

The Sunday of the Resurrection:
Easter Day

April 5, 2026
10:15 a.m. in the Parish Hall
Festal Eucharist, Rite II

CONCERNING THE LITURGY

Welcome to St. Peter's Church on the Feast of our Lord's Resurrection. Today the Church completes its three great days of celebrating redemption. Since Maundy Thursday, we have been involved in an extended liturgy which will be brought to its conclusion today. This is the celebration of the Passover of Christ from death to life. It is also the celebration of our own Passover in Holy Baptism in which "we were buried with Christ in his death and raised with him."

Throughout the fifty days of Easter, the first reading on Sundays is from the Acts of the Apostles. These weekly readings from Acts describe the life of the first Christians and their proclamation of Christ's resurrection. So today we hear a portion of the sermon Peter preached to Cornelius, the first Gentile Christian. The passage from 1 Corinthians contains Paul's witness to Jesus' resurrection as it was told him by the other apostles. He concludes with his own experience of Jesus' appearance to him.

The Gospel reading from John describes the women going to the tomb and the Lord's appearance to Mary Magdalene.

As we rejoice in our new life in the risen Christ on this day, he comes among us and is made known to us in the breaking of the bread. We, like the women at the tomb and like Peter and the others, are sent forth to tell the world of his resurrection.

This leaflet contains the full text and music of today's liturgy,

▲ Indicates the People stand, as able,

✙ Indicates the People may make the sign of the cross.

All God's people are welcome to receive the Holy Sacrament (communion), including children. Please notify an usher if you have difficulty coming forward, Sacrament will be brought to you.

Above from: *The Rite Light: Reflections on the Sunday Readings and Seasons of the Church Year*. Copyright © 2009 by Michael W. Merriman. Church Publishing Incorporated, New York.

FLUTE PRELUDE

The People stand and sing

▲ OPENING HYMN

Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!

1 The day of re - sur - rec - tion! Earth, tell it out a - broad;
 2 Our hearts be pure from e - vil, that we may see a - right
 3 Now let the heavens be joy - ful, let earth her song be - gin,

the Pass - o - ver of glad - ness, the Pass - o - ver of God.
 the Lord in rays e - ter - nal of re - sur - rec - tion light;
 the round world keep high tri - umph, and all that is there - in;

From death to life e - ter - nal, from earth un - to the sky,
 and, lis - tening to his ac - cents, may hear so calm and plain
 let all things seen and un - seen their notes to - geth - er blend,

our Christ hath brought us o - ver with hymns of vic - to - ry.
 his own "All hail!" and, hear - ing, may raise the vic - tor strain.
 for Christ the Lord is ris - en, our joy that hath no end.

Words: John of Damascus (8th cent.); tr. John Mason Neale (1818–1866), alt.
 Music: *Ellacombe*, from *Gesangbuch...der Herzögl.* Harm. William Henry Monk (1823–1889)


Celebrant ✝ Alleluia. Christ is risen.
People **The Lord is risen indeed. Alleluia.**

▲ 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.**

▲ HYMN OF PRAISE


Refrain



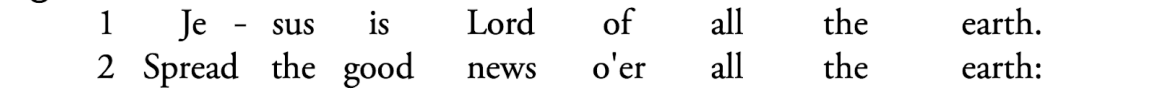
Al-le - lu - ia, al-le - lu - ia! Give thanks to the ris-en Lord.



