We thank you for the splendor of the whole creation, for the beauty of this world, for the wonder of life, and for the mystery of love.

We thank you for the blessing of family and friends, and for the loving care which surrounds us on every side.

We thank you for setting us at tasks which demand our best efforts, and for leading us to accomplishments which satisfy and delight us.

We thank you also for those disappointments and failures that lead us to acknowledge our dependence on you alone.

Above all, we thank you for your Son Jesus Christ; for the truth of his Word and the example of his life; for his steadfast obedience, by which he overcame temptation; for his dying, through which he overcame death; and for his rising to life again, in which we are raised to the life of your kingdom.

Grant us the gift of your Spirit, that we may know him and make him known; and through him, at all times and in all places, may give thanks to you in all things. *Amen.*

Concluding Sentences

Let us bless the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Sermon

The Rev. Deborah Warner

Offertory Sentences

Offertory Hymn 209 “We walk by faith, and not by sight”

St. Botolph

1 We walk by faith, and not by sight; no
 2 We may not touch his hands and side, nor
 3 Help then, O Lord, our un - be - lief; and
 4 that, when our life of faith is done, in

gra - cious words we hear from him who spoke as
 fol - low where he trod; but in his prom - ise
 may our faith a - bound, to call on you when
 realms of clear - er light we may be - hold you

none e'er spoke; but we be - lieve him near.
 we re - joice, and cry, "My Lord and God!"
 you are near, and seek where you are found:
 as you are, with full and end - less sight.

Litany

A Closing Prayer of Offering

Almighty God;
 you give seed for us to sow,
 and bread for us to eat;
 make us thankful for what we have received;
 make us rich to do those generous things
 which supply your people's needs;
 so all the world may give you thanks and glory.

source: *A New Zealand Prayer Book* (1988), page 141

A Prayer for Our Future

O God, Giver of all good gifts, we thank You for the grace of serving You by serving our neighbors. May our hearts be kind and generous. May our ministry be rooted in love and bold in imagination. Having transformed the Parish and Community Center, may our lives and the lives of all who join us, continue to be renewed by Your love and the power of the Spirit. Amen.

Benediction

Greeting

Hymn 182 "Christ is alive! Let Christians sing"

Truro

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.

Postlude

"Scherzo"

A. Corelli

Liturgical Leaders

Officiant and Preacher

The Rev. Deborah Warner

Organist

Brittany Lord

Musicians and Readers

Dicky Allison, Helen Gordon

Technology

Dicky Allison, Helen Gordon

Altar

The Altar Guild

Flowers

**Members of the Altar Guild
Terry Soares**