

Alleluia! Christ is risen!

Episcopal Church of the Epiphany
Easter Festival Eucharist
April 20, 2014, 10:30 am

We worship today according to the appointed order for Easter,
beginning on page 285 of the Book of Common Prayer.

The Liturgy of the Word

Processional Hymn: *Jesus Christ is Risen Today*.....207

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.**

Hymn: *Christ is Alive! Let Christians Sing*.....182

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

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.**

The Lessons (the people sit)

The First Lesson – Acts 10:34-43

Peter began to speak to the 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.

Thanks be to God.

The Psalm – Psalm 118:1-2, 14-24

Refrain:

**Give thanks to the LORD, for he is good;
his mercy endures for ever.**

Give thanks to the LORD, for he is good; *
his mercy endures for ever.

Let Israel now proclaim, *

"His mercy endures for ever."

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

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

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

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

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

Open for me the gates of righteousness; *
I will enter them;
I will offer thanks to the LORD.

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

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

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

This is the LORD'S doing, *
and it is marvelous in our eyes.

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

Refrain:

**Give thanks to the LORD, for he is good;
his mercy endures for ever.**

The Epistle – Colossians 3:1-4

If you have been raised with Christ, seek the things that are above, where Christ is, seated at the right hand of God. Set your minds on things that are above, not on things that are on earth, for you have died, and your life is hidden with Christ in God. When Christ who is your life is revealed, then you also will be revealed with him in glory.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

The Gospel Sequence – John 20:1-18 (the people stand)

Hymn: *Low in the Grave He Lay*

Low in the grave He lay - Jesus, my Savior!

Waiting the coming day - Jesus, my Lord!

Up from the grave He arose,

With a mighty triumph o'er his foes;

He arose a victor from the dark domain,

And He lives forever with His saints to reign.

He arose! He arose! Hallelujah! Christ arose!

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

Glory to You, Lord Christ.

Early on the first day of the week, while it was still dark, Mary Magdalene came to the tomb and saw that the stone had been removed from the tomb. So she ran and went to Simon Peter and the other disciple, the one whom Jesus loved, and said to them, "They have taken the Lord out of the tomb, and we do not know where they have laid him." Then Peter and the other disciple set out and went toward the tomb. The two were running together, but the other disciple outran Peter and reached the tomb first. He bent down to look in and saw the linen wrappings lying there, but he did not go in. Then Simon Peter came, following him, and went into the tomb. He saw the linen wrappings lying there, and the cloth that had been on Jesus' head, not lying with the linen wrappings but rolled up in a place by itself. Then the other disciple, who reached the tomb first, also went in, and he saw and believed; for as yet they did not understand the scripture, that he must rise from the dead. Then the disciples returned to their homes.

But Mary stood weeping outside the tomb. As she wept, she bent over to look into the tomb; and she saw two angels in white, sitting where the body of Jesus had been lying, one at the head and the other at the feet. They said to her, "Woman, why are you weeping?" She said to them, "They have taken away my Lord, and I do not know where they have laid him." When she had said this, she turned around and saw Jesus standing there, but she did not know that it was Jesus. Jesus said to her, "Woman, why are you weeping? Whom are you looking for?" Supposing him to be the gardener, she said to him, "Sir, if you have carried him away, tell me where you have laid him, and I will take him away." Jesus said to her, "Mary!" She turned and said to him in Hebrew, "Rabbouni!" (which means Teacher). Jesus said to her, "Do not hold on to me, because I have not yet ascended to the Father. But go to my brothers and say to them, 'I am ascending to my Father and your Father, to my God and your God.'" Mary Magdalene went and announced to the disciples, "I have seen the Lord"; and she told them that he had said these things to her.

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to You, Lord Christ.

Hymn: *Low in the Grave He Lay*

Death cannot keep his prey - Jesus, my Savior!

He tore the bars away - Jesus, my Lord!

**Up from the grave He arose,
With a mighty triumph o'er his foes;
He arose a victor from the dark domain,
And He lives forever with His saints to reign.
He arose! He arose! Hallelujah! Christ arose!**

Sermon

Father Wells

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 VI, page 392 of the Book of Common Prayer)

In peace, we pray to you, Lord God.