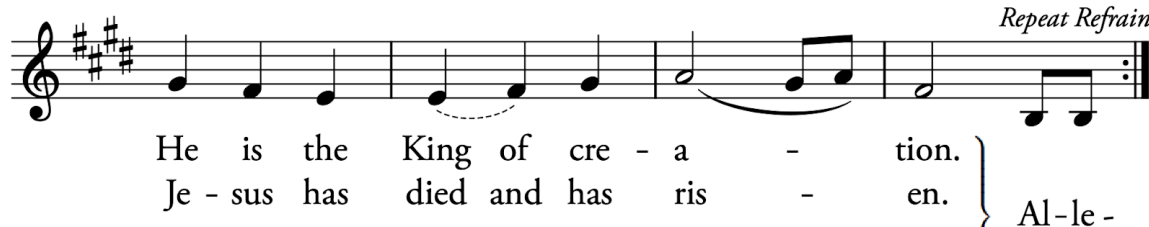
Al-le - lu - ia, al-le - lu - ia! Give Praise to his Name.



1 Je - sus is Lord of all the earth.



2 Spread the good news o'er all the earth:



He is the King of cre - a - tion.
Je - sus has died and has ris - en. } Al-le -

Repeat Refrain

Words: Donald Fishel (b. 1950)

Music: *Alleluia No. 1*, Donald Fishel (b. 1950); arr. Betty Pulkingham (1928–2019) © 1979, Celebration.

▲ THE COLLECT OF THE DAY

Celebrant God be with you.
People **And also with you.**
Celebrant Let us pray.

Living God, long ago faithful women proclaimed the good news of Jesus' resurrection, and the world was changed forever. Teach us to keep faith with them, that our witness may be as bold, our love as deep, and our faith as true in Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

The People sit.

Reader A reading from the Acts of the Apostles.

Peter began to speak to Cornelius and the other Gentiles: “I truly understand that God shows no partiality, but in every nation anyone who fears him and does what is right is acceptable to him. You know the message he sent to the people of Israel, preaching peace by Jesus Christ—he is Lord of all. That message spread throughout Judea, beginning in Galilee after the baptism that John announced: how God anointed Jesus of Nazareth with the Holy Spirit and with power; how he went about doing good and healing all who were oppressed by the devil, for God was with him. We are witnesses to all that he did both in Judea and in Jerusalem. They put him to death by hanging him on a tree; but God raised him on the third day and allowed him to appear, not to all the people but to us who were chosen by God as witnesses, and who ate and drank with him after he rose from the dead. He commanded us to preach to the people and to testify that he is the one ordained by God as judge of the living and the dead. All the prophets testify about him that everyone who believes in him receives forgiveness of sins through his name.”

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

People **Thanks be to God.**

PSALM 118:1–2, 14–24 *Confitemini Domino*

Give thanks to the LORD, for he is good; *
his mercy endures for ever.

Let Israel now proclaim, *

“His mercy endures for ever.”

The LORD is my strength and my song, *
and he has become my salvation.

**There is a sound of exultation and victory *
in the tents of the righteous:**

“The right hand of the LORD has triumphed! *
the right hand of the LORD is exalted!
the right hand of the LORD has triumphed!”

I shall not die, but live, *

and declare the works of the LORD.

The LORD has punished me sorely, *
but he did not hand me over to death.

Open for me the gates of righteousness; *

I will enter them;

I will offer thanks to the LORD.

“This is the gate of the LORD; *
he who is righteous may enter.”

**I will give thanks to you, for you answered me *
and have become my salvation.**

The same stone which the builders rejected *
has become the chief cornerstone.

This is the LORD's doing, *
and it is marvelous in our eyes.

On this day the LORD has acted; *
we will rejoice and be glad in it.

The People stand and sing

▲ HYMN



1 He is ris - en, he is ris - en! Tell it out with joy - ful voice:
2 Come, ye sad and fear - ful - heart - ed, with glad smile and ra - diant brow!
3 Come, with high and ho - ly hymn - ing, hail our Lord's tri - um - phant day;
4 He is ris - en, he is ris - en! He hath o - pened hea - ven's gate:



he has burst his three days' pris - on; let the whole wide earth re - jice:
Death's long sha - dows have de - part - ed; Je - sus' woes are o - ver now,
not one dark - some cloud is dim - ming yon - der glo - rious morn - ing ray,
we are free from sin's dark pris - on, ris - en to a ho - lier state;



death is con - quered, we are free, Christ has won the vic - to - ry.
and the pas - sion that he bore - sin and pain can vex no more.
break - ing o'er the pur - ple east, sym - bol of our Eas - ter feast.
and a bright - er Eas - ter beam on our long - ing eyes shall stream.

