

THE SECOND SUNDAY OF EASTER

Sunday, April 19, 2020

Holy Eucharist at 11:00 AM

Worship with us at [facebook.com/stpaulsnorwalk/videos](https://www.facebook.com/stpaulsnorwalk/videos).

THE GATHERING RITE

Gathering Music *Erstanden ist der heil'ge Christ (Christ our Lord is Risen), BWV 628*
by Johann Sebastian Bach (1685-1750)

The Opening Acclamation

Celebrant: † Alleluia! Christ is risen!

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

All sing together the Song of Praise.

Song of Praise

Antiphon



This is the feast of vic - to - ry for our God.



Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!



Wor - thy is Christ, the Lamb who was slain, whose
Bless - ing, hon - or, glo - ry, and might be to



blood set us free to be peo - ple of God. [Ant.]
God and the Lamb for ev - er. A - men. [Ant.]

Final Antiphon



This is the feast of vic - to - ry for our God.



Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!

words: Revelation 5:12-13; adapt. John W. Arthur (1922-1980)

music: *Festival Canticle*, Richard Hillert (1923-2010)

words © 1978 *Lutheran Book of Worship*

music © 1975 Richard Hillert

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The Collect of the Day

Celebrant: The Lord be with you.

People: **And also with you.**

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.

All: **Amen.**

THE LITURGY OF THE WORD

The First Reading *Acts 2:14a,22-32*

Lector: A reading from the Acts of the Apostles.

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.”

Hear what the Spirit is saying to the people.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

The Response *at the direction of the Cantor*

Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

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The Gospel *John 20:19-31*

Celebrant: The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to John.

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

Celebrant: 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 Gospel of the Lord.

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

The Sermon *preached by Mother Louise Kalemkerian, Associate Priest*

A period of silent reflection follows the sermon.

The Creed

adapted from Douglas Gay

All: We Believe in Life.

We believe in the God of Life, the world maker, the star lighter, the sun shiner, the beauty maker; provoking the evolving cosmos from nothing but words of love. We believe in life.

We believe in the risen Jesus, the cross bearer, the hell-harrower, the death defier; embracing the resurrection of all as the first-born from death. We believe in life.

We believe in the life-giving Spirit, the breath bringer, the body lover, the Church birther; enabling communion with Jesus the Living One. We believe in life.

We believe in the God of Life: World-maker, cross-bearer, life-giver; Trinity of hope, leading creation to its liberation.

We believe in God.

The Prayers of the People

Intercessor: God of all blessings, source of all life, giver of all grace, we give you thanks and praise: God of abundance,

People: we thank you.

Intercessor: We thank you for life, and one more day to love; God of abundance,

People: we thank you.

Intercessor: For opportunity, and one more day to work for justice and peace; God of abundance,

People: we thank you.

Intercessor: For neighbors, and one more person to love and by whom to be loved; God of abundance,

People: we thank you.

Intercessor: For your grace, and one more experience of your presence; God of abundance,

People: we thank you.

Intercessor: For these, and all blessings, we give you thanks, eternal, loving God. God of abundance,

People: we thank you.

Intercessor: For what else shall we pray? Please name your own prayers in the place where you are.

Silence is kept.

Intercessor: Pray for those who are ill and those who care for them.

Pray for those who have died and those who mourn them.

For the healing you bring and the hope to which you call us: God of abundance,

People: we thank you.

Intercessor: Gathering all our prayers together, we pray in the words Jesus taught us:

All: Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your Name, your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins, as we forgive those who sin against us. Save us from the time of trial, and deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours, now and for ever. Amen.

Welcome and Announcements

THE LITURGY OF THE TABLE

Musical Offering at the Offertory *sung by the choir*

This joyful Eastertide,
away with sin and sorrow!
My Love, the Crucified,
has sprung to life this morrow.

*Had Christ, that once was slain,
not burst His three-day prison,
our faith had been in vain;
but now hath Christ arisen!*

My flesh in hope shall rest
and for a season slumber
till trump from east to west
shall wake the dead in number.

Death's flood has lost its chill
since Jesus crossed the river;
Lover of souls, from ill
my passing soul deliver.

words: George R. Woodward (1848-1934)
music: traditional Dutch carol; arr. Charles Wood (1866-1926)

The Great Thanksgiving

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 with the Eucharistic Prayer.

