

ST. JOHN'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH, ESSEX



THE THIRD SUNDAY OF EASTER Holy Eucharist Rite II

SUNDAY, APRIL 18, 2021 | 11 AM

Welcome to St. John's this morning, either in person or online! We are thrilled to offer two services: 8:30 a.m. for in-person and 11 a.m. for in-person or YouTube. All music will be played and sung by the soloist(s) and organist at the 11 a.m. service. All who worship during the 11 a.m. service may hum, and those who would like to sing may do so as they watch online. Thank you for worshipping with us today!

THE GATHERING

Prelude

Manuel Piazza, Organist

All rise at the sound of the bell.

Hymn at the Entrance: Thine Is the Glory

Worship and Rejoice 310

**1 Thine is the glory, risen, conquering Son;
endless is the victory Thou o'er death hast won.
Angels in bright raiment rolled the stone away,
kept the folded grave-clothes where Thy body lay.**

Refrain:

**Thine is the glory, risen, conquering Son;
endless is the victory Thou o'er death hast won.**

**2 Lo, Jesus meets us, risen from the tomb.
Lovingly He greets us, scatters fear and gloom;
let His church with gladness hymns of triumph sing,
for her Lord now liveth; death hath lost its sting. [Refrain]**

**3 No more we doubt Thee, glorious Prince of life!!
Life is nought without Thee; aid us in our strife;
make us more than conquerors, through Thy deathless love;
bring us safe through Jordan to Thy home above. [Refrain]**

Words: Edmond L. Budry (1854-1932)
Music: G.F. Handel (1685-1759)

Presider Alleluia. Christ is risen.
People **The Lord is risen indeed. Alleluia.**

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.**

Gloria in excelsis

Hymnal S-280

**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 Holy Spirit,
in the glory of God the Father. Amen.**

The Collect of the Day

BCP p. 357

Presider The Lord be with you.
People **And also with you.**
Presider Let us pray.

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.**

THE LITURGY OF THE WORD

You may be seated

The First Lesson: Acts 3:12-19

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.”

Lector The Word of the Lord
People **Thanks be to God**

Psalm 4 *Cum invocarem*

BCP p. 587

**1 Answer me when I call, O God,
defender of my cause; *
you set me free when I am hard-pressed;
have mercy on me and hear my prayer.**

**2 "You mortals, how long will you
dishonor my glory; *
how long will you worship dumb idols
and run after false gods?"**

**3 Know that the Lord does wonders for
the faithful; *
when I call upon the Lord, he will hear
me.**

**4 Tremble, then, and do not sin; *
speak to your heart in silence upon your
bed.**

**5 Offer the appointed sacrifices *
and put your trust in the Lord.**

**6 Many are saying, "Oh, that we might
see better times!" *
Lift up the light of your countenance
upon us, O Lord.**

**7 You have put gladness in my heart, *
more than when grain and wine and oil
increase.**

**8 I lie down in peace; at once I fall
asleep; *
for only you, Lord, make me dwell in
safety.**

The Epistle: 1 John 3:1-7

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.

Lector The Word of the Lord
People **Thanks be to God**

1. Come, risen, Lord, and deign to be our guest;
nay, let us be thy guests; the feast is thine;
thyself at thine own board make manifest
in thine own Sacrament of Bread and Wine.

2. We meet, as in that upper room they met;
thou at the table, blessing, yet dost stand:
“This is my body”: so thou givest yet;
faith still receives the cup as from thy hand.

3. One body we, one Body who partake,
One Church united in communion blest;
One Name we bear, one Bread of life we break,
With all thy saints on earth and saints at rest.

4. One with each other, Lord, for one in thee,
who art one Savior and one living Head;
then open thou our eyes that we may see;
be known to us in breaking of the Bread.

Words: George Wallace Briggs (1875-1959), alt
Music: *Sursum Corda*, Alfred Morton Smith (1879-1971)

The Holy Gospel, *standing*

Luke 24:36b-48

Deacon The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Luke.
People **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.

