# **Holy Eucharist**

# May 8, 2022

# Easter 4C

Zoom link: https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85887946777?pwd=ei94 <u>MEdsMUh6clV6b2dUblFOQ3I2Zzo9</u> Meeting ID: 858 8794 6777 Passcode: 782611

# Prelude

The following is sung, all standing as they are able

# **Opening Hymn**

Come, let us with our Lord arise



Tune: Hymnal 558



CelebrantAlleluia. Christ is risen.PeopleChrist is risen indeed. Alleluia.

The Celebrant begins the Collect for 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 following is sung, all standing as they are able





# **Collect of the Day**

Presider	The Lord be with you.
People	And also with you.
Presider	Let us pray.

O God, whose Son Jesus is the good shepherd of your people: Grant that when we hear his voice we may know him who calls us each by name, and follow where he leads; who, with you and the Holy Spirit, lives and reigns, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen**.

All sit.

# **First Reading**

## Acts 9:36-43

A Reading from the Acts of the Apostles.

Now in Joppa there was a disciple whose name was Tabitha, which in Greek is Dorcas. She was devoted to good works and acts of charity. At that time she became ill and died.

When they had washed her, they laid her in a room upstairs. Since Lydda was near Joppa, the disciples, who heard that Peter was there, sent two men to him with the request, "Please come to us without delay." So Peter got up and went with them; and when he arrived, they took him to the room upstairs. All the widows stood beside him, weeping and showing tunics and other clothing that Dorcas had made while she was with them. Peter put all of them outside, and then he knelt down and prayed. He turned to the body and said, "Tabitha, get up." Then she opened her eyes, and seeing Peter, she sat up. He gave her his hand and helped her up. Then calling the saints and widows, he showed her to be alive. This became known throughout Joppa, and many believed in the Lord. Meanwhile he stayed in Joppa for some time with a certain Simon, a tanner.

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

## Psalm 23

Hymnal 645

The King of love my shepherd is



# **Second Reading**

Hymnal 343

A Reading from the Revelation of John.

I looked, and there was a great multitude that no one could count, from every nation, from all tribes and peoples and languages, standing before the throne and before the Lamb, robed in white, with palm branches in their hands. They cried out in a loud voice, saying, "Salvation belongs to our God who is seated on the throne, and to the Lamb!" And all the angels stood around the throne and around the elders and the four living creatures, and they fell on their faces before the throne and worshiped God, singing, "Amen! Blessing and glory and wisdom and thanksgiving and honor and power and might be to our God forever and ever! Amen." Then one of the elders addressed me, saying, "Who are these, robed in white, and where have they come from?" I said to him, "Sir, you are the one that knows." Then he said to me, "These are they who have come out of the great ordeal; they have washed their robes and made them white in the blood of the Lamb. For this reason they are before the throne of God, and worship him day and night within his temple, and the one who is seated on the throne will shelter them. They will hunger no more, and thirst no more; the sun will not strike them, nor any scorching heat; for the Lamb at the center of the throne will be their shepherd, and he will guide them to springs of the water of life, and God will wipe away every tear from their eyes."

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

All stand as they are able.

# **Sequence** Hymn

Shepherd of souls, refresh and bless





All remain standing as they are able.

# **Holy Gospel**

John 10:22-30

GospellerThe Holy Gospel of our Savior Jesus Christ according to John.PeopleGlory to you, Lord Christ.

At that time the festival of the Dedication took place in Jerusalem. It was winter, and Jesus was walking in the temple, in the portico of Solomon. So the Jews gathered around him and said to him, "How long will you keep us in suspense? If you are the Messiah, tell us plainly." Jesus answered, "I have told you, and you do not believe. The works that I do in my Father's name testify to me; but you do not believe, because you do not belong to my sheep. My sheep hear my voice. I know them, and they follow me. I give them eternal life, and they will never perish. No one will snatch them out of my hand. What my Father has given me is greater than all else, and no one can snatch it out of the Father's hand. The Father and I are one."



GospellerThe Gospel of the Lord.PeoplePraise to you, Lord Christ.

# Sermon

All stand as they are able.

