



THE CHURCH OF ST. PAUL, CAMBRIA

EASTER

• Year B • March 31, 2024 •

Opening Hymn 8 *Morning Has Broken*

Alleluia. Christ is risen.

The Lord is risen indeed. Alleluia.

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.**

As we hear the word that brings salvation, make our hearts burn within us. In the breaking of the bread, open our eyes to recognize the One whose feast it is. Through the presence of every friend and stranger, reveal to us the face of the one who had first to suffer but who has entered into glory. Now help us to enter into this glorious festive celebration by preparing our hearts and minds as we confess our sins against God and our neighbor. **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.**

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

The following hymn is sung or said, all standing to S280
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 Celebrant says to the people
The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Let us pray.

O God, who for our redemption gave your only-begotten Son to the death of the cross, and by his glorious resurrection delivered us from the power of our enemy: Grant us so to die daily to sin, that we may evermore live with him in the joy of his resurrection; through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

First Lesson is from the Acts of the Apostles (10:34-43)

Then Peter began to speak to them: "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."

This is the word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

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.

The **second lesson** is from First Letter to the Corinthians (15:1-11)

Now 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.

This is the Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Gradual Hymn

The Holy **Gospel** of our Lord according to according to St. Mark (16:1-8)

Glory to you, Lord Christ.

When the sabbath was over, Mary Magdalene, and Mary the mother of James, and Salome bought spices, so that they might go and anoint him. And very early on the first day of the week, when the sun had risen, they went to the tomb. They had been saying to one another, "Who will roll away the stone for us from the entrance to the tomb?" When they looked up, they saw that the stone, which was very large, had already been rolled back. As they entered the tomb, they saw a young man, dressed in a white robe, sitting on the right side; and they were alarmed. But he said to them, "Do not be alarmed; you are looking for Jesus of Nazareth, who was crucified. He has been raised; he is not here. Look, there is the place they laid him. But go, tell his disciples and Peter that he is going ahead of you to Galilee; there you will see him, just as he told you." So they went out and fled from the tomb, for terror and amazement had seized them; and they said nothing to anyone, for they were afraid.

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, Lord Christ.

The Sermon

Special Music

Here follows An affirmation of faith,

We believe in God the Father, infinite in wisdom, power and love, whose mercy is over all his works, and whose will is ever directed to his children's good.

We believe in Jesus Christ, Son of God and Son of man, the gift of the Father's unfailing grace, the ground of our hope, and the promise of our deliverance from sin and death.

We believe in the Holy Spirit as the divine presence in our lives, whereby we are kept in

perpetual remembrance of the truth of Christ, and find strength and help in time of need.

We believe that this faith should manifest itself in the service of love as set forth in the example of our blessed Lord, to the end that the kingdom of God may come upon the earth.

Amen.

The Prayers of the People

Alleluia! What was dead shall live; what was dark shall shine; what was forgotten shall be remembered, for the Lord is risen and walks among us. Let us confidently bring before God the needs of all our world, asking God for renewal, saying: Christ is risen, Christ is risen indeed.

(As the Spirit moves you, please read one or more of the following petitions.)

God of life, in gratitude and great joy we laud you for the gifts of Christ's resurrection. On this day give us hope, for Christ is risen: **Christ is risen indeed.**

On this feast day which brings joy to all Christian believers, may we commit ourselves to work toward the unity of the church, that Christ's body may be one, for Christ is risen: **Christ is risen indeed.**

Honoring the gift of Christ's risen body, may we rise to serve all those whose needs keep them from seeing themselves as the image of God; for Christ is risen: **Christ is risen indeed.**

For all who have need of the gift of Easter; for all who journey from illness to health, from despair to hope, from grief to consolation, from loneliness to love; for all our brothers and sisters, that death may have no more power over us, for Christ is risen: **Christ is risen indeed.**

For all who suffer and all who mourn, that today the Lord God will wipe away all tears, for Christ is risen: **Christ is risen indeed.**

May we have the persistent faith of Mary Magdalene and the surprised belief of Peter and John. May we long to be God's sign of life in our world, for Christ is risen: **Christ is risen indeed.**

May

those who have suffered loss experience the wonders of renewal and rebirth, and share our alleluias not just in word, but in deed; for Christ is risen: **Christ is risen indeed.**

May all our young men and women serving in foreign places feel the joy of Easter, and come home safely; for Christ is risen: **Christ is risen indeed.**

(Here other intercessions may be offered.)