Deacon The Gospel of the Lord.
People **Praise to you, Lord Christ.**

The Sermon

The Rev. Kate E. Wesch

The Nicene Creed, *standing*

BCP p. 358

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 worshiped 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.

Prayers of the People, *standing*.

Intercessor We pray to Jesus who is present with us to eternity.
Jesus, light of the world, bring the light and peace of your gospel to the nations.
Jesus, Lord of life,

People **In your mercy, hear us.**

Intercessor Jesus, bread of life, give food to the hungry and nourish us all with your word.
Jesus, Lord of life,

People **In your mercy, hear us.**

Intercessor Jesus, our way, our truth, our life, be with us and all who follow you in the way.
Deepen our appreciation of your truth and fill us with your life.
Jesus, Lord of life,

People **In your mercy, hear us.**

Intercessor Jesus, Good Shepherd who gave your life for the sheep, recover the straggler,
bind up the injured, strengthen the sick and lead the healthy and strong to new
pastures.

Jesus, Lord of life,
People **In your mercy, hear us.**

Intercessor We give you thanks for creating the diversity of humankind, including our sisters
and brothers of color and all races and all cultures and all nations; and we give
you thanks for calling us to be reconciled to one another. Your life is the source
of our healing, and you transform us from death to life. Continue to give us new
hearts and make us instruments of hope as we walk these days of economic
distress, and racial inequality.

Jesus, Lord of life,
People **In your mercy, hear us.**

Intercessor We pray for the safety of those from our parish who serve in the Armed Forces, especially Douglas Hamilton, Carl Heise, Molly Jane Fresher, Jon Hilzinger, Andy Morgado, Andrew Roemhild, Spencer Russo, and Brian Tewart.
Jesus, Lord of life,

People **In your mercy, hear us.**

Intercessor We pray for all who have been sickened and affected in any way by COVID-19 throughout our nation and world. And, we pray for our own needs and those of others, especially: Ginny Buracchi, Ed Burke, Helen Chatman, Connie Cliffe, Sandra and Tony Custodio, Roger Deakin, Betsy Godsman, Nancy Gould, Hannah Roemhild, Pam Ryan, John Schumacher, Dan Taylor-Stypa, Ginny Willetts, Chris Woodside, Amy Zdon and all on our Home Prayer list, and those we now name either silently or aloud.

Silence may be kept.

Jesus, Lord of life,

People **In your mercy, hear us.**

Intercessor We thank you Lord, for all the blessings of this life, especially for the work of our global ministry partners in Mozambique and the Diocese of Lebombo, for Bishop Carlos, Father David and the congregation of St. Bernard's, and Jose. We rejoice and pray for the work of Hospital Albert Schweitzer in Haiti.

We give thanks for the ongoing work of our local ministry partners: the Shoreline Soup Kitchen; Middlesex Habitat for Humanity; the Old Lyme VFW; and Sister Cities Essex Haiti. And for the ministries of A Sacred Place, Camp Washington, and the Incarnation Center.

The altar flowers are given today by the St. John's staff for Richard Lammlin in in thanksgiving and in honor of his birthday.

We rejoice in these abundant blessings and invite your thanksgivings either silently or aloud.

Silence may be kept.

Jesus, Lord of life,

People **In your mercy, hear us.**

Intercessor We pray for all who have died, that they may have a place in your eternal kingdom, and those we now name either silently or aloud.

Silence may be kept.

Jesus, Lord of life,

People **In your mercy, hear us.**

Presider Jesus, the resurrection and the life, we give you thanks for all who have lived and believed in you. Raise us with them to eternal life. **Amen.**

The Confession and Absolution, *kneeling*

Presider Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

Presider and People

**Most merciful God,
we confess that we have sinned against you
in thought, word, and deed,
by what we have done,
and by 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.**

Presider 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, *all standing*

Presider The peace of the risen Christ be always with you!

People **And also with you!**

Then the ministers and people may greet one another while remaining socially distanced and in their pews in the name of the Lord.

Welcome and Announcements

THE LITURGY OF THE TABLE

Offertory Sentence

Presider Return to the Lord your God, for God is gracious and merciful, slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love.

