



CHRIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH

BLUEFIELD, WEST VIRGINIA

200 Duhring Street, Bluefield, WV 24701

(304) 327-6861

www.christchurchbluefield.org



Easter Sunday

April 4, 2021

The Festival of the Resurrection of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ

Welcome to this Place of Prayer

This bulletin contains our liturgy today. If you are new or visiting this congregation for the first time we invite you to fill out a Visitor's Card (from the usher) and place it in the collection plate located in the back of the church. We are honored you have chosen to worship with us today and hope that you will continue your faith journey here.

Prelude

The Proclamation of the Resurrection

Celebrant Alleluia! The Lord is Risen!

People The Lord is Risen indeed! Alleluia!

The Altar Party proceeds to the font.

Celebrant Let us pray.

O God, through your Son you have bestowed upon your people the brightness of your light: Sanctify this new fire, and grant that in this Paschal feast we may so burn with heavenly desires, that with pure minds we may attain to the festival of everlasting light; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

The Celebrant lights the New Fire, from which the Pascal Candle—the symbol of Christ's presence—is then lit.

Celebrant The Light of Christ!

People Thank be to God!

The Celebrant then recites

Rejoice now, heavenly hosts and choirs of angels, and let your trumpets shout Salvation for the victory of our mighty King. Rejoice and sing now, all the round earth, bright with a glorious splendor, for darkness has been vanquished by our eternal King. Rejoice and be glad now, Mother Church, and let your holy courts, in radiant light, resound with the praises of your people.

From the *Exultet*, 5th Century

The Celebrant lights the tapers and then processes to the altar to light the candles. While the Celebrant censers the altar, then is sung the Gloria by the choir.

Glory to God in the highest,

and peace to his people on earth.

Lord God, heavenly King,

almighty God and Father,

we worship you, we give you thanks,

we praise you for your glory.

Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father,

Lord God, Lamb of God,

you take away the sin of the world:

have mercy on us;

you are seated at the right hand of the Father:

receive our prayer.



For you alone are the Holy One,
you alone are the Lord,
you alone are the Most High,
Jesus Christ,
with the Holy Spirit,
in the glory of God the Father. Amen.

We Hear and Respond to God's Word

The Collect for the Day

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

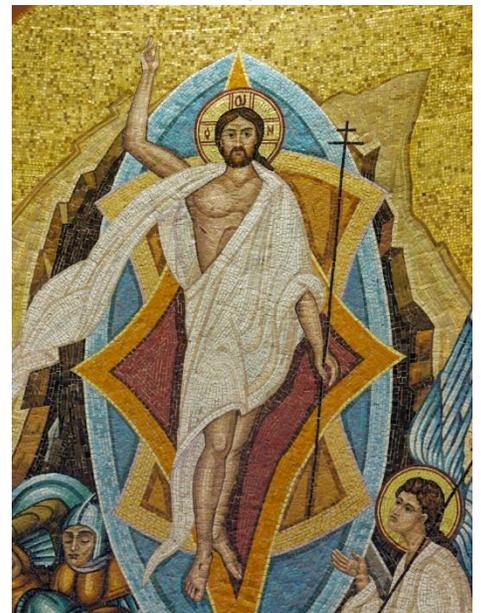
Isaiah 25:6-9

On this mountain the Lord of hosts will make for all peoples
a feast of rich food, a feast of well-aged wines,
of rich food filled with marrow, of well-aged wines strained clear.
And he will destroy on this mountain
the shroud that is cast over all peoples,
the sheet that is spread over all nations;
he will swallow up death forever.
Then the Lord God will wipe away the tears from all faces,
and the disgrace of his people he will take away from all the earth,
for the Lord has spoken.

It will be said on that day, Lo, this is our God; we
have waited for him, so that he might save us.
This is the Lord for whom we have waited;
let us be glad and rejoice in his salvation.

Lector The Word of the Lord.

People Thank be to God!



The Psalm

Psalm 118:1-2, 14-24

Confitemini Domino

The Psalm will be read responsively by whole verse

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.

Said together by all

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit: as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be for ever. Amen.

The Second 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."

