

PRINCE OF PEACE

"Peace be with you"

Luke 24.36b



Dare to Live with Wonder!

Easter Sunday April 18, 2021

Holy Communion in place

Prelude

Welcome

Sometimes we are unsure about our steps in this world. For the disciples, even “while in their joy” at seeing Jesus post-resurrection, they were still “disbelieving and wondering.” Even though we may not know our next steps, we can be sure about this: we are beloved children of God and so we look to the one in whose steps we follow — the resurrected Jesus.

Call to Worship: This is the call!

Face this new day, even when you aren't sure..

We lift up our heads to meet the day.

Get ready for life, for life is all around.

We fortify our hearts with compassion and action.

If rain still lingers, open the umbrellas of hope and set out anyway.

For we are called to live again!

Greeting

Christ is risen!

Christ is risen indeed!

Prayer

Holy One, Justice-Seeker, Lover of Creation! You are the restorer of life, the conqueror of all that is death-dealing in our hearts and in this world. Come with us, dazzle us with your brilliance, move us to wakefulness –so that we can be risen with Christ and in Christ. Be with us now, we pray.

Amen.

Time for Confession and Forgiveness

We confess this day that we have been slow to join with Jesus in the dance that brings life to all, brings love to all, brings sustenance to all. ‘

In silence, let us lift up our prayers of confession... *(a time of silence)*

Hear this good news!
God has loved you from the very beginning.
The invitation of Christ is never-ending:
New life in Christ is yours right now.
The Holy Spirit is transforming you and
In the name of Jesus Christ, you are forgiven!
In the name of Jesus Christ, you are forgiven!
Glory to God! Alleluia! Amen!

Prayer of the day

Holy and righteous God, you are the author of life, and you adopt us to be your children. Fill us with your words of life, that we may live as witnesses to the resurrection of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. This we ask in your name.

Amen.

The Word

Children's Moment

First Reading: Acts 3.12-19

¹²When Peter saw it, he 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? ¹³The 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. ¹⁴But you rejected the Holy and Righteous One and asked to have a murderer given to you, ¹⁵and you killed the Author of life, whom God raised from the dead. To this we are witnesses. ¹⁶And 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. ¹⁷"And now, friends, I know that you acted in ignorance, as did also your rulers. ¹⁸In this way God fulfilled what he had foretold through all the prophets, that his Messiah would suffer. ¹⁹Repent therefore, and turn to God so that your sins may be wiped out,

The word of the Lord: **Thanks be to God!**

Psalm 4

¹Answer me when I call, O God of my right!

You gave me room when I was in distress.

Be gracious to me, and hear my prayer.

²How long, you people, shall my honor suffer shame?

How long will you love vain words, and seek after lies? Selah

**³But know that the LORD has set apart the faithful for himself;
the LORD hears when I call to him.**

⁴When you are disturbed, do not sin;

ponder it on your beds, and be silent. Selah

⁵Offer right sacrifices, and put your trust in the LORD.

⁶There are many who say, "O that we might see some good!

Let the light of your face shine on us, O LORD!"

⁷You have put gladness in my heart

more than when their grain and wine abound.

⁸I will both lie down and sleep in peace;

for you alone, O LORD, make me lie down in safety.

Gospel Greeting (*sing it out!*):

Halle, halle, hallelu---jah! Halle, halle, hallelu---jah!

Halle, halle, hallelu---jah! Hallelujah, halle-lujah!

Gospel: Luke 24. 36b-48

³⁶While they were talking about this, Jesus himself stood among them and said to them, "Peace be with you." ³⁷They were startled and terrified, and thought that they were seeing a ghost. ³⁸He said to them, "Why are you frightened, and why do doubts arise in your hearts? ³⁹Look 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." ⁴⁰And when he had said this, he showed them his hands and his feet. ⁴¹While in their joy they were disbelieving and still wondering, he said to them, "Have you anything here to eat?" ⁴²They gave him a piece of broiled fish, ⁴³and he took it and ate in their presence. ⁴⁴Then 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." ⁴⁵Then he opened their minds to understand the scriptures, ⁴⁶and he said to them, "Thus it is written, that the Messiah is to suffer and to rise from the dead on the third day, ⁴⁷and that repentance and forgiveness of sins is to be proclaimed in his name to all nations, beginning from Jerusalem. ⁴⁸You are witnesses of these things.

