



Second Sunday of Easter
April 27, 2025
10:00 a.m.

St. John's Episcopal Church
Mt. Pleasant, Michigan

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. 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 through the side door just beyond the Nursery, 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.

The Rev. Sr. Diane Stier, Rector
and The People of St. John's

PRELUDE

WORDS OF WELCOME

ENTRANCE HYMN *This Day of Resurrection Joy*

This day of resurrection joy reminds us what is true:
That Christ is raised, and Christ is Lord, and we have work to do.
Christ's reign has surely come to earth and caught us by surprise:
And we who know that wondrous truth are called to live new lives.

One day when the disciples met, afraid, behind locked doors,
The Lord appeared and offered them a peace that still endures.
"Just as the Father sent me forth, now I am sending you."
He said, "Receive the Spirit's power," and gave them work to do.

So filled with resurrection joy, we make Christ's presence known,
For Christ goes with us to each place, and we are not alone.
We share our faith and serve the poor; we love, forgive and pray.
We trust the risen Lord to be close by us every day.

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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.*

GLORIA



1. Glo-ry to God in the high-est, and



peace to his peo-ple on earth. 2. Lord God, heaven-ly King, al-



might-y God and Fa-ther, we wor-ship you, we give you thanks, we



praise you for your glo-ry. 3. Lord Je-sus Christ,



on-ly Son of the Fa-ther, Lord God, Lamb of God, 4. you



take a-way the sin of the world: have mer-cy on us;



5. you are seat-ed at the right hand of the Fa-ther: re-



ceive our prayer.

6. For

you a-lone are the Ho-ly One, you a-lone are the Lord,
 7. you a-lone are the Most High, Je-sus Christ, with the
 Ho-ly Spi-rit, in the glo-ry of
 God the Fa-ther. A-men.

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 5:27-32

The people sit.

A Reading from the Acts of the Apostles.

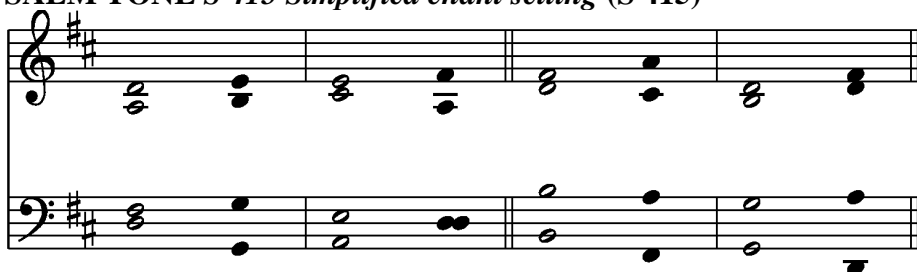
²⁷When [the captain and the temple police] had brought [the apostles,] they had them stand before the council. The high priest questioned them, ²⁸saying, “We gave you strict orders not to teach in this name, yet here you have filled Jerusalem with your teaching and you are determined to bring this man’s blood on us.” ²⁹But Peter and the apostles answered, “We must obey God rather than any human authority. ³⁰The God of our ancestors raised up Jesus, whom you had killed by hanging him on a tree. ³¹God exalted him at his right hand as Leader and Savior that he might give repentance to Israel and forgiveness of sins. ³²And we are witnesses to these things, and so is the Holy Spirit whom God has given to those who obey him.”

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)



© 1956, Jerome Webster Meachen.

PSALM: Psalm 118:14-29

14 God is my strength and my **song** *
and 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 Most High has **triumphed**; *
the right hand of the Most High is exalted;
the right hand of the Most High has **triumphed!**”

17 I shall not die, but **live** *
and declare the works of **God**.

18 God has punished me **sorely**, *
but did not hand me over to **death**.
19 Open for me the gates of **righteousness**; *
I will enter them;
I will offer thanks to **God**.
20 “This is the gate of the **Holy One**; *
those who are 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 God’s **doing**, *
and it is marvelous in our **eyes**.
24 On this day the Holy One has **acted**; *
we will rejoice and be **glad** in it.
25 Hosanna, O God, **hosanna!** *
O Holy One, send us now **success**.
26 Blest is the one who comes in the name of **God**; *
we bless you from the house of **God**.
27 God is the Holy One who has shined **upon us**; *
form a procession with branches up to
the horns of the **altar**.
28 “You are my God, and I will **thank** you; *
you are my God, and I will **exalt** you.”
29 Give thanks to God who is **good**; *
God’s mercy endures for **ever**.

