

St. Paul's
Episcopal Church
Easter Day, April 4, 2021

9:00 a.m. Holy Eucharist, Rite II



This bulletin accompanies our service on the Zoom platform. To link to the service go to

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/647333282?pwd=WmtlR3ppamVET1dhNHxUOjVZUZmQT09>

or call 1-646-558-8656 (Meeting ID:647 333 282; passcode 173902).

Everything you need to participate is incorporated here. We encourage you to follow, say the responses, and allow yourself to be pulled closer to God.

Welcome.

We are delighted you are joining us for worship today.

We celebrate Easter with a festival service, including hymns and chanting. Christ is risen indeed!

As we gather, you are invited to center yourself and prepare for worship.

First, enjoy three deep breaths

- *The first one to help you fully arrive in your body,*
- *The second one to clear your mind so you may be present to yourself and others,*
- *The third one to open your heart and welcome the Holy Spirit to engage you*

Second, select one of these three entries into worship

Notice whichever one you feel drawn to... then do what you're invited to do with it

Are you hopeful today?

- *Pray a simple prayer of thanksgiving for the beacon of hope drawing you forward.*

Are you looking for light today?

- *Pray for the light of Christ to illumine you especially this morning, and also to illumine the world.*

Are you in need of joy this morning?

- *Pray that God would show you the simple, profound joys that surround you now.*

Third, be still until worship begins

Empty your hands,

Close your eyes,

Breathe deeply and slowly,

Empty your mind.

Let sounds pass by you.

Find interest only in silent waiting upon God.

Join in singing

Hymnal p. 207 Jesus Christ is risen today, Alleluia!

Easter Hymn

1. **Jesus Christ is risen today, Alleluia!
our triumphant holy day, Alleluia!
who did once, upon the cross, Alleluia!
suffer to redeem our loss, Alleluia!**

2. **Hymns of praise then let us sing, Alleluia!
unto Christ, our heavenly King, Alleluia!
who endured the cross and grave, Alleluia!
sinners to redeem and save, Alleluia!**

3. **But the pains which he endured, Alleluia!
our salvation have procured, Alleluia!
now above the sky he's king, Alleluia!
where the angels ever sing, Alleluia!**

The Celebrant says

Alleluia. Christ is risen.

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

The Celebrant says the Collect for Purity

The Book of Common Prayer (BCP) p. 355

All say the Gloria

**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.**

Collect of the Day

Celebrant The Lord be with you.

People **And also with you.**

Celebrant Let us pray.

Almighty God, who through your only-begotten Son Jesus Christ overcame death and opened to us the gate of everlasting life: Grant that we, who celebrate with joy the day of the Lord's resurrection, may be raised from the death of sin by your life-giving Spirit; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

A Reading from the Book of Acts*Acts 10:34-43*

Peter began to speak to Cornelius and the other Gentiles: "I truly understand that God shows no partiality, but in every nation anyone who fears him and does what is right is acceptable to him. You know the message he sent to the people of Israel, preaching peace by Jesus Christ—he is Lord of all. That message spread throughout Judea, beginning in Galilee after the baptism that John announced: how God anointed Jesus of Nazareth with the Holy Spirit and with power; how he went about doing good and healing all who were oppressed by the devil, for God was with him. We are witnesses to all that he did both in Judea and in Jerusalem. They put him to death by hanging him on a tree; but God raised him on the third day and allowed him to appear, not to all the people but to us who were chosen by God as witnesses, and who ate and drank with him after he rose from the dead. He commanded us to preach to the people and to testify that he is the one ordained by God as judge of the living and the dead. All the prophets testify about him that everyone who believes in him receives forgiveness of sins through his name."

The Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

Psalm 118:1-2, 14-24

BCP p. 760

Read by all

1 Give thanks to the LORD, for he is good;
his mercy endures forever.

2 Let Israel now proclaim,
"His mercy endures forever."

14 The LORD is my strength and my song,
and he has become my salvation.

15 There is a sound of exultation and victory
in the tents of the righteous:

16 "The right hand of the LORD has triumphed!
the right hand of the LORD is exalted!
the right hand of the LORD has triumphed!"

17 I shall not die, but live,
and declare the works of the LORD.

18 The LORD has punished me sorely,
but he did not hand me over to death.

19 Open for me the gates of righteousness;
I will enter them;

I will offer thanks to the LORD.

20 "This is the gate of the LORD;
he who is righteous may enter."

