# St. Paul's Episcopal Church

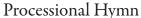
In the Episcopal Diocese of East Carolina



Peter Preaching
Lorenzo Veneziano c.1370

# Third Sunday of Easter April 18, 2021

Open Doors. Open hearts. Open Hands. We will welcome all to live God's mission, teach Christ's love and transform our community by the power of the Holy Spirit.



He is risen



Celebrant Alleluia. Christ is risen.

People The Lord 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.

### Christ our Passover Pascha nostrum

Alleluia.

Christ our Passover has been sacrificed for us; \* therefore let us keep the feast,

Not with the old leaven, the leaven of malice and evil, \*

but with the unleavened bread of sincerity and truth. Alleluia.

Christ being raised from the dead will never die again; \* death no longer has dominion over him.

The death that he died, he died to sin, once for all; \* but the life he lives, he lives to God.

So also consider yourselves dead to sin, \* and alive to God in Jesus Christ our Lord. Alleluia.

Christ has been raised from the dead, \* the first fruits of those who have fallen asleep.

For since by a man came death, \*

by a man has come also the resurrection of the dead.

For as in Adam all die, \*

so in Christ shall all be made alive. Alleluia.

Gathering Rite: Essentially gets us together from our individual lives into our communal life as the Church. The celebrant invites us to praise God and to acknowledge the reason we have gathered. We begin our worship with praise and thanksgiving to God and we continue singing God's praise with the Gloria. The gathering rite includes perhaps a prelude, a processional hymn, the opening acclamation and the Gloria, Trisagion or Kyrie

# The Collect of the Day

Celebrant The Lord be with you.

People And also with you.

Celebrant Let us pray.

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 Collect of the Day: This prayer sets the tone for the days worship drawing on themes from scripture for the day. It's called a collect because in the ancient church parishioners would share their prayers aloud and the celebrant would collect these and draw them into a single prayer to God on everyone's behalf.

the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen.

The people may be seated.

# A Reading from Acts (3:12-19)

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? The God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob, the God of our ancestors has glorified

The scripture readings follow the Revised Common Lectionary. This is a 3 year cycle of scripture in which most of the bible is read during the 3 year period. Usually we have a reading from Hebrew scripture and a Psalm followed by an Epistle and the Gospel Lesson

his servant Jesus, whom you handed over and rejected in the presence of Pilate, though he had decided to release him. But you rejected the Holy and Righteous One and asked to have a murderer given to you, and you killed the Author of life, whom God raised from the dead. To this we are witnesses. 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.

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

*Reader* The Word of the Lord.

People Thanks Be to God.

#### Psalm 4 Cum invocarem

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

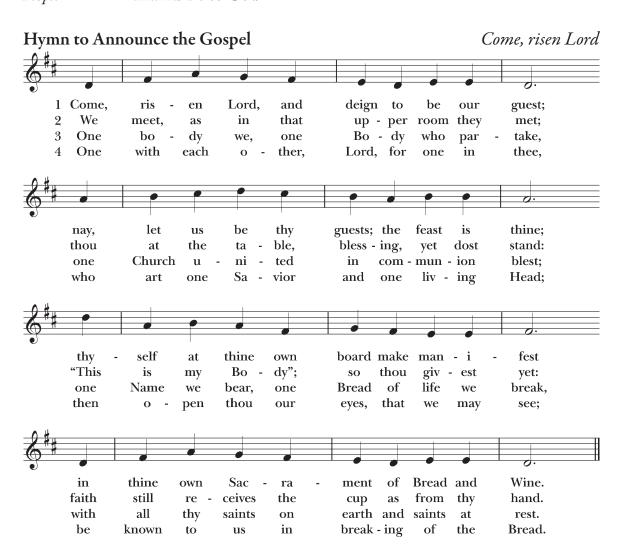
# A Reading from 1 John (3:1-7)

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. 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. And all who have this hope in him purify themselves, just as he is pure.

The Psalm: These are ancient poems and hymns giving voice to the range of expression of faith, from joy and thanksgiving to lament and confusion.

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

Reader The Word of the Lord.
People Thanks Be to God



# The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ According to Luke (24:36b-48) *People:* Glory to you, Lord Christ.

Jesus said, "I am the good shepherd. The good shepherd lays down his life for the sheep. The hired hand, who is not the shepherd and does not own the sheep, sees the wolf coming and leaves the sheep and runs away—and the wolf snatches them and scatters them. The hired hand runs away because a hired hand does not care for the sheep. I am the good shepherd. I know my own and my own know me, just as the Father knows me and I know the Father. And I lay down my life for the sheep. I have other sheep that do not belong to this fold. I must bring them also, and they will listen to my voice. So there will be one flock, one shepherd. For this reason the Father loves me, because I lay down my life in order to take it up again.

No one takes it from me, but I lay it down of my own accord. I have power to lay it down, and I have power to take it up again. I have received this command from my Father."

