

# ST. CHRISTOPHER'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH

EASTER SUNDAY

APRIL 4, 2021, 10 AM

YOU ARE VERY WELCOME TO OUR EUCHARIST SERVICE!

The entire service is printed below;  
you'll need no books or other materials to follow along.

The Priest or Leader will say the items in regular type.

**You are invited to say aloud the items printed in boldface.**

PRELUDE

CONTEMPLATION, C. SAINT-SAENS

A soloist will sing all hymns and music during the service this morning.

Please refrain from singing if you are joining us in person.

OPENING HYMN

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THE OPENING ACCLAMATION & COLLECT FOR PURITY

Presider: Alleluia. Christ is risen.

**People:** **Christ is risen indeed. Alleluia.**

Presider: 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 Jesus Christ our Lord.

**All:** **Amen.**

GLORIA

**All:** **Glory to God in the highest,  
and peace to his people on earth.**

**Lord God, heavenly King,  
almighty God and Father,  
we worship you, we give you thanks,  
we praise you for your glory.**

**Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father,  
Lord God, Lamb of God,  
you take away the sin of the world:  
have mercy on us;  
you are seated at the right hand of the Father:  
receive our prayer.**

**For you alone are the Holy One,  
you alone are the Lord,  
you alone are the Most High,  
Jesus Christ,  
with the Holy Spirit,  
in the glory of God the Father. Amen.**

### THE COLLECT OF THE DAY

Presider: The Lord be with you.

**People: And also with you.**

Presider: 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 for ever.

**All: Amen.**

The People are seated for the lessons.

A READING FROM ACTS

10:34-43

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.”

At the conclusion of the reading,

Reader: The Word of the Lord

**People:** **Thanks be to God.**

## THE PSALM

118:1-2, 14-24

- 1 Give thanks to the Lord, for he is good; \*  
his mercy endures for ever.
- 2 Let Israel now proclaim, \*  
“His mercy endures for ever.”
- 14 The Lord is my strength and my song, \*  
and he has become my salvation.
- 15 There is a sound of exultation and victory \*  
in the tents of the righteous:
- 16 “The right hand of the Lord has triumphed! \*  
the right hand of the Lord is exalted!  
the right hand of the Lord has triumphed!”
- 17 I shall not die, but live, \*  
and declare the works of the Lord.
- 18 The Lord has punished me sorely, \*  
but he did not hand me over to death.
- 19 Open for me the gates of righteousness; \*  
I will enter them;  
I will offer thanks to the Lord.
- 20 “This is the gate of the Lord; \*  
he who is righteous may enter.”
- 21 I will give thanks to you, for you answered me \*  
and have become my salvation.
- 22 The same stone which the builders rejected \*  
has become the chief cornerstone.
- 23 This is the Lord’s doing, \*  
and it is marvelous in our eyes.
- 24 On this day the Lord has acted; \*  
we will rejoice and be glad in it.

I would remind you, brothers and sisters, of the good news that I proclaimed to you, which you in turn received, in which also you stand, through which also you are being saved, if you hold firmly to the message that I proclaimed to you--unless you have come to believe in vain.

For I handed on to you as of first importance what I in turn had received: that Christ died for our sins in accordance with the scriptures, and that he was buried, and that he was raised on the third day in accordance with the scriptures, and that he appeared to Cephas, then to the twelve. Then he appeared to more than five hundred brothers and sisters at one time, most of whom are still alive, though some have died. Then he appeared to James, then to all the apostles. Last of all, as to one untimely born, he appeared also to me. For I am the least of the apostles, unfit to be called an apostle, because I persecuted the church of God. But by the grace of God I am what I am, and his grace toward me has not been in vain. On the contrary, I worked harder than any of them--though it was not I, but the grace of God that is with me. Whether then it was I or they, so we proclaim and so you have come to believe.

At the conclusion of the reading,

**Reader:** The Word of the Lord

**People:** **Thanks be to God.**

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## SEQUENCE HYMN

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## THE GOSPEL

The Gospler introduces the Gospel and the people respond,

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

JOHN 20:1-18

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 ly-

ing 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.

At the conclusion of the Gospel,

Presider: The Gospel of the Lord

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

At the invitation of the preacher, the People are seated.

THE HOMILY

THE REV. JERRY LASLEY

## THE RENEWAL OF BAPTISMAL VOWS

Presider: Do you reaffirm your renunciation of evil and renew your commitment to Jesus Christ?

**People: I do.**

Presider: Do you believe in God the Father?

**People: I believe in God, the Father almighty,  
creator of heaven and earth.**

Presider: Do you believe in Jesus Christ, the Son of God?

**People: 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.**

Presider: Do you believe in God the Holy Spirit?

**People: 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.**

Presider: Will you continue in the apostles' teaching and fellowship, in the breaking of bread, and in the prayers?

**People: I will, with God's help.**

Presider: Will you persevere in resisting evil, and, whenever you fall into sin, repent and return to the Lord?

**People: I will, with God's help.**

Presider: Will you proclaim by word and example the Good News of God in Christ?

**People: I will, with God's help.**

Presider: Will you seek and serve Christ in all persons, loving your neighbor as yourself?

**People: I will, with God's help.**

Presider: Will you strive for justice and peace among all people, and respect the dignity of every human being?

**People: I will, with God's help.**

Presider: May Almighty God, the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has given us a new birth by water and the Holy Spirit, and bestowed upon us the forgiveness of sins, keep us in eternal life by his grace, in Christ Jesus our Lord.

**All: Amen.**

## THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

The People stand as they are able during the prayers. The Leader and People pray responsively.

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.

The People may add their own petitions either silently or aloud.

The Priest adds a concluding Collect.

