



St. John's Episcopal Church

April 7th, 2024, 10:30am
The Second Sunday after Easter

Welcome to Our Guests

We are so glad you have chosen to worship at St. John's today. You are very welcome to receive Holy Communion if you have been baptized in any Christian Church. Those who wish not to receive Holy Communion may come to the altar rail, fold their arms across their chests, and receive a blessing from the priest. Children's activity bags are available in the back of the church.

HOLY EUCHARIST (RITE II)

THE PRELUDE *Noel: Offertoire sur les Grand Jeu on 'O Sons and Daughters'*
Jean-Francois Dandrieu

THE OPENING HYMN 203 *O sons and daughters, let us sing*

THE WORD OF GOD

p. 355

THE SALUTATION AND COLLECT FOR PURITY

Celebrant Alleluia. Christ is risen.

People **Christ is risen indeed. Alleluia.**

Celebrant 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 GLORIA

1. Glo-ry to God in the high-est, and
peace to his peo-ple on earth. 2. Lord God, heaven-ly King, al-
might-y God and Fa-ther, we wor-ship you, we give you thanks, we
praise you for your glo-ry. 3. Lord Je-sus Christ,
on-ly Son of the Fa-ther, Lord God, Lamb of God, 4. you
take a-way the sin of the world: have mer-cy on us;
5. you are seat-ed at the right hand of the Fa-ther: re-
ceive our prayer. 6. For
you a-lone are the Ho-ly One, you a-lone are the Lord,
7. you a-lone are the Most High, Je-sus Christ, with the
Ho-ly Spi-rit, in the glo-ry of
God the Fa-ther. A-men.

THE COLLECT OF THE DAY

Celebrant The Lord be with you.

People **And also with you.**

Celebrant 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

All sit.

THE FIRST LESSON: ACTS 4:32-35

Now the whole group of those who believed were of one heart and soul, and no one claimed private ownership of any possessions, but everything they owned was held in common. With great power the apostles gave their testimony to the resurrection of the Lord Jesus, and great grace was upon them all. There was not a needy person among them, for as many as owned lands or houses sold them and brought the proceeds of what was sold. They laid it at the apostles' feet, and it was distributed to each as any had need.

Reader The Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

THE RESPONSE: PSALM 133

Sung by the choir.

- 1 Oh, how good and pleasant it is, *
 when brethren live together in unity!
- 2 It is like fine oil upon the head *
 that runs down upon the beard,
- 3 Upon the beard of Aaron, *
 and runs down upon the collar of his robe.
- 4 It is like the dew of Hermon *
 that falls upon the hills of Zion.
- 5 For there the Lord has ordained the blessing: *
 life for evermore.

THE EPISTLE: 1 JOHN 1:1-2:2

We declare to you what was from the beginning, what we have heard, what we have seen with our eyes, what we have looked at and touched with our hands, concerning the word of life-- this life was revealed, and we have seen it and testify to it, and declare to you the eternal life that

was with the Father and was revealed to us-- we declare to you what we have seen and heard so that you also may have fellowship with us; and truly our fellowship is with the Father and with his Son Jesus Christ. We are writing these things so that our joy may be complete.

This is the message we have heard from him and proclaim to you, that God is light and in him there is no darkness at all. If we say that we have fellowship with him while we are walking in darkness, we lie and do not do what is true; but if we walk in the light as he himself is in the light, we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus his Son cleanses us from all sin. If we say that we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. If we confess our sins, he who is faithful and just will forgive us our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness. If we say that we have not sinned, we make him a liar, and his word is not in us.

My little children, I am writing these things to you so that you may not sin. But if anyone does sin, we have an advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ the righteous; and he is the atoning sacrifice for our sins, and not for ours only but also for the sins of the whole world.

Reader The Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

THE SEQUENCE HYMN 180 *He is risen*

THE GOSPEL: JOHN 20:19-31

All stand

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

People **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.

Priest The Gospel of the Lord.

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

THE SERMON The Rev. Dr. Duncan Johnston

All sit.

THE NICENE CREED

All stand.

The Celebrant and People say together

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)

All kneel as they are able.

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, Michael, our Presiding Bishop, Glenda and Brian our Bishops, and Duncan and Deonna our priests, and all bishops and other ministers; **For all who serve God in his Church.**

For the special needs and concerns of this congregation.

