



ST. THOMAS'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH

EASTER DAY, YEAR B

Liturgy of the Word

April 4, 2021 10 A.M.

INTROIT

I know that my Redeemer liveth

I know that my Redeemer liveth
and that He shall stand
at the latter day upon the earth.

And though worms destroy this body,
yet in my flesh shall I see God.
For now is Christ risen from the dead,
the first fruits of them that sleep.

Words: Job 19:25-26; 1 Corinthians 15:20 Music: George Frideric Handel (1685–1759), *Messiah* (1742)

The invitation to worship is sounded with the ringing of the bell.

HYMN

Jesus Christ is risen today (207, *The Hymnal* 1982)

Descant

1 Je - sus Christ is risen to - day, Al - le - lu - ia!
 2 Hymns of praise then let us sing, Al - le - lu - ia!
 3 But the pains which he en-dured, Al - le - lu - ia!
 4 Sing we to our God a - bove Al - le - lu - ia!

our tri - um - phant ho - ly day, Al - le - lu - ia!
 un - to Christ, our heaven - ly King, Al - le - lu - ia!
 our sal - va - tion have pro - cured; Al - le - lu - ia!
 praise e - ter - nal as his love; Al - le - lu - ia!

who did once up - on the cross, Al - le - lu - ia!
 who en - dured the cross and grave, Al - le - lu - ia!
 now a - bove the sky he's King, Al - le - lu - ia!
 praise him, all ye heaven - ly host, Al - le - lu - ia!

suf - fer to re - deem our loss. Al - le - lu - ia!
 sin - ners to re - deem and save. Al - le - lu - ia!
 where the an - gels ev - er sing. Al - le - lu - ia!
 Fa - ther, Son, and Ho - ly Ghost. Al - le - lu - ia!

Words: Latin, 14th cent.; tr. *Lyra Davidica*, 1708, alt. St. 4, Charles Wesley (1707-1788) Music: *Easter Hymn*, from *Lyra Davidica*, 1708; adapt. *The Compleat Psalmodist*, 1749, alt., desc. *Hymns Ancient and Modern, Revised*, 1950 Copyright © Hymns Ancient and Modern Limited. All rights reserved. Used with permission.

OPENING ACCLAMATION, SALUTATION, AND COLLECT OF THE DAY

Presider: Alleluia. Christ is risen!

People: **The Lord is risen indeed. Alleluia!**

Presider: The Lord be with you.

People: **And also with you.**

Presider: 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 FIRST LESSON

ACTS 10:34-43

Peter began to speak to Cornelius and the other 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.”

Reader: The Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

PSALM 118:1-2,14-24

Martin Luther

- 1 Give thanks to the LORD, for he is good; *
his mercy endures for ever.
- 2 Let Israel now proclaim, *
“His mercy endures for ever.”
- 14 The LORD is my strength and my song, *
and he has become my salvation.
- 15 There is a sound of exultation and victory *
in the tents of the righteous:
- 16 “The right hand of the LORD has triumphed! *
the right hand of the LORD is exalted!
the right hand of the LORD has triumphed!”
- 17 I shall not die, but live, *
and declare the works of the LORD.
- 18 The LORD has punished me sorely, *
but he did not hand me over to death.
- 19 Open for me the gates of righteousness; *
I will enter them;
I will offer thanks to the LORD.
- 20 “This is the gate of the LORD; *
he who is righteous may enter.”
- 21 I will give thanks to you, for you answered me *
and have become my salvation.
- 22 The same stone which the builders rejected *
has become the chief cornerstone.
- 23 This is the LORD’s doing, *
and it is marvelous in our eyes.
- 24 On this day the LORD has acted; *
we will rejoice and be glad in it.

THE SECOND LESSON

1 CORINTHIANS 15:1-11

I would remind you, brothers and sisters, of the good news that I proclaimed to you, which you in turn received, in which also you stand, through which also you are being saved, if

you hold firmly to the message that I proclaimed to you—unless you have come to believe in vain.

