

SAINTS MARTHA & MARY EPISCOPAL CHURCH

A SHARED MINISTRY CONGREGATION

EASTER SUNDAY LITURGY

RITE 2

REVEREND TOM GARRISON



THE LIGHTING OF THE PASCHAL CANDLE AND SHARING OF THE LIGHT

The people gather in silent reflection, with unlit candles and matches

Presider

Dear friends in Christ: The world was plunged into darkness so long ago when Christ was crucified. He died for us. And so, the Church invites her members, dispersed throughout the world, to gather in vigil and prayer, but also common celebration. In silent reflection, we begin then in darkness.

CANDLE VIDEO

OPENING PRAYER

Presider

As our Lord Jesus passed over from death to life, we too can share in his victory over death. Christ yesterday and today, the Beginning and the End, the Alpha & the Omega. O God, through your Son you have bestowed upon your people the brightness of your light: Sanctify this new fire, and grant that in this Paschal feast we may attain to the festival of everlasting light. To Him be all glory and dominion. Through Jesus Christ, our Lord. *Amen.*

PASSING THE LIGHT

The Presider says to the people

The darkness has been banished. It is now day. As I pass the light here, please light your candle at home. If anyone else is present with you, please pass it to them also.

<i>Presider</i>	The Light of Christ
<i>People</i>	<i>Thanks be to God</i>
<i>Presider</i>	The Lord is risen
<i>People</i>	<i>The Lord is risen indeed!</i>

EASTER CELEBRATED IN MUSIC

Dr. Matt McCright

Pause for prayer

Presider

Rejoice now, heavenly hosts and choirs of angels,
and let your trumpets shout Salvation
for the victory of our mighty King.
Rejoice and sing now, all the round earth,
bright with a glorious splendor,
for darkness has been vanquished by our eternal King.

Presider and People

Presider The Lord be with you

People *And also with you.*

Presider Let us give thanks to the Lord our God

People *It is right to give him thanks and praise.*

COLLECT OF THE DAY

Presider and People

*Almighty God, who through your only begotten Son overcame death
and opened to us the gate of everlasting life:*

*Grant that we, who celebrate with joy the day of the Lords resurrection,
may be raised from the death of sin by your life-giving spirit,
one God, now and for ever. Amen.*

THE LITURGY OF THE WORD

THE FIRST LESSON.....ACTS 10:36-40; 42-43

Then Peter began to speak to them: "You know the message he sent to the people of Israel, preaching peace by Jesus Christ—he is Lord of all. That message spread throughout Judea, beginning in Galilee after the baptism that John announced: how God anointed Jesus of Nazareth with the Holy Spirit and with power; how he went about doing good and healing all who were oppressed by the devil, for God was with him. We are witnesses to all that he did both in Judea and in Jerusalem. They put him to death . . . but God raised him on the third day and allowed him to appear to those who were chosen by God as witnesses . . . He commanded us to preach to the people and to testify that he is the one ordained by God as judge of the living and the dead. All the prophets testify about him that everyone who believes in him receives forgiveness of sins through his name."

PSALM.....PSALM 118:1-2; 14-24

- 1 Give thanks to the Lord, for he is good; *
 his mercy endures for ever.
- 2 Let Israel now proclaim, *
 "His mercy endures for ever."
- 14 The Lord is my strength and my song, *
 and he has become my salvation.
- 15 There is a sound of exultation and victory *
 in the tents of the righteous:

- 16 "The right hand of the Lord has triumphed! *
the right hand of the Lord is exalted!
the right hand of the Lord has triumphed!"
- 17 I shall not die, but live, *
and declare the works of the Lord.
- 18 The Lord has punished me sorely, *
but he did not hand me over to death.
- 19 Open for me the gates of righteousness; *
I will enter them;
I will offer thanks to the Lord.
- 20 "This is the gate of the Lord; *
he who is righteous may enter."
- 21 I will give thanks to you, for you answered me *
and have become my salvation.
- 22 The same stone which the builders rejected *
has become the chief cornerstone.
- 23 This is the Lord's doing, *
and it is marvelous in our eyes.
- 24 On this day the Lord has acted; *
we will rejoice and be glad in it.

THE SECOND LESSON..... COLOSSIANS 3:1-4

If you have been raised with Christ, seek the things that are above, where Christ is, seated at the right hand of God. Set your minds on things that are above, not on things that are on earth, for you have died, and your life is hidden with Christ in God. When Christ who is your life is revealed, then you also will be revealed with him in glory.