Silence.

For all people in their daily life and work;

**For our families, friends, and neighbors, and for
those who are alone.**

For this community, the nation, and the world;

For all who work for justice, freedom, and peace.

For the just and proper use of your creation;

**For the victims of hunger, fear, injustice, and
oppression.**

For all who are in danger, sorrow, or any kind of trouble;

**For those who minister to the sick, the friendless,
and the needy.**

For the peace and unity of the Church of God;

**For all who proclaim the Gospel, and all who seek
the Truth.**

For Justin, the Archbishop of Canterbury; for Katharine, our Presiding Bishop; for Kee and Santosh, our bishops; for Wells, our priest; and for all bishops and other ministers;
For all who serve God in his Church.

Let us pray for **Lynda** Denton, **Thurman** Harris, **Charlotte** and **Lannon** Poole, **Barbara** Trogdon, **Dezzel** Oliver (Kathy Haynie), **Billie** Wilkinson (Eddie and Pam Harper), **Lindsey** Burt (Eddie and Pam Harper), **Kathy** Brumbleloe (Jere and Pam Van Etten), **Sherry** Gritz (Jean Kerr), **Clifford** Flood (Jean Kerr), **Adam** Duroough (Kelli Kerr), **Sally** Kingsley (Hugh Thompson), **John** Graves (Betty Weldon), **Allison** Fogarty (Jimmy Weldon), **Ed** Clayton (Jean Kerr), **Kathy** DeArmond (Jean Kerr), **Phil** Gatusso (Jere Van Etten), **Charlene** Bates (Jean Kerr), **Mavilene** Prentice (Betty Weldon), **Virginia** Nordon (Betty Weldon), **David** Hodges (Amanda Borden), and the others we now name: (*the people here add their own petitions*).

For the special needs and concerns of this congregation.

Silence.

Hear us, Lord;

For your mercy is great.

We thank you, Lord, for all the blessings of this life.

Silence. The People may add their own thanksgivings.

We will exalt you, O God our King;

And praise your Name for ever and ever.

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

Silence. The People may add their own petitions.

Lord, let your loving-kindness be upon them;

Who put their trust in you.

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

Silence may be kept.

The Priest adds 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

He is Risen, He is Risen!.....180

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*)

(*Musical Responses in the Hymnal at S 120*)

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,

Sanctus: Holy, Holy, Holy, Lord.....S 128

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:

Come Ye Faithful, Raise the Strain.....199

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)

The Day of Resurrection.....210

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

Thanks be to God. Alleluia. Alleluia.

Easter lilies given by

Lee and Amanda Borden (2)

- in thanksgiving for Joe, Michelle, Smith, and Wallace Borden, Adrian Borden, and Norma Johnson
- in memory of John and Winifred Borden, Wallace and Julian Welch, and Harold Johnson

Hugh Thompson and Sharon Cleary (2)

- in memory of our parents Mary Helen and Hugh Thompson
- in memory of our parents Eleanor and Richard Cleary

The Bush family (Arnold, Stephen, Andrew, David, Margaret, and Elizabeth (2)

- in memory of our wife and mother Zoe Bush

An anonymous visitor (4)

- in honor of Betty Weldon

Laura Williams

- in honor of and thanksgiving for my family: Michael, Allen & Llwyd Williams

Jean Kerr (2)

- in memory of Paul Kerr
- in memory of Maldon and Warren Williamson

Jimmy and Betty Weldon (2)

- in honor of our many blessings at Epiphany
- in memory of all our loved ones no longer with us

Immediately after worship, we will all pose for a church picture and then enjoy refreshments in the Little House.

Serving at Epiphany today . . .

Ushers: Jimmy and Betty Weldon
Altar Guild: Elizabeth Harber
Lay Reader: Lavonne Hart

Lay Eucharistic Minister: Laura Williams
Refreshments: Pam Harper
Stewards: Laura and Michael Williams

and next . . .

Ushers: Jim and Kara Shea Davis
Altar Guild: Lavonne Hart
Lay Reader: Amanda Borden

Lay Eucharistic Minister: Tom Bray
Refreshments: Sharon Cleary
Stewards: Eddie and Pam Harper