For I handed on to you as of first importance what I in turn had received: that Christ died for our sins in accordance with the scriptures, and that he was buried, and that he was raised on the third day in accordance with the scriptures, and that he appeared to Cephas, then to the twelve. Then he appeared to more than five hundred brothers and sisters at one time, most of whom are still alive, though some have died. Then he appeared to James, then to all the apostles. Last of all, as to one untimely born, he appeared also to me. For I am the least of the apostles, unfit to be called an apostle, because I persecuted the church of God. But by the grace of God I am what I am, and his grace toward me has not been in vain. On the contrary, I worked harder than any of them—though it was not I, but the grace of God that is with me. Whether then it was I or they, so we proclaim and so you have come to believe.

Reader: The Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ALLELUIA

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

Music: Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart (1756–1791), *Exsultate, jubilate*, KV 165 (1773)

THE GOSPEL

JOHN 20:1-18

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

People: 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.

Presider: The Gospel of the Lord.

People: Praise to you, Lord Christ.

THE SERMON

A FESTIVAL OF SUNRISES

A slideshow of sunrises near and far, with the following music

Now the green blade riseth

Alleluia, alleluia! Give thanks to the risen Lord

THE NICENE CREED

Presider and People

**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:

**was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the Virgin Mary
and became truly human.**

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,
who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified,
who 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 [*The Rev. Keri Aubert*]

Presider

Our Savior is resurrected from the dead, bringing renewal to Christians around the globe. With joyful gratitude, we pray for the church and for the world.

Intercessor and People

We pray for the church universal: guide the ministers of your Word as they honor the traditions of the past, tend the cares of the present, and build the communities of the future. Risen Christ, **hear our prayer.**

We pray for the leaders of the world: plant wisdom and compassion in their hearts, and teach them to sow seeds of righteousness and mercy. Risen Christ, **hear our prayer.**

We pray for this wondrous creation: continue to reveal its bountiful complexity and fragile beauty, and inspire us to safeguard these gifts for all posterity. Risen Christ, **hear our prayer.**

We pray for your human family: take away the arrogance and hatred which infect our hearts; break down the walls that separate us; unite us in bonds of love; and work through our struggle and confusion to accomplish your purposes on earth. Risen Christ, **hear our prayer.**

We pray for this holy gathering of the faithful: strengthen us to continue in the way of the apostles, proclaim the Good News of God in Christ, seek and serve Christ in all persons, and strive for justice and peace among all people. Risen Christ, **hear our prayer.**

We pray for those in any need or trouble: feed the hungry, tend the sick, relieve the weary, bless the dying, and soothe the suffering. Risen Christ, **hear our prayer.**

We pray for people around the globe as the coronavirus pandemic continues: comfort the grieving, protect the vulnerable, and heal the healers. Risen Christ, **hear our prayer.**

We pray for those who have died: give them Christ's triumph over death, and bring them into your perpetual light. Risen Christ, **hear our prayer.**

We pray for the concerns that we now lift to you, either aloud or in the stillness of our hearts. [*You may unmute yourself to offer a prayer intention.*]

1 has be - gun. Al - le - lu - ia!
 2 joy out - burst. Al - le - lu - ia!
 3 ris - en Head! Al - le - lu - ia!
 4 tri - umphs tell! Al - le - lu - ia!
 5 sing to thee. Al - le - lu - ia! [Ant.]

Antiphon (at the end)
 Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!

Ped.

Words: Latin, 1695; tr. Francis Pott (1832-1909), alt.
 Music: *Victory*, Giovanni Pierluigi da Palestrina (1525-1594); adapt. and arr. William Henry Monk (1826-1889)

THE LORD'S PRAYER

As our Savior Christ has taught us, we now pray:

You are invited to say the Lord's Prayer in the language of your choice.

**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.**

A PRAYER OF COMMUNION [*The Rev. Keri Aubert*]

Presider and People

**Holy God, we are your people,
 bound to you by Jesus Christ,
 through whom you assumed our fleshly vulnerability,
 and in whom we find salvation and reconciliation.
 We remember his birth, and grow in joy;
 we remember his life, and grow in love;
 we remember his passion, and grow in compassion;
 we remember his resurrection, and grow in hope;
 for all this, we give thanks.
 As we course through our days,
 make us ministers of your abiding Word,
 with the power of your eternal Spirit. Amen.**

THE PASCHAL BLESSING

May almighty God, who has redeemed us and made us his children through the resurrection of his Son our Lord, bestow upon you the riches of his blessing. **Amen.**

May God, who through the water of baptism has raised us from sin into newness of life, make you holy and worthy to be united with Christ forever. **Amen.**

May God, who has brought us out of bondage to sin into true and lasting freedom in the Redeemer, bring you to your eternal inheritance. **Amen.**

And the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be upon you and remain with you forever. **Amen.**

DISMISSAL

Presider: Let us bless the Lord. Alleluia, Alleluia!

