

# TRINITY EPISCOPAL CATHEDRAL



THE FIFTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

MAY 7, 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 Richard Ayleward (1626-1669)  
The setting of the Canticles is by Henry Purcell (c. 1659-1695)

### ORGAN VOLUNTARY

### INTROIT

O taste and see how gracious the Lord is; \*  
blessed is the one that trusteth in him.

Words: Psalm 34.8

Music: Ralph Vaughan Williams (1872-1958)

*The people stand as the procession enters the Cathedral.*

Hymn 410 "Praise, my soul, the King of heaven"

*Lauda anima*

### 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 8

*Domine, Dominus noster*

O Lord our Governor, how excellent is thy Name in all the world \*  
thou that has set thy glory above the heavens!  
Out of the mouth of very babes and sucklings hast thou ordained strength,  
because of thine enemies \*  
that thou mightest still the enemy, and the avenger.  
For I will consider thy heavens, even the works of thy fingers \*  
the moon and the stars, which thou hast ordained.

What is man, that thou art mindful of him \*  
and the son of man, that thou visitest him?  
Thou madest him lower than the angels \*  
to crown him with glory and worship.  
Thou makest him to have dominion of the works of thy hands \*  
and thou hast put all things in subjection under his feet;  
All sheep and oxen \*  
yea, and the beasts of the field;  
The fowls of the air, and the fishes of the sea \*  
and whatsoever walketh through the paths of the seas.  
O Lord our Governor \*  
how excellent is thy Name in all the world!

Music: Peter Hurford (1930-2019)

Psalm 84

*Quam dilecta!*

O how amiable are thy dwellings \*  
thou Lord of hosts!  
My soul hath a desire and longing to enter into the courts of the Lord \*  
my heart and my flesh rejoice in the living God.  
Yea, the sparrow hath found her an house, and the swallow a nest where she  
may lay her young \*  
even thy altars, O Lord of hosts, my King and my God.  
Blessed are they that dwell in thy house \*  
they will be always praising thee.  
Blessed is the man whose strength is in thee \*  
in whose heart are thy ways.  
Who going through the vale of misery use it for a well \*  
and the pools are filled with water.  
They will go from strength to strength \*  
and unto the God of gods appeareth every one of them in Sion.  
O Lord God of hosts, hear my prayer \*  
hearken, O God of Jacob.  
Behold, O God our defender \*  
and look upon the face of thine Anointed.  
For one day in thy courts \*  
is better than a thousand.  
I had rather be a door-keeper in the house of my God \*  
than to dwell in the tents of ungodliness.

For the Lord God is a light and defence \*  
the Lord will give grace and worship, and no good thing shall he withhold  
from them that live a godly life.  
O Lord God of hosts \*  
blessed is the man that putteth his trust in thee.

Music: Charles Parry (1848-1918)

**THE FIRST LESSON:** Wisdom 7.22—8.1

*The people stand.*

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

*The people sit.*

**THE SECOND LESSON:** 2 Thessolonians 2.13-17

*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 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

Zadok the priest and Nathan the prophet anointed Solomon king.  
And all the people rejoiced and said:  
God save the King! Long live the King! God save the King!  
May the King live for ever. Amen. Hallelujah.

Words: 1 Kings 1.34, 45  
Music: G.F. Handel (1685–1759)

*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 597 “O day of peace that dimly shines”

*Jerusalem*

ORGAN VOLUNTARY

Officiant: The Reverend Canon Mia C. McDowell  
Choir: The Cathedral Singers

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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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