



St. Alban's Episcopal Church * April 11, 2021

Our service follows Rite II from the Book of Common Prayer and the New Revised Standard Version of the Holy Bible. The 1982 Hymnal is our primary music source for this service. If you are a visitor, thank you for joining us for worship. As you prepare your hearts and minds for worship, please turnoff or silence all electronic devices.
May the peace of the Lord be always with you.

All hymns are sung only by Cantors Jan Heineman, Joe Stevens, Sally Carr and Jewell Halla.

Prelude Good Christians All **Martin**
 At the Lamb's High Feast **Held**

Processional Good Christians All, Rejoice **H205**

Celebrant: Alleluia. Christ is risen.
All: **The Lord is risen indeed. Alleluia.**

Celebrant: Almighty God, to you all hearts are open, all desires known, and from you no secrets are hidden. 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.

Cantors Gloria **S278**

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.

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, forever and ever. Amen.

THE PROCLAMATION OF THE WORD

The First Lesson: Acts 4:32-35

Lay Reader: A reading from the Book of Acts...
Now the whole group of those who believed were of

one heart and soul, and no one claimed private ownership of any possessions, but everything they owned was held in common. With great power the apostles gave their testimony to the resurrection of the Lord Jesus, and great grace was upon them all. There was not a needy person among them, for as many as owned lands or houses sold them and brought the proceeds of what was sold.

They laid it at the apostles' feet, and it was distributed to each as any had need...The Word of the Lord...

All: Thanks be to God.

Psalm 133

1. Oh, how good and pleasant it is, *
 when brethren dwell together in unity!
2. It is like fine oil upon the head *
 that runs down upon the beard,
3. Upon the beard of Aaron, *
 and runs down the collar of his robe.
4. It is like the dew of Hermon *
 that falls upon the hills of Zion.
5. For there the Lord has ordained the blessing: *
 life for evermore.

The Second Lesson: 1 John 1: 1 - 2:2

Lay Reader: A reading from the First Letter of John...

We declare to you what was from the beginning, what we have heard, what we have seen with our eyes, what we have looked at and touched with our hands, concerning the word of life-- this life was revealed, and we have seen it and testify to it, and declare to you the eternal life that was with the Father and was revealed to us-- we declare to you what we have seen and heard so that you also may have fellowship with us; and truly our fellowship is with the Father and with his Son Jesus Christ. We are writing these things so that our joy may be complete. This is the message we have heard from him and proclaim to you, that God is light and in him there is no darkness at all. If we say that we have fellowship with him while we are walking in darkness, we lie and do not do what is true; but if we walk in the light as he himself is in the light, we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus his Son cleanses us

from all sin. If we say that we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. If we confess our sins, he who is faithful and just will forgive us our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness. If we say that we have not sinned, we make him a liar, and his word is not in us.

My little children, I am writing these things to you so that you may not sin. But if anyone does sin, we have an advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ the righteous; and he is the atoning sacrifice for our sins, and not for ours only but also for the sins of the whole world...The Word of the Lord...

All: Thanks be to God.

Gospel Hymn We Walk by Faith H209

Gospel: 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 Gospel of the Lord...

All: Praise to you Lord Christ.

Sermon

The Rev. Dr. Gary Nicolosi

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.

Prayers of the People

Please continue to stand as you are able.

- Leader:** In peace, we pray to you, Lord God. For all people in their daily life and work;
- People:** For our families, friends, and neighbors, and for those who are alone.
- Leader:** For this community, the nation and the world;
- People:** For all who work for justice, freedom and peace.
- Leader:** For the just and proper use of your creation;
- People:** For the victims of hunger, fear, injustice and oppression.
- Leader:** For all who are in danger, sorrow, or any kind of trouble;
- People:** For those who minister to the sick, the friendless, and the needy.
- Leader:** For the peace and unity of the Church of God;
- People:** For all who proclaim the Gospel, and all who seek the Truth.
- Leader:** For Michael our Presiding Bishop, Jennifer

our Bishop, Debra our Deacon and for all bishops and other ministers;

People: For all who serve God in his Church.

Leader: For the special needs and concerns of this congregation, and especially in the calling of a new Vicar. Hear us, Lord;

People: For your mercy is great.

Leader: We thank you, Lord, for all the blessings of this life. *(The People may add their own thanksgivings.)*

We will exalt you, O God our King;

People: And praise your name for ever and ever.

Leader: We pray for all who have died, that they may have a place in your eternal kingdom.

(The People may add their own petitions.)

Lord, let your loving-kindness be upon them;

People: Who put their trust in you.

Leader: We pray to you also for the forgiveness of our sins.

All: Have mercy upon us, most merciful Father; in your compassion forgive us our sins, known and unknown, things done and undone; and so uphold us by your Spirit that we may live and serve you in newness of life, to the honor and glory of your Name; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Priest: Almighty God have mercy upon 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.

Priest: The peace of the Lord be always with you.

People: And also with you.

THE SERVICE OF THE TABLE

Offertory Sentence

Offertory That Easter Day With Joy H193

Eucharistic Prayer A BCP 361

Priest: The Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

Priest: Lift up your hearts.

People: We lift them to the Lord.

Priest: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People: It is right to give God thanks and praise.

The Celebrant proceeds:

It is a right and a good and a 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 forever sing this hymn to proclaim the glory of your Name:

Cantors	Sanctus	S128
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 continues:

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:

Christ has died.

Christ is risen.

Christ will come again.

The Celebrant 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 are yours, Almighty Father, now and forever. **Amen.**

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

All: 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 in to temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom and the power, and the glory, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

Priest: Alleluia. Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us;

People: Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia.

Priest: These are 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.

COMMUNION OF THE PEOPLE

Priest: The Body of Christ.
The bread of heaven.

Response: Amen.

Deacon: The Blood of Christ.
The cup of salvation.

Response: Amen.

Communion Hymn And Now, O Father, H337

CLOSING PRAYER

Priest: Let us pray.

All: 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 the 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 Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

THE BLESSING

The God of peace, who brought again from the dead our Lord Jesus Christ, that great shepherd of the sheep, through the blood of the eternal covenant, make you perfect in every good work to do his will, working in you that which is well-pleasing in his sight; and the blessing of God almighty, the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit, be upon you and remain with you always. **Amen.**

Closing Hymn Alleluia, Alleluia H178

Deacon: Alleluia, alleluia. Let us go forth in the name of Christ.

People: Thanks be to God. Alleluia, alleluia.

Postlude Celebration Callahan



Thank you for worshipping with us today.