People: **Thanks be to God. Alleluia, Alleluia!**

VOLUNTARY

Toccata

Charles-Marie Widor (1844–1937), *Symphony No. 5*, Op. 42 (1887)

After the Voluntary, you are invited to stay online for virtual Coffee Hour. Please see the Parish Enews for the latest announcements and information.

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About Today's Liturgy

Easter is the feast of Christ's resurrection. According to Bede, an eighth-century English monk, the word derives from the Anglo-Saxon spring goddess Eostre. Christians in England applied the word to the principal festival of the church year, both day and season. Easter Day is the annual feast of the resurrection, the pascha or Christian Passover, and the eighth day of cosmic creation. Faith in Jesus' resurrection on the Sunday or third day following his crucifixion is at the heart of Christian belief. Easter sets the experience of springtime next to the ancient stories of deliverance and the proclamation of the risen Christ. In the west, Easter occurs on the first Sunday after the full moon on or after the vernal equinox. The Eastern Orthodox Church celebrates Easter on the first Sunday after the Jewish pesach or Passover (which follows the spring full moon). The Easter Season lasts fifty days, from Easter Eve through the Day of Pentecost.

An Episcopal Dictionary of the Church

Announcements

Stay in touch! Subscribe to the Weekly Parish Enews and "like" St. Thomas's on Facebook.

Next Up for our Thursday Evening Study Group: Easter & Passover. (1) YDS Webinar: Tuesday, April 13, noon-1: A Conversation About Easter and Passover with YDS Professor Joel Baden and Berkeley Divinity School Dean Andrew McGowan. [See details and sign up here.](#) **(2) Church Zoom Discussion:** Thursday, April 15, 7:30-8:30 p.m., Zoom (usual Church link: <https://zoom.us/j/5185223842>). Details in the Enews.

9th Annual ECCT Spring Training and Gathering: Tuesday, April 6—Saturday, April 17. This year Spring Training will take place during the two weeks immediately following Easter when a variety of engaging workshops will be offered via Zoom. Each workshop is 90-minutes long and most are offered on two different days and times. Learn more about the various workshops on [ECCT's Spring Training and Gathering page](#).



*May blessings be
upon you and yours
this Eastertide!*

Serving Today

Presider & Preacher: The Rev. Keri Aubert

Music Director: Dr. Noah Horn

Lectors: Jennifer Herdt, Max Ballardo

Intercessor: Sally Edwards

This Week's Prayer Intentions

Pray for those on our Parish prayer list:

Cynthia (Sally Edwards' sister-in-law), Franklin (Heather and Alexandria Robison's grandfather), Sally (Edwards)

Pray for those in any need or trouble, especially:

those most affected by the COVID-19 pandemic, including all who have lost loved ones, all frontline workers, and all who lack the income necessary for adequate food and shelter

Pray for those have died.

In the Episcopal Church in Connecticut Cycle of Prayer, pray for:

St. Andrew's, Kent; Emmanuel, Killingworth; Trinity, Lime Rock; St. Michael's, Litchfield; Collaborative ministries and all Ministry Networks; Joining Jesus in the New Missional Age, ECCT Regions and Region Missionaries

In the Anglican Cycle of Prayer, pray for:

the peace of Jerusalem

In the World Council of Churches Ecumenical Prayer Cycle, pray for:

The Balkans - Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Croatia, Kosovo, Montenegro, North Macedonia, Serbia, Slovenia

Leadership at St. Thomas's

Church Vestry

Greg D'Andrea (Senior Warden)

Linda Meyer (Junior Warden)

Bill English (Treasurer)

Denise Terry (Clerk)

Valerie Garlick

Claire Scully

Sara Zampierin

The Rev. Keri Aubert (Rector)

Church (Volunteer) Associate Priests

The Rev. Canon K. Dexter Cheney

The Rev. Jakki Flanagan

Day School Board of Trustees

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Denise Terry (Church Junior Warden)

The Rev. Keri Aubert (President, Day School Corp.)

Gina Panza (Head of School)

ST. THOMAS'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH & DAY SCHOOL

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