

TRINITY EPISCOPAL CATHEDRAL



THE FOURTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

APRIL 21, 2024 - 4:00PM

FESTAL EVENSONG

The Resurrection of our Lord Jesus Christ

Alleluia! Christ is Risen!

So what? What difference does it make? Who cares?

Who cares if a first-century carpenter in some backwater province of the ancient Roman Empire ran afoul of the ruling authorities and got himself killed on a cross? What difference does it make that some Jewish preacher told a bunch of semi-literate fishermen and crooked tax collectors and blind, lame, maimed beggars and women of highly-suspect reputations that his death would unfold in precise fulfillment of a divine plan established from before the foundations of the world were laid? And if, as the great last act of his plan, this humble hero, this weak warrior, this meek Messiah told his gullible followers that he would rise again from the dead...so what is that to me and to you?

Let me be clear: if Jesus Christ did not rise from the dead then there is no more meaning to Easter Day than a sugar rush from a basketful of jelly beans and a once-a-year consumption of mint jelly (which is, surely, more than enough for anybody). If Christ is not raised, we who gather in this Cathedral each week are fools—and worse. We are lost. We are separated from God our Creator and our Father. We are cut off from the everlasting promises given to Abraham. We are bereft of the sustaining and sanctifying power of the Holy Ghost. We are dead in our sins. As another first-century Jew—a man called Saul of Tarsus, better known as Saint Paul the Apostle—says, if Christ is not raised, “we are of all men most miserable.”

“But,” Paul continues in his First Letter to the Corinthian Church, “now is Christ risen from the dead, and become the firstfruits of them that slept.” The firstfruits—of an abundant harvest! For if Death is the tyrant ruling over all humankind, if Sin is the sickness infecting every human heart, then Christ Jesus’ victory over those oppressors is great Good News for every human who has ever or will ever live.

If Jesus of Nazareth was who he said he was—is who he says he is—then nothing else in our universe, nothing else in our world, nothing else in our lives, nothing else in our hearts can ever be the same. If Jesus of Nazareth did what the Scriptures say he did—is doing what the Scriptures say he is doing—then Easter is the turning point of all time and space. If Jesus of Nazareth was raised from the dead—is even now risen from the dead—then this season is the hinge on which all human history bends. Eastertide is the starting point of a new Creation that will not at last go down to dust and decay and Death, but will instead be united with God in eternity.

Perhaps you are sitting in the pew right now listening to the Easter acclamation and wondering “So what? Who cares? What difference does it make?” I pray that by the power of the Holy Spirit you might see and know and believe and trust that Jesus Christ is risen from the dead—and that the life you live hereafter and the death you will one day die might be transformed by this truth. I pray that you will continue to grow in the knowledge and love of the Lord here at Trinity Cathedral, where all that we are and all that we do flows from the announcement that the tomb was found empty that first Easter morning. I pray that you will find the grace to say, with all your heart:

The Lord is risen indeed! Alleluia!

The Very Reverend Dane E. Boston, Dean of Trinity Cathedral

FESTAL EVENSONG

Please maintain a reverent silence before the service

The setting of the Preces & Responses is by John Barnard (b. 1948)

The setting of the Canticles is by Herbert Brewer (1865-1928)

VOLUNTARY: Sarabande in E-flat Major

INTROIT

We shall walk through the valley in peace.
If Jesus himself shall be our leader,
we shall walk through the valley in peace.

There will be no trials there.
If Jesus himself shall lead us,
we shall walk through the valley in peace.

Words: Traditional

Music: Traditional, arr. Undine Moore (1904-1989)

The people stand and join in singing from the blue Hymnal 1982.

Hymn 478 “Jesus our mighty Lord”

Monk’s Gate

THE INVITATORY (*sung by the Officiant and Choir*)

∞ O Lord, open thou our lips.

℞ And our mouth shall show forth thy praise.

∞ O God, make speed to save us.

℞ O Lord, make haste to help us.

∞ Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost;

℞ As it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be;
world without end. Amen.

∞ Praise ye the Lord.

℞ The Lord’s Name be praised.

GREETING

THE PSALM APPOINTED

The people sit for the singing of the Psalm and stand at the final Gloria Patri.

Psalm 106

Confitemini Domino

O give thanks unto the Lord, for he is gracious *
and his mercy endureth for ever.

Who can express the noble acts of the Lord *
or shew forth all his praise?

Blessed are they that always keep judgement *
and do righteousness.