Celebrant concludes

May we be one in faith with all who have died in Christ, for our life is hid with Christ in God; for Christ is risen: **Christ is risen indeed.**

God of life, we thank you for the mystery planted in us, the paradox of life from death and community from scattered disciples. We praise you for the dying which saves us from death and for the rising which brings us life. We pray, as we live, through Jesus the risen one, in the power of the Holy Spirit, now and forever. **Amen.**

Offertory

Walk in love, as Christ loved us and gave himself for us, an offering and sacrifice to God. *Ephesians 5:2*

Offertory Hymn 204 *Now the Green Blade Riseth*

Prayer over the gifts: God our strength and salvation, receive all we offer you this day, and grant that we who have confessed your name, may live in the joy of the resurrection, through Jesus Christ the Lord. **Amen.**

The Great Thanksgiving B

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give him thanks and praise.

It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth. 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. Therefore we praise you, joining our voices with Angels and Archangels and with all the company of heaven, who for ever sing this hymn to proclaim the glory of your Name:

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.

The people stand or kneel.

We give thanks to you, O God,

Therefore, according to his command, O Father,

We remember his death,

We proclaim his resurrection,

We await his coming in glory;

And we offer our sacrifice of praise

By him, and with him, and in him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit all honor and glory is yours, Almighty Father, now and for ever. **AMEN.**

Because in Christ we have received the Spirit of adoption, as sons and daughters of God, we dare to pray:

Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your Name, your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins, as we forgive those who sin against us. Save us from the time of trial, and deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours, now and forever. Amen.

The Breaking of the Bread

Alleluia. Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us; **Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia.**

The Gifts of God for the People of God. Take them in remembrance that Christ died for you, is risen, alleluia! and feed on him in your hearts by faith, with thanksgiving. Blessed are those who are called to the banquet of the Lamb.

Communion of the People

After Communion, the Celebrant says

God of life, bring us to the glory of the resurrection promised in this Easter sacrament. Let us pray.

Almighty and ever-living God, we thank you for feeding us with the spiritual food of the most precious Body and Blood of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ; and for assuring us in these holy mysteries that we are living members of the Body of your Son, and heirs of your eternal kingdom. And now, Father, send us out to do the work you have given us to do, to love and serve you as faithful witnesses of Christ our Lord. To him, to you, and to the Holy Spirit, be honor and glory, now and for ever. Amen.

Knowing that all of our community cannot share the Eucharist in person, we affirm that the true mystical communion of Christ and His Church is a bond of spirit and heart, grounded in faith. Therefore, we commit ourselves to this deep bond of the Spirit in union with Christ our Lord. Amen.

The Blessings

May Christ who out of defeat brings new hope and new alternatives, bring you new life, and the blessing of God almighty, Father, Son and Holy Spirit be with you and remain with you for ever. **Amen.**

The Peace

The peace of the Lord be always with you.

And also with you.

Announcements

Anniversary/Thanksgiving Prayer

We give you thanks, O God, for your many blessings: for our days of celebration, for the love that surrounds us, for your healing presence in our lives. Keep us in your care, we pray, and help us to live as truly thankful people. Amen.

Closing hymn 207 *Jesus Christ is Risen Today*

Dismissal

Alleluia, alleluia! Go forth and bear witness to Christ, who is gloriously risen from the dead!

Thanks be to God. Alleluia, alleluia!

EASTER LILIES

Given in Memory of the Helps, Gerhardts, Golowkas and Pearsons given by the Pearsons.

In Memory of Our Parents with Thanksgiving for our St. Paul's Family given by Van & Alva Jahnes-Smith.

In Memory of Stephen Mettee with Thanksgiving for 76 years with my brother given by Jane Mettee.

In Memory of John Rodriguez given by the Costa/ Rodriguez Family.

With Thanksgiving for: Kate Hepworth & Kristin in the Office given by Lorie Schwenk