

# Second Sunday of Easter

## April 7, 2024



### WORDS OF WELCOME

### ENTRANCE HYMN *This joyful Eastertide (Vruechten)* (H 192)

*Unison or harmony*

1 This joy - ful Eas - ter - tide, a - way with sin and  
2 Death's flood hath lost its chill, since Je - sus crossed the  
3 My flesh in hope shall rest, and for a sea - son

sor - row! My Love, the Cru - ci - fied, hath  
riv - er: Lord of all life, from ill my  
slum - ber, till trump from east to west shall

*Refrain*  
sprung to life this mor - row.  
pass - ing life de - liv - er. Had Christ, that once was  
wake the dead in num - ber.

slain, ne'er burst his three-day pri - son, our faith had been in

vain; but now is Christ a - ris - en, a - ris - en, a - ris - en, a - ris - en, a - ris - en, a - ris - en, a - ris - en.

**OPENING ACCLAMATION**

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

**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.**

**S 278 Glory to God (Canticle 20) (Mathias)**

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 we who have been reborn into the fellowship of Christ's Body may show forth in our lives what we profess by our faith; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

## FIRST READING: Acts 4:32-35

*The people sit.*

A Reading from the Acts of the Apostles.<sup>32</sup>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.<sup>33</sup>With great power the apostles gave their testimony to the resurrection of the Lord Jesus, and great grace was upon them all.<sup>34</sup>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.<sup>35</sup>They laid it at the apostles' feet, and it was distributed to each as any had need.

*Reader* Hear what the Spirit is saying to God's people.

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

*Silence may follow.*

## PSALM TONE S 415 *Simplified chant setting (S 415)*

Jerome Webster Meachen

(b. 1930)



© 1956, Jerome Webster Meachen.

### PSALM: Psalm 133

1 Oh, how good and pleasant it is, \*  
when kindred 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 has God ordained the  **blessing:** \*  
life for ever**more.**

### SECOND READING: 1 John 1:1--2:2

A Reading from the First letter of John.

<sup>1</sup>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—<sup>2</sup>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—<sup>3</sup>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. <sup>4</sup>We are writing these things so that our joy may be complete.

<sup>5</sup>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. <sup>6</sup>If we say that we have fellowship with him while we are walking in darkness, we lie and do not do what is true; <sup>7</sup>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. <sup>8</sup>If we say that we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. <sup>9</sup>If we confess our sins, he who is faithful and just will forgive us our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness. <sup>10</sup>If we say that we have not sinned, we make him a liar, and his word is not in us.

<sup>2:1</sup>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; <sup>2</sup>and he is the atoning sacrifice for our sins, and not for ours only but also for the sins of the whole world.

*Reader* Hear what the Spirit is saying to God's people.

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

## SEQUENCE HYMN EOM2 120 Alleluia Gospel Acclamation (Mxadana)

*All stand.*

The musical score is written for a choir or congregation, featuring a treble and bass clef with a key signature of one sharp (F#). The melody is simple and repetitive, with lyrics: "Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia. Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia. Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia." The accompaniment consists of chords in the bass line.

Setting: South African, arr. Gobingca Mxadana © Gobingca Mxadana.  
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## 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.**

<sup>19</sup>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." <sup>20</sup>After he said this, he showed them his hands and his side. Then the disciples rejoiced when they saw the Lord. <sup>21</sup>Jesus said to them again, "Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, so I send you." <sup>22</sup>When he had said this, he breathed on them and said to them, "Receive the Holy Spirit. <sup>23</sup>If you forgive the sins of any, they are forgiven them; if you retain the sins of any, they are retained."

<sup>24</sup>But Thomas (who was called the Twin), one of the twelve, was not with them when Jesus came. <sup>25</sup>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."

<sup>26</sup>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." <sup>27</sup>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." <sup>28</sup>Thomas answered him, "My Lord and my God!" <sup>29</sup>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."

<sup>30</sup>Now Jesus did many other signs in the presence of his disciples, which are not written in this book. <sup>31</sup>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.**

## **SERMON**

**AFFIRMATION OF FAITH***(as used by the Washington National Cathedral)*

*Presider:* Let us declare our faith in God.

*Presider and people together:*

**We believe in God the Father,  
from whom every family  
in heaven and on earth is named.**

**We believe in God the Son,  
who lives in our hearts through faith,  
and fills us with his love.**

**We believe in God the Holy Spirit,  
who strengthens us  
with power from on high.**

**We believe in one God;  
Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.  
Amen.**

## **THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE**

*All kneel or remain standing as you are able.*

## **THE PEACE**

*All stand.*

*Celebrant*            The peace of the Lord be always with you.  
*People*                **And also with you.**

*Then the Ministers and the People may greet one another in the name of the Lord.*

## **THE HOLY COMMUNION**

## OFFERTORY SENTENCE

Let us with glad hearts offer the fruits of our life and labor to the Lord.

