

**ST. CHRISTOPHER'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH**  
**THE SECOND SUNDAY OF EASTER: APRIL 19, 2020**

**Prelude:** Morning Song - Edward Elgar  
Kate Bender, violin

**Opening Acclamation**

Alleluia. Christ is risen.  
**The Lord is risen indeed. Alleluia.**

**Collect of Purity**

**Almighty God, to you all hearts are open, all desires known, and from you no secrets are hid: Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you, and worthily magnify your holy Name; through Christ our Lord. Amen.**

**The Collect of the Day**

The Lord be with you.  
**And also with you.**  
Let us pray.

Almighty and everlasting God, who in the Paschal mystery established the new covenant of reconciliation: Grant that all who have been reborn into the fellowship of Christ's Body may show forth in their lives what they profess by their faith; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

**First Reading: Acts 2:14a, 22-32**

Jason Mutzfeld

A reading from the book of Acts:

Peter, standing with the eleven, raised his voice and addressed the crowd, "You that are Israelites, listen to what I have to say: Jesus of Nazareth, a man attested to you by God with deeds of power, wonders, and signs that God did through him among you, as you yourselves know— this man, handed over to you according to the definite plan and foreknowledge of God, you crucified and killed by the hands of those outside the law. But God raised him up, having freed him from death, because it was impossible for him to be held in its power. For David says concerning him,

I saw the Lord always before me,  
for he is at my right hand so that I will not be shaken;  
therefore my heart was glad, and my tongue rejoiced;  
moreover my flesh will live in hope.

For you will not abandon my soul to Hades,  
or let your Holy One experience corruption.  
You have made known to me the ways of life;  
you will make me full of gladness with your presence.'

"Fellow Israelites, I may say to you confidently of our ancestor David that he both died and was buried, and his tomb is with us to this day. Since he was a prophet, he knew that God had sworn with an oath to him that he would put one of his descendants on his throne. Foreseeing this, David spoke of the resurrection of the Messiah, saying,

'He was not abandoned to Hades,  
nor did his flesh experience corruption.'

This Jesus God raised up, and of that all of us are witnesses."

The Word of the Lord  
**Thanks be to God**

**Psalm 16** *spoken responsively*

Aaron Seitz

- 1 Protect me, O God, for I take refuge in you; \*  
I have said to the Lord, "You are my Lord,  
my good above all other."
- 2 **All my delight is upon the godly that are in the land, \***  
**upon those who are noble among the people.**
- 3 But those who run after other gods \*  
shall have their troubles multiplied.
- 4 **Their libations of blood I will not offer, \***  
**nor take the names of their gods upon my lips.**
- 5 O Lord, you are my portion and my cup; \*  
it is you who uphold my lot.
- 6 **My boundaries enclose a pleasant land; \***  
**indeed, I have a goodly heritage.**
- 7 I will bless the Lord who gives me counsel; \*  
my heart teaches me, night after night.
- 8 **I have set the Lord always before me; \***  
**because he is at my right hand I shall not fall.**
- 9 My heart, therefore, is glad, and my spirit rejoices; \*  
my body also shall rest in hope.
- 10 **For you will not abandon me to the grave, \***  
**nor let your holy one see the Pit.**
- 11 You will show me the path of life; \*  
in your presence there is fullness of joy,  
and in your right hand are pleasures for evermore.

## **The Gospel: John 20:19-31**

The Rev. Chana Tetzlaff

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

When it was evening on that day, the first day of the week, and the doors of the house where the disciples had met were locked for fear of the Jews, Jesus came and stood among them and said, "Peace be with you." After he said this, he showed them his hands and his side. Then the disciples rejoiced when they saw the Lord. Jesus said to them again, "Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, so I send you." When he had said this, he breathed on them and said to them, "Receive the Holy Spirit. If you forgive the sins of any, they are forgiven them; if you retain the sins of any, they are retained."

But Thomas (who was called the Twin), one of the twelve, was not with them when Jesus came. So the other disciples told him, "We have seen the Lord." But he said to them, "Unless I see the mark of the nails in his hands, and put my finger in the mark of the nails and my hand in his side, I will not believe."