Silence (The People may add their own petitions.)

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

Priest and People

Have mercy upon us, most merciful Father; in your compassion forgive us our sins, known and unknown, things done and left undone; and so uphold us by your Spirit that we may live and serve you in newness of life, to the honor and glory of your Name; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Celebrant Almighty God have mercy on you, forgive you all your sins through our Lord Jesus Christ, strengthen you in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep you in eternal life. **Amen.**

The people stand to greet one another.

Celebrant The peace of the Lord be always with you.

People **And also with you.**

THE HOLY COMMUNION

The celebrant will say an offertory sentence. Please remain seated for the voluntary.

THE OFFERTORY VOLUNTARY

After the voluntary, the people stand to sing.

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

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING (PRAYER A)

All stand. p.361

Celebrant The Lord be with you.

People **And also with you.**

Celebrant Lift up your hearts.

People **We lift them up to the Lord.**

Celebrant Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People **It is right to give him thanks and praise.**

It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth, through Jesus Christ our Lord, but chiefly are we bound to praise you for the glorious resurrection of your Son Jesus Christ our Lord; for he is the true Paschal Lamb, who was sacrificed for us, and has taken away the sin of the world. By his death he has destroyed death, and by his rising to life again he has won for us everlasting life. Therefore, we praise you, joining our voices with Angels and Archangels and with all the company of heaven, who forever sing this hymn to proclaim the glory of your Name:

THE SANCTUS (S128)

The musical score is written on five staves of a single treble clef. The lyrics are: Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of power and might, heaven and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho-san-na in the high - est. Bless - ed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Ho-san-na in the high-est.

All kneel as they are able.

Holy and gracious Father: In your infinite love you made us for yourself, and, when we had fallen into sin and become subject to evil and death, you, in your mercy, sent Jesus Christ, your only and eternal Son, to share our human nature, to live and die as one of us, to reconcile us to you, the God and Father of all. He stretched out his arms upon the cross, and offered himself, in obedience to your will, a perfect sacrifice for the whole world.

On the night he was handed over to suffering and death, our Lord Jesus Christ 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."

Therefore we proclaim the mystery of faith:

Celebrant and People

Christ has died.

Christ is risen.

Christ will come again.

The Celebrant continues

We celebrate the memorial of our redemption, O Father, in this sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving. Recalling his death, resurrection, and ascension, we offer you these gifts. Sanctify them by your Holy Spirit to be for your people the Body and Blood of your Son, the holy food and drink of new and unending life in him. Sanctify us also that we may faithfully receive this holy Sacrament, and serve you in unity, constancy, and peace; and at the last day bring us with all your saints into the joy of your eternal kingdom.

All this we ask through your Son Jesus Christ: By him, and with him, and in him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit all honor and glory is yours, Almighty Father, now and for ever. **AMEN.**

THE LORD'S PRAYER

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, forever and ever. Amen.

THE BREAKING OF THE BREAD

Celebrant Alleluia. Christ our passover is sacrificed for us.

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

The Celebrant presents the holy gifts to the congregation saying

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.

At Communion the choir sings the 'Agnus Dei.'

The priest receives the Sacrament, and then serves the people with these words:

The Body of our Lord Jesus Christ keep you in everlasting life. **Amen.**

The Blood of our Lord Jesus Christ keep you in everlasting life. **Amen.**

Communion is offered in both kinds at the communion rail or station on the floor.

Communicants may receive the wine by intinction or by drinking directly from the cup.

THE POST-COMMUNION PRAYER

All kneel as they are able.

Celebrant Let us pray.

Almighty and everliving God, we thank you for feeding us with the spiritual food of the most precious Body and Blood of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ; and for assuring us in these holy mysteries that we are living members of the Body of your Son, and heirs of your eternal kingdom. And now, Father, send us out to do the work you have given us to do, to love and serve you as faithful witnesses of Christ our Lord. To him, to you, and to the Holy Spirit, be honor and glory, now and for ever. Amen.

THE BLESSING

All kneel as they are able.

The Celebrant blesses the people

May the peace of God, which passes all understanding, keep your heart and mind in the knowledge and love of God and of his Son Jesus Christ our Lord. And the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be upon you and remain with you for ever. **Amen.**

THE CLOSING HYMN 187 *Through the Red Sea brought at last*

THE DISMISSAL

Minister Go in peace to love and serve the Lord. Alleluia. Alleluia.