At the Offertory: A Gaelic Blessing

by John Rutter

The Great Thanksgiving: Eucharistic Prayer A, *all standing*

BCP p. 361

Presider The Lord be with you.

People **And also with you.**

Presider Lift up your hearts.

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

Presider Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

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. But chiefly are we bound to praise you for the glorious resurrection of your Son Jesus Christ our Lord, for he is the true Paschal Lamb, who was sacrificed for us, and has taken away the sin of the world. By his death he has destroyed death, and by his rising to life again he has won for us everlasting life. Therefore we praise you, joining our voices with Angels and Archangels and with all the company of heaven, who for ever sing this hymn to proclaim the glory of your Name:

Sanctus, sung by soloist(s); hummed by congregation at the 11 a.m.

Hymnal S-129

**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 people stand or kneel.

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 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:

Presider and People

**Christ has died.
Christ is risen.
Christ will come again.**

The Presider continues

We celebrate the memorial of our redemption, O Father, in this sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving. Recalling his death, resurrection, and ascension, we offer you 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 for ever. **AMEN.**

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

**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

The Presider breaks the consecrated Bread.

Presider Alleluia! Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us!
People **Therefore let us keep the feast! Alleluia!**

Fraction Anthem, sung by soloist(s); hummed by congregation at the 11 a.m. Hymnal S-163

**Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world:
have mercy on us.
Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world:
have mercy on us.
Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world:
grant us peace.**

The Invitation to Communion

Presider 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.

All seeking God are welcome at Christ's Table to receive contact-less Holy Communion or a blessing. You may also choose to remain in your seat during this time, praying the prayer for Spiritual Communion if that is what you are most comfortable with at this time.

For a blessing, place your hand across your chest. If you are unable to come forward, please ask an usher or someone nearby to request that communion be brought to you.

Prayer for Spiritual Communion

Reader Acknowledging that only some in our community are able to receive communion together and in recognition of those who are participating in this liturgy by way of the livestream, we now pray this prayer of spiritual communion.

My Jesus, I believe that you are truly present in the Blessed Sacrament of the Altar. I desire to offer you praise and thanksgiving as I proclaim your resurrection. I love you above all things, and long for you in my soul. Since I cannot receive you in the Sacrament of your Body and Blood, come spiritually into my heart. Cleanse and strengthen me with your grace, Lord Jesus, and let me never be separated from you. May I live in you, and you in me, in this life and in the life to come. Amen.

(From Washington National Cathedral; material adapted from Prayer of St. Alphonsus de Liguori (1696-1787), and A Prayer Book for the Armed Services, 2007.)

Communion Hymn: Come Away to the Skies

Hymnal 213

**1. Come away to the skies,
my beloved, arise
and rejoice in the day thou wast born;
on this festival day,
come exulting away,
and with singing to Zion return.**

**2. Now with singing and praise,
let us spend all the days,
by our heavenly Father bestowed,
while his grace we receive
from his bounty, and live
to the honor and glory of God.**

**3. For the glory we were
first created to share,
both the nature and kingdom divine!**

**Now created again
that our lives may remain,
throughout time and eternity thine.**

**4 We with thanks do approve
the design of that love
which hath joined us to Jesus' Name;
so united in heart,
let us nevermore part,
till we meet at the feast of the Lamb.**

**5 Hallelujah we sing,
to our Father and King,
and his rapturous praises, repeat:
to the Lamb that was slain,
hallelujah again,
sing, all heaven, and fall at his feet.**

Words: Charles Wesley (1707-1788)

Music: *Middlebury*, melody from *The Southern Harmony*; harm. Jack W. Burnam (b.1946)

Postcommunion Prayer

Presider Let us pray.

**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.**

The Blessing, *standing*

Let us depart from this place in peace, and as we go on our way, forget not the poor, pray for the sick, make no peace with oppression, and love one another in God as Christ has loved us, and the blessing of God Almighty; the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be with you now and always. **Amen.**

Postcommunion Hymn: Alleluia, Alleluia Hearts and Voices, *standing*

Hymnal 191

1. Alleluia, alleluia!

Hearts and voices heavenward raise:
sing to God a hymn of gladness,
sing to God a hymn of praise.
He, who on the cross a victim,
for the world's salvation bled,
Jesus Christ, the King of Glory,
now is risen from the dead.