SECOND READING: Revelation 1:4-8

A Reading from the Revelation of John.

⁴John to the seven churches that are in Asia:

Grace to you and peace from him who is and who was and who is to come, and from the seven spirits who are before his throne, ⁵and from Jesus Christ, the faithful witness, the firstborn of the dead, and the ruler of the kings of the earth.

To him who loves us and freed us from our sins by his blood, ⁶and made us to be a kingdom, priests serving his God and Father, to him be glory and dominion forever and ever. Amen.

⁷Look! He is coming with the clouds;
every eye will see him,

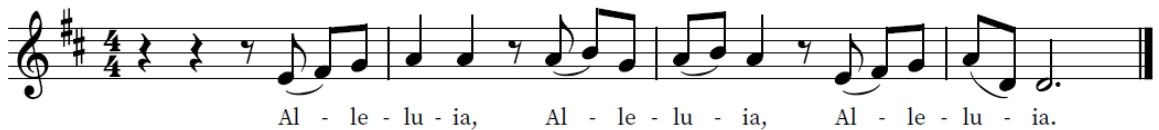
even those who pierced him;
and on his account all the tribes of the earth will wail.
So it is to be. Amen.

⁸“I am the Alpha and the Omega,” says the Lord God, who is and who was and who is to come, the Almighty.

Reader Hear what the Spirit is saying to God’s people.
People **Thanks be to God.**

All stand.

SEQUENCE HYMN *Brumfield*



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.**

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

²⁴But Thomas (who was called the Twin), one of the twelve, was not with them when Jesus came. ²⁵So 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.”

²⁶A 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.” ²⁷Then 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.” ²⁸Thomas answered him, “My Lord and my God!” ²⁹Jesus said to him, “Have you believed because you have seen me? Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have come to believe.”

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

HOMILY

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

Offer to God a sacrifice of thanksgiving, and make good your vows to the Most High.

Psalm 50:14

OFFERTORY HYMN *We walk by faith, and not by sight (St. Botolph) (H 209)*

The musical score is written in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. It consists of three systems of music, each with a vocal line and a piano accompaniment line. The lyrics are printed below the vocal line of each system.

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 - joice, and cry, "My Lord and God!"
you are near, and seek where you are found:
as you are, with full and end - less sight.

The People remain standing.

Celebrant The Lord be with you.
People **And also with you.**
Celebrant Lift up your hearts.
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.**

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)*

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

Holy and gracious God: In your infinite love you made us for yourself; and, when we had fallen into sin and become subject to evil and death, you, in your mercy, sent Jesus Christ, your only and eternal Son, to share our human nature, to live and die as one of us, to reconcile us to you, the God and maker of all.

He stretched out his arms upon the cross, and offered himself in obedience to your will, a perfect sacrifice for the whole world.

On the night he was handed over to suffering and death, our Lord Jesus Christ took bread; and when he had given thanks to you, he broke it, and gave it to his disciples, and said, "Take, eat: This is my Body, which is given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me."

After supper he took the cup of wine; and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, and said, "Drink this, all of you: This is my Blood of the new Covenant, which is shed for you and for all for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me."

Therefore we proclaim the mystery of faith:

Christ has died.

Christ is risen.

Christ will come again.

We celebrate the memorial of our redemption, Almighty God, in this sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving. Recalling his death, resurrection, and ascension, we offer you these gifts.

Sanctify them by your Holy Spirit to be for your people the Body and Blood of your Son, the holy food and drink of new and unending life in him. **Sanctify us also that we may faithfully receive this holy Sacrament, and serve you in unity, constancy, and peace; and at the last day bring us with all your saints into the joy of your eternal kingdom.**

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

*Slightly
faster*

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

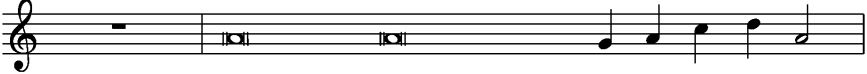
from the time of trial, and de - liv - er us from e - vil. For the king - dom,

the power, and the glo - ry are yours, now and for ev - er. A - men.