Words: Cecil Frances Alexander (1818–1895), alt.
Music: *Unser Herrscher*, Joachim Neander (1650–1680)

▲ GOSPEL

Gospeler The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to John.

People **Glory to you, Lord Christ.**

Early on the first day of the week, while it was still dark, Mary Magdalene came to the tomb and saw that the stone had been removed from the tomb. So she ran and went to Simon Peter and the other disciple, the one whom Jesus loved, and said to them, “They have taken the Lord out of the tomb, and we do not know where they have laid him.” Then Peter and the other disciple set out and went toward the tomb. The two were running together, but the other disciple outran Peter and reached the tomb first. He bent down to look in and saw the linen wrappings lying there, but he did not go in. Then Simon Peter came, following him, and went into the tomb. He saw the linen wrappings lying there, and the cloth that had been on Jesus’ head, not lying with the linen wrappings but rolled up in a place by itself. Then the other disciple, who reached the tomb first, also went in, and he saw and believed; for as yet they did not understand the scripture, that he must rise from the dead. Then the disciples returned to their homes.

But Mary stood weeping outside the tomb. As she wept, she bent over to look into the tomb; and she saw two angels in white, sitting where the body of Jesus had been lying, one at the head and the other at the feet. They said to her, “Woman, why are you weeping?” She said to them, “They have taken away my Lord, and I do not know where they have laid him.” When she had said this, she turned around and saw Jesus standing there, but she did not know that it was Jesus. Jesus said to her, “Woman, why are you weeping? Whom are you looking for?” Supposing him to be the gardener, she said to him, “Sir, if you have carried him away, tell me where you have laid him, and I will take him away.” Jesus said to her, “Mary!” She turned and said to him in Hebrew, “Rabbouni!” (which means Teacher). Jesus said to her, “Do not hold on to me, because I have not yet ascended to the Father. But go to my brothers and say to them, ‘I am ascending to my Father and your Father, to my God and your God.’” Mary Magdalene went and announced to the disciples, “I have seen the Lord”; and she told them that he had said these things to her.

Gospeler The Gospel of the Lord.

People **Praise to you, Lord Christ.**

The People are seated at the invitation of the preacher.

THE SERMON

The Rev. Celeste Cox, *Priest Associate*

The People stand and say together

▲ 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.

▲ THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Form III

Leader Father, we pray for your holy Catholic Church;

People **That we all may be one.**

Leader Grant that every member of the Church may truly and humbly serve you;

People **That your Name may be glorified by all people.**

Leader We pray for all bishops, priests, and deacons;

People **That they may be faithful ministers of your Word and Sacraments.**

Leader We pray for all who govern and hold authority in the nations of the world;

People **That there may be justice and peace on the earth.**

Leader Give us grace to do your will in all that we undertake;

People **That our works may find favor in your sight.**

Leader Have compassion on those who suffer from any grief or trouble;

People **That they may be delivered from their distress.**

Leader Give to the departed eternal rest.

People **Let light perpetual shine upon them.**

Leader We praise you for your saints who have entered into joy;

People **May we also come to share in your heavenly kingdom.**

Leader Let us pray for our own needs and those of others. *Silence*

Celebrant Creator of all, you long for the harmony of the human race and for peace between the nations. In places of conflict bring us your healing, in places of suffering bring us your strength, in places of oppression bring us your protection, and in places of power bring your love and compassion, for the sake of your Son, who endured the violence of hostile humanity, even Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

▲ THE PEACE

Celebrant The Peace of Christ be always with you.