Holy God, we give you thanks for your image and very being, planted in our hearts, and for the knowledge, and faith, and immortality you have made known to us in Jesus your servant. **Glory to you for ever and ever.**

You are radiant in glory through all you have created, O God. You give us food and drink for our pleasure, and that we might give you thanks. You bless us now with spiritual food and drink, eternal life in Jesus your servant. **Glory to you for ever and ever.**

While Jesus sat at table with his friends, he took the bread, blessed it, broke it, and gave it to them, saying, "Take and eat; this is my Body, given for you. Whenever you eat it, you remember me."

As supper was ending, Jesus took the cup of wine. Again he gave thanks to you, gave it to his friends and said, "Drink this, all of you; this is my blood of the new creation, poured out for you and for all. Whenever you drink it, you remember me

Gathered now at your banquet O God, we offer our lives as thanks and praise. Remember us, your pilgrim people; deliver us from evil, and make us complete in your love. Gather us, like scattered grain growing on the hillsides, into your great harvest, that we may be made one in the wholeness of your love. **Glory to you for ever and ever. Amen.**

The Communion

During this season of gathering together virtually in the space of our homes, we take this moment to contemplate the sacrament of Christ's presence in the People of God. The Apostle Paul says, "we are all one body because we all share in the one bread" (1 Corinthians 10:17). It is true that when we share any meal in love, and the Eucharist is our especially focused way, we discern the Presence of Christ in and as the community of the beloved. This awareness is possible even at a distance. We are the Body of Christ, wherever we are.

As we open ourselves to that awareness, that spiritual communion, you may wish to pray the following prayer, adapted from the writings of Sr. Ilia Delio:

O God, we are united here as one in your transcendent power of love. From this center of goodness You appear to us now in a new way, a new light, a new understanding, a new power of friendship and unity. We receive this life from you; we share this life together. You appear in our midst as Life itself, and we rise up together beyond the resistant forces around us and within us. We receive you. This is the Body of Christ. Amen.

Musical Offering at the Communion *sung by the choir*

Quia vidisti me, Thoma, credidisti.
Beati qui non viderunt et crediderunt.
Alleluia.

*Because you have seen me, Thomas, you have believed.
Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have believed.
Alleluia.*

words: John 20:29
music: Luca Marenzio (1556-1599)

THE SENDING RITE

The Prayer after Communion

The Celebrant prays

Celebrant: Loving God, we give you thanks and praise, that when we were still far off you met us in your Son and brought us home. Dying and rising, he declared your love, gave us grace, and opened the gate of glory. May we who share Christ's body live his risen life; we who drink his cup bring life to others; we whom the Spirit lights give light to the world.

All: **Keep us firm in the hope that you have set before us, so that we and all your children shall be free, and the whole earth live to praise your name. Amen.**

The Blessing and Peace

The Celebrant blesses the People

The wonder and wildness of God, who shakes heaven and earth, whom death could not contain, who lives to disturb and heal us, bless you with power to go forth and proclaim the Gospel. **Amen.**

The Celebrant bids the People to share Christ's Peace with one another now, at the virtual coffee hour to follow, and by reaching out in the week to come.

THE WORSHIP IS OVER. THE SERVICE BEGINS.

Join us for **Coffee Hour** on Zoom! Click here: <https://zoom.us/j/95487513966>
To call in by phone, dial (415) 762-9988 and use meeting ID 954 8751 3966.

View our weekly announcements at stpaulsnorwalk.org/sundaymorning.

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GIVING TO ST. PAUL'S

Sharing in the work of St. Paul's expanding ministry is easy, and there are many ways to contribute. Financial giving is especially important during this time, as many of the church's costs are fixed, and expenses continue to come due. Grateful thanks for all generous contribution during this time.

You can:

- * **Mail a check** made payable to St. Paul's Episcopal Church: 60 East Avenue, Norwalk, CT 06851. Mail is being picked up regularly.
- * Mail in your **pledge envelope**.
- * **Give electronically** via bank or credit card: visit <http://www.stpaulsnorwalk.org/donate> to learn more.
- * **Text-to-Give**: simple and secure; text the amount of your donation to **855-934-1074**.

Please reach out to our Treasurer, Brad McKinney, at treasurer@stpaulsnorwalk.org with any questions or issues you may have. Thank you for your generous giving during this time.
