

The Fourth Sunday of Easter

Morning Prayer Service

May 8, 2022 ~ 9:00 a.m.

THE WORD OF GOD

Opening Hymn 523 “Glorious Things of Thee are Spoken”

Glorious things of thee are spoken,
Zion, city of our God;
he whose word cannot be broken
formed thee for his own abode;
on the Rock of Ages founded,
what can shake thy sure repose?
With salvation's walls surrounded,
thou may'st smile at all thy foes.

See! the streams of living waters,
springing from eternal love,
well supply thy sons and daughters
and all fear of want remove.
Who can faint, when such a river
ever flows their thirst to assuage?
Grace which, like the Lord, the giver,
never fails from age to age.

Round each habitation hovering,
see the cloud and fire appear
for a glory and a covering,
showing that the Lord is near.
Thus deriving from their banner,
light by night, and shade by day;
safe they feed upon the manna
which he gives them when they pray.

Blest inhabitants of Zion,
washed in the Redeemer's blood!
Jesus, whom their souls rely on,
makes them kings and priests to God.
'Tis his love his people raises
over self to reign as kings:
and as priests, his solemn praises
each for a thank-offering brings

Opening Sentence

Officiant Alleluia! Christ is risen.

All The Lord is risen indeed. Alleluia!

Confession of Sin

Officiant Dearly beloved, we have come together in the presence of Almighty God our heavenly Father, to set forth his praise, to hear his holy Word, and to ask, for ourselves and on behalf of others, those things that are necessary for our life and our salvation. And so that we may prepare ourselves in heart and mind to worship him, let us kneel in silence, and with penitent and obedient hearts confess our sins, that we may obtain forgiveness by his infinite goodness and mercy.

Officiant Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

**All Most merciful God,
we confess that we have sinned against you
in thought, word, and deed,
by what we have done,
and by what we have left undone.
We have not loved you with our whole heart;
we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves.
We are truly sorry and we humbly repent.
For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ,
have mercy on us and forgive us;
that we may delight in your will,
and walk in your ways,
to the glory of your Name. Amen.**

The Officiant continues

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

All Amen.

Invitatory

Officiant Lord, open our lips.

All **And our mouth shall proclaim your praise.**

Psalm 23 *(said responsively by whole verse)*

Reader The LORD is my shepherd, I shall not want.
He makes me lie down in green pastures;

All **He leads me beside still waters;
he restores my soul.**

Reader He leads me in right paths
for his name's sake.

All **Even though I walk through the darkest valley,
I fear no evil; for you are with me;**

Reader Your rod and your staff—
they comfort me.

All **You prepare a table before me
in the presence of my enemies;**

Reader You anoint my head with oil;
my cup overflows.

All **Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me
all the days of my life,**

Reader And I shall dwell in the house of the LORD
my whole life long.

Antiphon

Officiant Alleluia. The Lord is risen indeed: Come let us adore him.

All **Alleluia.**

First Reading **Acts 9:36-43**

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 Hear what the Spirit is saying to God’s people.

All **Thanks be to God.**

Canticle 18: A Song to the Lamb *(said responsively by whole verse)*

Officiant Splendor and honor and kingly power *
are yours by right, O Lord our God,

All **For you created everything that is, *
and by your will they were created and have their being;**

Officiant And yours by right, O Lamb that was slain, *
for with your blood you have redeemed for God,

All **From every family, language, people, and nation, *
a kingdom of priests to serve our God.**

Officiant And so, to him who sits upon the throne, *
and to Christ the Lamb,

All **Be worship and praise, dominion and splendor, *
for ever and for evermore.**

Officiant Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit: *
it was in the beginning, is now, and will be for ever. Amen.

Second Reading **Revelation 7:9-17**

After this 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 worshipped God, singing,

‘Amen! Blessing and glory and wisdom
and thanksgiving and honor

and power and might
be to our God for ever 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 Hear what the Spirit is saying to God’s people.
All **Thanks be to God.**

Canticle 19: The Song of the Redeemed (*said responsively by whole verse*)

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

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

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

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

Officiant Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit: *
as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be for ever. Amen.

Sequence Hymn 708 “Savior, Like a Shepherd Lead Us”

Savior, like a shepherd lead us;
much we need thy tender care;
in thy pleasant pastures feed us;
for our use thy folds prepare.

Blessed Jesus! Blessed Jesus!
Thou hast bought us, thine we are.

Early let us seek thy favor,
early let us learn thy will;
do thou, Lord, our only Savior,
with thy love our bosoms fill.
Blessed Jesus! Blessed Jesus!
Thou hast loved us: love us still.

The Gospel John 10:22-30

Officiant The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ, according to John.
All **Glory 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.’

Officiant Hear what the Spirit is saying to God’s people.
All **Thanks be to God.**

The Sermon..... Dinushka De Silva

Apostles' Creed

All **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

Officiant The Lord be with you.

All And also with you.

Officiant Let us pray.