People **And also with you.**

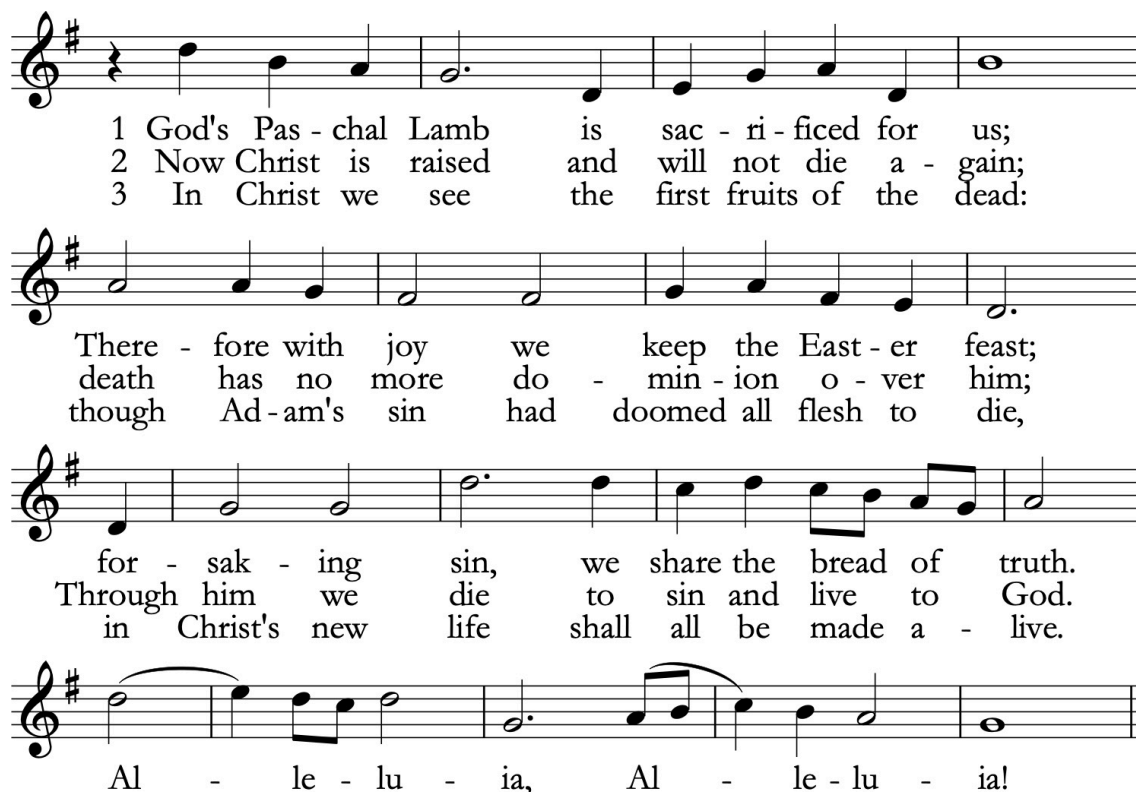
After exchanging the peace, the People are seated.

PASTORAL GREETING

The Rev. Celeste Cox, *Priest Associate*

Blessings for birthdays and anniversaries will be offered next Sunday.

▲ OFFERTORY HYMN



1 God's Pas - chal Lamb is sac - ri - ficed for us;
2 Now Christ is raised and will not die a - gain;
3 In Christ we see the first fruits of the dead:
There - fore with joy we keep the East - er feast;
death has no more do - min - ion o - ver him;
though Ad - am's sin had doomed all flesh to die,
for - sak - ing sin, we share the bread of truth.
Through him we die to sin and live to God.
in Christ's new life shall all be made a - live.
Al - le - lu - ia, Al - le - lu - ia!