Remember me, O Lord, according to the favour that thou bearest unto thy
people *

O visit me with thy salvation;

That I may see the felicity of thy chosen *
and rejoice in the gladness of thy people, and give thanks with thine inheritance.

We have sinned with our fathers *
we have done amiss, and dealt wickedly.

Our fathers regarded not thy wonders in Egypt, neither kept they thy great
goodness in remembrance *

but were disobedient at the sea, even at the Red sea.

Nevertheless, he helped them for his Name's sake *
that he might make his power to be known.

He rebuked the Red sea also, and it was dried up *
so he led them through the deep, as through a wilderness.

And he saved them from the adversary's hand *
and delivered them from the hand of the enemy.

As for those that troubled them, the waters overwhelmed them *
there was not one of them left.

Then believed they his words *
and sang praise unto him.

But within a while they forgot his works *
and would not abide his counsel.

But lust came upon them in the wilderness *
and they tempted God in the desert.

And he gave them their desire *
and sent leanness withal into their soul.

They angered Moses also in the tents *
and Aaron the saint of the Lord.

So the earth opened, and swallowed up Dathan *
and covered the congregation of Abiram.
And the fire was kindled in their company *
the flame burnt up the ungodly.
They made a calf in Horeb *
and worshipped the molten image.
Thus they turned their glory *
into the similitude of a calf that eateth hay.
And they forgat God their Saviour *
who had done so great things in Egypt;
Wondrous works in the land of Ham *
and fearful things by the Red sea.
So he said, he would have destroyed them, had not Moses his chosen stood
before him in the gap *
to turn away his wrathful indignation, lest he should destroy them.
Yea, they thought scorn of that pleasant land *
and gave no credence unto his word;
But murmured in their tents *
and hearkened not unto the voice of the Lord.
Then lift he up his hand against them *
to overthrow them in the wilderness;
To cast out their seed among the nations *
and to scatter them in the lands.
They joined themselves unto Baalpeor *
and ate the offerings of the dead.
Thus they provoked him to anger with their own inventions *
and the plague was great among them.
Then stood up Phinees and prayed *
and so the plague ceased.
And that was counted unto him for righteousness *
among all posterities for evermore.
They angered him also at the waters of strife *
so that he punished Moses for their sakes;
Because they provoked his spirit *
so that he spake unadvisedly with his lips.
Neither destroyed they the heathen *
as the Lord commanded them;
But were mingled among the heathen *
and learned their works.

Insomuch that they worshipped their idols, which turned to their own decay *
yea, they offered their sons and their daughters unto devils;
And shed innocent blood, even the blood of their sons and of their daughters *
whom they offered unto the idols of Canaan; and the land was defiled with
blood.
Thus were they stained with their own works *
and went a whoring with their own inventions.
Therefore was the wrath of the Lord kindled against his people *
insomuch that he abhorred his own inheritance.
And he gave them over into the hand of the heathen *
and they that hated them were lords over them.
Their enemies oppressed them *
and had them in subjection.
Many a time did he deliver them *
but they rebelled against him with their own inventions, and were brought
down in their wickedness.
Nevertheless, when he saw their adversity *
he heard their complaint.
He thought upon his covenant, and pitied them, according unto the multitude
of his mercies *
yea, he made all those that led them away captive to pity them.
Deliver us, O Lord our God, and gather us from among the heathen *
that we may give thanks unto thy holy Name, and make our boast of thy praise.
Blessed be the Lord God of Israel from everlasting, and world without end *
and let all the people say, Amen.

Music: Peter Smith (b. 1952)
Jason Smart
Theodore Saunders (1957-2016)

THE FIRST LESSON: Exodus 28.1-4, 30-38

The people stand.

CANTICLE: *Magnificat - The Song of Mary* The Book of Common Prayer, p. 65

The people sit.

THE SECOND LESSON: Mark 6.30-44

The people stand.

CANTICLE: *Nunc dimittis - The Song of Simeon*

BCP, p. 66

THE APOSTLES' CREED (*said by all*)

BCP, p. 66

I believe in God, the Father almighty,
maker of heaven and earth;
And in Jesus Christ his only Son our Lord;
who was conceived by the Holy Ghost,
born of the Virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, dead, and buried.
He descended into hell.
The third day he rose again from the dead.
He ascended into heaven,
and sitteth on the right hand of God the Father almighty.
From thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead.
I believe in the Holy Ghost,
the holy catholic Church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting. Amen.

