

TRINITY EPISCOPAL CATHEDRAL



THE SEVENTH SUNDAY OF EASTER:
THE SUNDAY AFTER THE ASCENSION

MAY 12, 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 Charles Stanford (1852-1924)

VOLUNTARY: Cantabile in F Major

INTROIT

If ye love me, keep my commandments, and I will pray the Father, and he shall give you another comforter, that he may abide with you forever: even the spirit of truth.

Words: John 14.15-17

Music: Thomas Tallis (1505-1585)

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

Hymn 191 “Alleluia, alleluia!”

Lux eoi

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 PSALMS APPOINTED

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

Psalm 65

Te decet hymnus

Thou, O God, art praised in Sion *
and unto thee shall the vow be performed in Jerusalem.

Thou that hearest the prayer *
unto thee shall all flesh come.

My misdeeds prevail against me *

O be thou merciful unto our sins.

Blessed is the man, whom thou choosest, and receivest unto thee *

he shall dwell in thy court, and shall be satisfied with the pleasures of thy house, even of thy holy temple.

Thou shalt shew us wonderful things in thy righteousness, O God of our salvation *

thou that art the hope of all the ends of the earth, and of them that remain in the broad sea.

Who in his strength setteth fast the mountains *

and is girded about with power.

Who stilleth the raging of the sea *

and the noise of his waves, and the madness of the people.

They also that dwell in the uttermost parts of the earth shall be afraid at thy tokens *

thou that makest the outgoings of the morning and evening to praise thee.

Thou visitest the earth, and blessest it *

thou makest it very plenteous.

The river of God is full of water *

thou preparest their corn, for so thou providest for the earth.

Thou waterest her furrows, thou sendest rain into the little valleys thereof *

thou makest it soft with the drops of rain, and blessest the increase of it.

Thou crownest the year with thy goodness *

and thy clouds drop fatness.

They shall drop upon the dwellings of the wilderness *

and the little hills shall rejoice on every side.

The folds shall be full of sheep *

the valleys also shall stand so thick with corn, that they shall laugh and sing.

Music: George Bennet (1863-1930)

Psalm 66

Jubilate Deo

O be joyful in God, all ye lands *

sing praises unto the honour of his Name, make his praise to be glorious.

Say unto God, O how wonderful art thou in thy works *

through the greatness of thy power shall thine enemies be found liars unto thee.

For all the world shall worship thee *

sing of thee, and praise thy Name.

O come hither, and behold the works of God *

how wonderful he is in his doing toward the children of men.

He turned the sea into dry land *
so that they went through the water on foot; there did we rejoice thereof.
He ruleth with his power for ever; his eyes behold the people *
and such as will not believe shall not be able to exalt themselves.
O praise our God, ye people *
and make the voice of his praise to be heard;
Who holdeth our soul in life *
and suffereth not our feet to slip.
For thou, O God, hast proved us *
thou also hast tried us, like as silver is tried.
Thou broughtest us into the snare *
and laidest trouble upon our loins.
Thou sufferedst men to ride over our heads *
we went through fire and water, and thou broughtest us out into a wealthy place.
I will go into thine house with burnt-offerings *
and will pay thee my vows, which I promised with my lips, and spake with
my mouth, when I was in trouble.
I will offer unto thee fat burnt-sacrifices, with the incense of rams *
I will offer bullocks and goats.
O come hither, and hearken, all ye that fear God *
and I will tell you what he hath done for my soul.
I called unto him with my mouth *
and gave him praises with my tongue.
If I incline unto wickedness with mine heart *
the Lord will not hear me.
But God hath heard me *
and considered the voice of my prayer.
Praised be God who hath not cast out my prayer *
nor turned his mercy from me.

Music: Peter Hurford (1930-2019)

Psalm 67

Deus misereatur

God be merciful unto us, and bless us *
and shew us the light of his countenance, and be merciful unto us;
That thy way may be known upon earth *
thy saving health among all nations.
Let the people praise thee, O God *
yea, let all the people praise thee.

O let the nations rejoice and be glad *
for thou shalt judge the folk righteously, and govern the nations upon earth.
Let the people praise thee, O God *
let all the people praise thee.
Then shall the earth bring forth her increase *
and God, even our own God, shall give us his blessing.
God shall bless us *
and all the ends of the world shall fear him.

Music: John Camidge, Jr. (1790-1859)

THE FIRST LESSON: Exodus 3.1-12

The people stand.

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

The people sit.

THE SECOND LESSON: Luke 10.17-24

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 (*sung by the Choir*)

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, the King of glory, who hast exalted thine only Son Jesus Christ with great triumph unto thy kingdom in heaven: We beseech thee, leave us not comfortless, but send to us thine Holy Ghost to comfort us, and exalt us unto the same place whither our Savior Christ is gone before; who liveth and reigneth with thee and the same Holy Ghost, one God, world without end.

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

*Do not be afraid, for I have redeemed you.
I have called you by your name;
you are mine.*

When you walk through the waters, I'll be with you;
you will never sink beneath the waves.
When the fire is burning all around you,
you will never be consumed by the flames.

When the fear of loneliness is looming,
then remember I am at your side.
When you dwell in the exile of a stranger,
remember you are precious in my eyes.

You are mine, O my child, I am your Father,
and I love you with a perfect love.

Words: Gerard Markland (b. 1953)
Music: Philip Stopford (b.1977)

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 221 “O Lord Most High, eternal King”

Gonfalon Royal

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: Allegro Maestoso in G Major

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

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Choir: The Cathedral Choir of Boys & Young Men, and the altos, tenors and basses of the Cathedral Singers.

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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