

Morning Prayer

April 18, 2021

Zoom link:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85887946777?pwd=ei94MEdsMUh6clV6b2dUblFOQ3I2Zz09>

Meeting ID: 858 8794 6777

Passcode: 782611

The third Sunday of Easter, Year B

Prelude

Announcements

Opening Hymn

Hymnal 199

Come, ye faithful, raise the strain

1 Come, ye faith - ful, raise the strain of tri - um - phant glad - ness!
2 'Tis the spring of souls to - day: Christ hath burst his pri - son,
3 Now the queen of sea - sons, bright with the day of splen - dor,

God hath brought his Is - ra - el in - to joy from sad - ness:
and from three days' sleep in death as a sun hath ris - en;
with the roy - al feast of feasts, comes its joy to ren - der;

loosed from Pha - raoh's bit - ter yoke Ja - cob's sons and daugh - ters,
 all the win - ter of our sins, long and dark, is fly - ing
 comes to glad Je - ru - sa - lem, who with true af - fec - tion

led them with un - mois - tened foot through the Red Sea wa - ters.
 from his light, to whom we give laud and praise un - dy - ing.
 wel - comes in un - wear - ied strains Je - sus' re - sur - rec - tion.

Presider Alleluia! Christ is risen.

People **The Lord is risen indeed. Alleluia!**

The Invitatory and Psalter

Presider O God, let our mouth proclaim your praise!

People **And your glory all the day long!**

Praise to the holy and undivided Trinity, one God: as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be for ever. Amen. Alleluia.

Alleluia. Christ is risen!

O come let us worship. Alleluia!

Invitatory

Come, let us sing to the Lord; *

let us shout for joy to the Rock of our salvation.

Let us come before God's presence with thanksgiving *

and raise to the Lord a shout with psalms.
For you are a great God, *
you are great above all gods.
In your hand are the caverns of the earth, *
and the heights of the hills are yours also.
The sea is yours, for you made it, *
and your hands have molded the dry land.
Come, let us bow down, and bend the knee, *
and kneel before the Lord our Maker.
For you are our God,
and we are the people of your pasture and the sheep of your hand. *
Oh, that today we would hearken to your voice!

Psalm 4

¹Answer me when I call, O God, defender of my cause; *
you set me free when I am hard-pressed;
have mercy on me and hear my prayer.
²**“You mortals, how long will you dishonor my glory; ***
how long will you worship dumb idols
and run after false gods?”
³Know that the LORD does wonders for the faithful; *
when I call upon the LORD, he will hear me.
⁴**Tremble, then, and do not sin; ***
speak to your heart in silence upon your bed.
⁵Offer the appointed sacrifices, *
and put your trust in the LORD.
⁶**Many are saying,**
“Oh, that we might see better times!” *
Lift up the light of your countenance upon us, O LORD.
⁷You have put gladness in my heart, *
more than when grain and wine and oil increase.
⁸**I lie down in peace; at once I fall asleep; ***
for only you, LORD, make me dwell in safety.

Praise to the holy and undivided Trinity, one God: as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be for ever. Amen.

Alleluia. Christ is risen!
O come let us worship. Alleluia!

The Lessons

First Reading

Acts 3:12-19

A Reading from the Acts of the Apostles.

¹²[Peter] addressed the people, “You Israelites, why do you wonder at this, or why do you stare at us, as though by our own power or piety we had made him walk?¹³The God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob, the God of our ancestors has glorified his servant Jesus, whom you handed over and rejected in the presence of Pilate, though he had decided to release him. ¹⁴But you rejected the Holy and Righteous One and asked to have a murderer given to you, ¹⁵and you killed the Author of life, whom God raised from the dead. To this we are witnesses. ¹⁶And by faith in his name, his name itself has made this man strong, whom you see and know; and the faith that is through Jesus has given him this perfect health in the presence of all of you.

