

GRACE EPISCOPAL CHURCH



The Second Sunday of Easter

~ Low Sunday

April 16, 2023

Service Program for the 10:30 a.m. Solemn High Mass
Bulletin Insert from the Episcopal Church
Grace Notes
This Week at Grace

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WE are a diverse community united by our commitment to Jesus Christ and our desire to live the Christian life. Our prayers and the Sacraments help us find Christ in church and in the world. Seeing Christ in each other and in the faces of strangers, we are inspired to reach out in love and service.

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The Rev. Canon Robert G. Carroon, *Associate Priest*
The Rev. Canon Annika Warren, *Associate Priest*
The Rev. Joseph L. Pace, *Associate Priest*
Mr. Chuck Sharp, *Vocational Deacon Intern*
Mr. Kyle Swann, *Choirmaster and Organist*

The Vestry
Douglas Bowman, *Senior Warden*; Thomas Phillips, *Junior Warden*
Katharine Rovetti, *Parish Clerk*
Mark Lacedonia, *Treasurer*; Barbara Galbreath, *Assistant Treasurer*
Adrienne Brown, Josephine Dominguez, Pamela Glasner,
Claudia Gwardyak, Nadia Holmes, Sandra Morgan



WELCOMED to all who are joining with us virtually as we celebrate *THE SECOND SUNDAY OF EASTER*. We hope you feel at home with us and that you find the love, peace, inspiration, and strength to meet the challenges of your daily life.

We hope that you will take part in our worship by making the Peoples' responses as indicated and joining in the hymn-singing.

If you would like more information about Grace Church, or the Episcopal Church, please communicate with our Rector, The Rev. Rowena Kemp, or make an appointment with her to discuss any questions you have.

GRACE EPISCOPAL CHURCH

The Second Sunday of Easter ~ Low Sunday

April 16, 2023

Solemn High Mass, 10:30 A.M.

Propers of Year A

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Mass Setting: *Grace Mass*

Edward Wagner, 1987

*This setting of the Ordinary of the Mass is for congregational singing.*  
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Voluntary: *Christ lag in Todesbanden*

Johann Sebastian Bach (d. 1750)

The Asperges

*During the Easter Season, we begin each Sunday High Mass
with the sprinkling of the congregants with Holy Water as a reminder of our Baptism.*

Vidi aquam (*choir*)

Mode VIII

I saw water proceeding out of the temple, from the right side thereof, alleluia: and all, whithersoever the waters shall come, shall be healed, and shall say, alleluia, alleluia.

Celebrant: O Lord, show thy mercy upon us. Alleluia.

People: And grant us thy salvation. Alleluia.

Celebrant: O Lord, hear my prayer.

People: And let my cry come unto thee.

Celebrant: The Lord be with you.

People: And with thy spirit.

Celebrant: Let us pray.

Graciously hear us, O Lord, holy Father, Almighty, everlasting God: and vouchsafe to send thy Angel from heaven to guard, cherish, protect, visit, and defend all who are assembled in this thy holy temple: through Jesus Christ our Saviour. *Amen.*

The Liturgy of the Word

Opening Acclamation

Celebrant: Alleluia! Christ is risen!

People: The Lord is risen indeed! Alleluia!

Collect for Purity

ALMIGHTY GOD, unto whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hid: Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of thy Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love thee, and worthily magnify thy holy Name; through Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

Introit (*choir*) *Quasimodo geniti infantes*

Mode VI

AS newborn babes, alleluia: desire ye the sincere milk of the word, alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

Summary of the Law

Hear what our Lord Jesus Christ saith:

THOU shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy mind. This is the first and great commandment. And the second is like unto it: thou shalt love thy neighbor as thyself. On these two commandments hang all the Law and the Prophets.



Gloria in excelsis (*sung by all*)

E. Wagner

Cantor *All*

[Glo-ry be to God on high,] and on earth peace, good will towards men. We praise thee, we bless thee, we wor-ship thee, we glo-ri-fy thee, we give thanks to thee for thy great glo-ry, O Lord God, heaven-ly King, God the Fa-ther Al- migh-ty. O Lord, the on-ly-be- got-ten Son, Je- sus Christ; O Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Fa-ther, that tak-est a-way the sins of the world, have mer-cy up- on us. Thou that tak-est a-way the sins of the world, re- ceive our prayer. Thou that sit- test at the right hand of God the Fa-ther, have mer-cy up- on us. For thou on-ly art ho-ly; thou on-ly art the Lord; thou on- ly, O Christ, with the Ho-ly Ghost, ✠ art most high in the glo-ry of God the Fa-ther. A- men.