The Breaking of the Bread


FRACTION ANTHEM *EOM1 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. Used by permission. All rights reserved.

The Gifts of God for the People of God.

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

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.

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 *(Celtic)*

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.



POST-COMMUNION HYMN *That Easter day with joy was bright (Puer nobis)* (H 193)



1 That Eas - ter day with joy was bright, the
 2 His ris - en flesh with ra - diance glowed; his
 3 O Je - sus, King of gen - tle - ness, do
 4 O Lord of all, with us a - bide in
 5 All praise, O ris - en Lord, we give to

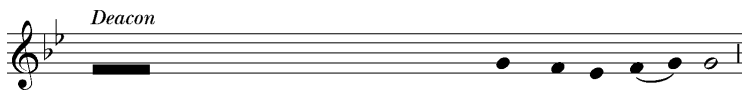


1 sun shone out with fair - er light, when, to their long - ing
 2 wound - ed hands and feet he showed; those scars their sol - emn
 3 thou thy - self our hearts pos - sess that we may give thee
 4 this our joy - ful Eas - ter - tide; from ev - ery wea - pon
 5 thee, who, dead, a - gain dost live; to God the Fa - ther



1 eyes re - stored, the a - pos - tles saw their ris - en Lord.
 2 wit - ness gave that Christ was ris - en from the grave.
 3 all our days the will - ing tri - bute of our praise.
 4 death can wield thine own re - deemed for ev - er shield.
 5 e - qual praise, and God the Ho - ly Ghost, we raise.

DISMISSAL S 175A *Dismissal Easter*



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



al - le - lu - ia.



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

St. John's Episcopal Church

206 West Maple Street
Mount Pleasant, MI 48858
989.773.7448

E-mail: saintjohnsmp@gmail.com
Website: 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 the Great Lakes
The Episcopal Church
The Most Rev. Dr. Sean Rowe, Presiding Bishop
The Worldwide Anglican Communion

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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

Serving today:

Lector: Jeanne Maxon **Prayers:** Tom Cochrane **Chalice:** Kevin Davidson

Presider: Rev. Diane Stier **Director:** Jerry May

Greeters: Jim & Pat Thurston **Acolyte:** Adam Baker

Coffee Hour: The Davidson Family

Easter Flowers were contributed by...

- ❖ Brent and Jeanne Maxon in loving memory of our family members: Moye, Fleda, Pat, Tom, Judith, and Ardath
- ❖ Tom & Mary Ellen Cochran – In honor of Ashley, Jeff, Sylvia, Laura, and Moussa.
- ❖ Ethan Kindle and family – in memory of Carol & Monty Kindle
- ❖ Lois Klumpp – in memory of Kendall Klumpp
- ❖ Ford and Pamela Dingman in memory of Harol, June, and Michael Miller
- ❖ Rev. Sr. Diane Stier in honor of Eric, Ethan, and the choir
- ❖ The Eichinger Family
- ❖ Lynne & Randi L'Hommedieu



Last chance to hear two of our Choral Scholars in the CMU choir!

Central Michigan University (CMU) will have a choir concert on May 1st, 2025, at Staples Family Concert Hall. The concert, titled "Live from Staples!", will feature the CMU Symphony Orchestra and various choirs, including the CMU Chamber Singers, and will be directed by Dr. Amon Eady and Dr. Keith Dodson. The concert will begin at 7:30 PM.

Admission is free, but seating is limited so come early to get a seat!

We pray this week...

For Sean, Presiding Bishop; for our diocese and its Standing Committee; for Bonnie, Bishop of Michigan; and for Rayford, Bishop of Northern Michigan.

For Moisés, Bishop of the Dominican Republic

For the Anglican communion

For Craig, Bishop of ELCA.

For The Anglican Church of Melanesia

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

For Diane, our Rector; Eric, our Choirmaster; Ethan, our Organist; 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 all the staff in our parishes

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

For Church of the Epiphany, South Haven – John Wakefield, Rector

For the members of St. John's especially: Barbara, Bernice, Brenda, Anna, Joyce, and Beverly

For those on the Prayer Group's list, especially Sandy, Bernice, Lizabeth, Ted & Nancy.

For all who have died, especially Pope Francis.