21 I will give thanks to you, for you answered me
and have become my salvation.

22 The same stone which the builders rejected
has become the chief cornerstone.

23 This is the LORD's doing,
and it is marvelous in our eyes.

24 On this day the LORD has acted;
we will rejoice and be glad in it.

A Reading from the First Letter of Paul to the Corinthians*1 Corinthians 15:1-11*

I would remind you, brothers and sisters, of the good news that I proclaimed to you, which you in turn received, in which also you stand, through which also you are being saved, if you hold firmly to the message that I proclaimed to you--unless you have come to believe in vain.

For I handed on to you as of first importance what I in turn had received: that Christ died for our sins in accordance with the scriptures, and that he was buried, and that he was raised on the third day in accordance with the scriptures, and that he appeared to Cephas, then to the twelve. Then he appeared to more than five hundred brothers and sisters at one time, most of whom are still alive, though some have died. Then he appeared to James, then to all the apostles. Last of all, as to one untimely born, he appeared also to me.

For I am the least of the apostles, unfit to be called an apostle, because I persecuted the church of God. But by the grace of God I am what I am, and his grace toward me has not been in vain. On the contrary, I worked harder than any of them--though it was not I, but the grace of God that is with me. Whether then it was I or they, so we proclaim and so you have come to believe.

The Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

Join in singing

Hymnal p. 179 "Welcome, happy morning!" age to age shall say

Fortunatus

1. **"Welcome, happy morning!" age to age shall say:
hell today is vanquished, heaven is won today!
Lo! the Dead is living, God for evermore!
Him their true Creator, all his works adore!**

Refrain: "Welcome, happy morning!" age to age shall say.

2. **Earth her joy confesses, clothing her for spring,
all fresh gifts returned with her returning King:
bloom in every meadow, leaves on every bough,
speak his sorrow ended, hail his triumph now. (Refrain)**
3. **Months in due succession, days of lengthening light,
hours and passing moments praise thee in their flight.
Brightness of the morning, sky and fields and sea,
Vanquisher of darkness, bring their praise to thee. (Refrain)**

A Reading from the Gospel of Mark

Mark 16:1-8

Gospeller The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Mark.

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

When the sabbath was over, Mary Magdalene, and Mary the mother of James, and Salome bought spices, so that they might go and anoint Jesus. And very early on the first day of the week, when the sun had risen, they went to the tomb. They had been saying to one another, "Who will roll away the stone for us from the entrance to the tomb?" When they looked up, they saw that the stone, which was very large, had already been rolled back. As they entered the tomb, they saw a young man, dressed in a white robe, sitting on the right side; and they were alarmed. But he said to them, "Do not be alarmed; you are looking for Jesus of Nazareth, who was crucified. He has been raised; he is not here. Look, there is the place they laid him. But go, tell his disciples and Peter that he is going ahead of you to Galilee; there you will see him, just as he told you." So they went out and fled from the tomb, for terror and amazement had seized them; and they said nothing to anyone, for they were afraid.

The Gospel of the Lord.

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

Sermon

The Rev. Sam Smith

Nicene Creed

BCP p. 358

All stand and together say

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 Form III

BCP p. 387

The Leader and People pray responsively.

Father, we pray for your holy catholic Church;

That we all may be one.

Grant that every member of the Church may truly and humbly serve you;

That your Name may be glorified by all people.

We pray for Doug, our Bishop; Michael, our Presiding Bishop; Sam, our Rector; Jane our Priest Associate; and for all bishops, priests, and deacons;

That they may be faithful ministers of your Word and Sacraments.

We pray for Donald, our President; Charlie, our Governor; and for all who govern and hold authority in the nations of the world;

That there may be justice and peace on the earth.

Give us grace to do your will in all that we undertake;

That our works may find favor in your sight.

We remember especially those on our parish prayer list. Have compassion on those who suffer from any grief or trouble;

That they may be delivered from their distress.

We remember those who have died, especially those we name now either silently or aloud. Give to the departed eternal rest;

Let light perpetual shine upon them.

We praise you for your saints who have entered into joy;

May we also come to share in your heavenly kingdom.

Let us pray for our own needs and those of others.

The Intercessor will offer various prayers on behalf of the community, after which others may add their own petitions and thanksgivings, either silently or aloud. The Celebrant then adds a concluding Collect.

The Peace

Celebrant The peace of the Lord be always with you.

People **And also with you.**

Then the ministers and the People greet one another in the name of the Lord.

The Celebrant continues

We acclaim you, holy Lord, glorious in power. Your mighty works reveal your wisdom and love. You formed us in your own image, giving the whole world into our care, so that, in obedience to you, our Creator, we might rule and serve all your creatures. When our disobedience took us far from you, you did not abandon us to the power of death. In your mercy you came to our help, so that in seeking you we might find you. Again and again you called us into covenant with you, and through the prophets you taught us to hope for salvation.