A week later his disciples were again in the house, and Thomas was with them. Although the doors were shut, Jesus came and stood among them and said, "Peace be with you." Then he said to Thomas, "Put your finger here and see my hands. Reach out your hand and put it in my side. Do not doubt but believe." Thomas answered him, "My Lord and my God!" Jesus said to him, "Have you believed because you have seen me? Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have come to believe."

Now Jesus did many other signs in the presence of his disciples, which are not written in this book. But these are written so that you may come to believe that Jesus is the Messiah, the Son of God, and that through believing you may have life in his name.

The Gospel of the Lord  
**Praise to you, Lord Christ**

## **The Homily**

The Rev. Chana Tetzlaff

## **The Baptismal Covenant**

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

**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.**

**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.**

**With God's help, I will continue in the apostles' teaching and  
fellowship, in the breaking of the bread, and in the  
prayers.**

**With God's help, I will persevere in resisting evil, and, whenever  
I fall into sin, repent and return to the Lord.**

**With God's help, I will proclaim by word and example the Good  
News of God in Christ.**

**With God's help, I will seek and serve Christ in all persons,  
loving my neighbor as myself.**

**With God's help, I will strive for justice and peace among all  
people, and respect the dignity of every human being.**

## Prayers of the People

Aaron Seitz

Rejoicing in the mighty acts of God who has delivered his people from sin and death through the resurrection of Jesus Christ, let us lift our voices and pray,

Risen Lord,  
**Hear our Prayer.**

Let us give thanks to God for the multitude of blessings that surround us:  
For our lives and for those whom we love,  
For the beauty of the world God has created,  
For the ways we can connect even when we are far apart,  
Let us give thanks to the God of Life.

Risen Lord,  
**Hear our Prayer.**

Let us pray for the nations and peoples of the world,  
That the powers that oppress and destroy may decline,  
That justice, peace, and prosperity be lifted up.  
That in this time of global pandemic we may remember the  
interdependence we share with our neighbors, even those on the other side of the world.

Risen Lord,  
**Hear our Prayer.**

Let us pray for those who are sick and struggling  
For the safety of our healthcare and essential workers and their families  
For the care of those whose livelihoods are at risk, especially those already on the economic edge  
For strength and solace for those who are sick and isolated.  
For those on our prayer list:

Amy, Andrew, Betty, Bonnie, Bryar, Bob, Dave, Eden, Gail, Gene, Joseph, Judy, Julie, Julie F., Kate and Sawyer, Karen, Kathryn, Knox and Tina and Tim, Landon and Caroline, Michael, Mike, Sharon, Stuart, Teresa, Tom and Christine, Maggie, Hugh, Eugene, Gene and Myra, Carmen, Geovanni, Joan, John, Ruth, Susan, Barb, Bobbie, Carole, Irene, Pearson, and Joan.

For the souls of those who have died, including Virginia Sears-Jones, mother of Mark Plummer, and Caroline Jayne.

That the hope born of Easter give them peace, acceptance and renewal, And that through their struggles they may come into closer communion with the God who redeems and restores.

Risen Lord,  
**Hear our Prayer.**

Let us pray for our Church, that though we grieve our physical distance from one another and the absence of the sacrament of communion, we may trust the bonds that God has built between us and the nourishment of the sacrament past, for the world cannot wait for us to come together once again, but needs us to be the body of Christ now.

Risen Lord,  
**Hear our Prayer.**

## **The Lord's Prayer**

**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.**

## **Easter Blessing**

May the God who shakes heaven and earth  
whom death could not contain  
who both disturbs and heals us  
bless you with power to go forth  
and proclaim the gospel of new life amidst the fear of death

And the blessing of God almighty: the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit bless you now and remain with you always. **Amen**

## **The Peace**

The peace of the Lord be always with you.  
**And also with you.**

**Postlude:** Hymn 296 - We know that Christ is raised.  
Kate Bender, violin