The Collect of the Day

Celebrant: The Lord be with you.

People: And with thy spirit.

Celebrant: Let us pray.

ALMIGHTY and everlasting God, who in the Paschal mystery hast 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 the same Jesus Christ our Lord, who liveth and reigneth with thee and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. *Amen.*

The First Lesson: The Acts of the Apostles 2: 14a, 22-32 [NRSV]

A reading from the Acts of the Apostles.

PETER, standing with the eleven, raised his voice and addressed the crowd, “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.

Congregation’s Response: Thanks be to God.

The Gradual: Psalm 16

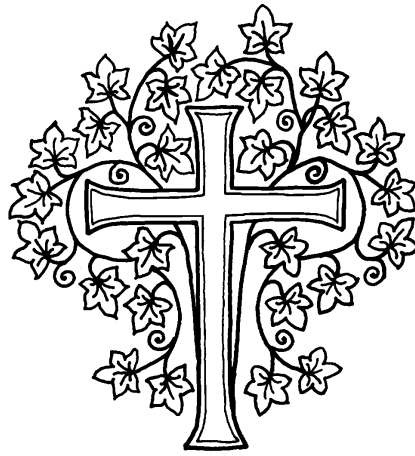
Conserva me, Domine

Tone VIII.I

(Congregation sings the italicized verses.)



- 1 PRESERVE me, O | God;
** for in thee | have I put my ^ trust.*
- 2 *O my soul, thou hast said unto the | LORD,*
** Thou art my God; I have no | good like unto ^ thee.*
- 3 All my delight is upon the saints that are in the | earth,
** and upon such as ex- | cel in virtue.*
- 4 *But they that run after an- | other ^ god*
** shall | have great trouble.*
- 5 Their drink-offerings of blood will I not | offer,
** neither make mention of their | names within my ^ lips.*
- 6 *The LORD himself is the portion of mine inheritance, and of my | cup;*
** thou | shalt maintain my ^ lot.*
- 7 The lot is fallen unto me in a fair | ground;
** yea I have a | goodly heri^tage.*
- 8 *I will thank the LORD for giving me | warning;*
** my reins also chasten me in | the night season.*
- 9 I have set the LORD alway be- | fore me;
** for he is on my right hand, there- | fore I shall not ^ fall.*
- 10 *Wherefore my heart is glad and my glory re- | joiceth:*
** my flesh al- | so shall rest in ^ hope.*
- 11 For why? thou shalt not leave my soul in | hell;
** neither shalt thou suffer thy Holy One to | see corruption.*
- 12 *Thou shalt show me the path of life:† in thy presence is the fulness of | joy,*
** and at thy right hand there is plea- | sure for ever^more.*



The Epistle: I Peter I: 3-9 [NRSV]

A reading from the First Letter of Peter.

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.

People's Response: Thanks be to God.



The Alleluia *In die resurrectionis meae*

Tone VI



Choir: In the day of my resurrection, saith the Lord: I will go before you into Galilee.



Choir: After eight days, when the doors were shut: stood Jesus in the midst of his disciples, and said, Peace be unto you.



The Holy Gospel: St. John 20: 19-31 [RSV]

The Holy Gospel of Our Lord Jesus Christ According to John.

People: ✠ Glory be to thee, O Lord.

ON the evening of that day, the first day of the week, the doors being shut where the disciples were, for fear of the Jews, Jesus came and stood among them and said to them, "Peace be with you." When he had said this, he showed them his hands and his side. Then the disciples were glad when they saw the Lord. Jesus said to them again, "Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, even so I send you." And 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; if you retain the sins of any, they are retained." Now Thomas, one of the twelve, called the Twin, 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 in his hands the print of the nails, and place my finger in the mark of the nails, and place my hand in his side, I will not believe." Eight days later, his disciples were again in the house, and Thomas was with them. The doors were shut, but 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; and put out your hand, and place it in my side; do not be faithless, but believing." 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 believe." Now Jesus did many other signs in the presence of the disciples, which are not written in this book; but these are written that you may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God, and that believing you may have life in his name.



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 believe." Now Jesus did many other signs in the presence of the disciples, which are not written in this book; but these are written that you may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God, and that believing you may have life in his name.

The Gospel of the Lord.

Congregation's Response: Praise be to thee, O Christ.