# **Nicene Creed**

*Presider* Let us affirm the faith of the Church using the words of the Nicene Creed.

We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen. We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ,

the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God. begotten, not made, of one Being with the Father: through him all things were made. For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven, was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the Virgin Mary and became truly human. For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate: he suffered death and was buried. On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures: he ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end. We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father [and the Son], who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified, who has spoken through the prophets. We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church. We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins. We look for the resurrection of the dead. and the life of the world to come. Amen.

All remain standing as they are able.

# **Prayers of the People**

*Presider* Salvation belongs to our God and to the Lamb, to whom be glory forever. We offer our prayers and praises on behalf of ourselves, our neighbors and the world, saying: Blessing and glory and wisdom and thanksgiving and honor and praise and might be to our God forever and ever!

*Intercessor* Christ our Shepherd, you call your Church to hear your voice and to continue the good works that you have done in your Father's name: Guide us along right pathways for your name's sake. Bless us, and our Bishops Bonnie, Michael, Justin, Moises, Elizabeth, Donald and Craig. Bless all ministers, priests, deacons, ministry teams, those in formation; and our brothers and sisters worshipping at St James, Grosse Ile, and Good Shepherd, San Pedro, and St Philip the Apostle, Santo Domingo, in the Dominican Republic; those in The Église Anglicane du Rwanda, and for all the members of Christ's

# body. Blessing and glory and wisdom and thanksgiving, and honor and praise and might be to our God forever and ever!

## Silence is kept.

Before your throne, O God, is an uncounted multitude from every nation, from all tribes and peoples and languages: Guide the leaders of the nations of earth toward the reconciliation of all peoples from different races and cultures and faiths, that we may walk in your ways of peace, hunger or thirst no more, and fear no evil. Blessing and glory and wisdom and thanksgiving, **and honor and praise and might be to our God forever and ever!** 

#### Silence is kept.

Let the voice of the Good Shepherd be heard everywhere, O God, to comfort and guide all who are in trouble or anguish throughout the world. For those injured, or traumatized because of human violence, we pray: God, wipe away every tear from their eyes. We pray again for an end to the violence. We pray again for peace. Revive our souls and lead us beside still waters, O God, that we may know your voice within us, and your rod and your staff may comfort us. Blessing and glory and wisdom and thanksgiving, **and honor and praise and might be to our God forever and ever!** 

Silence is kept.

Our prayers join with the praise and intercessions of the heavenly chorus as we bring before you our concerns [especially for \_\_\_\_\_].

Creator God, by the victory of your Son, turn the valleys of death into green pastures where living waters flow. Bless and renew your creation. Our cup is running over as we thank you for all our many blessings [especially for \_\_\_\_\_].

We commend to your salvation those who have walked through the valley of death and come out of the great ordeal [especially \_\_\_\_\_]. Guide them to the springs of the water of life. Blessing and glory and wisdom and thanksgiving, **and honor and praise and might be to our God forever and ever!** 

*Presider:* Gracious God, you have spread the table before us and invited us into communion with you in the new life of resurrection: Let your goodness and mercy follow us all the days of our lives, that all humanity may know you as their Good Shepherd, and dwell in the house of the Lord forever. **Amen.** 

# **Confession of Sin**

The Presider says to the people

Let us confess our sins to God.

## Silence may be kept.

## Minister and People

God of all mercy, we confess that we have sinned against you, opposing your will in our lives. We have denied your goodness in each other, in ourselves, and in the world you have created. We repent of the evil that enslaves us, the evil we have done, and the evil done on our behalf. Forgive, restore, and strengthen us through our Savior Jesus Christ, that we may abide in your love and serve only your will. Amen.

## A Priest stands and says

Almighty God have mercy on you, + forgive you all your sins through our Lord Jesus Christ, strengthen you in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep you in eternal life. **Amen**.

All stand as they are able

# Peace

PresiderThe peace of Christ be always with you.PeopleAnd also with you.

Then the Ministers and the People may greet one another in the name of the Lord.

The People then are seated.