Lector The Word of the Lord.

People Thank be to God!

The Gospel Lesson

John 20:1-18

Celebrant 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.

Celebrant The Gospel of the Lord.

People Praise to you, Lord Christ.



The Nicene Creed

All stand as they are able

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:

by the power of the Holy Spirit

he became incarnate from the Virgin Mary,
and was made man.

For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate;
he suffered death and was buried.

On the third day he rose again

in accordance with the Scriptures;

he ascended into heaven

and is seated at the right hand of the Father.

He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead,
and his kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son.

With the Father and the Son he is worshiped and glorified.

He has spoken through the Prophets.

We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church*.

We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.

We look for the resurrection of the dead,

and the life of the world to come. Amen.

**meaning the church universal, that all Christians are one people regardless of denomination*

The Prayers of the People

The intercessor greets the congregation with the following words and leads us in prayer.

Christ is Risen! He is risen indeed! At this the heavenly choirs of angels rejoice, the earth exults, and mother church is glad. There I ask you, who praise the loving-kindness of the almighty, to join in prayer for all people everywhere according to their needs.

Lord God, our loving heavenly Father, we thank and praise you for the glorious resurrection of our Saviour, Jesus Christ. Your Son, our Passover Lamb, has taken away the sin of the world. Forgive us and all people.

Lord, in your mercy: *Hear our prayer.*

Your Son said, 'Peace be with you'. Bring your peace to the world and to our own country.

Lord, in your mercy: *Hear our prayer.*

Your Son appeared to Mary Magdalene when she was weeping. Comfort those who are sad, lonely, or grieving.

Lord, in your mercy: *Hear our prayer.*

Your Son met the women and asked them to tell the disciples about his resurrection. Guide Christians everywhere to witness to the resurrection in their lives.

Lord, in your mercy: *Hear our prayer.*

Your Son proclaimed himself to the two disciples from the Scriptures and made himself known to them in the breaking of the bread. Reveal him to us and all people through the teaching of your word and the celebration of your holy meal.

Lord, in your mercy: *Hear our prayer.*

Your Son strengthened the faith of Thomas by telling him to touch his hands and side. Reassure those who are troubled by doubts, and strengthen their faith in your goodness.

Lord, in your mercy: *Hear our prayer.*

Your Son conquered death by his death and won the victory by his resurrection. Be with those who are dying and lead them to life with you forever.

Lord, in your mercy: *Hear our prayer.*

Rejoicing in the fellowship of the ever-blessed Virgin Mary, and all the saints, let us commend ourselves, and one another, and all our life to Christ our God.

To you, O Lord our God.

The Celebrant concludes the prayers

O Lord our God, accept the fervent prayers of your people; in the multitude of your mercies, look with compassion upon us and all who turn to you for help; for you are gracious, O lover of souls, and to you we give glory, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, now and for ever. *Amen.*

The Confession and Absolution

The Celebrant then calls the people to confess their sins to God

Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

Silence may be kept.

Minister and People

Most merciful God,
we confess that we have sinned against you
in thought, word, and deed,
by what we have done,
and by what we have left undone.
We have not loved you with our whole heart;
we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves.
We are truly sorry and we humbly repent.
For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ,
have mercy on us and forgive us;
that we may delight in your will,
and walk in your ways,
to the glory of your Name. Amen.

The Bishop, when present, or the Priest, stands and says

Almighty God have mercy on you, forgive you all your sins through our Lord Jesus Christ, strengthen you in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep you in eternal life. Amen.

The Peace

Celebrant The peace of the Lord be always with you.

People And also with you.

The Holy Eucharist, sometimes call *The Mass*

Offertory

Jesus Christ is Risen Today

The Eucharistic Prayer

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.

The Celebrant continues

It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth. But chiefly are we bound to praise you for the glorious resurrection of your Son Jesus Christ our Lord; for he is the true Paschal Lamb, who was sacrificed for us, and has taken away the sin of the world. By his death he has destroyed death, and by his rising to life again he has won for us everlasting life.

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

Celebrant and People

Holy, Holy, Holy Lord, God of power and might,
heaven and earth are full of your glory.