## OFFERTORY HYMN *I want to walk as a child of the light* (Houston) (H 490)

1 I want to walk as a child of the light.  
2 I want to see the bright-ness of God.  
3 I'm look-ing for the com-ing of Christ.

I want to fol-low Je-sus.  
I want to look at Je-sus.  
I want to be with Je-sus.

God set the stars to give light to the world. The  
Clear sun of right-ous-ness, shine on my path, and  
When we have run with pa-tience the race, we

star of my life is Je-sus.  
show me the way to the Fa-ther.  
shall know the joy of Je-sus.

### *Refrain*

In him there is no dark-ness at all. The

night and the day are both a - like. The

Lamb is the light of the ci - ty of God.

*a tempo*

Shine in my heart, Lord Je - sus.

## THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

*Celebrant*                      *People*

The Lord be with you. And al - so with you.

*Celebrant*                      *People*

Lift up your hearts. 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.

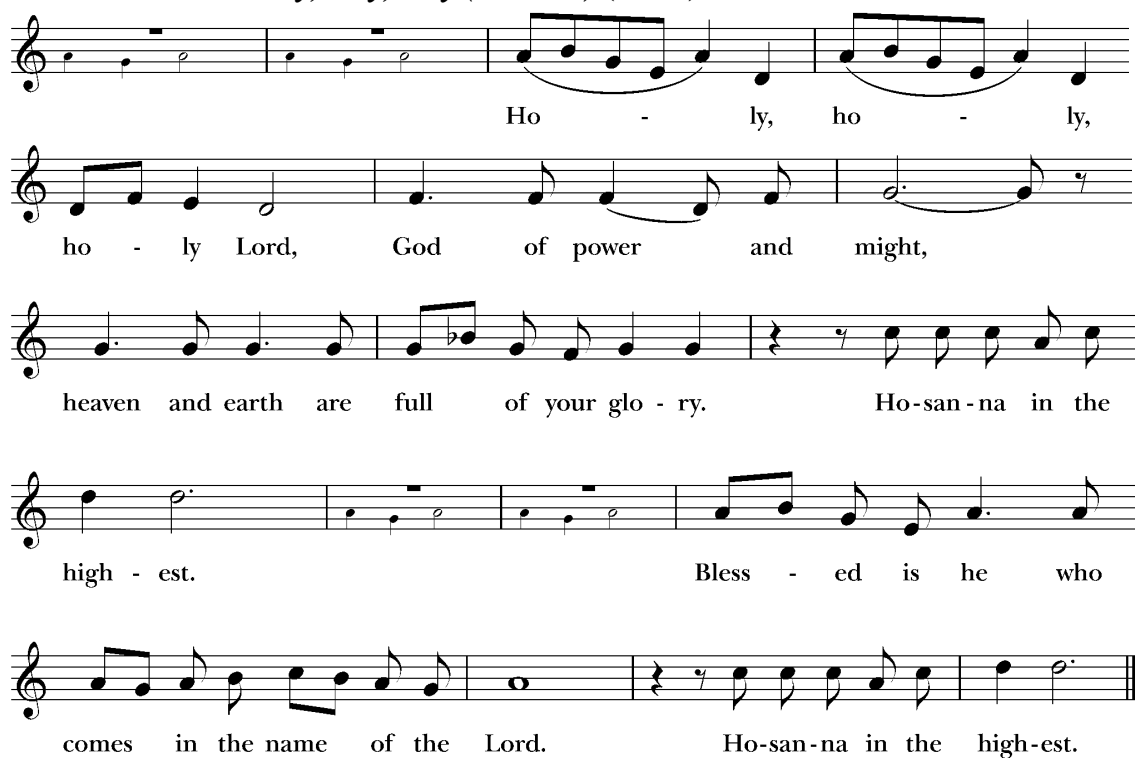
*Celebrant*        It is truly right, and good and joyful, to give you thanks, all-holy God, source of life and fountain of mercy.

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, joining with Angels and Archangels and with the faithful of every generation, we lift our voices with all creation as we sing:



## SANCTUS S 128 *Holy, holy, holy (Mathias) (S 128)*



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.

### *The Celebrant continues*

Blessed are you, gracious God, creator of the universe and giver of life. You formed us in your own image and called us to dwell in your infinite love. You gave the world into our care that we might be your faithful stewards and show forth your bountiful grace. But we failed to honor your image in one another and in ourselves; we would not see your goodness in the world around us; and so we violated your creation, abused one another, and rejected your love.

