# **CHURCH OF THE GOOD SHEPHERD (Episcopal)**

CARING COMMUNITY - ENGAGING OUTREACH - COMPELLING WORSHIP



# Third Sunday of Easter April 14, 2024 10:00am

# **Clergy and Staff**

Rector: The Rev. Eleanor A. Terry
Deacon: The Rev. Ken Schmidt
Pastoral Associate for Liturgy and Music: Ellen F. Oak
Church Administrator: Laura Brock

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Facebook: Church of the Good Shepherd, Acton (Episcopal)

# THE PREPARATION

**ORGAN PRELUDE** Fantasy on Old Hundredth by Austin C. Lovelace (1919-2010)

# PROCESSIONAL HYMN 180 (Blue Hymnal) He is Risen

# **WELCOME**

Priest: Alleluia! Christ is risen!

People: The Lord is risen indeed. Alleluia!

#### THANKSGIVING FOR BAPTISM

The priest addresses the people.

Joined to Christ in the waters of baptism, we are welcomed, restored, and supported as citizens of the new creation.

In mercy and might God has freed us from death and raised us with Jesus, the firstborn of the dead. In baptismal waters our old life is washed away, and in them we are born anew.

Priest: Let us pray,

Almighty God, we praise you for the gift of water that sustains life, and we praise you for the gift of new life in Jesus Christ. Shower us with your Spirit, and renew our lives with your forgiveness, grace, and love.

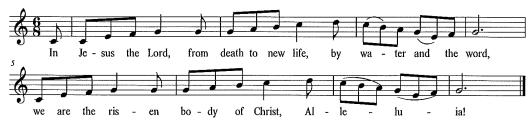
All: Amen.

# SONG OF PRAISE In Jesus the Lord

Words: Traditional Music: Ellen Oak

All sing the refrain. Choir sings the verses as the congregation is sprinkled with baptismal waters.

# Refrain:



Verses sung by choir:

1. I saw water flowing from the temple, Alleluia! It brought God's life and salvation, Alleluia! And all the people sang joyfully, Alleluia!

#### Refrain

2. The angel showed me the river of the water of life, Alleluia! Flowing from the throne of God and from the Lamb, Alleluia! Freely given to all who thirst, Alleluia!

#### Refrain

3. Springs of water, bless the Lord, Alleluia! Running fountains and rushing streams, Alleluia! Crashing waves and all oceans, Alleluia!

Refrain

#### **PEACE**

*Priest* Refreshed and renewed with the waters of baptism, let us greet one another. The peace of the risen Christ be with you always

People And also with you.

#### **PRAYER OF THE DAY**

*Priest* Let us pray together.

All 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

The assembly is seated.

#### FIRST READING: ACTS 3:12-19

A reading from the Acts of the Apostles.

<sup>12</sup>[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?<sup>13</sup>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. <sup>14</sup>But you rejected the Holy and Righteous One and asked to have a murderer given to you, <sup>15</sup>and you killed the Author of life, whom God raised from the dead. To this we are witnesses. <sup>16</sup>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.

<sup>17</sup> And now, friends, I know that you acted in ignorance, as did also your rulers. <sup>18</sup>In this way God fulfilled what he had foretold through all the prophets, that his Messiah would suffer. <sup>19</sup>Repent therefore, and turn to God so that your sins may be wiped out."

Word of God, word of life.

Thanks be to God.

#### **PSALM 4**

We will sing the psalm side to side by verse on one note, beginning with the piano side.

- 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 God does wonders for the faithful; \* when I call, God 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 Most High.
- 6 Many are saying, "Oh, that we might see better times!" \*
  Lift up the light of your countenance upon us, O God.
- 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, God, make me dwell in safety.

St. Helena Psalter

#### **SECOND READING: 1JOHN 3:1-7**

A Reading from first Letter of John.

<sup>1</sup>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. <sup>2</sup>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. <sup>3</sup>And all who have this hope in him purify themselves, just as he is pure.

<sup>4</sup>Everyone who commits sin is guilty of lawlessness; sin is lawlessness. <sup>5</sup>You know that he was revealed to take away sins, and in him there is no sin. <sup>6</sup>No one who abides in him sins; no one who sins has either seen him or known him. <sup>7</sup>Little children, let no one deceive you. Everyone who does what is right is righteous, just as he is righteous.

Word of God, word of life.

Thanks be to God.