THE SONG OF MARY MAGDALENE (VIDEO)..... Bernard Bachman

THE HOLY GOSPEL.....JOHN 20:1-8

Presider The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to John.
People *Glory to you, Lord Christ.*

Early on the first day of the week, while it was still dark, Mary Magdalene came to the tomb and saw that the stone had been removed from the tomb. So she ran and went to Simon Peter and the other disciple, the one whom Jesus loved, and said to them, "They have taken the Lord out of the tomb, and we do not know where they have laid him." Then Peter and the other disciple set out and went toward the tomb. The two were running together, but the other disciple outran Peter and reached the tomb first. He bent down to

look in and saw the linen wrappings lying there, but he did not go in. Then Simon Peter came, following him, and went into the tomb. He saw the linen wrappings lying there, and the cloth that had been on Jesus' head, not lying with the linen wrappings but rolled up in a place by itself. Then the other disciple, who reached the tomb first, also went in, and he saw and believed; for as yet they did not understand the scripture, that he must rise from the dead. Then the disciples returned to their homes.

But Mary stood weeping outside the tomb. As she wept, she bent over to look into the tomb; and she saw two angels in white, sitting where the body of Jesus had been lying, one at the head and the other at the feet. They said to her, "Woman, why are you weeping?" She said to them, "They have taken away my Lord, and I do not know where they have laid him." When she had said this, she turned around and saw Jesus standing there, but she did not know that it was Jesus. Jesus said to her, "Woman, why are you weeping? Whom are you looking for?" Supposing him to be the gardener, she said to him, "Sir, if you have carried him away, tell me where you have laid him, and I will take him away." Jesus said to her, "Mary!" She turned and said to him in Hebrew, "Rabbouni!" (which means Teacher). Jesus said to her, "Do not hold on to me, because I have not yet ascended to the Father. But go to my brothers and say to them, 'I am ascending to my Father and your Father, to my God and your God.'" Mary Magdalene went and announced to the disciples, "I have seen the Lord"; and she told them that he had said these things to her.

Presider The Gospel of the Lord.
People *Praise to you, Lord Christ.*

VIDEO REFLECTION: JOY DELAYED*Rev. Tom Garrison*

RENEWAL OF BAPTISMAL VOWS.....*Rev. Jennifer Walding*

Presider
In the Paschal mystery our everlasting God established the new covenant of reconciliation. I call upon you now to renew the solemn vows of Holy Baptism, by which we promised to serve God faithfully.

Presider Do you reaffirm your renunciation of evil and renew your commitment to Jesus Christ?

People *I do.*

Presider Do you believe in God the Father?

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

Presider Do you believe in Jesus Christ, the Son of God?

People *I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.
He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit
and born of the Virgin Mary.
He suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died, and was buried.
He descended to the dead.
On the third day he rose again.
He ascended into heaven,
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.
He will come again to judge the living and the dead.*

Presider Do you believe in God the Holy Spirit?

People *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.*

Presider Will you continue in the apostles' teaching and
fellowship, in the breaking of bread, and in the
prayers?

People *I will, with God's help.*

Presider Will you proclaim by word and example the
Good News of God in Christ?

People *I will with God's help.*

Presider Will you seek and serve Christ in all persons,
Loving your neighbor as yourself?

People *I will with God's help.*

Presider Will you strive for justice and peace among all
People, and respect the dignity of every human being?

People *I will with God's help.*

Rev. Jennifer concludes the Renewal of Vows as follows:

May Almighty God, the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has given us a new birth by water and the Holy Spirit, and bestowed upon us the forgiveness of sins, keep us in eternal life by his grace, in Christ Jesus our Lord. *Amen.*

PRAYERS IN PANDEMIC / A LITANY OF THANKSGIVINGS ANYWAY*

The Presider asks participants to first offer up their prayer concerns using the chat function and then Leader and People pray responsively

O Lord, our church is locked, but may we find you anyway in the Easter Garden. Roll away the heavy stone of our hearts and, in due time, let joy spring forth again. May your resurrection give us also new life and renewed hope, to live as a people changed by our common experience.

Pause for prayer following each petition

When our faith in you and each other stands grieving at the grave, forgive us.

May we who are merely inconvenienced, remember those whose lives are at stake.

May we, sheltered safely, remember those most vulnerable.

May those of us lucky enough to work from home remember those who must choose between preserving their health or making their rent.

May we who have had to forgo a trip remember those with no safe place to go.

May we who have lost money in the margin of the markets, remember those who have no margin.

Pause for prayer

For the anxious and alone. For the grieving who cannot say goodbye. For canceled plans and sidelined seasons. For being unable to wrap our arms around those we love, Good Christ and Gracious God we ask you to wrap them in your loving embrace and help us to find other ways to love our neighbor.

Pause for prayer

Great Physician, watch over all those who watch over us. Guide them, equip them, protect them, and give them hope. Grant us wisdom, also, to know what *we* must do, and the will to want to do it, the courage to undertake it, the perseverance to continue to do all that we must do to end this pandemic.

Lord of Life, you defeated death. We name that we are afraid. Transform our fear into common purpose, wise action, and a resilience in hunkering down.