Hosanna in the highest.

Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.

Hosanna in the highest.

The people stand or kneel.

Then the Celebrant continues

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

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



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

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

Therefore we proclaim the mystery of faith:

Celebrant and People

Christ has died.

Christ is risen.

Christ will come again.

The Celebrant continues

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

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 Father, now and for ever. AMEN.

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

People and Celebrant

Our Father, who art in heaven,
hallowed be thy Name,
thy kingdom come,
thy will be done,
on earth as it is in heaven.



Give us this day our daily bread.
And forgive us our trespasses,
as we forgive those
who trespass against us.
And lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom,
and the power, and the glory,
for ever and ever. Amen.



The Fraction

Celebrant Behold the Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world!

The Celebrant then breaks the Consecrated Bread

Celebrant Alleluia! Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us;

People Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia!

The Celebrant then presents the Sacrament to the People

These are 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.

The Invitation to Spiritual Communion

Celebrant

The receipt of the bread and wine, which is the body and the blood of our Lord Jesus Christ, in the sacrament of the Holy Eucharist, is an outward and visible sign of an inward and spiritual grace. In as much as you would like to partake of this holy food, the spiritual grace provided by the same is supplied to you.

Reader

In union, O Lord, with your faithful people at every altar of your Church, where the Holy Eucharist is now being celebrated, I desire to offer to you praise and thanksgiving. I remember your death, Lord Christ; I proclaim your resurrection; I await your coming in glory. And since I cannot receive you today in the Sacrament of your Body and Blood, I beseech you to come spiritually into my heart. Cleanse and strengthen me with your grace, Lord Jesus, and let me never be separated from you. May I live in you, and you in me, in this life and in the life to come. Amen.

The Distribution of the Holy Sacrament

All baptized Christians, of any tradition, are welcome to receive the sacrament. Everyone, regardless of faith, is welcome to receive a blessing— simply cross your arms in front of you approach the priest. Each row, beginning in the front, should come up to the chancel step to receive the Blessed Bread. The Chalice cannot be offered at this time by direction of the Bishop of West Virginia. Once the priest has dropped the Blessed Bread in your hand you should return by the side aisle to your pew. Once a row has been Communed, the next is free to come to the chancel steps.

Gluten free wafers are available to those who request them.



Our Prayer after Communion

After Communion, the Celebrant says

Let us pray.

Celebrant and People

Eternal God, heavenly Father,
you have graciously accepted us as living members
of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ,
and you have fed us with spiritual food
in the Sacrament of his Body and Blood.
Send us now into the world in peace,
and grant us strength and courage
to love and serve you
with gladness and singleness of heart;
through Christ our Lord. Amen.

The Hymn of Praise

The Te Deum is sung by the choir

We praise thee, O God; we acknowledge thee to be the Lord.

All the earth doth worship thee, the Father everlasting.

To thee all Angels cry aloud,

the Heavens and all the Powers therein.

To thee Cherubim and Seraphim continually do cry:

Holy, holy, holy, Lord God of Sabaoth;

Heaven and earth are full of the majesty of thy glory.

The glorious company of the apostles praise thee.

The goodly fellowship of the prophets praise thee.

The noble army of martyrs praise thee.

The holy Church throughout all the world
doth acknowledge thee,

the Father, of an infinite majesty,

thine adorable, true, and only Son,

also the Holy Ghost the Comforter.

Thou art the King of glory, O Christ.

Thou art the everlasting Son of the Father.

When thou tookest upon

thee to deliver man,

thou didst humble thyself to be born

of a Virgin.

When thou hadst overcome the

sharpness of death,

thou didst open the kingdom of heaven

to all believers.

Thou sittest at the right hand of God,

in the glory of the Father.

We believe that thou shalt come

to be our judge.

