

Reach out your hand and put it in my side.
Do not doubt but believe.

John 20:27b

Episcopal Church of the Epiphany
Second Sunday of Easter
Morning Prayer
April 19, 2020, 10:30 am

We worship today according to the appointed order for Morning Prayer, Rite Two, beginning on page 75
of the Book of Common Prayer and occasionally from *Enriching Our Worship*.
Congregational responses are in **boldface type**.

*We will observe silence together to prepare for worship, which begins with
the ringing of the bell.*

Alleluia! Christ is risen.

The Lord is risen indeed. Alleluia!

Lord, open our lips.

And our mouth shall proclaim your praise.

*We now turn off our webcams and microphones until just before the
concluding sentence at the end of the service.*

Gloria Patri and Alleluia

Jubilate – Psalm 100

Psalm 16

1 Protect me, O God, for I take refuge in you; *

**I have said to the Lord, "You are my Lord,
my good above all other."**

2 All my delight is upon the godly that are in the land, *
upon those who are noble among the people.

3 But those who run after other gods *
shall have their troubles multiplied.

4 Their libations of blood I will not offer, *
nor take the names of their gods upon my lips.

5 O LORD, you are my portion and my cup; *
it is you who uphold my lot.

6 My boundaries enclose a pleasant land; *
indeed, I have a goodly heritage.

7 I will bless the LORD who gives me counsel; *
my heart teaches me, night after night.

8 I have set the LORD always before me; *
because he is at my right hand I shall not fall.

9 My heart, therefore, is glad, and my spirit rejoices; *
my body also shall rest in hope.

10 For you will not abandon me to the grave, *
nor let your holy one see the Pit.

11 You will show me the path of life; *
**in your presence there is fullness of joy,
and in your right hand are pleasures for evermore.**

Gloria Patri

The Lessons

The First Lesson – Acts 2:14a,22-32

Peter, standing with the eleven, raised his voice and addressed the crowd, "You that are Israelites, listen to what I have to say: Jesus of Nazareth, a man attested to you by God with deeds of power, wonders, and signs that God did through him among you, as you yourselves know — this man, handed over to you according to the definite plan and foreknowledge of God, you crucified and killed by the hands of those outside the law. But God raised him up, having freed him from death, because it was impossible for him to be held in its power. For David says concerning him,

'I saw the Lord always before me,
for he is at my right hand so that I will not be shaken;

therefore my heart was glad, and my tongue rejoiced;
moreover my flesh will live in hope.

For you will not abandon my soul to Hades,
or let your Holy One experience corruption.

You have made known to me the ways of life;
you will make me full of gladness with your presence.'

"Fellow Israelites, I may say to you confidently of our ancestor David that he both died and was buried, and his tomb is with us to this day. Since he was a prophet, he knew that God had sworn with an oath to him that he would put one of his descendants on his throne. Foreseeing this, David spoke of the resurrection of the Messiah, saying,

'He was not abandoned to Hades,
nor did his flesh experience corruption.'

This Jesus God raised up, and of that all of us are witnesses."

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Canticle 17 – The Song of Simeon

Lord, you now have set your servant free *
to go in peace as you have promised;
For these eyes of mine have seen the Savior, *
whom you have prepared for all the world to see:
A Light to enlighten the nations, *
and the glory of your people Israel.

Gloria Patri

The Epistle Lesson - 1 Peter 1:3-9

Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ! By his great mercy he has given us a new birth into a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead, and into an inheritance that is imperishable, undefiled, and unfading, kept in heaven for you, who are being protected by the power of God through faith for a salvation ready to be revealed in the last time. In this you rejoice, even if now for a little while you have had to suffer various trials, so that the genuineness of your faith -- being more precious than gold that, though perishable, is tested by fire -- may be found to result in praise and glory and honor when Jesus Christ is revealed. Although you have not seen him, you love him; and even though you do not see him now, you believe in him and rejoice with an indescribable and glorious joy, for you are receiving the outcome of your faith, the salvation of your souls.

The word of the Lord
Thanks be to God

Canticle A – A Song of Wisdom

Wisdom freed from a nation of oppressors *
a holy people and a blameless race.
She entered the soul of a servant of the Lord, *
withstood dread rulers with wonders and signs.

To the saints she gave the reward of their labors, *
and led them by a marvelous way;

She was their shelter by day *
and a blaze of stars by night.

She brought them across the Red Sea, *
she led them through mighty waters;
But their enemies she swallowed in the waves *
and spewed them out from the depths of the abyss.

And then, Lord, the righteous sang hymns to your Name, *
and praised with one voice your protecting hand;
For Wisdom opened the mouths of the mute, *
and gave speech to the tongues of a new-born people.

