



**Welcome to St. Mark's Episcopal Church: A Community of Grace**  
**We embrace Christ, share the Gospel, and love like Jesus.**

Holy Eucharist + April 18, 2021 + Easter 3

On Facebook at 10 AM Click the link below to join the service:

Watch on YouTube - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=9UeCaM9xcpo> or Facebook - <https://www.facebook.com/saintmarksepiscopalparishupland/posts/3597029330364392>

Call in option: **+1.888.958.7272** - wait for prompt to enter code- **#736577939**

Worship is about re-connecting with the presence of God in Jesus Christ. Please engage as you are able and as fits your needs. Please pray and sing aloud. Please consider responding to the readings, announcements, and prayer requests. A special thank you for those who make our in-spirit worship possible. And for those who read, listen, view, like, comment, share and subscribe.

The season of Easter lasts through Pentecost Sunday (23 May 2021) and is also known as the Great Fifty Days. The season is marked with Alleluias, the Paschal Candle, a reading from the Acts of the Apostles, the colors white and gold, and, in certain communities, the omission of the confession. Seasonal highlights: Pentecost May 23 featuring different languages; Ascension Day May 13 featuring Beating of the Bounds; Mothers' Day May 9; Bishop's Visitation on St. Mark's Day April 25 (transferred); and Earth Day April 22.

Easter is about resurrection not just resuscitation. Let us be open to seeing, speaking, hearing, knowing, and doing things in new and different ways. To highlight this aspiration, we will be using a Thomas Merton prayer for the postcommunion prayer.

Welcome from the People - when able

Opening Voluntary

"Rejoice"

Peter Burkhardt

Welcome from the Rector

Opening Acclamation

**Reader 01:** Alleluia. Alleluia. Christ is risen. **Christ is risen indeed. Alleluia! Alleluia!**

Collect for Purity

**Reader 01:** **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.**

Opening Hymn

"Good Christians all rejoice and sing"verses 1,3,4 & 5

*Gelobt sei Gott*

Collect of the Day

**Reader 02:** 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.**

Lessons

*During the reading of the lessons, please be aware of a word, phrase, or image that grabs your attention. Please consider adding them in the comments.*

Acts 3:12-19

1 John 3:1-7

Luke 24:36b-48

Acts of the Apostles: What word, phrase, or image grabs your attention?

**Reader 03:** A reading from the Acts of the Apostles.

Peter addressed the people, "You Israelites, why do you wonder at this, or why do you stare at us, as though by our own power or piety we had made him walk? The God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob, the God of our ancestors has glorified his servant Jesus, whom you handed over and rejected in the presence of Pilate, though he had decided to release him. But you rejected the Holy and Righteous One and asked to have a murderer given to you, and you killed the Author of life, whom God raised from the dead. To this we are witnesses. And by faith in his name, his name itself has made this man strong, whom you see and know; and the faith that is through Jesus has given him this perfect health in the presence of all of you.

"And now, friends, I know that you acted in ignorance, as did also your rulers. In this way God fulfilled what he had foretold through all the prophets, that his Messiah would suffer. Repent therefore, and turn to God so that your sins may be wiped out."

Hear what the Spirit is saying to God's people.

**Thanks be to God.**

Epistle: What word, phrase, or image grabs your attention?

**Reader 04:** A reading from the first letter of John.

See what love the Father has given us, that we should be called children of God; and that is what we are. The reason the world does not know us is that it did not know him. Beloved, we are God's children now; what we will be has not yet been revealed. What we do know is this: when he is revealed, we will be like him, for we will see him as he is. And all who have this hope in him purify themselves, just as he is pure.

Everyone who commits sin is guilty of lawlessness; sin is lawlessness. You know that he was revealed to take away sins, and in him there is no sin. No one who abides in him sins; no one who sins has either seen him or known him. Little children, let no one deceive you. Everyone who does what is right is righteous, just as he is righteous.

Hear what the Spirit is saying to God's people.

**Thanks be to God.**

Gospel: What word, phrase, or image grabs your attention?