¹⁷“And now, friends, I know that you acted in ignorance, as did also your rulers. ¹⁸In this way God fulfilled what he had foretold through all the prophets, that his Messiah would suffer. ¹⁹Repent therefore, and turn to God so that your sins may be wiped out.”

Reader The Word of the Lord.
People **Thanks be to God.**

Canticle 19: The Song of the Redeemed

Magna et mirabilia

O ruler of the universe, Lord God,
great deeds are they that you have done, *
surpassing human understanding.

Your ways are ways of righteousness and truth, *
O King of all the ages.

Who can fail to do you homage, Lord,
and sing the praises of your Name? *
for you only are the Holy One.

All nations will draw near and fall down before you, *
because your just and holy works have been revealed.

Praise to the holy and undivided Trinity, one God: as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be for ever. Amen.

Second Reading

1 John 3:1-7

A Reading from the First letter of John.

¹See what love the Father has given us, that we should be called children of God; and that is what we are. The reason the world does not know us is that it did not know him.

²Beloved, we are God's children now; what we will be has not yet been revealed. What we do know is this: when he is revealed, we will be like him, for we will see him as he is. ³And all who have this hope in him purify themselves, just as he is pure.

⁴Everyone who commits sin is guilty of lawlessness; sin is lawlessness. ⁵You know that he was revealed to take away sins, and in him there is no sin. ⁶No one who abides in him sins; no one who sins has either seen him or known him. ⁷Little children, let no one deceive you. Everyone who does what is right is righteous, just as he is righteous.

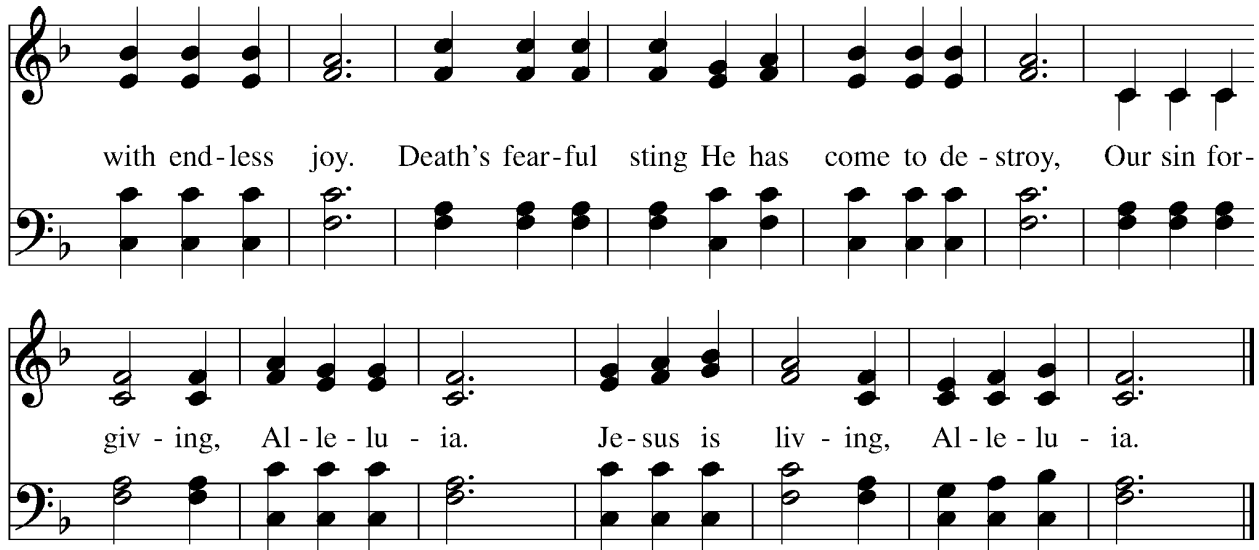
Reader The Word of the Lord.
People **Thanks be to God.**

Hymn

LEVAS 41

Christ has arisen

Christ has a - ris - en, Al - le - lu - ia. Re - jice and
praise Him, Al - le - lu - ia. For our Re - deem - er burst from the
tomb, E - ven from death dis - pel - ling its gloom. Let us sing praise to Him



with end-less joy. Death's fear-ful sting He has come to de-destroy, Our sin for-

giving, Al-le-lu-ia. Je-sus is liv-ing, Al-le-lu-ia.

