

The 3rd Sunday of Easter

26 April 2020

Hymn – the Episcopal Church virtual choir and orchestra

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=JAYi64eagTI>

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

**The strife is o'er, the battle done,
the victory of life is won;
the song of triumph has begun.**

Alleluia!

**The powers of death have done their worst,
but Christ their legions hath dispersed:
let shout of holy joy outburst.**

Alleluia!

**The three sad days are quickly sped,
he rises glorious from the dead:
all glory to our risen Head!**

Alleluia!

**He closed the yawning gates of hell,
the bars from heaven's high portals fell;
let hymns of praise his triumphs tell!**

Alleluia!

**Lord! by the stripes which wounded thee,
from death's dread sting thy servants free,
that we may live and sing to thee.**

Alleluia!

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

THE INTRODUCTORY RITES

Entrance Antiphon

Cf Ps 65.1-2

Cry out with joy to God, all the earth;
O sing to the glory of his name.
O render him glorious praise, alleluia.

Greeting

✠ In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.
Amen.

The Lord be with you.
And also with you.

Christ is risen, alleluia.
He is risen indeed, alleluia.

Penitential Act

Dear friends,
this water will be sprinkled on us
as a memorial of our Baptism.
May the Lord our God help us by his grace
to remain faithful to the Spirit we have received.

The celebrant sprinkles all present with holy water, moving through the church.
Meanwhile, the chant I saw water (Vidi aquam), or another appropriate chant is sung.

The chant, in Latin,
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=429smHGuy3I>

I saw water flowing from the Temple,
from its right-hand side, alleluia:
and all to whom this water came
were saved and shall say: alleluia, alleluia.

Verses from Psalm 118 and the doxology Glory to God may also be sung.

The celebrant says:

May almighty God cleanse us of our sins,
and through the celebration of this Eucharist
make us worthy to share at the table of his Kingdom.
Amen.

Hymn of Praise

**Glory to God in the highest,
and peace to God's 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.**

Collect

Let us pray.

O God,
your Son made himself known to his disciples
in the breaking of bread:
open the eyes of our faith,
that we may see him in his redeeming work;
who is alive and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

THE LITURGY OF THE WORD

First Reading

Acts 2.14a, 36-41

A reading from the Acts of the Apostles.

On the day of Pentecost, Peter, standing with the eleven, raised his voice and addressed the crowd, 'Let the entire house of Israel know with certainty that God has made him both Lord and Messiah, this Jesus whom you crucified.' Now when they heard this, they were cut to the heart and said to Peter and to the other apostles, 'Brothers, what should we do?' Peter said to them, 'Repent, and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ so that your sins may be forgiven; and you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit. For the promise is for you, for your children, and for all who are far away, everyone whom the Lord our God calls to him.' And he testified with many other arguments and exhorted them, saying, 'Save yourselves from this corrupt generation.' So those who welcomed his message were baptized, and that day about three thousand persons were added to their number.

For the word of the Lord,
thanks be to God.

Responsorial Psalm

Psalm 116.1-4, 11-18

℟. Gracious is the Lord and righteous; our God is full of compassion

- 1 I love the Lord, because he heard my voice:
the voice of my supplication;
- 2 Because he inclined his ear to me:
in the day that I called to him. **℟.**
- 3 The cords of death encompassed me, the snares of the grave took hold on me:
I was in anguish and sorrow.
- 4 Then I called upon the name of the Lord:
'O Lord, I beseech you, deliver me!' **℟.**
- 11 How shall I repay the Lord:
for all his benefits to me?
- 12 I will take up the cup of salvation:
and call upon the name of the Lord.
- 13 I will pay my vows to the Lord:
in the presence of all his people. **℟.**

- 14 Grievous in the sight of the Lord:
is the death of his faithful ones.
- 15 O Lord, I am your servant, your servant and the child of your handmaid:
you have unloosed my bonds. **R.**
- 16 I will offer you a sacrifice of thanksgiving:
and call upon the name of the Lord.
- 17 I will pay my vows to the Lord:
in the presence of all his people,
- 18 In the courts of the house of the Lord:
even in your midst, O Jerusalem. Praise the Lord. **R.**

Second Reading

1 Peter 1.17-23

A reading from the first letter of Peter.