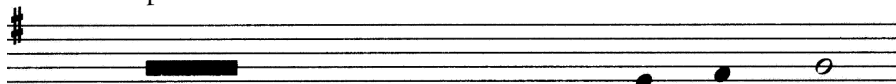
The Sermon

The Rev. Rowena J. Kemp, *Rector*

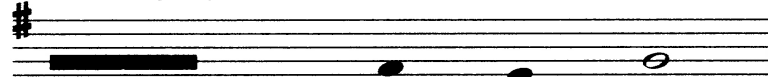
The Nicene Creed (*sung by all*)

I be- lieve in one God, the Fa- ther Al- might-y, Ma- ker of hea- ven and earth;
and of all things vi- si- ble and in- vi- si- ble; and in one Lord Je- sus Christ,
the on- ly- be- got- ten Son of God, be- got- ten of his Fa- ther be- fore all worlds,

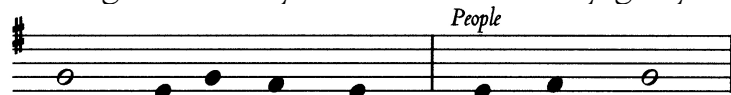
God of God, Light of Light, ve-ry God of ve-ry God, be- got-ten, not made,
 be- ing of one sub- stance with the Fa- ther; by whom all things were made;
 who for us men and for our sal- va- tion came down from hea- ven,
 (stand) and was cru- ci- fi- ed al- so for us un- der Pon- tius Pi- late;
 he suf- fer- ed and was bu- ri- ed; and the third day he rose a- gain
 ac- cor- ding to the Scrip- tures, and as- cend- ed in- to hea- ven, and sit- teth on the
 right hand of the Fa- ther; and he shall come a- gain, with glo- ry, to judge both
 the quick and the dead; whose king- dom shall have no end. And I be- lieve in the
 Ho- ly Ghost the Lord, and Gi- ver of Life, who pro- ceed- eth from the Fa- ther and the Son;
 who with the Fa- ther and the Son to- ge- ther is wor- shipp' d and glo- ri- fi- ed;
 who spake by the Pro- phets. And I be- lieve one ho- ly Cath- o- lic and A- po- sto-
 lic Church; I ac- know- ledge one Bap- tism for the re- mis- sion of sins: and I look for
 the re- sur- rec- tion of the dead, * and the life of the world to come. A- - - men.



Leader: Let us pray for the Church and | for the world.



Grant almighty God, that all who confess thy Name may be united in thy truth, live together in thy love, and reveal thy glory / in the world. (*Silence*)



Lord, in thy mer - cy *People* hear our prayer. (*Sung after every intercession*)

Leader: Guide the people of this land, and of all the nations, in the ways of justice and peace; that we may honor one another and serve the / common good. (*Silence*)

Lord, in thy mercy *People: hear our prayer.*

Leader: Give us all a reverence for the earth as thine own creation, that we may use its resources rightly in the service of others and to thy hon-/or and glory. (*Silence*)

Lord, in thy mercy *People: hear our prayer.*

Leader: Watch over thy child *Richard*, O Lord, as his days increase; bless and guide him wherever he may be. Strengthen him when he stands; comfort him when discouraged or sorrowful; raise him up if he falls; and in his heart may thy peace which passeth understanding abide all the days / of his life. (*Silence*)

Lord, in thy mercy *People: hear our prayer.*

Leader: We pray for an increase in the membership of this parish; that we may have the hands and hearts to carry / out thy will. (*Silence*)

Lord, in thy mercy *People: hear our prayer.*

Leader: We commend to thy gracious care and keeping all the men and women of our armed forces at home and abroad [*especially N.*]. Defend them day by day with thy heavenly grace; strengthen them in their trials and temptations; give them courage to face the perils which beset them; and grant them a sense of thine abiding presence wherever / they may be. (*Silence*)

Lord, in thy mercy *People: hear our prayer.*

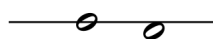
Leader: Comfort and heal all those who suffer in body, mind, or spirit (*pause*); give them courage and hope in their troubles, and bring them the joy of / thy salvation. (*Silence*)

Lord, in thy mercy *People: hear our prayer.*

Leader: We commend to thy mercy all who have died, that thy will for them may be fulfilled (*pause*); and we pray that we may share with all thy saints in thine e-/ternal kingdom. (*Silence*)

Lord, in thy mercy *People: hear our prayer.*

Celebrant: Lord, hear the prayers of thy people; and what we have asked faithfully, grant that we may obtain effectually, to the glory of thy Name; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *People*



A-men.

The Peace

Celebrant: The peace of the Lord be always with you.

People: And with thy spirit.