Yet you never ceased to care for us, and prepared the way of salvation for all people. Through Abraham and Sarah you called us into covenant with you. You delivered us from slavery, sustained us in the wilderness, and raised up prophets to renew your promise of salvation. Then, in the fullness of time, you sent your eternal Word, made mortal flesh in Jesus. Born into the human family, and dwelling among us, he revealed your glory. Giving himself freely to death on the cross, he triumphed over evil, opening the way of freedom and life.

On the night before he died for us, Our Savior Jesus Christ took bread, and when he had given thanks to you, he broke it, and gave it to his friends, and said: "Take, eat: This is my Body which is given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me."

As supper was ending, Jesus 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 poured out for you and for all 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.**

Remembering his death and resurrection, we now present to you from your creation this bread and this wine. By your Holy Spirit may they be for us the Body and Blood of our Savior Jesus Christ.

**Grant that we who share these gifts  
may be filled with the Holy Spirit  
and live as Christ's Body in the world.  
Bring us into the everlasting heritage  
of your daughters and sons,  
that with all your saints,  
past, present, and yet to come,  
we may praise your Name for ever.**

Through Christ and with Christ and in Christ,  
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,  
to you be honor, glory, and praise,  
for ever and ever. *AMEN*

**THE LORD'S PRAYER S 150 *The Lord's Prayer (Contemporary) (Hurd)***

*People and Celebrant*

*Unison or harmony*

Our Fa-ther in hea-ven, hal-lowed be your Name, your king-dom come,

your will be done, on earth as in heaven. Give us to-day our dai-ly bread.

For-give us our sins as we for-give those who sin a-gainst us. Save us

*Slightly faster*

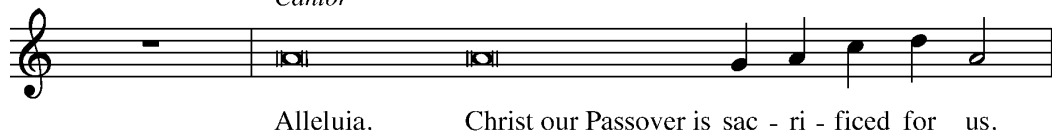


from the time of trial, and de - liv - er us from e - vil. For the king - dom,  
the power, and the glo - ry are yours, now and for ev - er. A - men.

## THE BREAKING OF THE BREAD

### FRACTION ANTHEM *EOMI 26 Christ our Passover (Crisafulli) Music for the Holy Eucharist Rite II*

*Cantor*



Alleluia. Christ our Passover is sac - ri - ficed for us.

*All*



There - fore let us keep the feast. Al - le - lu - ia.

Setting: Peter Crisafulli, based on *Christ ist erstanden* from **Music for the Holy Eucharist Rite II**, © 2002 Peter Crisafulli.  
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The Gifts of God for the People of God.

The Body and Blood of our Lord Jesus Christ keep us in everlasting life. ***Amen.***

## SPIRITUAL COMMUNION

*For those remaining at home, a Spiritual Communion is offered. This is a personal devotion that anyone can pray (at any time) to express their desire to receive Holy Communion at that moment, but in which circumstances prevent them from receiving the elements.*

For those worshipping with us from home, we pray together with you:

**Lord 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. By the power of the Holy Spirit, may I embody your grace and be renewed for your service. Amen.**

## SENDING FORTH

*(Holy Communion may be sent out to those who are sick.)*

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

## POST-COMMUNION PRAYER

Let us pray.

**Loving God,  
we give you thanks  
for restoring us in your image  
and nourishing us with spiritual food  
in the Sacrament of Christ's Body and Blood.  
Now send us forth  
a people, forgiven, healed, renewed;  
that we may proclaim your love to the world  
and continue in the risen life of Christ our Savior. Amen.**

## BLESSING

The Wisdom of God  
the Love of God  
and the Grace of God  
strengthen you  
to be Christ's hands and heart in this world,  
in the name of the Holy Trinity. *Amen.*

*(source: Celtic)*

## POST-COMMUNION HYMN *We walk by faith, and not by sight (St. Botolph) (H 209)*

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

The musical score is written for voice and piano. It features a treble and bass clef with a key signature of one sharp (F#). The melody is primarily in the treble clef, with piano accompaniment in the bass clef. The lyrics are arranged in four lines, with the first line containing the first four lines of the hymn. The second system contains the remaining lines of the hymn. The piano accompaniment consists of simple chords and moving lines that support the vocal melody.

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.