If you invoke as Father the one who judges all people impartially according to their deeds, live in reverent fear during the time of your exile. You know that you were ransomed from the futile ways inherited from your ancestors, not with perishable things like silver or gold, but with the precious blood of Christ, like that of a lamb without defect or blemish. He was destined before the foundation of the world, but was revealed at the end of the ages for your sake. Through him you have come to trust in God, who raised him from the dead and gave him glory, so that your faith and hope are set on God. Now that you have purified your souls by your obedience to the truth so that you have genuine mutual love, love one another deeply from the heart. You have been born anew, not of perishable but of imperishable seed, through the living and enduring word of God.

For the word of the Lord,
thanks be to God.

Gospel Acclamation

Cf. Lk 24.32

Alleluia, alleluia!

Lord Jesus, open the scriptures to us.
Make our hearts burn while you speak to us.
Alleluia!

Gospel

Luke 24.13-35

The Lord be with you.
And also with you.

✠ A reading from the holy Gospel according to Luke.
Glory to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

On that same day, two of the disciples were going to a village called Emmaus, about seven miles from Jerusalem, and talking with each other about all these things that had happened. While they were talking and discussing, Jesus himself came near and went with them, but their eyes were kept from recognizing him. And he said to them, ‘What are you discussing with each other while you walk along?’ They stood still, looking sad. Then one of them, whose name was Cleopas, answered him, ‘Are you the only stranger in Jerusalem who does not know the things that have taken place there in these days?’ Jesus asked them, ‘What things?’ They replied, ‘The things about Jesus of Nazareth, who was a prophet mighty in deed and word before God and all the people, and how our chief priests

and leaders handed him over to be condemned to death and crucified him. But we had hoped that he was the one to redeem Israel. Yes, and besides all this, it is now the third day since these things took place. Moreover, some women of our group astounded us. They were at the tomb early this morning, and when they did not find his body there, they came back and told us that they had indeed seen a vision of angels who said that he was alive. Some of those who were with us went to the tomb and found it just as the women had said; but they did not see Jesus.’ Then he said to them, ‘Oh, how foolish you are, and how slow of heart to believe all that the prophets have declared! Was it not necessary that the Messiah should suffer these things and then enter into his glory?’ Then beginning with Moses and all the prophets, he interpreted to them the things about himself in all the scriptures.

As they came near the village to which they were going, he walked ahead as if he were going on. But they urged him strongly, saying, ‘Stay with us, because it is almost evening and the day is now nearly over.’ So he went in to stay with them. When he was at the table with them, he took bread, blessed and broke it, and gave it to them. Then their eyes were opened, and they recognized Jesus; and he vanished from their sight. They said to each other, ‘Were not our hearts burning within us while he was talking to us on the road, while he was opening the scriptures to us?’ That same hour they got up and returned to Jerusalem; and they found the eleven and their companions gathered together. They were saying, ‘The Lord has risen indeed, and he has appeared to Simon!’ Then they told what had happened on the road, and how he had been made known to them in the breaking of the bread.

For the Gospel of the Lord,
praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

Pause to reflect on the Word.

Reflection

Fr Graeme Kaines

If my mother ever suspected the truth behind whatever I was telling her she’d exclaim: “Someone’s telling stories!” There are many kinds of stories. Some are myths, others are legends, and others are plain false in every way while others again are factually true or embellished truth.

The Gospel this morning is a compelling story which one can be confident falls into a category of embellished truth. I think this because St Luke, the writer, is trying to convey a real truth in this story. Most stories contain a truth about something or someone and it is important that we discover this truth and embrace whatever it is. The truth about St Luke is that he is doctor of medicine and an intelligent follower of Christ who has clear writing ability. His aim is to convey the truth about Christ to a largely Gentile readership.