Third Reading

Luke 24:36b-48

A Reading from Luke.

^{36b}Jesus stood among [the disciples] and said to them, “Peace be with you.” ³⁷They were startled and terrified, and thought that they were seeing a ghost. ³⁸He said to them, “Why are you frightened, and why do doubts arise in your hearts? ³⁹Look at my hands and my feet; see that it is I myself. Touch me and see; for a ghost does not have flesh and bones as you see that I have.” ⁴⁰And when he had said this, he showed them his hands and his feet. ⁴¹While in their joy they were disbelieving and still wondering, he said to them, “Have you anything here to eat?” ⁴²They gave him a piece of broiled fish, ⁴³and he took it and ate in their presence.

⁴⁴Then he said to them, “These are my words that I spoke to you while I was still with you—that everything written about me in the law of Moses, the prophets, and the psalms must be fulfilled.” ⁴⁵Then he opened their minds to understand the scriptures, ⁴⁶and he said to them, “Thus it is written, that the Messiah is to suffer and to rise from the dead on the third day, ⁴⁷and that repentance and forgiveness of sins is to be proclaimed in his name to all nations, beginning from Jerusalem. ⁴⁸You are witnesses of these things.”



Reader The Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

Sermon

The Apostles' Creed

The Presider begins

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. Amen.

The Prayers

Presider God be with you.

People **And also with you.**

Presider Let us pray.

The People's Respondent, the Presider, and the People

Our Father in heaven,
hallowed be your Name,
your kingdom come,
your will be done, on earth as in heaven.
Give us today our daily bread.
Forgive us our sins
as we forgive those who sin against us.
Save us from the time of trial
and deliver us from evil.
For the kingdom, the power,
and the glory are yours,
now and forever. Amen.

V. Help us, O God our Savior;
R. Deliver us and forgive us our sins.
V. Look upon your congregation;
R. Give to your people the blessing of peace.
V. Declare your glory among the nations;
R. And your wonders among all peoples.
V. Do not let the oppressed be shamed and turned away;
R. Never forget the lives of your poor.
V. Continue your loving-kindness to those who know you;
R. And your favor to those who are true of heart.
V. Satisfy us by your loving-kindness in the morning;
R. So shall we rejoice and be glad all the days of our life.

The Collect of the Day

O God, whose blessed Son made himself known to his disciples in the breaking of bread: Open the eyes of our faith, that we may behold him in all his redeeming work; who lives and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

O God, you make us glad with the weekly remembrance of the glorious resurrection of your Son our Lord: Give us this day such blessing through our worship of you, that the week to come may be spent in your favor; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

God, you are the first light cutting through the void. You are the final light which we shall enjoy forever. Help us to welcome the light and walk in it always. We praise you, God, that the light of Christ shines in our darkness and is never overcome; show us the way we must go to eternal day; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Intercessions and Thanksgivings

Officiant You have no equal, God. We come before you humbled, asking for your healing presence. Heal us, raise us so that we may serve you.

Intercessor We are amazed at your creative genius—how you have stretched the heavens like curtains, and yet you bend to be with us. **We are amazed, God. We raise our hearts in awe.**

Silence is kept.

Our world and our lives are in need of healing and direction. We ask you to guide your church and heal it where it is worn out and self-centered. Direct those who lead the

church. We pray for our bishops Bonnie, Michael, Justin, Moises, Elizabeth, Donald and Craig, all ministers, priests, deacons, ministry teams, those in formation; and our sisters and brothers worshipping at St Cyprian's, Detroit, St Michael's, Grosse Pointe Woods, St Stephen's, Wyandotte; and St Joseph's, Boca Chica, in the Dominican Republic. **We ask for direction. Raise our hearts to you, God.**

Silence is kept.