THE PRAYERS (*sung by the Officiant and Choir*)

∇ The Lord be with you.
℞ And with thy spirit.
∇ Let us pray.
℞ Lord have mercy upon us;
Christ have mercy upon us;
Lord have mercy upon us.

THE LORD'S PRAYER

BCP, p. 67

THE SUFFRAGES

∇ O Lord, show thy mercy upon us.
℞ And grant us thy salvation.
∇ O Lord, save the State.
℞ And mercifully hear us when we call upon thee.
∇ Endue thy ministers with righteousness.
℞ And make thy chosen people joyful.
∇ O Lord, save thy people.
℞ And bless thine inheritance.
∇ Give peace in our time, O Lord.
℞ Because there is none other that fighteth for us,
but only thou, O God.

∇ O God, make clean our hearts within us.

℞ And take not thy Holy Spirit from us.

THE COLLECTS

O God, whose Son Jesus is the good shepherd of thy people: Grant that when we hear his voice we may know him who calleth us each by name, and follow where he doth lead; who, with thee and the Holy Spirit, liveth and reigneth, one God, for ever and ever.

O God, from whom all holy desires, all good counsels, and all just works do proceed; Give unto thy servants that peace which the world cannot give; that both our hearts may be set to obey thy commandments, and also that by thee, we, being defended from the fear of our enemies, may pass our time in rest and quietness; through the merits of Jesus Christ our Saviour.

Lighten our darkness, we beseech thee, O Lord; and by thy great mercy defend us from all perils and dangers of this night; for the love of thy only Son, our Saviour, Jesus Christ.

The people sit.

THE ANTHEM

The Lord is my shepherd; I shall not want.

He maketh me to lie down in green pastures:

He leadeth me beside the still waters.

He restoreth my soul:

He leadeth me in the paths of righteousness for His name's sake.

Yea, though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death,

I will fear no evil: Thy rod and Thy staff they comfort me.

Thou preparest a table before me in the presence of mine enemies:

Thou anointest my head with oil; my cup runneth over.

Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life:

and I will dwell in the house of the Lord for ever.

Words: Psalm 23

Music: Thomas Matthews (1915-1999)

The people stand.

THE GENERAL THANKSGIVING *(said by all)*

Almighty God, Father of all mercies,

we thine unworthy servants

do give thee most humble and hearty thanks

for all thy goodness and loving-kindness

to us and to all men.

We bless thee for our creation, preservation,
and all the blessings of this life;
but above all for thine inestimable love
in the redemption of the world by our Lord Jesus Christ,
for the means of grace, and for the hope of glory.

And, we beseech thee,
give us that due sense of all thy mercies,
that our hearts may be unfeignedly thankful;
and that we show forth thy praise not only with our lips, but in our lives,
by giving up our selves to thy service,
and by walking before thee
in holiness and righteousness all our days;
through Jesus Christ our Lord,
to whom, with thee and the Holy Ghost,
be all honor and glory, world without end. Amen.

Hymn 181 “Awake and sing”

St. Ethelwald

A PRAYER OF ST. JOHN CHRYSOSTOM

Almighty God, who hast given us grace at this time with one accord to make our common supplication unto thee; and dost promise, that when two or three are gathered together in thy Name thou wilt grant their requests; Fulfil now, O Lord, the desires and petitions of thy servants, as may be most expedient for them; granting us in this world knowledge of thy truth, and in the world to come life everlasting. *Amen.*

The Officiant concludes with the following

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the fellowship of the Holy Ghost, be with us all evermore. *Amen.*

THE DISMISSAL (*sung by the the Officiant and choir*)

∞ The Lord be with you.

℞ And with thy spirit.

∞ Let us bless the Lord.

℞ Thanks be to God.

VOLUNTARY: Fantasy on *St. Ethelwald*

Sunday service schedule through May 19

8:00am Holy Eucharist in Keenan Chapel

9:00am Holy Eucharist in the Cathedral

11:00am Choral Eucharist in the Cathedral

4:00pm Festal Evensong in the Cathedral

5:00pm Holy Eucharist in Keenan Chapel

Upcoming special events

Sunday, April 28, 2024 at 4:00pm

Music for Royal Occasion

A grand concert featuring Trinity's combined choirs performing music from coronations, weddings and other royal events.

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Choir: The Cathedral Choir of Adults

The Right Reverend Daniel P. Richards, *Bishop*

The Very Reverend Dane E. Boston, *Dean*

The Reverend Canon James P. Hartley, *Sub-Dean & Canon Pastor*

The Reverend Canon Mia C. McDowell, *Canon Catechist*

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