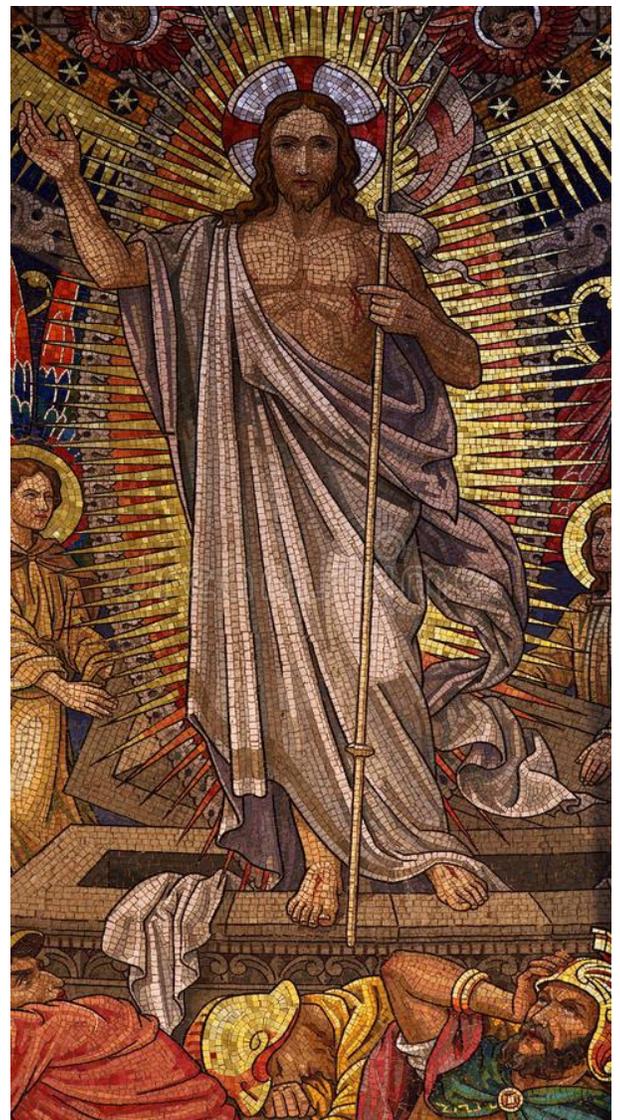
We therefore pray thee, help thy servants,

whom thou hast redeemed with thy

precious blood.

Make them to be numbered with thy saints,

in glory everlasting.



The Great Blessing of Easter

The Celebrant then pronounces the following blessing over the people

The God of peace, who brought again from the dead our Lord Jesus Christ, the great Shepherd of the sheep, through the blood of the everlasting covenant, make you perfect in every good work to do his will, working in you that which is well-pleasing in his sight; and the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be among you, and remain with you, always.