#### **GOSPEL ACCLAMATION**

All sing the refrain. Choir sings the verse that follows, and all sing the refrain again.

Refrain:



Verse: My sheep hear my voice says the Lord; I know them and they follow me.

Words: Psalm 118

#### **GOSPEL: LUKE 24:36B-48**

The holy gospel according to Luke.

# Glory to you, O Lord.

<sup>36b</sup>Jesus stood among [the disciples] and said to them, "Peace be with you." <sup>37</sup>They were startled and terrified, and thought that they were seeing a ghost. <sup>38</sup>He said to them, "Why are you frightened, and why do doubts arise in your hearts? <sup>39</sup>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." <sup>40</sup>And when he had said this, he showed them his hands and his feet. <sup>41</sup>While in their joy they were disbelieving and still wondering, he said to them, "Have you anything here to eat?" <sup>42</sup>They gave him a piece of broiled fish, <sup>43</sup>and he took it and ate in their presence.

<sup>44</sup>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." <sup>45</sup>Then he opened their minds to understand the scriptures, <sup>46</sup>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, <sup>47</sup>and that repentance and forgiveness of sins is to be proclaimed in his name to all nations, beginning from Jerusalem. <sup>48</sup>You are witnesses of these things."

The gospel of the Lord. All sing Alleluia, as above.

#### **SERMON**

#### 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, was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the Virgin Mary and became truly human. 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, who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified, who 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**

You have no equal, God. We come before you humbled, asking for your healing presence. Heal us, raise us so that we may serve you.

We are amazed at your creative genius—how you have stretched the heavens like curtains, and yet you bend to be with us.

We are amazed, God. We raise our hearts in awe.

Our world and our lives are in need of healing and direction. We ask you to guide your church and heal it where it is worn out and self-centered. Direct those who lead the church: bishops, priests and deacons; all those in positions of leadership.

We ask for direction. Raise our hearts to you, God.

We ask you to heal the relationships between nations, and neighbors. Give the leaders of the nations the courage to pursue justice and speak peace as an example for the world.

# We ask for healing. Raise our hearts to you, God.

Many suffer from addiction, anxiety, and illness. We lift up in prayer all in need of healing. (Silence - during which we may offer the names for whom we pray) Break their chains which bind them and heal them, God. Surround them with supportive people, the resources they need, and a tangible sense of your love.

# We ask for healing. Raise our hearts to you, God.

We pray for those who have died, that they may know the fullness of your love in the life you have prepared for them. (Silence - during which we may offer the names of all who have died) We remember Tom Colbaugh, Walter John and Edward Spellman. Comfort those who grieve their loss and give them the confidence of your love which knows no limits of time or space.

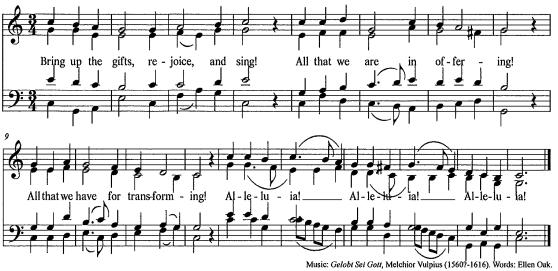
We ask for assurance of your love. Raise our hearts to you, God.

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#### **OFFERING**

#### Presentation

All stand. As we sing, the ushers bring forward the bread and wine..



Please be seated.

As the offertory anthem is sung, the ushers collect the people's offerings and the Table is prepared.

# **OFFERTORY ANTHEM Haec Dies**

Alleluia! Haec dies quam fecit Dominus. Alleluia! Exultemus et laetemur in ea. Alleluia!

Praise God! This is the day the Holy One made. Praise God! Let us exult and make merry in it. Praise God.

Psalm 118: 24. Music Gregorio Zucchini (c.1540-1616)

All stand.

As we sing, the ushers bring forward the people's offerings in support of our life and ministry.



#### **GREAT THANKSGIVING**

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

# The thanksgiving continues with the preface for the day or season:

It is indeed right, our duty and our joy, that we should at all times and in all places give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God, for the glorious resurrection of our Savior Jesus Christ, the true Paschal Lamb who gave himself to take away our sin; who in dying has destroyed death, and in rising has brought us to eternal life. And so, with Mary Magdalene and Peter and all the witnesses of the resurrection, with earth and sea and all their creatures, and with angels and archangels, cherubim and seraphim, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:



#### THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE

Blessed are you, O God of the universe. Your mercy is everlasting and your faithfulness endures from age to age.