The Ministers and People greet one another in the Name of the Lord.

The Holy Communion

Offertory Sentence

Celebrant: Offer to God a sacrifice of thanksgiving, and make good thy vows unto the Most High. *Psalm 50: 14*

Offertory (*choir*) *Angelus Domini*

Mode VIII

THE angel of the Lord descended from heaven, and said unto the women: "He whom ye seek, is risen, as he said." Alleluia.

Hymn 206 (*sung by all*)

"O sons and daughters"

O filii et filiae

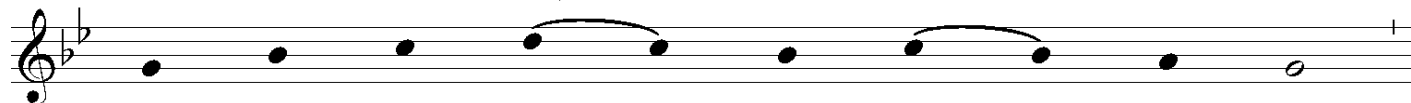
Antiphon (at the beginning)



Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!



1 O sons and daught - ers, let us sing!
2 That night the a - pos - tles met in fear;
3 When Thom - as first the tid - ings heard,
4 "My pierc - ed side, O Thom - as, see;
5 No long - er Thom - as then de - nied,
6 How blest are they who have not seen,



1 The King of heaven, the glo - rious King,
2 a - midst them came their Lord most dear,
3 how they had seen the ris - en Lord,
4 my hands, my feet, I show to thee;
5 he saw the feet, the hands, the side;
6 and yet whose faith has con - stant been,



1 o'er death and hell rose tri - umph - ing. Al - le - lu - ia!
2 and said, "My peace be on all here." Al - le - lu - ia!
3 he doubt - ed the dis - ci - ples' word. Al - le - lu - ia!
4 not faith - less, but be - liev - ing be." Al - le - lu - ia!
5 "Thou art my Lord and God," he cried. Al - le - lu - ia!
6 for they e - ter - nal life shall win. Al - le - lu - ia! [Ant.]

Antiphon (at the end)



Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!

Presentation of the alms and oblations (*All stand.*)

Celebrant: All things come of thee, O Lord,

People: And of thine own have we given thee.

Orate

Celebrant: Pray that this our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving may be acceptable to God the Father Almighty.

People: May the Lord receive this sacrifice at thy hands, to the praise and glory of his holy Name, both to our benefit and that of all his holy Church.

Sursum corda

Celebrant *People*
The Lord be with you. And with thy spi- rit.

Celebrant *People*
Lift up your hearts. We lift them up un-to the Lord.

Celebrant
Let us give thanks un- to our Lord God.

People
It is meet and right so to do.

Then, facing the Holy Table, the Celebrant says,

It is very meet, right, and our bounden duty, that we should at all times, and in all places, give thanks unto thee, O Lord, holy Father, almighty, everlasting God.

BUT chiefly are we bound to praise thee for the glorious resurrection of thy Son Jesus Christ our Lord; for he is the very Paschal Lamb, who was sacrificed for us, and hath taken away the sin of the world; who by his death hath destroyed death and by his rising to life again hath won for us everlasting life:

Therefore with Angels and Archangels, and with all the company of heaven, we laud and magnify thy glorious Name; evermore praising thee, and saying,

Sanctus and Benedictus (*sung by all*)

E. Wagner

All
Ho- ly, ho- ly, ho- ly, Lord God of hosts: Heaven and earth are
full of thy glo- ry. Glo- ry be to thee, O Lord Most High. Bless- ed is
he that com- eth in the Name of the Lord. Ho- san- na in the high- est.

The Consecration

Celebrant: Let us pray.

ALL glory be to thee, Almighty God, our heavenly Father, for that thou, of thy tender Mercy, didst give thine only Son Jesus Christ to suffer death upon the cross for our redemption; who made there, by his one oblation of himself once offered, a full, perfect, and sufficient sacrifice, oblation, and satisfaction, for the sins of the whole world; and did institute, and in his holy Gospel command us to continue, a perpetual memory of that his precious death and sacrifice, until his coming again.