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

THE POSTLUDE *Tuba Tune*

C.S. Lang

TODAY'S SERVERS

Clergy: The Reverend Duncan Johnston, DMin

The Reverend Deonna D. Neal, PhD

Director of Children's Formation: Sarah Collier

Director of Youth Ministry: Connie Tapia

Acolytes: Bobby Bradford, Jeb Clark, Thomas Arrington, Samuel Collier, John David Collier

Lector and Intercessor: William Haynes, Debbie Schremser

Eucharistic Ministers: Virginia Banister, Fairley McDonald, Dudley Perry

Ushers/Greeters: Keith Miller, Elizabeth Lawlor, Chuck Ocheltree, Cole Wise

Altar Guild: Libby Beck, Chuck Moore

Flower Guild: Betty Beale, Amy Marshall

Flower Delivery Team: Jeannette Lynn, George Mathews, Stanley Marks

Videographer: Sam Collier

Altar Flowers given in memory of: Josephine Barnes Smith, Junius Bragg Smith, Sr., Junius Bragg Smith, Jr., Virginia Gunter Orvis, Homer Waitstill Orvis, Dora Pratt Barnes, Eugenia Bragg Smith, Henry Paul Haas, Dora Smith Haas, Nancy Inge Eskridge, Ira Hibbett Eskridge, Jr.

Your prayers are requested for the following parishioners:

Anne Phillips Arrington, John Durr, Bob Hill, Katie Keller, Carma Marks, Bud Nason, Eddie McDowell, Martha Collier Moseley, Elizabeth Potter, Shirley Price, Richard McCrory, Barbara Wells, Larry Worrilow.

Prayers are also requested for these friends: Emma Allhouse, Gail Alsobrook, Mac Burton, Michael Finnen, Roger Jobe, John Allen Jones, Seeley Lewis, Maureen McCloskey, Karen and Angelo Pacheco, Pam Slate, Ron Skoneki, Chandler Taylor, Connie Thomas, Denise Tinney, Joe Wendel, Frank Winkler.

Please notify us when you are sick or hospitalized so that we might provide pastoral care. The prayer list will be updated monthly, please notify us if names need to remain longer.

Pastoral Care Team for April: Jane Barganier, Allison Prillaman, Alice Barganier Longshore, Melissa Carter

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Deonna's Spring Adult Formation Class: From April 7th to May 12th Deonna will be leading a study of the 19th-century Russian spiritual classic *The Way of the Pilgrim*. Sunday mornings, 9:15 a.m. in the Archive. See the Eagle for more information.

Rector's Forum: The Ten Commandments: Then and Now- We will explore Ten ancient Words, given by God to Moses in Exodus 20 on Sunday mornings, 9:15 a.m. in the library. See the Eagle for more information.

Heavenly Hosts: Adults covered dish supper Tuesday, April 09th, 6-8 p.m. Please bring your favorite covered dish and join us at the home of Jeanne Drummond. Soft drinks will be provided by the church, but you are welcome to bring additional beverages.

Chamber Music Concert: Sunday, April 21, 4.00 pm. St. John's is pleased to welcome Robert Scott, Barbara Shanks and David Simpson.

Loving Spoonfuls: Sunday, April 28th, and Sunday, May 26th in the Parish Hall before and after church. Anyone who wants to join the cooking team, call Jim Bennett at 207-1918. We always need chicken pickers and vegetable choppers! All proceeds go toward purchasing much-needed freezers to bring out Bazaar Week for the pantry sale.



SCAN ME

VBS Registration is open now! June 3rd-6th, 2024. This VBS takes kids back in time bringing the Bible to life. They will experience the tastes, smells, and sounds of Old World towns and the people we've read about in the Scriptures. Registration deadline is May 26th.

Youth Sunday and Parish Picnic- Sunday, May 5th, immediately following church. The theme will be Cinco de Mayo. Please bring a side or dessert to share. We will enjoy lunch together and the children will have water inflatables, so remember to bring sunscreen and towels.



Visitors: Welcome! We are so glad you decided to visit with us today. Please use this QR code to provide us with some information about you and your family so that we can better serve you.