Help us to remember the many things we have to be thankful for:

For the self-sacrifice of our heroes of healthcare who risk their safety for us,
Alleluia!

For this time apart which forces us to contemplate what really matters,
Alleluia!

For kindness from unexpected places,
Alleluia!

For the chance to celebrate each new day as a gift,
Alleluia!

For the simple gifts: For staying closer while being far, talking to a forgotten friend. For a chance to slow down, to read, to take a walk, or do a puzzle.
Alleluia!

For a sense of common purpose. Crisis reminds us that we're all in this together, and how important it is to take care of ourselves, our communities, and our planet.
Alleluia!

With gratitude for all the other gifts and graces afforded us, especially the resurrected presence of you, O Christ, in our lives, we now pray:

Pause for prayer

Presider

Savior Jesus, you remind us to trust in God and to not let our hearts be troubled. God of Glory let us hear again your reassurance: "Do not fear, for I am with you." Receive our prayers and petitions and give us strength to be the church wherever we are. And O God of Easter joy, raise up in us this morning glad shouts of acclamation. May we be transformed like spring caterpillars to become your butterfly people, winging through the earth with messages of beauty, hope and life. *Alleluia! Amen!*

**Pandemic Prayers/Litany of Thanksgivings written & edited by Rev. Tom Garrison. Abridged from several sources: Alan Amos ("locked church"); Church of England ("faith stands at the grave"); especially Cameron Wiggins Bellm's Pandemic Prayer ("inconvenienced"); New Saint Joseph People's Prayer Book ("know what we must do/perseverance") Licensed Clinical Social Worker, Zachary Alti ("heroes of healthcare," "care of ourselves/our planet"); Emily Davis ("Staying close while being far"); John 14:1/Isaiah 41:10; Joann Carlson Brown, Ministry Matters ("O God of Easter Joy/butterfly people).*

THE LORD'S PRAYER

Presider and People together

*Our Father, who art in heaven,
hallowed be thy Name,
thy kingdom come,
thy will be done,
on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread.
And forgive us our trespasses,
as we forgive those
who trespass against us.
And lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom,
and the power, and the glory,
for ever and ever. Amen.*

WORD AS SACRAMENT

A word from the Presider

It breaks my heart that we are not able to celebrate the Eucharist together this morning, but let us live in that longing until we are all together again. Remember that the Word is Sacrament also, and to paraphrase Saint Alphonsus, I offer this prayer: Jesus, I believe that you are truly present not just in the blessed Sacrament of the Altar. We love you above all things and long for you in our souls. Since we cannot now receive you sacramentally, come spiritually into our hearts so that we might embrace you and unite ourselves entirely to you. *Amen.*

FINAL BLESSING & BENEDICTION

May the celebration of resurrected life bring new hope to your being and grace to your relationships with others, and the blessing of the Father, Son & Holy Spirit give you joy and assurance all your days. *Amen.*

HYMN.....JESUS CHRIST IS RISEN TODAY

Jesus Christ Is Risen Today

Words: 14th Century Bohemian Latin carol. Stanzas 1-3 translated in John Arnold's *Compleat Psalmist*, 1749.
Stanza 4 Charles Wesley, 1740, alt.

Music: 'Easter Hymn' from *Lyra Davidica*, 1708. Setting: composite found in "Church Praise: with tunes", 1885.
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♩ = 120

1. Je - sus Christ is ris'n to - day, Al - - - le - - lu - - ia!
2. Hymns of praise then let us sing, Al - - - le - - lu - - ia!
3. But the pain which He en - dured, Al - - - le - - lu - - ia!
4. Sing we to our God a - bove, Al - - - le - - lu - - ia!

Our tri - um - phant ho - - ly day, Al - - - le - - lu - - ia!
Un - to Christ, our heav'n - ly King, Al - - - le - - lu - - ia!
Our sal - va - tion hath pro - cured, Al - - - le - - lu - - ia!
Praise e - ter - nal as His love, Al - - - le - - lu - - ia!

Who did once, up - - on the cross, Al - - - le - - lu - - ia!
Who en - dured the cross and grave, Al - - - le - - lu - - ia!
Now a - - bove the sky He's king, Al - - - le - - lu - - ia!
Praise Him, all you heav'n - ly host, Al - - - le - - lu - - ia!

Suf - fer to re - - deem our loss, Al - - - le - - lu - - ia!
Sin - ners to re - - deem and save, Al - - - le - - lu - - ia!
Where the an - gels ev - er sing, Al - - - le - - lu - - ia!
Fa - ther, Son, and Ho - ly Ghost, Al - - - le - - lu - - ia!

Presider: Let us go forth in the name of Christ.

People: Thanks be to God. Alleluia, alleluia.

MUSICAL SENDING

Dr. Matt McCright