**Clergy 2:** The Holy Gospel of our Savior Jesus Christ according to Luke. **Glory to you, Lord Christ.**

Jesus himself stood among the disciples and said to them, "Peace be with you." They were startled and terrified, and thought that they were seeing a ghost. He said to them, "Why are you frightened, and why do doubts arise in your hearts? Look at my hands and my feet; see that it is I myself. Touch me and see; for a ghost does not have flesh and bones as you see that I have." And when he had said this, he showed them his hands and his feet. While in their joy they were disbelieving and still wondering, he said to them, "Have you anything here to eat?" They gave him a piece of broiled fish, and he took it and ate in their presence.

Then he said to them, "These are my words that I spoke to you while I was still with you—that everything written about me in the law of Moses, the prophets, and the psalms must be fulfilled." Then he opened their minds to understand the scriptures, and he said to them, "Thus it is written, that the Messiah is to suffer and to rise from the dead on the third day, and that repentance and forgiveness of sins is to be proclaimed in his name to all nations, beginning from Jerusalem. You are witnesses of these things.

The Gospel of our Savior. **Praise to you, Lord Christ.**

Sermon: What word, phrase, or image grabs your attention?

The Apostles' Creed: Presented by Special Guest Clergy

**I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth; I believe in Jesus Christ,**

his only Son, our Lord. He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit and born of the Virgin Mary. He suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried. He descended to the dead. On the third day he rose again. He ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again to judge the living and the dead. I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

Prayers of the People: Please add your prayers and petitions

Clergy 2: Living God, you restore the life of those in the grave: may we, and all the dead, experience resurrection and life everlasting. In the breaking of the bread, our eyes are opened to the presence of Christ, and in the opening of our lips we give thanks and intercession through our prayers, responding to each petition by saying, "Hear us, O risen Christ."

**Readers 05:** Author of life, help us to witness to the power of your Son's resurrection, that through our words and actions, others may come to know your gift of forgiveness and the power of eternal love that yields a perfect harvest; let us pray to the Lord. **Hear us, O risen Christ.**

Defender of our cause, strengthen our resolve to bring your hope to all parts of the world, and to the leaders of the nations give the wisdom to overcome barriers to peace and security; let us pray to the Lord. **Hear us, O risen Christ.**

Creator of the universe, inspire the people in our churches to imaginatively reach out in witness to those who have no understanding of the Christian faith, or who no longer take part in the fellowship of the baptized; let us pray to the Lord. **Hear us, O risen Christ.**

Divine presence, reveal your death, resurrection and coming again through the mystery of your body and blood, that we who know you in the breaking of the bread, may be spiritual food for those who do not know you; let us pray to the Lord. **Hear us, O risen Christ.**

Eternal one, be with those whose earthly life has run its course; may they and all the faithful departed, through your mercy, rest in peace; let us pray to the Lord. **Hear us, O risen Christ.**

God of our salvation, who took our place before the madding crowd, fill our hearts with gratitude and lift our voices with the song of thanksgiving; let us pray to the Lord. **Hear us, O risen Christ.**

As a people of repentance, forgiveness, and liberation, let us continue our prayers.

Concluding Collect

Confession & Absolution of Sin

*During the Great 50 days of Easter the confession of sin is omitted as a reminder that it is through God's grace that we are forgiven, not through our efforts at a complete or convincing confession.*

Peace: Please offer God's peace to those in person, in spirit, and in need

Clergy 1: The peace of Christ be always with you. **And also with you.**

Announcements: Please add announcements in the comments

Please visit our website for the latest: [www.stmarks-upland.org](http://www.stmarks-upland.org)

Offertory Sentence: Many thanks for all your contributions

**Reader 06:** Walk in love, as Christ loved us and gave himself for us, an offering and sacrifice to God. *Ephesians 5:2*

Introduction to Offertory Anthem/Hymn

Offertory Anthem/Hymn

"Come ye faithful, raise the strain" 199

*St. Kevin*

Doxology

*Clergy 1:* All things come of thee, O God. **And of Thine own have we given Thee.**

Sursum Corda

**Readers 07:**

God dwells in you. **And also in you.**

Lift up your hearts. **We lift them to our God.**

Let us give our thanks to God. **It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

Eucharistic Prayer for Easter by Kay Sylvester: Part 1

*Clergy 1:* Creator God, we see your handiwork in everything that is: every molecule and every galaxy displays your creating love. We thank you for the endless beauty and joy of your Creation. We thank you that, by your exquisite attention, you created life – all life, everywhere, from the one-celled water dwellers to the mighty elephants and whales. The majesty and delight of living things surrounds us, and we thank you that our lives are part of a radiant web of holy, interconnected breath and energy. Your divine life surrounds us and permeates us. We praise you in the song of all Creation:

Sanctus

**Reader 07:** Holy, holy, holy lord, God of power and might, heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest. Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest. Alleluia!