The Gospel Lesson – John 20:19-31

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 Word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

Hymn: *Good Christians All, Rejoice and Sing*

Good Christians all, rejoice and sing!
Now is the triumph of our King!
To all the world glad news we bring:
Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!

To God the Father, God the Son,
To God the Spirit, always One,
We sing for life in us begun:
Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!

The 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 to the dead.
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 Prayers

The Lord be with you.
And also with you.
Let us pray.

**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 for ever. Amen.

Suffrages

Save your people, Lord, and bless your inheritance;
Govern and uphold them, now and always.
Day by day we bless you;
We praise your Name for ever.
Lord, keep us from all sin today;
Have mercy on us, Lord, have mercy.
Lord, show us your love and mercy;
For we put our trust in you.
In you, Lord, is our hope;
And we shall never hope in vain.

The Collect of the Day

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.**

A Collect for Our Current Struggle

Heavenly Father, giver of life and health, we know that you are present in the midst of this global pandemic. For its victims, around the world, please bring healing and wholeness. For the medical staff providing diagnosis and treatment, please bring strength, wisdom, and compassion. For leaders across the world, of our country, our state, and our communities, please bring wisdom, tenderness, and caring. For us, your children, we ask your protection and for clarity for our ministry during this difficult time. Be with us, dear Lord; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

A Collect for Our Parish

Lord of life, we ask your special blessing on Episcopal Church of the Epiphany, this tiny piece of your kingdom on earth, as we struggle to continue in the face of the disease racing across the world. Help us to cling fiercely to you and to each other, to remember the love that unites us, and to follow the example of Christ in caring for others. Strengthen us. Make us patient. Help us do what we must to stay healthy. Through your Son the Great Physician and our Savior. **Amen.**

A Collect for Sundays

O God, you make us glad with the weekly remembrance of the glorious resurrection of your Son our Lord: Give us this day such blessing through our worship of you, that the week to come may be spent in your favor; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

A Prayer for Mission

Almighty and everlasting God, by whose Spirit the whole body of your faithful people is governed and sanctified: Receive our supplications and prayers which we offer before you for all members of your holy Church, that in their vocation and ministry they may truly and devoutly serve you; through our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. **Amen.**

Hymn: *My Faith Looks Up to Thee*

**My faith looks up to thee, Thou Lamb of Calvary,
Savior Divine!
Now hear me while I pray, Take all my guilt away;
O let me from this day be wholly thine.**

**May thy rich grace impart strength to my fainting heart,
My zeal inspire;
As thou hast died for me, O may my love to thee
Pure, warm, and changeless be, a living fire.**

Intercessions and Thanksgiving

We pray for the souls of all those who have died from Covid-19, and all who have departed this life, including those we now name silently, aloud, or by chat.

Silence

In our parish we pray for those who are sick or recovering from illness, including **Micah Hart, Dennis Harper, Larry and Pat Sharpton, Troy Warlick, Dezel Oliver, Tom Haynie, Beth Hall, Maurice McCord, Sharon Browning, Julie Williams, George Rowell, Mike Dickey**, and the others we now name.

Silence

We pray now for these your children who came to our church yesterday to get food as part of Beans & Rice. *The lay reader reads the names.*

Silence

In the Diocesan Cycle of Prayer, we pray for our Companion Diocese of the Virgin Islands and its bishop, Ambrose. For El Hogar and Farm School, Honduras; St. Mark's, Birmingham; St. Mark's, Boligee; and St. Mark's, Prattville.

The General Thanksgiving

Almighty God, Father of all mercies, we your unworthy servants give you humble thanks for all your goodness and loving-kindness to us and to all whom you have made.

We bless you for our creation, preservation, and all the blessings of this life; but above all for your immeasurable love in the redemption of the world by our Lord Jesus Christ; for the means of grace, and for the hope of glory.

And, we pray, give us such an awareness of your mercies, that with truly thankful hearts we may show forth your praise, not only with our lips, but in our lives, by giving up our selves to your service, and by walking before you - in holiness and righteousness all our days.

Through Jesus Christ our Lord, to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit, be honor and glory throughout all ages. Amen.

We all now turn on our webcams and microphones for the concluding sentence and leave them on for the Joys and Concerns of the Congregation.

**Alleluia, Alleluia. Let us bless the Lord.
Thanks be to God. Alleluia, Alleluia.**

Joys and Concerns of the Congregation

Serving at Epiphany this week:

Officiant: Pam Van Etten
Lay Reader: Mike Rallo
Voice of the Congregation: Amanda Borden

And next:

Officiant: Lavonne Hart
Lay Reader: Kathy Haynie
Voice of Congregation: Lee Borden