For in the night in which he was betrayed, he took bread; and when he had given thanks, he brake it, and gave it to his disciples, saying, "Take, eat, this is my Body, which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me." ✠

Likewise, after supper, he took the cup; and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, saying, "Drink ye all of this; for this is my Blood of the New Testament, which is shed for you, and for many, for the remission of sins. Do this, as oft as ye shall drink it, in remembrance of me." ✠

Wherefore, O Lord and heavenly Father, according to the institution of thy dearly beloved Son our Savior Jesus Christ, we, thy humble servants, do celebrate and make here before thy divine Majesty, with these thy holy gifts, which we now offer unto thee, the memorial thy Son hath commanded us to make; having in remembrance his blessed passion and precious death, his mighty resurrection and glorious ascension; rendering unto thee most hearty thanks for the innumerable benefits procured unto us by the same.

And we most humbly beseech thee, O merciful Father, to hear us; and, of thy almighty goodness, vouchsafe to bless and sanctify, with thy Word and Holy Spirit, these thy gifts and creatures of bread and wine; that we, receiving them according to thy Son our Savior Jesus Christ's holy institution, in remembrance of his death and passion, may be partakers of his most blessed Body and Blood.

And we earnestly desire thy fatherly goodness mercifully to accept this our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving; most humbly beseeching thee to grant that, by the merits and death of thy Son Jesus Christ, and through faith in his blood, we and all thy whole Church, may obtain remission of our sins and all other benefits of his passion.

And here we offer and present unto thee, O Lord, our selves, our souls and bodies, to be a reasonable, holy, and living sacrifice unto thee; humbly beseeching thee that we, and all others who shall be partakers of this Holy Communion, may worthily receive the most precious Body and Blood of thy Son Jesus Christ, ✠ be filled with thy grace and heavenly benediction, and made one body with him that he may dwell in us, and we in him.

And although we are unworthy, through our manifold sins, to offer unto thee any sacrifice, yet we beseech thee to accept this our bounden duty and service, not weighing our merits but pardoning our offenses, through Jesus Christ our Lord;

BY whom, and with whom, in the unity of the Holy Ghost all honor and glory be unto thee, O Father Almighty, world without end.

People

—●—○—○—+
A- men.

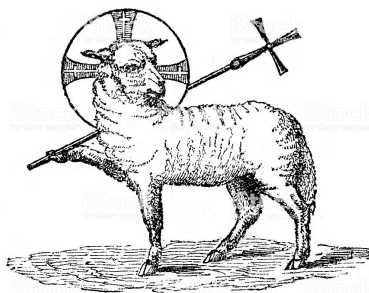
The Lord's Prayer

Celebrant: And now, as our Savior Christ hath taught us, we are bold to say,

Our Fa-ther, who art in hea-ven, hal-low-ed be thy Name,
 thy king-dom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in hea-ven.
 Give us this day our dai-ly bread. And for-give us our tres-pas-ses,
 as we for-give those who tres-pass a-gainst us. And lead us not in-to
 temp-ta-tion, but de-liv-er us from e-vil. For thine is the king-dom,
 and the power, and the glo-ry, for ev-er and ev-er. A-men.

The Fraction

Celebrant
 Al-le-lu-ia. Christ our Pass-o-ver is sac-ri-ficed for us.
People
 There-fore let us keep the feast. Al-le-lu-ia.



Agnus Dei (*sung by all*)

E. Wagner

Cantors
 [O Lamb of God, that tak-est a-way the sins of the world,]
All have mer-cy u-pon us. *Cantors* [O Lamb of God, that tak-est a-way the
 sins of the world,] *All* have mer-cy u-pon us. *Cantors* [O Lamb of God, that
 tak-est a-way the sins of the world,] *All* grant us thy peace.

Prayer of Humble Access (*said by all*)

Celebrant: Let us pray.

WE do not presume to come to this thy Table, O merciful Lord, trusting in our own righteousness, but in thy manifold and great mercies. We are not worthy so much as to gather up the crumbs under thy Table. But thou art the same Lord whose property is always to have mercy. Grant us therefore, gracious Lord, so to eat the flesh of thy dear Son Jesus Christ, and to drink his blood, that we may evermore dwell in him, and he in us. Amen.

The Invitation to Communion

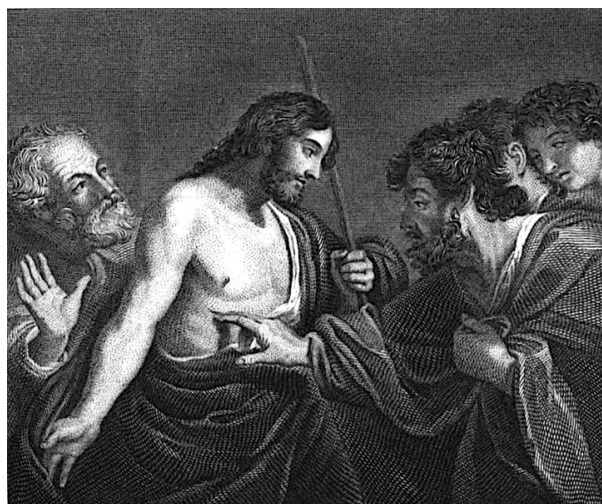
Celebrant: The Gifts of God for the People of God. Take them in remembrance that Christ died for you, and feed on him in your hearts by faith, with thanksgiving.