# Announcements

# **Holy Communion**

*Presider* Since we have a great high priest who has passed through the heavens, Jesus, the Son of God, let us with confidence draw near to the throne of grace, that we may receive mercy and find grace to help in time of need. *Hebrews 4:14, 16* 

The people stand as they are able when the offerings are presented and placed on the Altar.

# **Offertory Hymn**

# Doxology

Praise God, from Whom all blessings flow; Praise God, all creatures here below; Praise God above, you heav'nly host; Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.

The people remain standing as they are able

# **Great Thanksgiving**

Presider	The Lord be with you.
People	And also with you.
Presider	Lift up your hearts.
People	We lift them to the Lord.
Presider	Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
People	It is right to give our thanks and praise.

## The Presider proceeds

All thanks and praise are yours at all times and in all places, our true and loving God; through Jesus Christ, your eternal Word, the Wisdom from on high by whom you created all things.
You laid the foundations of the world and enclosed the sea when it burst out from the womb; You brought forth all creatures of the earth and gave breath to humankind.
Wondrous are you, Holy One of Blessing, all you create is a sign of hope for our journey;

And so as the morning stars sing your praises we join the heavenly beings and all creation as we sing with joy:





## The Presider continues

Glory and honor are yours, Creator of all,

your Word has never been silent;

you called a people to yourself, as a light to the nations,

you delivered them from bondage and led them to a land of promise.

Of your grace, you gave Jesus to be human, to share our life,

to proclaim the coming of your holy reign and give himself for us,

a fragrant offering. Through Jesus Christ our Redeemer,

you have freed us from sin, brought us into your life,

reconciled us to you, and restored us to the glory you intend for us.

We thank you that on the night before he died for us

Jesus took bread, and when he had given thanks to you,

he broke it, gave it to his friends and said:

"Take, eat, this is my Body, broken for you. Do this for the remembrance of me."

After supper Jesus took the cup of wine, said the blessing, gave it to his friends and said: "Drink this, all of you: this cup is the new Covenant in my Blood, poured out for you and for all for the forgiveness of sin. Do this for the remembrance of me."

## And so, remembering all that was done for us: the cross, the tomb, the resurrection and ascension, longing for Christ's coming in glory, and presenting to you these gifts your earth has formed and human hands have made, we acclaim you, O Christ:

## Presider and People

## Dying you destroyed our death. Rising you restore our life. Christ Jesus, come in glory.

## The Presider continues

Send your Holy Spirit upon + us and upon these gifts of bread and wine that they may be to us the Body and Blood of your Christ. Grant that we, burning with your Spirit's power, may be a people of hope, justice and love.
Giver of Life, draw us together in the Body of Christ, and in the fullness of time gather us with all your people into the joy of our true eternal home.
Through Christ and with Christ and in Christ, by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, we worship you our God and Creator in voices of unending praise. AMEN.

The Presider then continues

As our Savior Christ has taught us, we are bold to say:

```
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,
forever and ever. Amen.
```

# **Breaking of the Bread**

A period of silence is kept.

The Presider says

Alleluia! Christ our Passover has been sacrificed for us. **Therefore, let us keep the feast. Alleluia!** 

## You call us, Lord Jesus, to share the feast which you first shared with the disciples on the night before your death upon the cross. **The same life you shared with them is shared with us.**

The same love you poured forth on the cross is poured forth in this feast; this is the feast which your saints share for ever.

## We also are called to this feast of our forgiveness, redemption, health, and joy; let us come then to this table and share this feast; and as we come to you, Lord Jesus, come now and always to us. Amen.

All baptized persons are welcome to receive Holy Communion.

The following is sung after all have received, and the table is being cleared.

## **Post-Communion Hymn**

# Hymnal 691

My faith looks up to thee



After Communion, the Presider says

Let us pray.

Presider and People

God of abundance, you have fed us with the bread of life and cup of salvation; you have united us with Christ and one another; and you have made us one with all your people in heaven and on earth. Now send us forth in the power of your Spirit, that we may proclaim your redeeming love to the world and continue for ever in the risen life of Christ our Savior. Amen.

