

"Have you believed because you have seen me?
Blessed are those who have not seen
and yet have come to believe."

Episcopal Church of the Epiphany
Second Sunday of Easter
April 7, 2013, 10:30 am

John 20:29b

We worship during Easter according to the Holy Eucharist: Rite Two,
beginning on page 355 of the Book of Common Prayer.

The Liturgy of the Word

Processional Hymn: *Rejoice, the Lord is King*.....Leaflet

Alleluia. Christ is risen.

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.**

The people sing (found in the Hymnal at 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 the Holy Spirit,
in the glory of God the Father. Amen.**

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

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, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

The Lessons (the people sit)

The First Lesson – Acts 5:27-32

When the temple police had brought the apostles, they had
them stand before the council. The high priest questioned

them, saying, "We gave you strict orders not to teach in this
name, yet here you have filled Jerusalem with your teaching
and you are determined to bring this man's blood on us." But
Peter and the apostles answered, "We must obey God rather
than any human authority. The God of our ancestors raised
up Jesus, whom you had killed by hanging him on a tree.
God exalted him at his right hand as Leader and Savior that
he might give repentance to Israel and forgiveness of sins.
And we are witnesses to these things, and so is the Holy
Spirit whom God has given to those who obey him."

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

The Psalm – Psalm 150

Refrain:

**Let everything that has breath
praise the LORD. Hallelujah!**

Hallelujah! Praise God in his holy temple; *
praise him in the firmament of his power.

Praise him for his mighty acts; *
praise him for his excellent greatness.

Praise him with the blast of the ram's-horn; *
praise him with lyre and harp.

Praise him with timbrel and dance; *
praise him with strings and pipe.

Praise him with resounding cymbals; *
praise him with loud-clanging cymbals.

Let everything that has breath *
praise the LORD. Hallelujah!

Refrain:

**Let everything that has breath
praise the LORD. Hallelujah!**

The Epistle – Revelation 1:4-8

John to the seven churches that are in Asia: Grace to you
and peace from him who is and who was and who is to
come, and from the seven spirits who are before his throne,
and from Jesus Christ, the faithful witness, the firstborn of the
dead, and the ruler of the kings of the earth.

To him who loves us and freed us from our sins by his blood,
and made us to be a kingdom, priests serving his God and
Father, to him be glory and dominion forever and ever.
Amen.

Look! He is coming with the clouds; every eye will see him,
even those who pierced him; and on his account all the tribes
of the earth will wail. So it is to be. Amen. "I am the Alpha
and the Omega," says the Lord God, who is and who was
and who is to come, the Almighty.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

The Gospel Sequence – John 20:19-31 (the people stand)

Hymn: *We Walk By Faith, and Not By Sight*.....209
Verses 1-2

The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to John.
Glory to You, Lord Christ.

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.
Praise to You, Lord Christ.

Hymn: *We Walk By Faith, and Not By Sight*.....209
Verses 3-4

Sermon The Rev Charles Womelsdorf

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 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.**

The Prayers of the People (Form III, page 387 of the Book of Common Prayer)

Father, we pray for Saint Thomas, Birmingham; Saint Thomas, Huntsville; our companion diocese of Haiti and its bishops, Zaché and Ogé; the Task Force on the Stewardship of Creation; Community Garden (Auburn); the Community Market (Opelika); and 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 Justin, the Archbishop of Canterbury, and our Anglican Communion, for Katharine, our presiding bishop, for Kee and Santosh, our bishops, and for all bishops, priests, and deacons;

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

We pray for Barack, our President; for Robert, our governor; for Bobby, our mayor; 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.

Have compassion on those who suffer from any grief or trouble;

That they may be delivered from their distress.