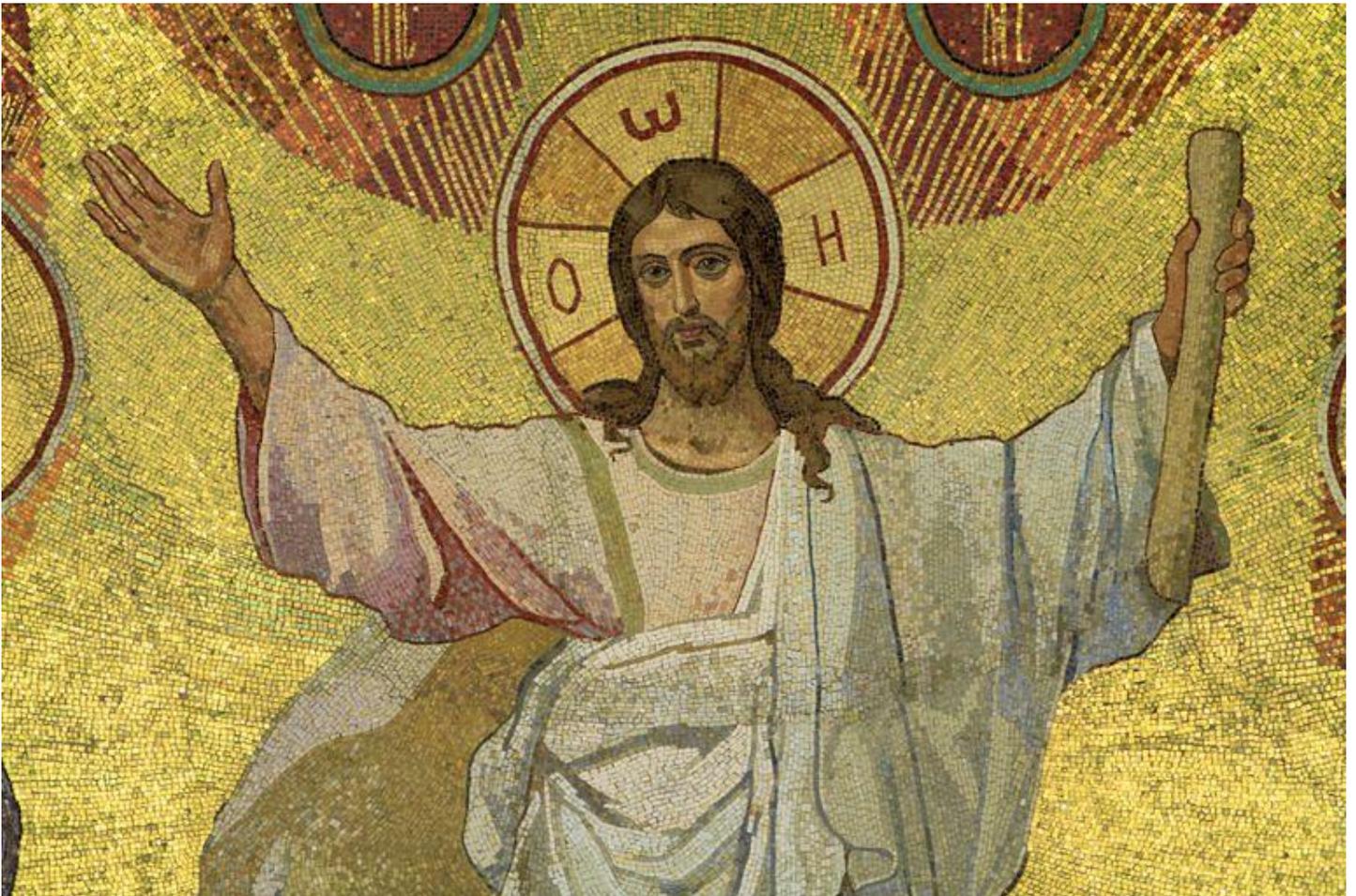
People Amen!

The Dismissal

We are dismissed from this gathering to go into the world to spread the Good News and the love of Christ! We respond to this instruction with:

Thanks be to God! Alleluia! Alleluia!

Postlude



The beautiful Easter lilies and flowers that adorn the Church today were given by the generosity of the following persons to the greater glory of God and in memory or honor of:

Donor

In memory of

Don & Mary Catherine Williams

In memory of Loved Ones

Sheila Lambert

In memory of Loved Ones

Betty Nash & Charlie Blevins

In memory of Charlie's brother, Timmy Blevins

Jim & Susanne Pulse

In memory of Loved Ones

Terry Whittington

In memory of Terry & Thelma Kelly Whittington

Mollie Whittington

In memory of William Gordan Whittington

David Hardin

In memory of Loved Ones

Peter & Patricia Taylor

In memory of Dr. & Mrs. Brookins Taylor

In memory of Mr. & Mrs. Howard Hale

David & Debbie Faber

In memory of our Parents

In honor of our Grandsons: Alexander & Killian Tombillo

Chad & Jennifer Slater

In memory of Margaret Westfall

Elizabeth Hart

In memory of her father, James H. Tolbert

Linda Ammar

In memory of Loved Ones

Shirley Ofsa

In memory of Loved Ones

The Broyles Family

In memory of Loved Ones

Sheila Brooks

In memory of McNeil Lovelace

In memory of Lillian Lovelace Holt

Cathy Cowan

In memory of her mother, Ron, Bobby,

Jeremy, & Joann

The McCue Family

In memory of Dr. & Mrs. Alonzo McCue

In memory of Dr. & Mrs. Ralph McCue

In memory of Mrs. Lucille H. Gilliss

Mike & Kay Sudduth

In memory of Loved Ones

Donald & Becky Kersey

In memory of Loved Ones

Ted & Katherine Lewis

In memory of Loved Ones

Jim & Chris Justice

In memory of Loved Ones

The Altar Flowers are given today by
Mr. and Mrs. Peter Richardson
in memory of Loved Ones.