The gospel of the Lord!

(Gospel response, sing it out!)

**Halle, halle, hallelu---jah! Halle, halle, hallelu---jah!
Halle, halle, hallelu---jah! Hallelujah, halle-lujah!**

Message

Hymn of the Day: “We Walk by Faith” 635 Shanti CM; Henry Alford 1810-71, alt;
Marty Haugen, b 1950; Music copyright 1984 GIA Publications, Inc

1. We walk by faith and not by sight with gracious words draw near,
O Christ, who spoke as none e'er spoke: “my peace be with you here.”

2. We may not touch your hands and side nor follow where you trod;
but in your promise we rejoice, and cry, “My Lord and God!”

3. Help then, O Lord, our unbelief nor may our faith abound
to call on you when you are near and seek where you are found.

4. For you, O resurrected Lord, are found in means divine:
Beneath the water and the word, beneath the bread and wine.

5. And when our life of faith is done, in realms of clearer light
May we behold you as you are, with full and endless sight.

Apostles Creed

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 into hell.

**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.

The Peace Announcements

Prayers of the Church

Alive in the risen Christ by the power of the Holy Spirit, we bring our prayers before God who promises to hear us and answer in steadfast love.

(A brief moment of silence)

Living God, in the midst of Easter joy we are still filled with questions and wondering. Open our hearts and minds as we encounter the scriptures, so that the church embodies repentance and forgiveness in the name of Jesus to all nations.

Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

Creating God, like a master artist you have fashioned the universe out of your love and delight. Heal your creation where it is in need of restoration. Provide all inhabitants of earth a peaceful and sustainable home.

Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

Healing God, you hear the cries of those in need and answer them in their distress. Grant to those who are sick and suffering your compassion and nurse them back to health and wholeness. Be close to the hearts of the lonely.

Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

Loving Parent, you have given us such love that we should be called the children of God. Reveal yourself to us so that we in this community of faith will become more and more like you in our mutual love and bold witness.

Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

In the hope of new life in Christ, we raise our prayers to you, trusting in your never-ending goodness and mercy; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

The Words of Institution The Lord's Prayer

Holy Communion

We who are many are one body as we share this one bread.
The gifts of God for the people of God!

Thanks be to God!

(We share in communion in place, during the meditation hymn)

The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace. **Amen.**

Prayer

Life-giving God, Christ has died and Christ is risen! You have fed us with your word and our hearts burn within us. Through this meal you have opened us to your presence. Now send us out to share the gifts of Easter with all in need, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen

Blessing

May the One who brought forth Jesus from the dead
raise you to new life, fill you with hope,
and turn your weeping into dancing.
May Almighty God, the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit
Bless you, now and forever. **Amen!**

Sending Hymn: “Christ is Alive, Let Christians Sing” 389 Brian a. Wren, b. 1936; T. Williams, Psalmodia Evangelica, 1789; 1975, rev. 1995 Hope Publishing Company; Truro LM

1. Christ is alive! Let Christians sing.
The cross stands empty to the sky.
Let streets and homes with praises ring.
Love, drowned in death, shall never die.

2. Christ is alive! No longer bound
To distant years in Palestine,
But saving, healing, here and now,
And touching ev’ry place and time.

3. In ev’ry insult, rift, and war,
Where color, scorn or wealth divide,
Christ suffers still, loves the more,
and lives, where e-ven hope has died.

4. Women and men in age and youth
Can feel the Spirit, hear the call,
And find the way, the life, the truth,
Revealed in Jesus, freed for all.

5. Christ is alive, and comes to bring
good news to this and ev’ry age,
til earth and sky and ocean ring
with joy, with justice, love and praise.

Dismissal

Go in peace. Share the good news! Alleluia!
Thanks be to God! Alleluia!

Postlude

Thanks for joining us!

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