Celebrant The Gospel of the Lord.

People Praise to you, Lord Christ.

The Sermon
The Rev'd Adam Pierce, Assistant Rector

#### 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,

The sermon should respond or comment on the scripture and make it applicable to our lives today. For pastoral services like baptism or feasts (like Christmas and Easter) the sermon should focus on those themes specifically. The sermon also marks the transition in the service from hearing the word of God to proclaiming this message in our lives

The Creed: This is a statement of belief and it is our response after hearing the Word proclaimed. This text is from the 4<sup>th</sup> century. It is divided into 3 parts: What we believe about God, Jesus, and the Holy Spirit.

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.

# Prayers of the People

Leader and People pray responsively Celebrant

Beloved God, we thank you for giving us power through your Spirit to reveal your life to the world: strengthen, bless, and guide us to make you known by word and example.

We are your Church, O God. *Guide us in your grace.* 

Prayers of the People: After hearing the word of God proclaimed we are drawn into prayer for the needs of the world. A lay person, not a priest, leads these prayers We thank you for your creation, and pray for the earth you have given us to cherish and protect: nourish in us your love for all you have made.

We are your stewards, O God.

Guide us in your grace.

Guide and bless us in our work and in our play, and shape the patterns of our political and economic life, that all people may share in the fulfillment of your creative work.

We are your servants, O God.

Guide us in your grace.

Awaken our hearts to your presence in all people; in those we love easily and those with whom we struggle, in those different from us and those familiar to us.

We are made in your image, O God.

Guide us in your grace.

We thank you for calling us to a glorious heritage as your holy people. Free us from lack of vision, from inertia of will and spirit. By your life-giving Spirit, lead us out of isolation and oppression, redeem and restore us.

You are the life within us, O God.

Guide us in your grace.

We thank you for the gift of life, with all its blessings and sorrows. Shield the joyous, comfort and strengthen those in any need or trouble. Bless those who will be born today and those who will die, that joining with the company of all your saints we may rejoice in one unending song of praise.

In you alone we have eternal life, O God.

Guide us in your grace.

Celebrant

We offer these our prayers and thanksgivings to you, O God, the source of all that is true and holy, now and for ever. Amen.

Prayer for the Election of St. Paul's next Rector

Heavenly Father, source of all knowledge, you know the needs of your church in every place. Look graciously upon the people of St. Paul's and grant our search

Confession: Typically, confession follows the prayers. During Easter, a time of celebration and joy in the Church we typically do not hold confession. However, confession plays an important and vital role in our lives as it reminds us again and again of God's forgiveness and grace, inviting us to live in the way of forgiveness.

committee and Vestry the wisdom and discernment to call, with open hearts and minds, a faithful pastor who will feed us, your flock, and equip us for our ministries.

Through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

Silence.

The Celebrant adds a concluding Collect.

The Peace

Celebrant The peace of the Lord be always

with you.

People And also with you.

The Peace: The Liturgy of the Word concludes with the Peace. This action reminds of that we are all equal in God's Kingdom. The fact that we know this is not true in the world gives us as the Church something to strive for in our lives as we await the coming of God's Kingdom.

Anthem

Now the Green Blade Riseth

French Carol

# The Holy Communion

The Great Thanksgiving (Eucharistic Prayer A) BCP p. 361ff.

Celebrant The Lord be with you.

People And also with you.

Celebrant Lift up your hearts.

Clergy are ordained and given authority to speak these prayers, but they are the prayers of the entire congregation. Notice that this is a dialogue between priest and parishioners; celebrant begins "The Lord Be with you" and the people respond. Prayer C offers more opportunity for congregational response.

*People* We lift them 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.

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.

Seasonal Preface: Prayers A and B have prefaces that correspond to the season of the Church year. This is the Easter Preface

Therefore we praise you, joining our voices with Angels and Archangels and with all the company of heaven, who for ever sing this hymn to proclaim the glory of your Name:

Eucharistic prayers follow a distinct

Celebrant and People

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.

Then the Celebrant continues

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 stornal Son, to share our hymen nature.

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.

Eucharistic prayers follow a distinct structure: Thanksgiving and praise to begin the prayer through the Sanctus. The post Sanctus begins by recounting God's salvation history usually with a nod to creation, then reflection on the person of Jesus and his life, death, and resurrection. Prayer A focuses solely on Jesus' death as being significant for salvation but other prayers, like D, mention acts of his public ministry as being important like care for the poor and the imprisoned.

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.

After remembering the core tenet of our faith we offer our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving

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

Words of Institution: It is a common belief that consecration of the bread and wine happens at this moment. However, these words function as the warrant for us to do what we are doing. These words are central to the prayer because of their placement in the prayers structure. If we think of the prayer shaped like an hour glass this portion is the center of the hour glass. Everything before has now narrowed to this point, praising God and hearing again salvation history. From here we move back out asking the Spirit to do something for us and in us so we can continue to do the work God has given us to do out in the world. It is the entire prayer that consecrates, not a single moment in the prayer.