The Chancel Rail Flowers are given today by the Rev. and Mrs. Chad Slater in honor of their children, Benjamin and Emma, for all the dedicated service they have offered to this parish over the course of the pandemic.

The donors of the Easter Lilies may pick up their flowers following the 10 AM service today.



Participants in Today's Liturgy

<u>Celebrant</u>	the Very Rev. Chad Slater
<u>Organist & Choirmaster</u>	Terry E. Whittington, Jr.
<u>Acolytes</u>	Benjamin Slater Emma Slater
<u>Lectors</u>	Delia Kersey John Moir
<u>Intercessor</u>	Teresa Paine
<u>Choir</u>	David Hardin Alyson Bowling
<u>Altar Guild</u>	Betty Nash Delia Kersey



Attendance Last Sunday: 39

Birthdays This Week: Paine Shanley

Please Keep the Following in Your Prayers:

Dorene Dimes, Bonnie Taylor, Joe Sanders, Lee Puckett, Sr., Mabeline Robinson, Bea Paine, Lynn Burney, Marilyn Denney, Donna Fortune, Bob and Peggy Walk, Susan Jewell, John Kersey, Martha Linkous, Sarah Irwin, Janet Slager, Kelly Cox, Dean Farmer, Haddon Lazenby, Jack Burchette, Nick, JL, Cis Barrett, Kathy, Randy Snider, Lane, Loraine, Sherry, Margarete Joplin, Emily Broome, David, Cady, Martin, Harry, Ben Rose, Jay Kephart, Rick Longworth, all Healthcare Personnel and Frontline Workers, Jack, Sheri, Dan, Kathy, Hamilton Jones, Kensley, John, Emily, and Kathleen Nieman.

Calendar of Events

Monday – Friday April 5-9

Wednesday – April 14

Thursday – April 15

Wednesday – April 21

Church Office Closed

Serving Dinner at the Union Mission 3:00pm

Food Pantry 9:00 – 11:00 am

Vestry Meeting 7:00pm

Announcements:

Dinners at the Union Mission: We will resume serving dinner at the Bluefield Union Mission on Wednesday, April 14th. Please join us if you are able to prepare the meal and serve it. Work will begin at 3:00 pm. We will be serving on the second Wednesday of each month thereafter. When we confirm with the Union Mission we will let you know about resuming our duties on the 4th Wednesday of each month as well. Thank you!

Online Bible Study: There will be no online Bible Study this Wednesday, April 7. Online Bible Study will resume on Wednesday, April 14 at 10:30 am.

Diocesan Prayer Shawl Ministry Formed: Please join us as we begin a new ministry where the love of knitting and crochet will be combined with prayer to reach out to those in need of comfort and solace. At this time, the group plans to meet regularly via Zoom and will spend time in prayer and friendship while knitting or crocheting lap blankets and shawls to be given to others. Completed shawls or blankets are for anyone in need of comfort such as those undergoing medical procedures; as a comfort after a loss or in times of stress; during bereavement; prayer or meditation; commitment or marriage ceremonies; birth; adoption; bridal shower or wedding gift; during an illness and recovery; ministering to others; graduation, birthday, anniversary, ordination, holiday gifts; or simply friendship. The Prayer Shawl Ministry is an opportunity to offer others compassion and love and to learn that God works through us when we care for friends and strangers alike. Our first Zoom meeting is scheduled for March 1 at 7:30 pm. Please contact Karen Klein at mansiongal@gmail.com for more information on how you can get involved and links for the upcoming Zoom meeting.



Clergy, Staff, and Wardens of this Parish

the Very Rev. Chad Slater

Mr. Terry E. Whittington, Jr.

