

Order of Public Worship of God

The Twenty-First Day of April, Two Thousand Twenty-Four

Third Sunday in Eastertide

PRELUDE

“...two Easters struggle alongside each other. One is linked closely to the celebration of spring and the possibility of new beginnings. It is the show that can be church on Easter. The other deals with the disturbing prospect that God is present with us. His power breaks out and unsettles the world.”

- Esau McCaulley, “The Unsettling Power of Easter, *New York Times*, 4.2.2021

“Those who deny that God really has the power to raise the dead have placed themselves in contradiction to the gospel story, and it is illogical for them to continue speaking in the name of Christ.”

- Richard Hays, *First Corinthians*

“If the gospel isn’t transforming you, how do you know that it will transform anything else?”

- N. T. Wright, *Surprised by Hope*



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 | “Praise to the Lord, the Almighty”

Praise to the Lord, the Almighty, the King of creation!
O my soul, praise him, for he is thy health and salvation!
All ye who hear, now to his temple draw near;
Join me in glad adoration!

Praise to the Lord, who o’er all things so wondrously reigneth,
Shelters thee under his wings, yea so gently sustaineth!
Hast thou not seen how thy desires e’re have been
Granted in what he ordaineth?

Praise to the Lord, who doth prosper thy work and defend thee,
Surely his goodness and mercy here daily attend thee.
Ponder anew what the Almighty can do,
If with his love he befriend thee.

Praise to the Lord! O let all that is in me adore him!
All that hath life and breath, come now with praises before him!
Let the amen sound from his people again:
Gladly, for aye we adore him.

† 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 | “Thy Mercy My God”

Thy mercy, my God, is the theme of my song,
The joy of my heart and the boast of my tongue.
Thy free grace alone, from the first to the last,
Hath won my affection and bound my soul fast.

Without thy sweet mercy, I could not live here,
For sin would reduce me to utter despair;
But through thy free goodness my spirits revive,
And he that first made me still keeps me alive.

Thy mercy is more than a match for my heart
Which wonders to feel its own hardness depart.
Dissolved by thy goodness, I fall to the ground
And weep to the praise of the mercy I’ve found.

Great Father of mercies, thy goodness I own
And the covenant love of thy crucified Son.
All praise to the Spirit whose whisper divine
Seals mercy and pardon and righteousness mine!

“The Church’s One Foundation”

The church’s one foundation is Jesus Christ her Lord,
She is his new creation, by water and the Word.
From heaven he came and sought her to be his holy bride;
With his own blood he bought her and for her life he died.

Elect from every nation, yet one over all the earth;
Her charter of salvation, one Lord, one faith, one birth;
One holy Name she blesses, partakes one holy food,
And to one hope she presses, with every grace endued.

Though with a scornful wonder, men see her sore oppressed,
By schisms rent asunder, by heresies distressed;
Yet saints their watch are keeping; their cry goes up, “How long?”
And soon the night of weeping shall be the morn of song.

Mid toil and tribulation, and tumult of her war,
She waits the consummation of peace forevermore;
‘Til, with the vision glorious, her longing eyes are blessed,
And the great church victorious shall be the church at rest.

Yet she on earth hath union with God the Three in One,
And mystic sweet communion with those whose rest is won.
O happy ones and holy! Lord, give us grace that we
Like them, the meek and lowly, on high may dwell with thee.

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: 12-19

This is the Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

SERMON | Series: The Resurrection of the Dead

Sermon: “What if the Resurrection Didn’t Happen?”

- 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 | “And Can It Be”

**And can it be that I should gain an interest in the Savior’s blood?
Died He for me who caused His pain! For me who Him to death pursued?
Amazing love! How can it be that thou, my God, should die for me?**

Refrain:

**Amazing love! How can it be that thou, my God, should die for me!
Amazing love! How can it be that thou, my God, should die for me!**

**He left his Father's throne above, so free, so infinite His grace!
Emptied Himself of all but love, and bled for Adam's helpless race.
'Tis mercy all, immense and free, for O my God, it found out me! *(refrain)***

**Long my imprisoned spirit lay, fast bound in sin and nature's night;
Thine eye diffused a quickening ray; I woke, the dungeon flamed with light;
My chains fell off, my heart was free; I rose, went forth, and followed Thee. *(refrain)***

**No condemnation now I dread; Jesus, and all in Him, is mine;
Alive in Him, my living Head, and clothed in righteousness divine,
Bold I approach the eternal throne, and claim the crown, thru Christ my own.
*(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.