People: Lord, I am not worthy that thou shouldst come under my roof; but speak the word only, and my soul shall be healed.

Communion (*choir*) *Mitte manum tuam*

Mode VI

REACH hither thy hand, and behold the place of the nails, alleluia: and be not faithless, but believing, alleluia, alleluia.



Prayer of Spiritual Communion (*said by those worshipping virtually*)

IN UNION, O Dear Lord, with the faithful at every Altar of Thy Church, where Thy blessed Body and Blood are being offered to the Father, I desire to offer Thee praise and thanksgiving. I present to Thee my soul and body, with the earnest wish that I may ever be united to Thee. And since I cannot now receive Thee sacramentally, I beseech Thee to come spiritually into my heart. I unite myself to Thee, and embrace Thee with all the affections of my soul. O let nothing ever separate me from Thee. Let me live and die in Thy love. Amen.

Carol (*choir*)

“This joyful Eastertide”

Vreuchten; harm. C. Wood

THIS joyful Eastertide, away with sin and sorrow!
My Love, the Crucified, did spring to life that morrow.

Refrain: Had Christ, that once was slain, ne'er burst his three-day prison,
our faith had been in vain; but now is Christ arisen, arisen, arisen!
Death's flood hath lost its chill, since Jesus crossed the river:
Lord of all life, from ill my passing life deliver. *(Refrain)*
My flesh in hope shall rest, and for a season slumber,
till trump from east to west shall wake the dead in number. *(Refrain)*

Prayer of Thanksgiving after Communion

Celebrant: Let us pray.

People: Almighty and everliving God, we most heartily thank thee for that thou dost feed us, in these Holy Mysteries, with the spiritual food of the most precious Body and Blood of thy Son our Savior Jesus Christ; and dost assure us thereby of thy favor and goodness towards us; and that we are very members incorporate in the mystical Body of thy Son, the blessed company of all faithful people; and are also heirs, through hope, of thy everlasting kingdom. And we humbly beseech thee, O heavenly Father, so to assist us with thy grace, that we may continue in that holy fellowship, and do all such good works as thou hast prepared for us to walk in; through Jesus Christ our Lord, to whom with thee and the Holy Ghost, be all honor and glory, world without end. Amen.

The Easter Blessing

MAY Almighty God, who hath 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 hath raised us from sin into newness of life, make you holy and worthy to be united with Christ for ever. *Amen.*

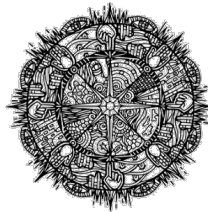
May God, who hath bought us out of bondage to sin into true and lasting freedom in the Redeemer, bring you to your eternal inheritance. *Amen.*

AND the blessing of God Almighty, ✠ the Father, the Son, and the Holy Ghost, be Amongst you, and remain with you always. *Amen.*

The Dismissal

Deacon: Let us go forth in the name of Christ. Alleluia! Alleluia!

The People respond: Thanks be to God. Alleluia! Alleluia!



The Last Gospel

St. John I: I-I4

Celebrant: The Lord be with you.

People: And with thy spirit.

Celebrant: The Beginning of the holy Gospel according to John.

People: Glory be to thee, O Lord.

IN the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. The same was in the beginning with God. All things were made by Him: and without Him was not anything made that was made. In Him was life, and the life was the light of men: and the light shineth in the darkness, and the darkness comprehended it not. There was a man sent from God, whose name was John. The same came for a witness, to bear witness of the light, that all men through him might believe. He was not that light, but was sent to bear witness of that light. That was the true light, which lighteth every man that cometh into the world. He was in the world, and the world was made by him, and the world knew him not. He came unto his own, and his own received him not. But as many as received him, to them gave he power to become the sons of God, even to them that believe on his name: which were born, not of blood, nor of the will of the flesh, nor of the will of man, but of God. (*Here genuflect*) And the Word was made flesh, (*Here rise*) and dwelt among us: and we beheld his glory, the glory as of the Only-begotten of the Father, full of grace and truth.

People: Thanks be to God.