Ms. Emma Bennett

Mrs. Vanessa Hall

Mr. David Kersey

Mr. Tom Coughlan

Rector

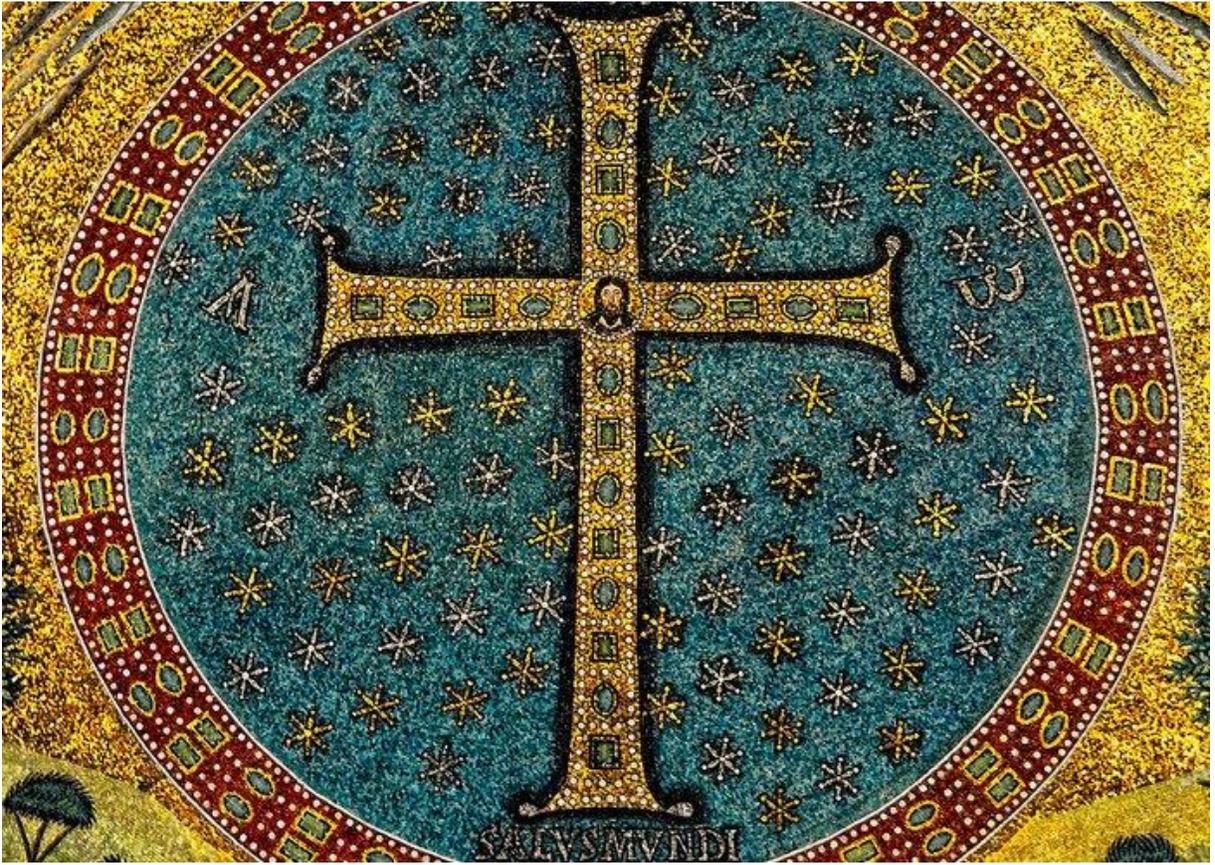
Organist & Choirmaster

Parish Administrator

Sexton

Senior Warden

Junior Warden



Eastertide

Let every heart be filled with joy,
A joy of thankfulness to our Savior and King!

He is victorious over sin and death.

He conquered death to give us a new life.
A life blossoms through His unending love.

It is for a cause and without condition
The love that brings healing and reconciliation,

A pure love that creates in us real peace.

Peace that springs from his sacred heart,

A heart that bleeds for our affliction.

It is full of mercy and compassion,
A heart wounded for our sins and vainglory.