We ask you to heal the relationships between nations, and neighbors. Give the leaders of the nations the courage to pursue justice and to speak peace as an example for the world. **We ask for healing. Raise our hearts to you, God.**

Silence is kept.

We give you our deepest thanks and praise for the love and blessings you give us. We are grateful for [_____ and] all of these.

Silence is kept.

Many suffer from addictions, anxiety, or illness. We pray for [_____]. Break their chains which bind them and heal them, God. Surround them with supportive people, the resources they need, and a tangible sense of your love. **We ask for healing. Raise our hearts to you, God.**

We pray for [_____ and all] those who have died, that they may know the fullness of your love in the life you have prepared for them. Comfort those who grieve their loss and give them the confidence of your love which knows no limits of time or space. **We ask for assurance of your love. Raise our hearts to you, God.**

Silence is kept.

Presider O God, who by the glorious resurrection of your Son Jesus Christ destroyed death and brought life and immortality to light: Grant that we, who have been raised with him, may abide in his presence and rejoice in the hope of eternal glory; through Jesus Christ our Lord, to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit, be dominion and praise for ever and ever. **Amen.**

The Presider then says

My sisters and brothers, I invite you- wherever you are- to take into your hands the gifts you offer today. Gifts of food, gifts of money, gifts of whatever form, and join me as we offer to God a sacrifice of thanksgiving, and make good our vows to the Most High.

Let us pray.

Loving God and merciful Creator, whose hand is open wide to satisfy the needs of every living creature: we come to you with thanksgiving and praise. We offer to you this day our gifts of time, talent, and possessions, knowing that all we are, and all we have, is a gift from you. **Please accept these gifts, and help us to reach out to others as you, our God, have reached out to us. Through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

A Prayer of St. Chrysostom

The People's Respondent, the Presider, and the People

Almighty God, you have given us grace at this time with one accord to make our common supplication to you; and you have promised through your well-beloved Son that when two or three are gathered together in his Name you will be in the midst of them: **Fulfill now, O Lord, our desires and petitions as may be best for us; granting us in this world knowledge of your truth, and in the age to come life everlasting. Amen.**

Closing Hymn

Hymnal 182

Christ is alive! Let Christians sing

The musical score consists of two systems of music. Each system has a vocal line (treble clef) and a piano accompaniment line (bass clef). The lyrics are written below the vocal line.

System 1:

1 Christ is a - live! Let Chris - tians sing. His cross stands
 2 Christ is - a - live! No long - er bound to dis - tant
 5 Christ is a - live! His Spi - rit burns through this and

System 2:

1 emp - ty to the sky. Let streets and homes with
 2 years in Pal - es - tine, he comes to claim the
 5 ev - ery fu - ture age, till all cre - a - tion

1 prais - es ring. His love in death shall nev - er die.
 2 here and now and con - quer ev - ery place and time.
 5 lives and learns his joy, his jus - tice, love, and praise.

Dismissal and Blessing

A Priest says

We are not sent forth into a world where Christ is absent. It is God's world, and in it Christ awaits us. We go forth to seek and serve Christ in all persons, loving our neighbors as themselves. We go to strive for justice and peace among all people, respecting the dignity of every human being **Amen.**

My sisters and my brothers, go now in peace, in the name of † the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit. Alleluia, alleluia!

Thanks be to God. Alleluia, alleluia!

Postlude



REGARDING OFFERINGS TO ST. BARNABAS CHURCH

To make an offering to St Barnabas, please mail your check to the church: 20500 W Old US-12, Chelsea MI 48118-1309. Mail is being collected daily.

CONTINUING OUR DONATIONS OF FOOD AND FUNDS
TO FAITH IN ACTION

Faith in Action is continuing to provide leadership in collecting donations to support households in need in the Chelsea and Dexter areas. They will be in need of our continuing help in the weeks of winter still to come.