The truth in this story is that Christ is risen and makes himself known in the Breaking of the Bread. It is this truth which has been the foundation of the Catholic understanding of Holy Communion. It is possible to pass in then out, several times over, in one’s embrace of Christ’s presence in the Sacrament. I have found over the years that my emotional conviction about the Sacrament is seasonal, depending on my frame of mind and the church with which I am associated.

I suppose the most wonderful season of my embrace of the meaning of the Sacrament was when I was the Assistant Priest at Christ Church St Laurence in Sydney. There the music and the ceremonial readily aided one's thoughts and convictions. But there have been other circumstances when I have felt my spine tingle during Mass – several times at St Peter's Collegiate Girls' School masses and several times at St Mary Magdalene's Church over the years. I can also recall occasions which have been very, very simple and quiet when my spine has tingled over Christ's presence.

The setting for worship is crucial for our attention and emotions to be accessible. We all need the space and time to tune our minds and emotions to what is taking place in church. Apart from all this the scriptural words themselves are spine tingling. Every time I hear them or read them it remains a story which I find very moving.

Given the circumstances of Jesus' death and now some news of his resurrection it is unsurprising that the disciples were not immediately receptive to further stories. They were just emerging from being distraught.

How are we to try to apply this account of a resurrection appearance to our daily lives? I think it calls us to value highly the occasions we come to church for the celebration of the Mass. It becomes our regular opportunity to meet the risen Christ. It may not always be spine tingling but the fact of the meeting remains. We can feel encouraged or pleased without necessarily feeling inspired. Holy Communion then can be a launching pad for all kinds of personal goals. Holy Communion with risen Christ can stiffen our resolve to do something or be someone where you are needed.

The Apostles' Creed (in Easter Time)

Let us profess the faith of the church:

**I believe in God, the Father almighty,
creator of heaven and earth.**

**I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord,
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,
born of the virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died, and was buried;
he descended to the dead.**

**On the third day he rose from the dead;
he ascended into heaven,
and is seated at the right hand of the Father;
from there he will come to judge
the living and the dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy catholic Church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting. Amen.**

Prayers of the People

Pray for the world and the church.

Greeting of Peace

We are the body of Christ.

God's Spirit is with us.

The peace of the Lord be always with you.

And also with you.

THE LITURGY OF THE EUCHARIST

When all is prepared, the Priest says,

Pray, brothers and sisters, that my sacrifice and yours
may be acceptable to God, the Father almighty.

**May the Lord accept our sacrifice
for the praise and glory of God's name,
for our good, and the good of all God's holy Church.**

Prayer over the Offerings

Creator of all,
you wash away our sins in water,
you give us new birth by the Spirit,
and redeem us in the blood of Christ.
As we celebrate the resurrection,
renew your gift of life within us.
We ask this in the name of Jesus Christ the risen Lord. **Amen.**

The Eucharistic Prayer

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give him thanks and praise.

It is right to praise you, faithful God,
always and everywhere,
for with your only begotten Son and life-giving Spirit,
you are the one true God
from everlasting to everlasting.

At the dawn of time you wrought from nothing
a universe of beauty and splendour,
bringing light from darkness
and order from chaos.

You formed us, male and female, in your image,
and endowed us with creative power.

We turned away from you but you did not abandon us.
You called us by name and searched us out,
making a covenant of mercy,
giving the law, and teaching justice by the prophets.

And so we praise you,
joining with your faithful people of every time and place,
singing the eternal song:

**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.**

When the fullness of time was come,
you sent your Son to be born of Mary.

Bright image of your glory,
he learnt obedience to you in all things,
even to death on a cross,
breaking the power of evil,
freeing us from sin, and putting death to flight.

You raised him from death,
exalting him to glory,
and the new day dawned.

On the night he was betrayed
your Son Jesus Christ shared food with his friends,
his companions on the way.

While at table he took bread,
blessed, and broke it,
and giving it to them, said:
'Take, eat; this is my body.'

He took a cup of wine,
and, giving thanks, he gave it to them, and said,
'This is my blood of the covenant
which is poured out for many.
Do this in remembrance of me.'