**DISMISSAL S 175A *Dismissal Easter***

*Deacon*

Let us go forth in the name of Christ, al - le - lu - ia,

al - le - lu - ia.

*People*

Thanks be to God, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

**Serving today:**

**Ministers of Music:** Eric Vinciguerra, and Choir

**Lector:** Nancy Hartshorne **Prayers:** Sr. Linda-Susan Beard

**Presider:** Rev. Diane Stier **Director:** Adam Baker

**Greeters:** Clancy & Patricia DeLong **Acolyte:** Misha Proctor

**Coffee Hour Hosts:** Ford & Pamela Dingman

**St. John's Episcopal Church**

206 West Maple Street

Mount Pleasant, MI 48858

989.773.7448

E-mail: [saintjohnsmp@gmail.com](mailto:saintjohnsmp@gmail.com)

Website: [www.stjohnsmtpleasantmi.com](http://www.stjohnsmtpleasantmi.com)

The Rev. Sr. Diane Stier, ec, Rector

Dan Eichinger, Senior Warden

Clancy DeLong, Treasurer

St. John's Episcopal Church is a parish of the

Episcopal Diocese of Western Michigan

The Episcopal Church

*The Most Rev. Dr. Michael B. Curry, Presiding Bishop*

The Worldwide Anglican Communion

*The Most Rev. Dr. Justin Welby, Archbishop of Canterbury*

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*Prayers are taken or adapted from the Book of Common Prayer, Enriching our Worship, the Book of Occasional Services 2018, and the New Zealand Prayer Book*

# **Choral Evensong**



**Be sure to mark your calendars for Choral Evensong on Sunday, April 21,  
2024 at 5PM**

**There will be a reception immediately following.**

# **TEAM UP WITH TIM!**

## *People Helping People*

Over 40,500 Sunday meals served since 2016

In April/May 2024, Tim Brockman's family pledges to match PHP donations up to \$10,000!

Scan the QR Cod to make a donation, or make checks payable to People Helping People



**venmo**



**We pray this week...**

For Michael, Presiding Bishop; Skip, our Assisting Bishop, and for our diocese; and Bonnie, Bishop of Michigan, Rayford, Bishop of Northern Michigan.

For Moisés, Bishop of the Dominican Republic

For Justin, Archbishop of Canterbury

For Craig, Bishop of ELCA.

For The Anglican Church of Melanesia

For Joe, our President; Gretchen, our Governor; and all who make decisions for this nation.

For Diane, our Rector; Eric, our Choirmaster; Mekeila, our Admin. Asst.

For all those in our diocese discerning calls to ministry, especially Christi and Jess

For our lay ministers, lectors, choir, acolytes, greeters, and hospitality hosts

For all non-parochial clergy and Lutheran pastors serving in our congregations

For St. Matthew, Saginaw - Mary Jo Hudson, Priest

For Church of the Epiphany, South Haven – Jim Steen, Interim Rector

For Worship Leaders in the Dioceses

For the members of St. John's, especially those celebrating birthdays this week: Seth, Ralph & Tom

For the members of St. John's especially: Kip, Bob, Lara, Sam, Geoffrey, Laura, Lonnie & Lynne

For those on the Prayer Group's list, especially Brent, Cindy, Diana, Gabriel, Mary Lou, Nancy, and Harry

For all who have died.

***Welcome to St. John's Episcopal Church, where faithful people and seekers have gathered for worship since 1884.***

Using this bulletin you will be able to participate as fully as you feel comfortable. In the Episcopal tradition, we do a lot of moving – standing, bowing, kneeling, sitting. Generally, we stand to *praise*, kneel to *pray*, and sit to *listen*. If you are unsure of what to do, just follow the moves of others around you. There's no one way of getting it "right"!

*Newcomers and visitors:* An accessible bathroom is located in the hallway outside the side door near the front of the church, and there is also one downstairs, which can be reached by the elevator in the same hallway.

*Please know that all are invited to Christ's table. If you would prefer not to receive, simply cross your arms across your chest to receive a blessing. Our Eucharistic bread is gluten free.*

*We believe what is written on the wall of the church on the Isle of Iona:*

*This is the table, not of the Church but of Jesus Christ.*

*It is made ready for those who love God and who want to love God more.*

*So come, you who have much faith and you who have little;*

*you who have been here often*

*and you who have not been here for a long time or ever before;*

*you who have tried to follow and you who have failed.*

*Come, not because the Church invites you;*

*it is Christ who invites you to be known and fed here.*

Again, welcome. We are glad you are here. Join us for *Coffee Hour* in the parish hall immediately after the service.

- *Rev. Sr. Diane Stier and the People of St. John's*