

TRINITY EPISCOPAL CATHEDRAL



THE SIXTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

MAY 14, 2023 - 4:00PM

CHORAL 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 this 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 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 this day 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 day is the hinge on which all human history bends. This day 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

CHORAL EVENSONG

The setting of the Preces & Responses is by Jessica French (b. 1984)

The setting of the Canticles is by Benjamin Britten (1913-1976)

ORGAN VOLUNTARY

INTROIT

Alleluia. Amen.

Music: from “Sing ye to the Lord”, Edward Bairstow (1874-1946)

The people stand as the procession enters the Cathedral.

Psalm 100

Jubilate Deo

O be joyful in the Lord, all ye lands *
serve the Lord with gladness, and come before his presence with a song.

Be ye sure that the Lord he is God *
it is he that hath made us, and not we ourselves;
we are his people, and the sheep of his pasture.

O go your way into his gates with thanksgiving, and into his courts with praise *
be thankful unto him, and speak good of his Name.

For the Lord is gracious, his mercy is everlasting *
and his truth endureth from generation to generation.

Music: Gerre Hancock (1934-2012)

Hymn 387 “We sing of God, the mighty source”

Magdalen College

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.

The people sit.

THE PSALMS APPOINTED

Psalm 34

Benedicam Domino

I will always give thanks unto the Lord *
his praise shall ever be in my mouth.
My soul shall make her boast in the Lord *
the humble shall hear thereof, and be glad.
O praise the Lord with me *
and let us magnify his Name together.
I sought the Lord, and he heard me *
yea, he delivered me out of all my fear.
They had an eye unto him, and were lightened *
and their faces were not ashamed.
Lo, the poor crieth, and the Lord heareth him *
yea, and saveth him out of all his troubles.
The angel of the Lord tarrieth round about them that fear him *
and delivereth them.
O taste, and see, how gracious the Lord is *
blessed is the man that trusteth in him.
O fear the Lord, ye that are his saints *
for they that fear him lack nothing.
The lions do lack, and suffer hunger *
but they who seek the Lord shall want no manner of thing that is good.
Come, ye children, and hearken unto me *
I will teach you the fear of the Lord.
What man is he that lusteth to live *
and would fain see good days?
Keep thy tongue from evil *
and thy lips, that they speak no guile.
Eschew evil, and do good *
seek peace, and ensue it.
The eyes of the Lord are over the righteous *
and his ears are open unto their prayers.
The countenance of the Lord is against them that do evil *
to root out the remembrance of them from the earth.
The righteous cry, and the Lord heareth them *
and delivereth them out of all their troubles.
The Lord is nigh unto them that are of a contrite heart *
and will save such as be of an humble spirit.

Great are the troubles of the righteous *
but the Lord delivereth him out of all.
He keepeth all his bones *
so that not one of them is broken.
But misfortune shall slay the ungodly *
and they that hate the righteous shall be desolate.
The Lord delivereth the souls of his servants *
and all they that put their trust in him shall not be destitute.

Music: Henry Davies (1869-1941)

THE FIRST LESSON: Ecclesiasticus 43.1-12, 27-32

The people stand.

CANTICLE: *Te Deum*

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 godly 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 honourable, 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 not abhor
the Virgin's womb.
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.

O Lord, save Thy people: and bless Thine heritage.
Govern them and lift them up for ever.
Day by day we magnify Thee; and we worship Thy Name,
ever world without end.
Vouchsafe, O Lord, to keep us this day without sin.
O Lord, have mercy upon us.
O Lord, let Thy mercy lighten upon us: as our trust is in Thee.
O Lord, in Thee have I trusted: let me never be confounded.

The people sit.

THE SECOND LESSON: 1 Timothy 3.14—4.5

The people stand.

CANTICLE: *Jubilate*

O be joyful in the Lord, all ye lands *
serve the Lord with gladness, and come before his presence with a song.
Be ye sure that the Lord he is God *
it is he that hath made us, and not we ourselves;
we are his people, and the sheep of his pasture.
O go your way into his gates with thanksgiving, and into his courts with praise *
be thankful unto him, and speak good of his Name.
For the Lord is gracious, his mercy is everlasting *
and his truth endureth from generation to generation.

THE APOSTLES' CREED (*said by all*)

The Book of Common Prayer, 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 all*)

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

The people sit.

THE ANTHEM

Rise up, my love, my fair one, and come away;
for lo, the winter is past, the rain is over and gone;
the flowers appear upon the earth;
the time of the singing of birds is come;
arise, my love, my fair one, and come away.

Words: Song of Solomon 2.10-12
Music: Healey Willan (1880-1960)

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.

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 hast promised through thy well-
beloved Son that when two or three are gathered together in his Name thou
wilt be in the midst of them: Fulfill now, O Lord, the desires and petitions of
thy servants as may be best for us; granting us in this world knowledge of thy
truth, and in the world to come life everlasting. *Amen.*

∞ Let us bless the Lord. Alleluia, alleluia!

℞ Thanks be to God. Alleluia, alleluia!

The Officiant offers a concluding prayer, to which the people respond

Amen.

Hymn 565 “He who would valiant be”

Monk’s Gate

ORGAN VOLUNTARY

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Officiant: The Very Reverend Dane E. Boston
Choir: The Cathedral Singers

The Right Reverend Daneil P. Richards, *Bishop*
The Very Reverend Dane E. Boston, *Dean*
The Reverend Canon James P. Hartley, *Canon Pastor*
The Reverend Canon Mia C. McDowell, *Canon Catechist*

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