Father, you loved the world so much that in the fullness of time you sent your only Son to be our Savior. Incarnate by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, he lived as one of us, yet without sin. To the poor he proclaimed the good news of salvation; to prisoners, freedom; to the sorrowful, joy. To fulfill your purpose he gave himself up to death; and, rising from the grave, destroyed death, and made the whole creation new. And, that we might live no longer for ourselves, but for him who died and rose for us, he sent the Holy Spirit, his own first gift for those who believe, to complete his work in the world, and to bring to fulfillment the sanctification of all.

When the hour had come for him to be glorified by you, his heavenly Father, having loved his own who were in the world, he loved them to the end; at supper with them he 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."

Father, we now celebrate this memorial of our redemption. Recalling Christ's death and his descent among the dead, proclaiming his resurrection and ascension to your right hand, awaiting his coming in glory; and offering to you, from the gifts you have given us, this bread and this cup, we praise you and we bless you.

Celebrant and People

We praise you, we bless you, we give thanks to you, and we pray to you, Lord our God.

The Celebrant continues

Lord, we pray that in your goodness and mercy your Holy Spirit may descend upon us, and upon these gifts, sanctifying them and showing them to be holy gifts for your holy people, the bread of life and the cup of salvation, the Body and Blood of your Son Jesus Christ. Grant that all who share this bread and cup may become one body and one spirit, a living sacrifice in Christ, to the praise of your Name. And grant that we may find our inheritance with the Blessed Virgin Mary, with patriarchs, prophets, apostles, and martyrs, and all the saints who have found favor with you in ages past. We praise you in union with them and give you glory through your Son Jesus Christ our Lord.

Through Christ, and with Christ, and in Christ, all honor and glory are yours, Almighty God and Father, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, for ever and for ever.



Celebrant

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

People and Celebrant

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.

Breaking of the Bread

A period of silence is kept.

Celebrant Alleluia. Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us.

People **Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia.**

Celebrant The Gifts of God for the People of God.

After Communion, the Celebrant says

Let us pray.

Celebrant and People

BCP p. 365

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.

All stand for the

Blessing

The God of peace, who brought again from the dead our Lord Jesus Christ, the great Shepherd of the sheep, through the blood of the everlasting 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 among you, and remain with you always. **Amen.**

Join in singing

Hymnal p. 199 Come, ye faithful, raise the strain

St. Kevin

1. **Come, ye faithful, raise the strain
of triumphant gladness!
God hath brought his Israel
into joy from sadness:
loosed from Pharaoh's bitter yoke
Jacob's sons and daughters,
led them with unmoistened foot
through the Red Sea waters.**

2. **'Tis the spring of souls today:
Christ hath burst his prison,
and from three days' sleep in death
as a sun hath risen;
all the winter of our sins,
long and dark, is flying
from his light, to whom we give
laud and praise undying.**

3. **Now the queen of seasons, bright
with the day of splendor,
with the royal feast of feasts,
comes its joy to render;
comes to glad Jerusalem,
who with true affection
welcomes in unwearied strains
Jesus' resurrection.**

Sending Forth

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

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

+ + + + +

Following the service, please join us for a festive coffee hour.

Service Schedule

Sundays, 9:00 a.m. Holy Eucharist - online via Zoom

Wednesdays, 8:30 a.m. Morning Prayers - online via Zoom

For more information on connecting to worship, please visit our website: www.stpaulsstockbridge.org

Rector: The Rev. Samuel J. Smith, rector@stpaulsstockbridge.org

Father Sam's office hours are by appointment.

Please call the rectory: 298-7001.

Priest Associate: The Rev. Dr. Jane Tillman

Verger: Darryl Lafferty

Office Administrator: Gretchen Fairfield, office@stpaulsstockbridge.org

In this time of the pandemic Gretchen is not usually working in person in the office.

Call the church office or email and she will get back to you promptly.

Vestry

Sr. Warden: Matt Fillio, 822-3759

Jr. Warden: Jorja Marsden, 298-3945

Sebastian Bonner, *Clerk*; John Davies, *Treasurer*; Martha Bodine; Diane Dillon; Diana French; Christopher Johnson; Duncan Pollock; Tom Skakel; Carl Sprague

St. Paul's Children's Center: Lisa Kane, Director, 298-4639

St. Paul's Episcopal Church

29 Main Street, P.O. Box 704, Stockbridge, MA

413-298-4913 • office@stpaulsstockbridge.org

www.stpaulsstockbridge.org