

Order of Public Worship of God

The Seventh Day of April, Two Thousand Twenty-Four

First Sunday in Eastertide

PRELUDE

“The early Christians did not invent the empty tomb and the meetings or sightings of the risen Jesus... Nobody was expecting this kind of thing; no kind of conversion experience would have invented it, no matter how guilty (or how forgiven) they felt, no matter how many hours they poured over the Scriptures. To suggest otherwise is to stop doing history and enter into a fantasy world of your own.”

- N. T. Wright, *For all God's Worth*

“Christianity is concerned, not with mere immortality, nor with sheer survival, nor with the transmigration of the soul, nor with reincarnation, but with resurrection from the dead.”

- David Prior, *The Message of I Corinthians*

“If Jesus rose from the dead, then you have to accept all that he said; if he didn't rise from the dead, then why worry about any of what he said? The issue on which everything hangs is not whether or not you like his teaching but whether or not he rose from the dead.”

- Timothy Keller, *The Reason for God*



OPENING PRAYER

Almighty God,
Who through your only-begotten Son Jesus Christ
overcame death and opened to us the gate of everlasting life:
Grant that we, who celebrate with joy the day of the Lord's resurrection,
may be raised from the death of sin by your life-giving Spirit;
through Jesus Christ our Lord,
who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and forever.
Amen.

† HYMN OF WORSHIP | “O Love That Will Not Let Me Go”

O Love that will not let me go, I rest my weary soul in thee;
I give thee back the life I owe, that in thine ocean depths its flow
May richer, fuller be.

O Light that followest all my way, I yield my flickering torch to thee;
My heart restores its borrowed ray, that in thy sunshine's blaze its day
May brighter, fairer be.

O Joy that seekest me through pain, I cannot close my heart to thee;
I trace the rainbow through the rain, and feel the promise is not vain,
That morn shall tearless be.

O Cross that liftest up my head, I dare not ask to fly from thee;
I lay in dust, life's glory dead, and from the ground there blossoms red
Life that shall endless be.

† CALL TO WORSHIP | I Corinthians 15:55-57

O death, where is your victory? O death, where is your sting?

The sting of death is sin, and the power of sin is the law.

But thanks be to God, who gives us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ.

He is risen!

He is risen indeed!

† HYMNS OF THANKSGIVING | “Leaning On The Everlasting Arms”

What a fellowship, what a joy divine,
Leaning on the everlasting arms,
What a blessedness, what a peace is mine,
Leaning on the everlasting arms.

Refrain:

Leaning, leaning, safe and secure from all alarms,
Leaning, leaning, leaning on the everlasting arms.

Oh, how sweet to walk in this pilgrim way,
Leaning on the everlasting arms,
Oh, how bright the path grows from day to day,
Leaning on the everlasting arms. (refrain)

What have I to dread, what have I to fear,
Leaning on the everlasting arms?
I have blessed peace with my Lord so near,
Leaning on the everlasting arms. (refrain)

“How Great Thou Art”

Oh, Lord my God! When I in awesome wonder
Consider all the works thy hand hath made,
I see the stars, I hear the mighty thunder,
Thy power throughout the universe displayed;

Refrain:

Then sings my soul, my Saviour God, to thee,
“How great thou art, how great thou art!”
Then sings my soul, my Saviour God, to thee,
“How great thou art, how great thou art!”

And when I think that God his Son not sparing,
Sent him to die, I scarce can take it in,
That on the cross my burden gladly bearing,
He bled and died to take away my sin: (refrain)

When Christ shall come with shout of acclamation
And take me home, what joy shall fill my heart!
Then I shall bow in humble adoration
And there proclaim, my God, “How great thou art!” (refrain)

INVOCATION AND 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 debts
as we forgive our debtors,
and lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom,
and the power, and the glory forever.
Amen.

GIVING OF TITHES AND OFFERINGS

MUSICAL OFFERING

† CORPORATE PROFESSION OF FAITH | The Apostles' Creed

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 is seated on the right hand of God the Father Almighty.
From there He will 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 life everlasting. Amen.

† DOXOLOGY

Praise God from whom all blessings flow;
Praise Him, all creatures here below;
Praise Him above, ye heav'nly host:
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

† GREETING

Junior Worship begins for children age four through first grade. Please escort children to the following classrooms. Preschool - Room 10; Kindergarten and First Grade - Room 9. Children will return to sit with their families before communion.

READING OF GOD'S WORD | I Corinthians 15: 1-2

This is the Word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

SERMON | “Stand Fast in the Gospel”

- Rev. James M. Holland

PRAYER FOR GRACE AND INVITATION TO THE TABLE

SILENT CONFESSION

CORPORATE CONFESSION OF SIN

Almighty and most merciful Father,
We are thankful that your mercy is
higher than the heavens,
wider than our wanderings,
deeper than all our sin.
Forgive our careless attitudes toward your purposes,
our refusal to relieve the suffering of others,
our envy of those who have more than we have,
our obsession with creating a life of constant pleasure,
our indifference to the treasures of heaven,
our neglect of your wise and gracious law.
Help us to change our way of life
so that we may desire what is good,
love what you love,
and do what you command,
Through Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen.

ASSURANCE OF PARDON | Psalm 103:8; 13

The Lord is merciful and gracious,
slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love...
As a father shows compassion to his children,
so the Lord shows compassion to those who fear him.

WORDS OF INSTITUTION AND PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

BREAKING OF THE BREAD AND SHARING OF THE CUP

How do we take communion here at St. Patrick?

As the ushers come past your row, please come to the front, take one piece of bread and one cup of wine or juice. Consume these immediately and dispose of your cups in the receptacle on the side as you return to your seat. Each table serves both wine and grape juice, and all of our bread is gluten-free.

Who comes to the Table?

Communion is open to all baptized believers who have made a profession of faith in Jesus. If you have children who have not made a profession of faith, they are not ready to partake of the elements, but please bring them forward to be blessed by one of our elders. If you are not a believer but want to know more about Jesus, you are invited to come forward and simply bypass the table, letting one of the leaders know that you would like to learn more about what it means to know and belong to Jesus.

† HYMN OF ASSURANCE | “On Jordan’s Stormy Banks I Stand”

**On Jordan’s stormy banks I stand and cast a wishful eye
To Canaan’s fair and happy land where my possessions lie.**

**All o’er those wide extended plains shines one eternal day;
There God the Son forever reigns and scatters night away.**

Refrain:

**I am bound, I am bound
I am bound for promised land.
I am bound, I am bound
I am bound for promised land.**

**No chilling winds nor poisonous breath can reach that healthful shore;
Sickness, sorrow, pain and death are felt and feared no more. *(refrain)***

**When shall I reach that happy place and be forever blessed?
When shall I see my Father’s face and in his bosom rest? *(refrain)***

† BENEDICTION | Revelation 5:12-13

Worthy is the Lamb who was slain, to receive power and wealth
and wisdom and might and honor and glory and blessing!
**To him who sits on the throne and to the Lamb be blessing and honor
and glory and might forever and ever!**

Alleluia! He is risen!
He is risen indeed! Alleluia!

*Scripture tells us to make our needs known to God, and to call others to pray with and for us.
If you would like prayer, elders will be standing in the front of the sanctuary (pulpit side)
immediately following the service to pray with you.*



Helpful Links:



*If you are new to St. Patrick or have a prayer request, please fill out the portion below.
You may place your liturgy in the offering plate or in the designated basket in the Narthex as you leave.*

NEW HERE?

Name _____
Phone _____
Email _____

NEED PRAYER?

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ST. PATRICK

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LOVING GOD. LOVING PEOPLE. LOVING LIFE.