Praise to you for creating the heavens and the earth.

Praise to you for saving the earth from the waters of the flood.

Praise to you for bringing the Israelites safely through the sea.

Praise to you for leading your people through the wilderness to the land of milk and honey.

Praise to you for the words and deeds of Jesus, your anointed one.

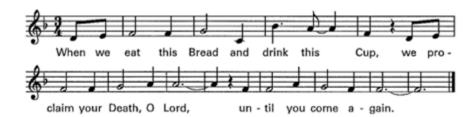
Praise to you for the death and resurrection of Christ.

Praise to you for your Spirit poured out on all nations.

In the night in which he was betrayed, our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks; broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying: Take and eat; this is my body, given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me.

Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it for all to drink, saying:
This cup is the new covenant in my blood, shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin.
Do this for the remembrance of me.

With this bread and cup we remember our Lord's passover from death to life as we proclaim the mystery of faith:



O God of resurrection and new life: Pour out your Holy Spirit on us and on these gifts of bread and wine.

Cantor Chants: Come, Holy Spirit.

All repeat: Come, Holy Spirit.

Bless this feast.

Grace our table with your presence.

Reveal yourself to us in the breaking of the bread.

Cantor Chants: Come, Holy Spirit.

All repeat: Come, Holy Spirit.

Raise us up as the body of Christ for the world. Breathe new life into us. Send us forth, burning with justice, peace, and love.

Cantor Chants: Come, Holy Spirit.

All repeat: Come, Holy Spirit.

With your holy ones of all times and places, with the earth and all its creatures, with sun and moon and stars, we praise you, O God, blessed and holy Trinity, now and forever.



#### **LORD'S PRAYER**

Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us.

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 forever. Amen.

FRACTION ANTHEM WLP 875 (Green Hymnal) Be Known to Us, Lord Jesus Refrain:



#### Verses:

The bread which we break, Alleluia, is the communion of the body of Christ. One body are we, Alleluia, for though many, we share one bread.

#### **INVITATION TO COMMUNION**

Deacon: Come to the banquet, for all is now ready.

The assembly may be seated.

All our siblings in Christ are warmly welcome to receive Communion. Gluten-free wafers are available upon request at the altar rail.

COMMUNION HYMN 306 (Blue Hymnal) Come, Risen Lord

COMMUNION HYMN WLP 783 (Green Hymnal) Heleluyan

# PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Let us pray.

All: Life-giving God, in the mystery of Christ's resurrection you send light to show us the way, water to give new life, and the bread of life to nourish your people. Send us out as witnesses to your Son's resurrection, that we may share your glory with all the world, through Jesus Christ, our risen Lord. Amen.

#### **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

# **BLESSING**

May God, who through the waters of baptism has raised us into new life with our Risen Christ, fill you with all joy and peace in believing.

And the blessing of God, Creator, Christ and Spirit be upon you this Easter Day and remain with you for ever. **Amen.** 

RECESSIONAL HYMN 376 (Blue Hymnal) Joyful, Joyful

#### **DISMISSAL**

Deacon: Go in peace. Share the good news. Alleluia! Alleluia!

All: Thanks be to God. Alleluia! Alleluia!

**POSTLUDE** *Triumphant Finale* by Thomas Bliss

Our liturgy in Lent and Eastertide comes from Evangelical Lutheran Worship,
Holy Communion Setting Nine. Since July 2000, the Episcopal Church and
the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America (ELCA) have been in Full Communion, allowing the
exchange of clergy, and working together for the
common mission of proclaiming and serving the Gospel of Jesus Christ.
We use this liturgy with the blessing of the
Rt. Rev. Alan Gates, Bishop, Episcopal Diocese of Massachusetts.



Please hold these people on our parish prayer list in prayer this week:

Malcolm Bryant, Lee Conley, Diane Cooke, Beverly Duncan, Dick Fedele, Barbara Geary, Daed Gharios, Bill Harland, David Hill, Ginny Huettner, Rev. Pete Jeffrey, Walter John, Denise Kelly, Iris Meltzer, Ed Moore, Jim Pender, Hector Pupo, Eleanore Recko, Bev Ridpath, Amie Saulnier, Lynn Shapiro, Sonia Stevenson and Maddie White.

Deceased – Tom Colbaugh, Walter John and Edward Spellman