2. Now the iron bars are broken,
Christ from death to life is born,
glorious life, and life immortal,
on his resurrection morn.
Christ has triumphed, and we conquer
by his mighty enterprise:
we with him to life eternal
by his resurrection rise.

3. Christ is risen, Christ the first-fruits
of the holy harvest field,
which will all its full abundance
at his second coming yield:

then the golden ears of harvest
will their heads before him wave,
ripened by his glorious sunshine,
from the furrows of the grave.

4. Christ is risen, we are risen!
Shed upon us heavenly grace,
rain, and dew, and gleams of glory
from the brightness of thy face;
that, with hearts in heaven dwelling,
we on earth may fruitful be,
and by angel hands be gathered,
and be ever, Lord, with thee.

5. Alleluia, alleluia!
Glory be to God on high;
Alleluia! to the Saviour,
who has won the victory;
Alleluia! to the Spirit,
fount of love and sanctity;
Alleluia, alleluia!
to the Triune Majesty.

Words: Christopher Wordsworth (1807-1885), alt.
Music: *Lux eoi*, Arthur Sullivan (1842-1900)

The Dismissal

Deacon Let us go forth into the world, rejoicing in the power of the Spirit. Alleluia, alleluia.

People **Thanks be to God. Alleluia, alleluia.**

Postlude

HOME PRAYER LIST

Please pray for all who have asked for our prayers: Fred Andrew, Kathy Arthur, Catherine and Nancy Bourassa, Virginia Buracchi, Ed Burke, Matheus Burke, Fena Calder and family, Helen Chatman, Connie Cliffe, Marion Cloonan, Sally Cody, Clio Coles, Maureen Cole, Tony and Sandra Custodio, Laurie Daniels, Roger Deakin, Terri and Tony Easter, Annie Eddy, Bill Eubelhoer, Eliot Field, Jill Furlan, Betsy Godsman, Nancy Gould, Anne Ide, Adele and Terry Jackson, Joan Jacobsen, Katrina Kujan, Deborah Knight, Elizabeth Lovell, Susan McCann, Joan and Bill McCann, Bonnie Mileski, Paul Mileski, Calvin Richardson, Hannah Roemhild, Ray and Pam Ryan, Margaret Sbriglio, John Schumacher, Dan Taylor-Stypa, Trudy and Donna Smith, Peter Taylor, Ken Way, Sean and Jessica Wheeldon, Mary Whitehurst, Ginny Willetts, Chris Woodside, Amy Zdon.

SERVING TODAY 11 AM: Organist: Manuel Piazza, Soloist: Phred Mileski, Checker/Usher/Greeter: Deb and Darrell Jones, Lector: Darrell Jones, Lector: Stephanie Patterson, Intercessor: Deb Swaney-Jones, Crucifer: Stephanie Patterson, Torch Bearers: Avery and Myles Wesch, Videographer: Ken Ewell, Altar Guild: Kirsten Wendell, Deacon: Geoffrey T. Smith, Preacher and Presider: The Rev. Kate E. Wesch

ST. JOHN'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH

CLERGY AND STAFF: The Rev. Kate E. Wesch, *The Rector*; The Rev. Geoffrey T. Smith, *Deacon*; The Rev. Dr. Carolyn J. Sharp, *Priest Affiliate*; Chelsea DiDonato, *Parish Administrator & Communications Director*; Darlene James, *Music Director*; Becky Honan, *Christian Education Director*; Allison Fresher, *Verger*; Richard Lammlin, *Verger*; Jeremy Worthley, *Interim Sexton*; Dayle Larson, *Bookkeeper*

VESTRY: Brian Fresher, *Warden*; Karen Kaestle, *Warden*; Anne Littlefield, *Vestry Clerk*; Howard Tuttle, *Treasurer*; Mary Bowers, Skip Fiorelli, Lee Gaby, Darrell Jones, Gregory Perruccio, Paulette Rider, Maggie Walden, Kirsten Wendell

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