Eucharistic Prayer: Part 2

We acknowledge, O God, the many ways in which we fail to care for the world, and for each other. Though you teach us in the textbook of Creation, and invite us to listen to your law and hear your prophets, we have not heeded your love for us and your call to us.

In your good time, O God, you sent Jesus to share our nature and live our life. He brought healing and hope to those who suffer; he calmed the storm of our despair; he met our hunger with your abundance. Even so, we struggle to comprehend your kingdom of peace and limitless grace; so, on the very night before he died, we remember that Jesus kept the Passover with his friends. He took bread, gave you thanks, and shared it with them, saying, take and eat; this bread is my body, given to set you free. 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, saying, drink this, all of you; this is my blood of the everlasting promise, given to set you free. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me.

We remember the long night of his despair, when he prayed as his friends slept. Betrayed, denied, and abandoned, he was arrested and condemned to death. We remember that he did not fight; we remember that he did not flee; we remember that he was crucified and died. We remember that his story continues. With the women at the tomb and the frightened disciples, we proclaim the mystery of our Easter faith:

#### Memorial Acclamation

**Reader 07: Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.**

#### Eucharistic Prayer: Part 3

Gracious God, send your Spirit upon these gifts that your earth has given and human hands have made; let them be for us the Body and Blood of Christ, the holy food and drink of new and unending life. Give us, in this holy food, the courage to witness to the power of Resurrection to overcome despair, and to heal us. By your Holy Spirit, unite us into a community of faith and an outpost of your kingdom, where the powers of the world are overthrown by your perfect love.

By Christ, and with Christ, and in Christ, in the power of the Holy Spirit, we give you thanks, O God of grace and resurrection light, here and everywhere, now and forever. Alleluia! **Amen.**

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

#### Lord's Prayer

**Reader 08: 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.**

#### Breaking of the Bread

*Clergy 1: The consecrated Bread is broken. A period of silence is kept.*

#### Fraction

**Reader 09: God of promise, you have prepared a banquet for us.  
Happy are those who are called to the Supper of the Lamb.**

*Or this...*

**Reader 09: Alleluia. Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us;  
Therefore, let us keep the feast. Alleluia.**

### The Invitation

Clergy 1: No matter who you are, who you love, what you believe or have done, you are welcome to this Holy Communion – the Gifts of God for the people of God.

### Spiritual Communion Introduction

Clergy 2: A spiritual communion is a personal devotional that anyone can pray at any time to express their desire to receive Holy Communion at that moment, but in which circumstances impede them from actually receiving Holy Communion.

### Spiritual Communion Prayer: St. Alphonsus de Liguori, 1696-1787

**Reader 10:** 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.**

### Postcommunion Prayer for Eastertide: Thomas Merton

**Reader 11:** Gracious God, we have no idea where we are going. We do not see the road ahead of us. We cannot know for certain where it will end. Nor do we really know ourselves, and the fact that we think that we are following your will does not mean that we are actually doing so. But we believe that the desire to please you does in fact please you. And we hope we have that desire in all that we are doing. We hope that we will never do anything apart from that desire. And we know that if we do this you will lead us by the right road, though we may know nothing about it. Therefore, we will trust you always, though we may seem to be lost and in the shadow of death. We will not fear, for you are ever with us, and you will never leave us to face our perils alone. **Amen.**

### Introduction to Mission Hymn

#### Mission Hymn

"That Easter day with joy was bright" 193

*Puer nobis*

#### Blessing

Clergy 2: ...now and always. **Amen. Alleluia. Alleluia.**

#### Dismissal

Clergy 1: Let us bless the Lord. **Thanks be to God. Alleluia. Alleluia.**

#### Closing Voluntary

"The Power & the Glory"

Lani Smith