# Blessing

A priest blesses the people, saying

May God the Father, by whose love Christ was raised from the dead, open to you who believe the gates of everlasting life. **Amen**.

May God the Son who, in bursting the grave, has won a glorious victory, give you joy as you share the Easter faith. **Amen**.

May God the Holy Spirit, whom the risen Lord breathed into his disciples, empower you and fill you with Christ's peace. **Amen**.

And the blessing of God Almighty, +the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be upon you and remain with you for ever. **Amen**.

# **Closing Hymn**

# Hymnal 494

*Crown him with many crowns* 





# Dismissal

MinisterAlleluia, alleluia. Let us go forth into the world, rejoicing in the power of<br/>the Spirit.People**Thanks be to God. Alleluia, alleluia.** 

# Postlude

**Diocesan Confirmation** has been *set for Saturday, May 21 at 1:00pm*. The service will be held at *All Saints', East Lansing*. We will rejoice with Scott, our Confirmand this year! Please come and help to welcome the newest member of The Episcopal Church!

**As we pray** for an end to violence and for those fleeing Ukraine, please also pray for Episcopal Relief & Development and other ecumenical agencies working to respond to the current crisis. Specific needs will change as the crisis evolves. As of right now, there is a need for food, water and shelter. Please consider partnering with Episcopal Relief & Development in this response. Visit episcopalrelief.org/ukraine-crisis for more information.

**Faith in Action** provides leadership in collecting donations of food to support households in need in the Chelsea and Dexter areas. They are in need of our continuing help. You may bring your donations to FIA, or to <u>Nancy</u> 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** is **next Sunday**, **May 15**. Please contribute as generously as you can.

# Coffee Hour sign-up sheet for May and June is available in the church hall. Please sign up to bring *simple* food and/or to clean up after. If you have questions, please contact <u>Kitty</u>.

The **Book Discussion** group had its most recent meeting on May 5, via Zoom. The sessions begin at **6:30**. The next session will be on May 12. All are welcome to participate. For more info, contact <u>Kathy O</u>.

## **Upcoming Commemorations**

May 8 Julian of Norwich, Mystic and Theologian, c.1417

- 9 Gregory of Nazianzus, Bishop and Theologian, 389
- 10 Nicolaus Ludwig von Zinzendorf, Prophetic Witness, 1760
- 11 Johann Arndt and Jacob Boehme, Mystics, 1621 and 1624
- 13 Frances Perkins, Social Reformer, 1965

V	Easter 4C May 8, 2022
	Acts 9:36-43
BULLETIN	
INSERTS	One of the true joys of the Easter season is dwelling in the Book of Acts and seeing the immediate effects of the Resurrection upon the

community of Jesus' followers. We hear of people, at least of men, who are filled with the Holy Spirit, and how they evangelize, prophesy, and build a community centered around the Holy Spirit. In this community, poverty is confronted with the sharing of wealth, hunger with the sharing of food, and death with resurrection. Those who are marginalized, like widows and orphans, are tended to by disciples like Tabitha. As we continue to reflect upon the Resurrection and how it might transform us and our communities, these stories help us to see where our own communities can be led more fully by the Holy Spirit.

However, this passage also encourages us to be more critical of both the text of Acts and of our own society, particularly around gender roles. A close reading of Acts shows that men and women are treated differently from each other, which would be expected, given the culture in which it was produced. The men are filled with the Holy Spirit and consistently do the "public" work of ministry by preaching, healing, and teaching; these are not roles that we see being held by women in this text. While we may react to that with frustration, anger, or acceptance, this text could also be an opportunity for us to ask where in our communities gender roles are deeply entrenched and how we might be called to begin the hard work of building communities where gender roles are more equal. The message of Easter, particularly as exemplified in Acts, encourages us to look deeply at not only our individual lives but at our communities and how we might live more fully into a life filled with the Holy Spirit and to address—and dismantle—the cultural systems that hinder that journey.

- Who is marginalized in your community? How do you already serve them? Does that service feed you spiritually? Does that service build those who are served up and treat them with dignity?
- Are there defined gender roles in your community, whether explicitly or implicitly defined? How would you start to address them to bring equality?