Therefore, living God, as we obey his command,
we remember his life of obedience to you,
his suffering and death,
his resurrection and exaltation,
and his promise to be with us for ever.
With this bread and this cup
we celebrate his saving death until he comes.

Let us proclaim the mystery of faith:

Christ has died.

Christ is risen.

Christ will come again.

Accept, we pray, our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving,
and send your Holy Spirit
upon us and our celebration
that all who eat and drink at this table
may be strengthened by Christ's body and blood
to serve you in the world.

As one body and one holy people,
may we proclaim the everlasting gospel
of Jesus Christ our Lord,
through whom, with whom, and in whom,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
all glory is yours, eternal God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

THE COMMUNION RITE

The Lord's Prayer

Let us pray with confidence to the Father
in the words our Saviour against us:

**Our Father in heaven,
hallowed be your name,
your kingdom come,
your will be done, on earth as in heaven.
Give us today our daily bread.
Forgive us our sins,
as we forgive those who sin against us.
Save us from the time of trial
and deliver us from evil.**

Deliver us, Lord, we pray, from every evil,
graciously grant peace in our days,
that, by the help of your mercy,
we may be always free from sin and safe from all distress,
as we await the blessed hope
and the coming of our Saviour, Jesus Christ.

**For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours,
now and for ever. Amen.**

The Breaking of the Bread

The celebrant breaks the bread, saying –

We break this bread to share in the body of Christ.
We who are many are one body,
for we all share in the one bread.

While the bread is broken Agnus Dei is sung –

**Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world, have mercy on us.
Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world, have mercy on us.
Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world, grant us peace.**

Invitation to Communion

Behold the Lamb of God,
behold him who takes away the sins of the world.
Blessed are those called to the supper of the Lamb.
**Lord, I am not worthy to receive you,
but only say the word, and I shall be healed.**

Act of Spiritual Communion

St Alphonsus Liguori

My Jesus, I believe that you are present in the most Blessed Sacrament. I love You above all things and I desire to receive You into my soul. Since I cannot now receive You sacramentally, come spiritually into my heart. I embrace You as if You were already there, and unite myself wholly to You. Never permit me to be separated from You. Amen.

Music for Reflection

Rhosymedre, by Ralph Vaughan Williams
(Chorale prelude for Organ on the theme of the hymn, *Author of life divine*)
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=h5f80rPDMPk>

Communion Antiphon

Lk 24.35

The disciples recognised the Lord Jesus
in the breaking of the bread, alleluia.

Prayer after Communion

Author of life divine,
in the breaking of bread we know the risen Lord.
Feed us always in these mysteries,
that we may show your glory to all the world.
We ask this in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Postcommunion Hymn

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=MgIx_0jhW1Y

**The day of resurrection!
Earth, tell it out abroad;
the passover of gladness,
the passover of God.
From death to life eternal,
from earth unto the sky,
our Christ hath brought us over,
with hymns of victory.**

**Our hearts be pure from evil,
that we may see aright
the Lord in rays eternal
of resurrection light;
and listening to his accents,
may hear, so calm and plain,
his own “All hail!” and, hearing,
may raise the victor strain.**

**Now let the heavens be joyful!
Let earth the song begin!
Let the round world keep triumph,
and all that is therein!
Let all things seen and unseen
their notes in gladness blend,
for Christ the Lord hath risen,
our joy that hath no end.**

THE CONCLUDING RITES

Blessing and Dismissal

The God of peace,
who brought again from the dead our Lord Jesus,
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 what is 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. **Amen.**

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

In the name of Christ. Amen.

Regina Coeli

At the Shrine of Our Lady

**Joy to thee, O Queen of heaven, alleluia!
He whom thou was meet to bear, alleluia!
As he promised hath arisen, alleluia!
Pour for us to God thy prayer, alleluia!**

Rejoice and be glad, O Virgin Mary, alleluia.

For the Lord is risen indeed, alleluia.

Let us pray.

O God,

Who gave joy to the world through the resurrection of your Son, our Lord Jesus Christ,
grant we pray, that with his mother, the Virgin Mary, we may obtain the joys of
everlasting life. Through the same Christ our Lord. **Amen.**