Rejoice! Jesus is truly risen from the dead

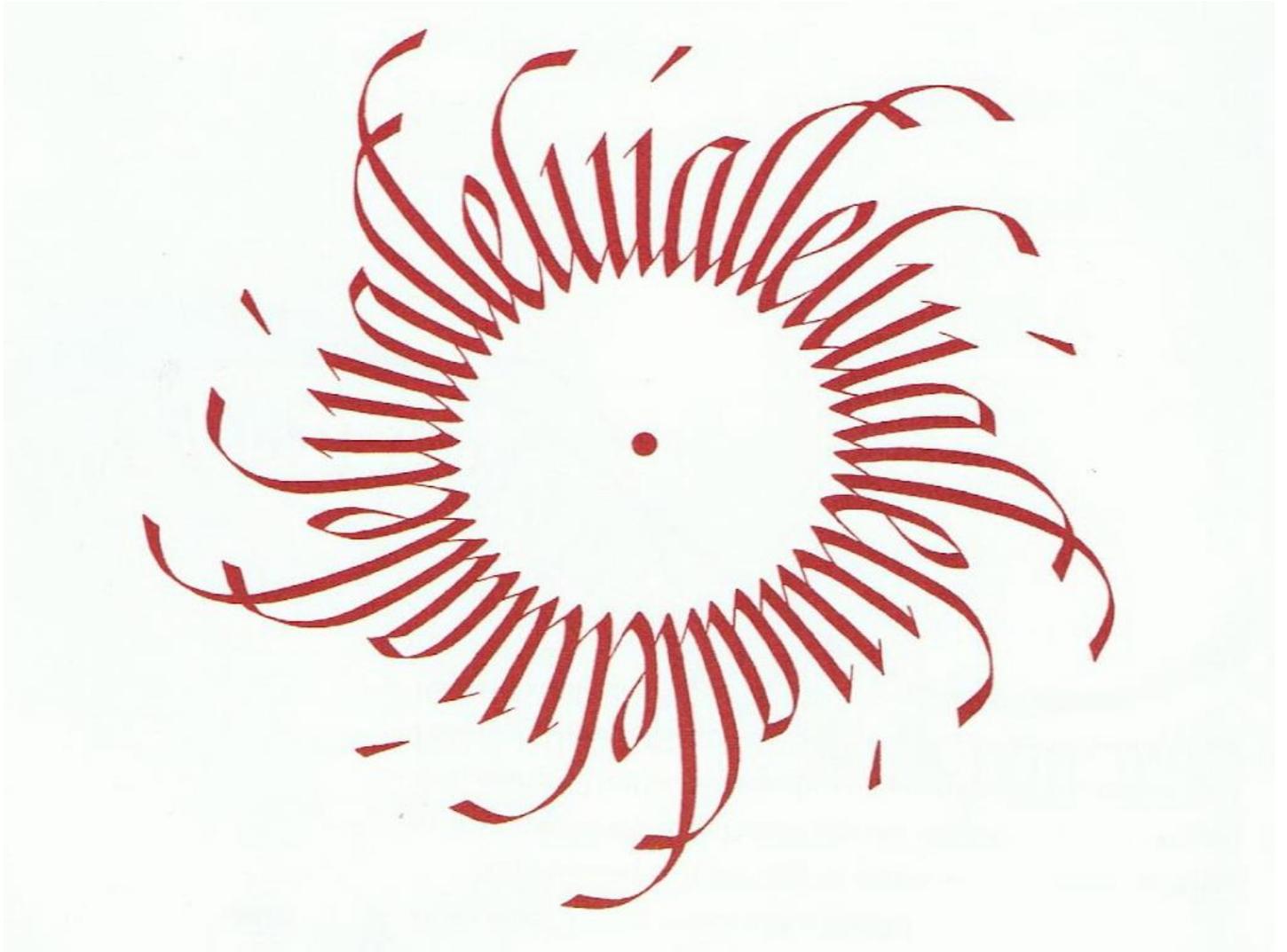
For us to live once again,

To live without blemish of pride,

And live a life unselfishly for others in need.

-by Estela Canama

**Alleluia!
The Lord is Risen!**



**The Lord is Risen Indeed!
Alleluia!**