## Psalm 23

This is one of the most famous passages of scripture in both the Christian and Hebraic traditions, and many have dwelt in it and have been comforted by it over the centuries. As we dwell in it, we are comforted by the pastoral images and the feeling and knowledge that God will be with us in our most desperate hours.

When we encounter a passage that we know very well, it can be easy to simply hear it as we have always heard it, especially with this passage because the imagery is so comforting. In order to hear this passage anew, one might focus on one particular image or think of a very difficult situation where you want to be assured that God is with you. Picture the scenery of this psalm—the pastures, the still waters, or the table spread before us—and meditate simply on how you have experienced God in that particular place in your own life. Another option would be to follow the text as a journey, specifically a journey accompanied by God through meditation. Read the passage aloud slowly and picture yourself walking through the images outlined in this text. As you journey through these scenes, take note of the landscape in detail and explore it. You can do this once or over a period of time as an exercise to simply experience God in the moment or deepen your relationship over time.

- What do you see, smell, and hear as you walk?
- What else is on the path, or just off the path, and what feelings do these evoke for you?
- Where or how do you experience God on this path/journey?
- Does this practice change how you hear this psalm or deepen your experience of it?

## Revelation 7:9-17

This section of Revelation, which is also heard on the feast of All Saints and very often at funerals, provides, like Psalm 23, hope that despite the struggles and difficulties of our lives, God is faithful and will see us through those times. Salvation will come through Jesus, who is both the lamb and the shepherd, and through the diverse multitude of saints that we encounter in this vision.

This text draws from the riches of the Hebrew Bible with palms, God as shelter invoking the tabernacle, and references to the call home and the wiping away of tears from Isaiah. These images evoke the stories of the Israelites being delivered from Egypt and from Babylon and bring them into the context of the people oppressed by the Roman Empire. While it can be very difficult for our modern ears to hear the language of this text from that context and culture, we are reminded that the communities that heard this text were hearing a message of hope in the midst of their despair. The same God who ensured that the Israelites could leave their oppression in Egypt, return from cultural destruction and exile in Babylon, and survive the perilous journey through the wilderness, will ensure that we will be delivered from the blood of the lamb, we are not only cleansed of our sins but welcomed into the fold of Jesus where, though we will experience turmoil and wilderness, we will do so with the assurance of salvation and deliverance. We will experience the shelter and love of God.

- Where have you experienced "wilderness"? How did you feel God's presence in that time?
- What do you think of when you hear the words "deliverance" and "salvation"?

## John 10:22-30

Who is Jesus of Nazareth? It is a question that is at the very heart of our faith as Christians. Is Jesus the Messiah? We can hear this passage and rest assured that we have heard the voice of Jesus and so we follow him and, therefore, experience eternal life and the safety that comes with it. Having heard his voice, we know ourselves to be his sheep. From that perspective, this passage can be one of comfort and solace.

However, we could also hear this with concern—how can I be sure that I am following Jesus' voice? In a world where things move so quickly and there are so many competing voices, how do we know that we are following Jesus'? Jesus reminds his audience and us that they should know that he is the Messiah because of his works. His works are always about restoration, liberation, inclusion, healing, and justice; they are the works that create a just community. As we seek to live into the Resurrection and to follow the voice of the Good Shepherd Jesus, we will know that we are following his voice when we are also working towards restoration, liberation, inclusion, healing, and justice from which flow abundant life.

- What does abundant life mean to you?
- Have you ever been concerned or worried that you are not following Jesus' voice? Reflect upon that experience. At what point did you realize that you were or were not following Jesus? What was it that clarified it for you?

This Bible study, written by **Patrick Burke** 

#### 

**From** riteplanning.com. Copyright © 2022 Church Publishing Inc. All rights reserved. **Opening Hymn** text found at *Hymnal* #49 **Glory to God** and **Sanctus** musical settings by Doug Howell. © 2016 Creative Measures. Used by permission of the composer. **Invitation to the Table** by Milner-White, Eric; from *My God, my glory*. SPCK, London, 1954; p.82, alt.

#### **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