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 **Lynda** Denton, **Dot** Harris, **Alice** Williams, **Charlotte** and **Lannon** Poole, **Pam** Harper, **Amber**, **Jared** and **Dezsel** Oliver (Kathy Haynie), **Brandon** Boland (Cathy

Jones), **Chris** Eady (Lynne Eady), **Lisa** Wallace (Laura Williams), **Jenna** Moates (Kelli Kerr), **John** Myer (Ann Easley, John and Kathy Haynie), **Ed** Clayton (Jean Kerr), **Billie** Wilkinson, **Lindsey** Burt (Eddie and Pam Harper), **Melinda** Henderson (Ann Easley), **Kathy** Brumbleloe (Ann Easley), **Lee** Musso (Cathy Jones), **Oletta** Goodwin, **Sherry** Gritz, (Arnold Bush), **Jackie** Henderson (Ann Easley), **Kyle** Pearson (Arnold Bush); and Susan (Eddie and Pam Harper).

Let us pray for our own needs and those of others.
The People may add their own petitions. The Celebrant may add a suitable Collect.

The Peace

The peace of the Lord be always with you.
And also with you.

Joys and Concerns of the Congregation

The Holy Communion

The Offertory Hymn

Give Thanks with a Grateful Heart.....SH-22

The Presentation

**Praise God from whom all blessings flow;
Praise him all creatures here below;
Praise him above, ye heavenly host;
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.**

The Great Thanksgiving

(Eucharistic Prayer D, BCP p 372)

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 him thanks and praise.

It is truly right to glorify you, Father, and to give you thanks; for you alone are God, living and true, dwelling in light inaccessible from before time and for ever.

Fountain of life and source of all goodness, you made all things and fill them with your blessing; you created them to rejoice in the splendor of your radiance.

Countless throngs of angels stand before you to serve you night and day; and, beholding the glory of your presence, they offer you unceasing praise. Joining with them, and giving voice to every creature under heaven, we acclaim you, and glorify your Name, as we sing,

The people sing (found in the Hymnal at 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

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.

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

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.

Remember, Lord, your one holy catholic and apostolic Church, redeemed by the blood of your Christ. Reveal its unity, guard its faith, and preserve it in peace.

Remember all who minister in your Church. Remember all your people, and those who seek your truth. Remember all who have died in the peace of Christ, and those whose faith is known to you alone; bring them into the place of eternal joy and light.

And grant that we may find our inheritance with the Blessed Virgin Mary, with patriarchs, prophets, apostles, and martyrs, and with 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 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 Celebrant breaks the consecrated Bread. A period of
silence is kept.*

Alleluia. Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us;
Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia.

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.

*The ministers receive the Sacrament in both kinds, and then
immediately deliver it to the people.*

Communion Hymn: *Let All Mortal Flesh Keep Silence...* 324

*After Communion, the people stand or kneel and the
Celebrant says*

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

Recessional Hymn (*the people stand*):

Alleluia, Alleluia, Give Thanks..... 178

Alleluia. Let us go forth in the name of Christ.

Thanks be to God. Alleluia. Alleluia.

We need chalice bearers! Have you longed to help serve communion? This is your chance! This is a (mostly) non-speaking servant's task that quietly glorifies God. In the next few weeks we will be training new chalice bearers, and we're holding a place for you. Contact Lee Borden, Tom Bray, or Laura Williams.

We are delighted to welcome our own Charles Womelsdorf back to serve as our supply priest today. Charles and Sarah are long-time friends of Epiphany; Charles is currently the associate priest at St. John's Episcopal, Montgomery.

Serving at Epiphany this week . . .

Ushers: Maurice and Debra McCord
Altar Guild: Betty Weldon and Pam Van Etten
Lay Reader: Betty Weldon

Chalice Bearer: Jere Van Etten
Refreshments: Laura Williams
Stewards: Jere and Pam Van Etten

and next . . .

Ushers: Eddie and Pam Harper
Altar Guild: Ann Easley and Laura Williams
Lay Reader: Lannon Poole

Chalice Bearer: Laura Williams
Refreshments: Betty Weldon
Steward: Ann Easley