Memorial Acclamation: With one voice we proclaim the mystery of our faith. In remembering we are brought into the life of Christ

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.

And now, as our Savior Christ has taught us, we are bold to say,

Epiclesis: Asking the Holy Spirit to do something to the gifts and something to us. Unity is predominate theme in this portion of the prayer. We are being united to God and one another.

# The Lord's Prayer

BCP p. 364

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

A period of silence is kept.

Fraction Anthem The Fraction: We recall at this point that we are all part of the body of Christ; the body broken given for us. Because we share this body we find our unity in the body of Christ.

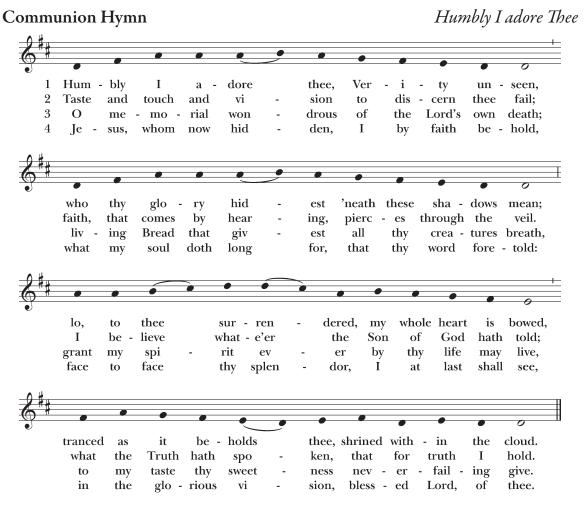
Alleluia. Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us; Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia.

## Communion of the People

The gifts of God for the People of God.

## Prayer For Spiritual Communion

My Jesus, I believe that you are truly present in the Holy Sacrament, and, since I cannot at this time receive communion, I pray you to come into my heart. I unite myself with you and embrace you with all my heart, my soul, and my mind. Let nothing separate me from you; let me serve you in this life until, by your grace, I come into your glorious kingdom and unending peace. *Amen*.



# Sending Forth of the Eucharistic Visitors

Celebrant and People

In the name of this congregation, we send you forth bearing these holy gifts, that those to whom you go may share with us in the communion of Christ's Body and Blood. We who are many are one body, for we all share one bread, one cup.

After Communion, the Celebrant says
Let us pray.

The people stand or kneel.

People

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.

After sharing this meal we are sent out into the world to be the Body of Christ in the world. Our praise, worship, and devotion to God does not end here but carries on in the world.

The Celebrant pronounces a blessing to which the congregation responds, "AMEN."

## Hymn

The strife is o'er



(continued next page)



## Dismissal

The Deacon dismisses the people

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

People

Thanks be to God. Alleluia. Alleluia.

Voluntary

Fugue in G Major

J S Bach

# Prayer List

### In our parish

LOUISE BUCK
EARL CRAIG
FR. JOHN CAWTHORNE
ANNE FREELING
RUSS GRAUMLICH
DAVID HEATH
JEN & ORION
ANNE LAUDATI
RICHARD LAUDATI

JERE LEWIS
WILLIAM MURPHY
BARBARA O'ROURKE
TAMMY POLLOCK
JIM SUMMEY
JOANN SUMMEY
RALPH TILDEN
MACK UMPHLETT

## People Requesting Prayer

ANN AND RODNEY
EMERY LYNN CARDER
BARBARA GLASENER
A.J. LAMM
DR. NEEL LIVERTE
MICHELLE MILLER
RICHARD O'ROURKE
SHARON BERRY O'ROURKE
JEFF RICHARDSON
TRACY CALHOUN SORRENTI
JAMES SPAITH
BRIANNA SULLIVAN
TAMMY TILGHMAN
LIAM TURBIVILLE

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## St. Paul's Episcopal Church

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at the bottom of this page: https://spechurch.com/e-news/
(Deadline Mondays 5:00 p.m.)
The Rt. Rev'd Robert Skirving, Bishop
The Rev'd Raymond Hanna, Interim Rector
The Rev'd Adam Pierce, Assistant Rector
The Rev'd Richard Banks, Priest Associate
Ronnie D. Wise, Director of Music and Organist
Richard Rhoads, Assistant Director of Music and Organist
Diane Matz-Kane, Finance Assistant

#### St. Paul's Vestry 2021

Layne Dupree Sally Pope
Ruth Gates Teresa Singer (Sr. Warden)
Angela Green Tom Sramek (Jr. Warden)
Matt Langley Rhonda Stroud
Steve Martin Meaghan Thomas
Joan Rosko Miller Merry Ann Wright

Judy Wilson, Treasurer Brenda Cunningham, Clerk