The Lord's Prayer (*Officiant and People*)

All **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.**

Suffrages B

Officiant Save your people, Lord, and bless your inheritance;

All **Govern and uphold them, now and always.**

Officiant Day by day we bless you;

All **We praise your name for ever.**

Officiant Lord, keep us from all sin today;
All **Have mercy upon us, Lord, have mercy.**
Officiant Lord, show us your love and mercy;
All **For we put our trust in you.**
Officiant In you, Lord, is our hope;
All **And we shall never hope in vain.**

Offertory Hymn 343 “Shepherd of Souls”

Shepherd of souls, refresh and bless
thy chosen pilgrim flock
with manna in the wilderness,
with water from the rock.

We would not live by bread alone,
but by thy word of grace,
in strength of which we travel on
to our abiding place.

Be known to us in breaking bread,
and do not then depart;
Savior, abide with us, and spread
thy table in our heart.

Lord, sup with us in love divine,
thy Body and thy Blood,
that living bread, that heavenly wine,
be our immortal food.

Collect

Officiant 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.

All **Amen.**

Collect for Guidance

Reader Heavenly Father, in you we live and move and have our being: We humbly pray you so to guide and govern us by your Holy Spirit, that in all the cares and occupations of our life we may not forget you, but may remember that we are ever walking in your sight; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

All Amen.

Intercessional Prayer

Officiant O God, you have made of one blood all the peoples of the earth, and sent your blessed Son to preach peace to those who are far off and to those who are near: Grant that people everywhere may seek after you and find you; bring the nations into your fold; pour out your Spirit upon all flesh; and hasten the coming of your kingdom; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

All Amen.

Intercessory Prayers

Reader We commend to your Goodness all those who are in any way afflicted or distressed in mind or body. Give them patience under the suffering and power of endurance. We pray especially this week Justin, Evan, Grace, Anna, Max, Roger, Ellie, Rob, Doug, Sal, Maggie, Joanne, Stephen, Leslie, Diane, Amanda, Linda, Dorothy, Albert, Bill, Tom, Peter, Sue, Ray, Susie, Craig, Sophia, Ron, Debbie, Nolan, Kris, Bud, Millie, Tom, and Parish.

Reader We pray for all those who grieve the loss of a loved one.

Reader I invite you to say in person or type in the chat any additional prayer requests for traveling, birthdays, anniversaries.

Reader prays for all prayer requests.

Officiant O King of all the nations, only joy of every heart, keystone of the mighty arch who makes us one: Come and save the creature you fashioned from clay. Glory to you for ever.

All Amen.

Announcements and Collection

ECCT Bus Trip to Moral March on Washington

On June 18, people from across the country will gather in Washington, D.C. to join Mass Poor People's & Low-Wage Workers' Assembly and Moral March. Travel by bus with the Episcopal Church in Connecticut to the March in D.C., to non-violently disrupt, protest, shake up, and alter the direction of our nation towards love, truth, justice and equal protection under the law. For more information and to register, [click here](#).

Meditation Group: 1st & 3rd Mondays:

Join us at noon on zoom for Meditation Group. All are welcome to join in for meditation and fellowship. Contact the parish office or check the weekly eNews for the zoom link.

Prayer Group: 2nd, 4th & 5th Mondays:

Our Prayer Group will meet at noon on zoom. This is a virtual space to pray as a group for those in need. All are welcome to join. Contact the parish office or check the weekly eNews for the zoom link.

The General Thanksgiving

All **Almighty God, Father of all mercies,
we your unworthy servants give you humble thanks
for all your goodness and loving-kindness
to us and to all whom you have made.
We bless you for our creation, preservation,
and all the blessings of this life;
but above all for your immeasurable love
in the redemption of the world by our Lord Jesus Christ;
for the means of grace, and for the hope of glory.
And, we pray, give us such an awareness of your mercies,
that with truly thankful hearts we may show forth your praise,
not only with our lips, but in our lives,
by giving up our selves to your service,
and by walking before you
in holiness and righteousness all our days;
through Jesus Christ our Lord,
to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit,
be honor and glory throughout all ages. Amen.**

Officiant Let us bless the Lord.

All **Thanks be to God.**

The Officiant concludes

Officiant May the God of hope fill us with all joy and peace in believing through the power of the Holy Spirit.

All **Amen.**

Closing Hymn 494 “Crown Him with Many Crowns”

Crown him with many crowns,
the Lamb upon his throne;
Hark! how the heavenly anthem drowns
all music but its own;
awake, my soul, and sing of him
who died for thee,
and hail him as thy matchless King
through all eternity.

Crown him the Son of God
before the worlds began,
and ye, who tread where he hath trod,
crown him the Son of man;
who every grief hath known
that wrings the human breast,
and takes and bears them for his own,
that all in him may rest.

Crown him the Lord of life,
who triumphed over the grave,
and rose victorious in the strife
for those he came to save;
his glories now we sing,
who died, and rose on high,
who died, eternal life to bring,
and lives that death may die.

Crown him of lords the Lord,
who over all doth reign,
who once on earth, the incarnate Word,
for ransomed sinners slain,
now lives in realms of light,
where saints with angels sing
their songs before him day and night,
their God, Redeemer, King.

Crown him the Lord of heaven,
enthroned in worlds above;
crown him the King, to whom is given,
the wondrous name of Love.
Crown him with many crowns,
as thrones before him fall,
crown him, ye kings, with many crowns,
for he is King of all.

Dismissal

Celebrant Let us go forth to love and serve the Lord.

All **Thanks be to God.**