Words: Carl P. Daw, Jr. (b. 1944) © 1987 Hope Publishing Co. All rights reserved.
Music: *Sine Nomine*, Ralph Vaughan Williams (1872–1958)

▲ THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

from *Enriching Our Worship*

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

But chiefly are we bound to praise you for the glorious resurrection of your Son Jesus Christ our Lord; for he is the true Paschal Lamb, who was sacrificed for us, and has taken away the sin of the world. By his death he has destroyed death, and by his rising to life again he has won for us everlasting life. 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 shout with joy:

All **Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might, heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest. † Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.**

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:

All **Dying, you destroyed our death. Rising, you restored our life.
Christ Jesus, come in glory!**

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.

All **Blessed are you now and for ever. Amen.**

And now, as our Savior Christ has taught us, we are bold to say,

▲ 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 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.

▲ THE BREAKING OF THE BREAD

Celebrant We break this bread to share in the Body of Christ.

People **We who are many are one body, for we all share in the one bread and one cup.**

Celebrant The Gifts of God for the People of God. (Take them in remembrance that Christ died for you, and feed on him in your hearts by faith, with thanksgiving.)

The People sit.

The Sacrament is distributed; please know that Communion is full and complete in either bread or wine.

MUSIC AT COMMUNION

Afro-American spiritual

1. Let us break bread together on our knees;
let us break bread together on our knees;
when I fall on my knees,
with my face to the rising sun,
O Lord, have mercy on me.

2. Let us drink wine together on our knees;
let us drink wine together on our knees;
when I fall on my knees,
with my face to the rising sun,
O Lord, have mercy on me.

3. Let us praise God together on our knees;
let us praise God together on our knees;
when I fall on my knees,
with my face to the rising sun,
O Lord, have mercy on me.

The People stand.

▲ POST-COMMUNION PRAYER

Celebrant Let us pray.

People **Loving God, we give you thanks for restoring us in your image and nourishing us with spiritual food in the Sacrament of Christ's Body and Blood. Now send us forth a people, forgiven, healed, renewed; that we may proclaim your love to the world and continue in the risen life of Christ our Savior. Amen.**

▲ THE BLESSING

Celebrant May Almighty God, who has redeemed us and made us his children through the resurrection of his Son our Lord, bestow upon you the riches of his blessing. **Amen.**

May God, who through the water of baptism has raised us from sin into newness of life, make you holy and worthy to be united with Christ for ever. **Amen.**

May God, who has brought us out of bondage to sin into true and lasting freedom in the Redeemer, bring you to your eternal inheritance. **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.**

▲ DISMISSAL HYMN

1 Je - sus Christ is risen to - day, Al - le - lu - ia!
2 Hymns of praise then let us sing, Al - le - lu - ia!
3 But the pains which he en-dured, Al - le - lu - ia!
4 Sing we to our God a - bove, Al - le - lu - ia!

our tri - um - phant ho - ly day, Al - le - lu - ia!
un - to Christ our heaven - ly King, Al - le - lu - ia!
our sal - va - tion have pro - cured, Al - le - lu - ia!
praise e - ter - nal as his love, Al - le - lu - ia!

who did once up - on the cross, Al - le - lu - ia!
who en - dured the cross and grave, Al - le - lu - ia!
now a - bove the sky he's King, Al - le - lu - ia!
praise him, all ye heaven - ly host, Al - le - lu - ia!

suf - fer to re - deem our loss. Al - le - lu - ia!
sin - ners to re - deem and save. Al - le - lu - ia!
where the an - gels ev - er sing. Al - le - lu - ia!
Fa - ther, Son, and Ho - ly Ghost. Al - le - lu - ia!

Words: Latin, 14th cent; tr. *Lyra Davidica*, 1708, alt. St. 4, Charles Wesley (1707–1788)
Music: *Easter Hymn*, from *Lyra Davidica*, 1708; adapt. *The Compleat Psalmist*, 1749, alt.

▲ THE DISMISSAL

Leader Alleluia, alleluia. Let us go forth in the name of Christ.
People **Thanks be to God. Alleluia, alleluia.**

*Please join us for coffee hour outside under the tent.
The Easter Egg Hunt will begin when the service in the church concludes.*



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