Needed right now: *boxed/shelf-stable milk, cooking oil, salt/pepper, spices, coffee, tea bags, sugar, flour, canned tuna, crackers, cake mix, canned frosting, dish soap, women's hygiene products.* You may bring your donations to FIA, or to Nancy who will see that they get there. **If you bring food directly to FIA**, please let Nancy know, so she can continue to keep our records of donation. If you write a check, please make it to *Faith In Action*. The **next Food Drive at the church** will be **today, April 18**. The building will be open for you to leave your donations.

Financial donations to help us combat the continuing effects of the pandemic can be made by PayPal at www.faithinaction1.org, by [Facebook](#), or by mailing a check to *Faith in Action*, 603 S. Main Street, Chelsea MI 48118. **If you need help, please call FIA at (734) 475-3305**

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Upcoming Commemorations

- April 18 Juana Inés de la Cruz, Monastic and Theologian, 1695
- 19 Alphege, Archbishop of Canterbury and Martyr, 1012
- 21 Anselm, Archbishop of Canterbury and Theologian, 1109
- 22 John Muir, Naturalist and Writer, 1914; and,
Hudson Stuck, Priest and Environmentalist, 1920
- 23 Toyohiko Kagawa, Prophetic Witness, 1960; and,
George, Soldier and Martyr, c. 304
- 24 Armenian Genocide Remembrance Day: 1915 to 1923.

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April 18, 2021 Easter 3B

Acts 3:12-19

Today's passage from Acts is a tricky text that has contributed to Christianity's unfortunate anti-Jewish and antisemitic history of

violence. From the crusades to the Holocaust to today's rise of neo-Nazism, misunderstandings of passages such as this one from Acts have led to horrific beliefs about Jewish people. In today's text, we encounter Peter and John entering the Temple to pray (notice they are two Jewish men going to pray in a sacred Jewish place) when they see a man at the gate unable to walk. After healing the man "in the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth" the man jumps up and walks, praising God. Today's passage picks up with Peter's response to the shocked worshipers who recognized the man from the gate. Peter uses it as an opportunity to preach the good news of Christ, but in doing so, he seems to blame the Israelites to whom he is speaking: "You rejected the Holy and Righteous One," "You killed the Author of life." It's easy to see why Christians through the centuries might have looked at their Jewish neighbors suspiciously, but it is no excuse.

At issue here is not Judaism, but a certain kind of religiosity that exists in all religious traditions – a kind of religiosity that wraps itself up in piety and tradition and strangles the movement of God in the community. "Why do you stare at us, as though by our own power or piety we made him walk?" Peter asks. Peter is speaking to some of the most pious, religious people of his day in one of the holiest places in the world, and yet the people still seem surprised when God shows up and does something miraculous, just as they were tuned out to the work God was doing in and through Jesus.

Our Jewish siblings are no more guilty of this kind of thinking than are we Christians. How often do we faithfully attend our churches each week, reciting our prayers from memory, and yet completely unaware of how God is moving? How often are we surprised when we see God working? Our tradition and piety should always point to where God is moving. We must be careful not to become so attached to them we miss out on what God is doing. So, keep praying in the temple! Keep going to church! But don't be surprised when the God you are worshipping shows up.

- What are some other passages from Scripture which have been used in anti-Jewish ways?
- Think about your own prayer practices. Have they ever become obstacles to seeing God's movement in your life?

Psalm 4

"Many are saying, 'Oh, that we might see better times!'" Is there a line in Scripture that will resonate more in our hearts than this one, given our current context of a global pandemic? Today's psalm is a classic one included in the Book of Common Prayer's service of Compline – and for good reason. With its images of praying in bed and falling asleep quickly, faithful Jews and Christians have prayed it at bedtime for millennia. Sometimes as I pray these words, I think about the many times of uncertainty and crisis that have taken place through those years, and it's comforting to know such a psalm has been passed down by those who also faced fearful nights. The psalm powerfully reminds us that when we face uncertainty in our external circumstances, we only need to draw inward to find the peace of God.