## THE HOLY EUCHARIST: THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

The People remain standing. The Celebrant faces them,

Priest: The Lord be with you.

**People:** And also with you.

Priest: Lift up your hearts.

**People:** We lift them to the Lord.

Priest: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**People:** It is right to give him thanks and praise.

Priest: God of all power, Ruler of the Universe, you are worthy of glory and praise.

**People:** Glory to you for ever and ever.

Priest: At your command all things came to be: the vast expanse of interstellar space, galaxies, suns, the planets in their courses, and this fragile earth, our island home.

**People:** By your will they were created and have their being.

Priest: From the primal elements you brought forth the human race, and blessed us with memory, reason, and skill. You made us the rulers of creation. But we turned against you, and betrayed your trust; and we turned against one another.

**People:** Have mercy, Lord, for we are sinners in your sight.

Priest: Again and again, you called us to return. Through prophets and sages you revealed your righteous Law. And in the fullness of time you sent your only Son, born of a woman, to fulfill your Law, to open for us the way of freedom and peace.

**People:** By his blood, he reconciled us.

By his wounds, we are healed.

Priest: And therefore we praise you, joining with the heavenly chorus, with prophets, apostles, and martyrs, and with all those in every generation who have looked to you in hope, to proclaim with them your glory, in their unending hymn:

**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.

Priest: And so, Father, we who have been redeemed by him, and made a new people by water and the Spirit, now bring before you these gifts. Sanctify them by your Holy Spirit to be the Body and Blood of Jesus Christ our Lord.

On the night he was betrayed he took bread, said the blessing, broke the bread, and gave it to his friends, and said, “Take, eat: This is my Body, which is given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me.”

After supper, he took the cup of wine, gave thanks, and said, “Drink this, all of you: This is my Blood of the new Covenant, which is shed for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me.”

Remembering now his work of redemption, and offering to you this sacrifice of thanksgiving,

**People:** **We celebrate his death and resurrection,  
as we await the day of his coming.**

Priest: Lord God of our Fathers: God of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob; God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ: Open our eyes to see your hand at work in the world about us. Deliver us from the presumption of coming to this Table for solace only, and not for strength; for pardon only, and not for renewal. Let the grace of this Holy Communion make us one body, one spirit in Christ, that we may worthily serve the world in his name.

**People:** **Risen Lord, be known to us in the breaking of the Bread.**

Priest: Accept these prayers and praises, Father, through Jesus Christ our great High Priest, to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit, your Church gives honor, glory, and worship, from generation to generation.

**All:** **Amen.**

## THE LORD'S PRAYER

Priest: 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,**

**for ever and ever. Amen.**

## THE BREAKING OF THE BREAD

The Priest breaks the consecrated bread. A period of silence is kept.

**Priest:** Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us;

**People:** **Therefore let us keep the feast.**

**Priest:** The Gifts of God for the People of God.

All are invited to share in this sacred meal. This offering of the body and blood of our Savior Jesus Christ is for you, a precious child of God.

At this time, if you are joining us in-person, please carefully form a single line in the middle aisle beginning with the front rows and working back as space allows. Please make sure to stay at least six feet away from anyone not in your household and keep your mask on.

The Priest will distribute Communion wafers. Please keep your mask on as you approach then process to the left or right depending on where you are sitting. Please wait until you are far from the Priest and others before carefully removing your masks to partake of Communion. Please replace your mask as quickly as you are able.

All stand as they are able.

## POST-COMMUNION PRAYER

**Presider:** Let us pray.

**All:** **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

The Celebrant blesses the People, and the People respond,

**People:** **Amen.**

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## CLOSING HYMN

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## THE HYMNAL 1982 #474

## THE DISMISSAL

Priest: Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

**People: Thanks be to God.**

## POSTLUDE,

## OFFERTORY ON "O FILII", A. GUILMANT

## ST. CHRISTOPHER'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH LEADERSHIP

The Right Reverend Gladstone Adams, Assisting Bishop

The Reverend Jerry Lasley, Rector

The Reverend Canon Michael P. Spencer, Priest Associate

The Reverend Dr. Michael Carr, Priest in Residence | The Reverend Elizabeth Morris Downie, Assistant Emeritus

Nada Radakovich, Director of Music | Elizabeth Sailus, Administrative Assistant

Dr. Greg Hassold, Parish Organist | Joel Stoeklin, Sexton

## THE 2020 VESTRY OF ST. CHRISTOPHER'S CHURCH

Jane Brewer, 2022 Senior Warden ([seniorwarden@stcgb.org](mailto:seniorwarden@stcgb.org))

Steve Huber, 2024 Junior Warden ([juniorwarden@stcgb.org](mailto:juniorwarden@stcgb.org))

Kay Van Natta, 2023 Clerk ([clerk@stcgb.org](mailto:clerk@stcgb.org))

Bobbie Walton Treasurer ([treasurer@stcgb.org](mailto:treasurer@stcgb.org))

Ken Duck, 2023 ([ken@stcgb.org](mailto:ken@stcgb.org))

Dawn Rutherford, 2022 ([dawn@stcgb.org](mailto:dawn@stcgb.org))

Flo Gjerstad, 2024 ([flo@stcgb.org](mailto:flo@stcgb.org))

Rebecca Stermer, 2022 ([rebecca@stcgb.org](mailto:rebecca@stcgb.org))

Caroline James, 2023 ([caroline@stcgb.org](mailto:caroline@stcgb.org))

9020 South Saginaw Road, Grand Blanc, Michigan 48439

810.694.3600 | [www.stchrisgrandblanc.org](http://www.stchrisgrandblanc.org)

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Weekly Worship:

Sundays 10 am on Facebook & In-Person Outdoors

Thursdays 5:30 pm on Facebook