REGINA caeli laetare, alleluia: Quia quem meruisti portare, alleluia: Resurrexit, sicut dixit, alleluia: Ora pro nobis Deum, alleluia.

[Queen of heaven, rejoice, alleluia. For He whom you did merit to bear, alleluia. Has risen, as he said, alleluia. Pray for us to God, alleluia.]

Hymn 209 (*sung by all*)

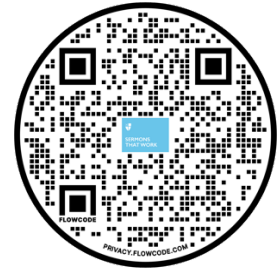
“We walk by faith, and not by sight”

St. Botolph

1 We walk by faith, and not by sight; no
 2 We may not touch his hands and side, nor
 3 Help then, O Lord, our un - be - lief; and
 4 that, when our life of faith is done, in

gra - cious words we hear from him who spoke as
 fol - low where he trod; but in his prom - ise
 may our faith a - bound, to call on you when
 realms of clear - er light we may be - hold you

none e'er spoke; but we be - lieve him near.
 we re - jice, and cry, “My Lord and God!”
 you are near, and seek where you are found:
 as you are, with full and end - less sight.



April 16, 2023 – Easter 2 (A)
Week 2: Reflections on the Resurrection

During the Easter season, Sermons That Work is pleased to present reflections from some of the newest bishops of The Episcopal Church on the resurrection of our Lord. Check back each week for a brief exploration of how Jesus Christ’s rising from the grave changes everything. To listen to this reflection, scan the QR code on this page and subscribe to the Sermons That Work podcast.

When I was a seminary student, my daily afternoon walk would take me past the historic cemetery on campus. Just outside the large, wrought-iron gates marking the entrance to the cemetery, I remember stumbling upon the stump of an old tree. Given the size of the stump, I imagined that the tree once towered over the cemetery, providing shade and protection against the oppressive heat of the summer sun. I imagined a tree of beauty, dignity, and grandeur, yet all that remained of this glorious tree was a dry and lifeless stump. Several years after my graduation and subsequent ordination, I returned to the seminary and decided to enjoy an afternoon walk along the same well-worn path I had followed as a student. I came upon the cemetery expecting to see the old stump I had stumbled upon years before; however, much to my surprise, a bright green shoot had emerged out of the center of the stump. A new tree was breaking forth out of the old. Where once there was only death and decay, new life was emerging.

During this Easter season, we are celebrating Christ’s victory over death and giving thanks that the gate of everlasting life has been opened to us. However, even as we proclaim, “Alleluia! Christ is risen,” the experience of death and reality of grief remain. We still feel the searing pain of loss. We still experience despair, disappointment, and disillusionment. We still find ourselves longing for the fullness of God’s abundant life. In the midst of this longing, it is the promise of God’s new creation that gives us hope, the promise that God is *making all things new* (Revelation 21:5). The resurrection of Jesus is a foretaste of God’s promise for all of creation!

The paradox of the spiritual life is that we experience both joy *and* sorrow, hope *and* despair, life *and* death. Every day, we experience the tension between the reality of resurrection and the remnant of death’s domain, which, although defeated, continues to cling to power. Yet, in the midst of this tension, there are signs of God’s new creation all around us, signs of new life and new beginnings. For me, it was the surprise of seeing a bright green shoot emerging out of the center of an old stump that began to open my eyes to the possibilities of new creation. I began to see and experience the power of hope. I began to catch a glimpse of God’s vision of a world healed, renewed, and restored. During this Easter season, where are you seeing signs of God’s new creation? How have you experienced God’s promise of hope breaking forth in your life?



*The Sixth Bishop of the Diocese of Southwest Florida, **the Rt. Rev. Douglas Scharf** leads the diocese where he was raised, ordained, and consecrated. One of the youngest bishops in The Episcopal Church, Bishop Scharf is passionate about discipleship and leadership development. He lives in Parrish with his wife, Shannon, and their three sons.*

GRACE NOTES

April 16, 2023 *The Second Sunday of Easter ~ Low Sunday*

FOR PASTORAL ASSISTANCE

THE REV. ROWENA KEMP welcomes hearing from you. Please don't hesitate to contact her if there's something you'd like to discuss. Please contact her immediately should there be an illness, hospitalization, or any other pastoral emergency that he should know about. For such emergencies, please note Rev. Rowena's cell phone number: 203-209-4178.