- When the world is full of chaos, what does it mean to "speak to your heart in silence upon your bed"? How might you practice these words this week?

1 John 3:1-7

What a radical idea it is that we are children of God. Just as a word starts to sound funny and loses its meaning when you say it over and over again, after 2,000 years, we sometimes lose sight of just how radical it is to be called children of God. In this passage from 1 John, the author emphasizes that to be children of God is to be lavished in God's love and intimately tied up in the identity and fate of Jesus Christ. Think about it. If Jesus is the Son of God, and we are now

called children of God, we are being likened to Jesus and invited into this holy and divine family. The author of 1 John goes so far as to say that when Jesus will be revealed again, “we will be like him.”

Theologically, this idea is in line with other Johannine books of the Bible. For example, in John 17, Jesus prays that his followers will be united, “as you, Father, are in me and I am in you, may they also be in us.” In Jesus Christ, the division between divine and human passes away and, as children of God, our lives are woven together in the life of the Trinity. This is the idea the early Church Father Athanasius had when he wrote in his important work *On the Incarnation*, “God became man that man might become God.” To be called children of God is not just a cute pet name—it’s the profound affirmation that because of Jesus, we have been welcomed into the family of God as participants in the divine Trinitarian life. Wow!

- What implications does being called children of God have for Christian life?
- If God is our Father and Jesus is God’s son, who is Jesus to us?

Luke 24:36b-48

Every good dinner party has two basic elements: food and conversation. Talking and eating. The two go hand-in-hand. They also happen to be the two major sections of the Eucharist. In the first half of the service, the Word is proclaimed and we hear the gospel. In the second half of the service, communion is offered and we share a meal. Most of the time, these two parts are hinged with the passing of the peace, which embodies the community of peace formed from hearing God’s word and sharing God’s body, much like the community which comes from the talking and eating of a good dinner party.

Albeit out of order, it’s no coincidence that today’s gospel passage, which features an appearance of the resurrected Jesus to his disciples, includes each of these Eucharistic elements. Jesus stands among the disciples saying to them, “Peace be with you” (PEACE/COMMUNITY). He then shares his body with the disciples through a demonstration of its realness by eating a meal (COMMUNION/EATING). And finally, he opens the disciples’ minds to understand the scriptures so that they may be proclaimed to all nations (WORD/TALKING). Each time we participate in the Eucharist, we, like the disciples, are coming to know the risen Christ.

This morning’s passage ends with a charge: “You are witnesses of these things.” To be a witness means to share with others your experience – and that is exactly the charge with which we leave the Eucharist: “Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.” When we participate in the Eucharist, we are encountering the risen Christ. When we pass and receive the peace, it is the same peace that Jesus gave to his disciples in his appearance. Like the disciples, then, we too are witnesses of these things, and it is as witnesses that we go forth into the world, proclaiming the resurrected Christ.

- How does this passage mirror the story of the Last Supper in Luke 22?
- What other passages of Scriptures do you know that contain Eucharistic imagery?

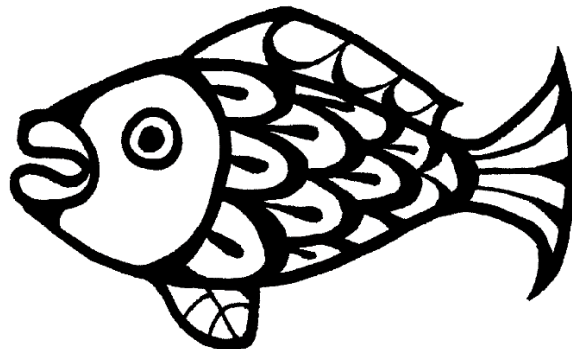
This study written by Derek Larson.

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Our Mission:

We seek to grow as diverse disciples of Jesus Christ, and to serve Jesus by serving others in the world, guided by the values of Ancient Rites, Open Minds, and Affirming Hearts.



St Barnabas Episcopal Church
20500 W Old US-12
Chelsea MI 48118
stbarnabaschelsea.org