PEOPLE AND PLACES TO KEEP IN YOUR PRAYERS

A reminder: Tori Burns manages this list for us, and prayer requests need to be renewed after 2 weeks. Please communicate all prayer requests & updates with her (860-539-8790); (tburns@gracehartford.org).

- *Bishops and Clergy:* Justin, Archbishop of Canterbury; Michael, Presiding Bishop; Jeffrey and Laura, Bishops of ECCT; Rowena, Jerry, Annika, and Joseph, our priests, and Chuck, our Vocational Deacon Intern.
- *Diocesan Cycle of Prayer:* **We pray for an increase in the membership of this parish, that we may have the hands and hearts to carry out thy will;** for the Episcopal Church in CT & the Anglican Communion; St. Mark's, Mystic; St. Michael's, Naugatuck; St. Mark's, New Britain; clergy whose work is not in parishes; multi-vocational priests; and clergy of ECCT whose ministry is carried out in other countries or dioceses.
- *Serving Our Country in the Military (especially those associated with Grace Church):* Brian, Lars, Spencer, Bradley, Curtis, Jordan, John, Carrington, William, Noel, James, Ryan, Michael, Karl, Alec, Jeff, David, Tom, Michael, Charles, Warren, and Mike.
- *Thanksgiving and Celebrations:* We give thanks and ask for thy blessings upon Richard Burt (Mon.) & Lily Pryor. (21 on Sat.), whose birthdays we celebrate this week.
- *Sick or in need:* Sally; Kenneth & Adrienne; Elaine, Tom & Daisy; Margaret; Nelda Sue; Tom; James; Jerry; Bonnie & the Burns Family; Richard; Errol, Norma & the Kemp Family; Stephen & Ratana; Ellen; Barbara; Nigel, Kraig, & Deidre; Dick, Leanne, Aldon, Kim & Fiona; Carmen & Félix; Mary; Monica; Antoinette; Linda & the Galarza Family; Josephine, Melissa & Jaden; Mike, André & Maria; Judy; Peter; Doug; Jane; Bill, Carolyn & Susan; Laurie; Dave; Robert; Jerome; Lynn; McJohn; Doreen; Karen; Terra; Betty & John; Cheryl; Mary & Lou; Diane; Nazra; Susan & Nalbra; Diana; Donald; Eugenia; Jean; Lesley; for peace throughout the world, especially between Russia and Ukraine and in the Middle East; for Christians being persecuted around the world, particularly in China and Palestine; and all victims of natural and man-made disasters, including those affected by the pandemic.
- *The Deceased:* We pray for the repose of Larry Ludwig, Phil Grant, all soldiers & civilians killed in war or civil strife, all those who have died from CoVid-19, and in memory of Charles Bevan Jr.+, Joseph Wei, Ruth Buckner, Mary Jane Bowman, Canon Richard Norris, Gary Hryb, and Charles Fisher.

GRACE EPISCOPAL CHURCH

THE REV. ROWENA J. KEMP, RECTOR

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Rector's cell phone: 203-209-4178 Rector's email: RevRowena@gracehartford.org

Church e-mail: church@gracehartford.org Website: www.gracehartford.org



Visit "Grace Episcopal Church, Hartford, CT" on FACEBOOK.
Please join and help us spread the good news online!



THIS WEEK AT GRACE

Sunday, April 16 *The Second Sunday of Easter ~ Low Sunday*

8:00 a.m.: Low Mass

10:30 a.m.: Solemn High Mass (*also on Facebook Live*)

Monday, April 17 Feria

7:30 a.m.: Facebook Live Morning Prayer

6:00 p.m.: Facebook Live Evening Prayer

Tuesday, April 18 Feria

7:30 a.m.: Facebook Live Morning Prayer

Wednesday, April 19 *Alphege, Archbishop of Canterbury, and Martyr, 1012*

9:15 a.m.: Low Mass (*also on Facebook Live*), followed by breakfast at Effie's

6:00 p.m.: Facebook Live Evening Prayer

7:00 p.m.: Choir Rehearsal

Thursday, April 20 Feria

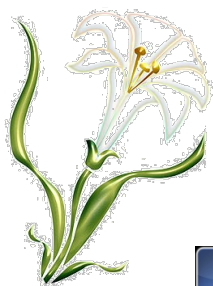
8:00 a.m.: Facebook Live Morning Prayer

10:00 a.m.: "A Place of Grace" food pantry distribution

Sunday, April 23 *The Third Sunday of Easter*

8:00 a.m.: Low Mass

10:30 a.m.: Solemn High Mass (*also on Facebook Live*)



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Please join, and help us spread the good news online!

