



ST. PAUL'S
EPISCOPAL CHURCH

THE SECOND SUNDAY OF EASTER

Sunday, March 31, 2024
8:45 am

Holy Baptism &
Holy Eucharist: Rite II

*The mission of St. Paul's Episcopal Church is to explore and celebrate
God's infinite grace, acceptance, and love.*

Welcome! We are glad that you are with us.

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The *Book of Common Prayer* (BCP) is the red book.

The *Hymnal 1982* (H) is the blue book.

The service starts on page 355 in the *Book of Common Prayer*.

PRELUDE

THE WORD OF GOD

Please stand at the tolling of the bell.

HYMN: GOOD CHRISTIANS ALL, REJOICE AND SING

H 205

Please remain standing.

Presider Alleluia. Christ is risen.

People **The Lord is risen indeed. Alleluia.**

The Presider then continues

There is one Body and one Spirit;

People **There is one hope in God's call to us;**

Presider One Lord, one Faith, one Baptism;

People **One God and Father of all.**

THE COLLECT OF THE DAY

Presider The Lord be with you.

People **And also with you.**

Presider Let us pray.

Almighty and everlasting God, who in the Paschal mystery established the new covenant of reconciliation: Grant that all who have been reborn into the fellowship of Christ's Body may show forth in their lives what they profess by their faith; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever.

People **Amen.**

Please be seated.

THE FIRST LESSON: ACTS 4:32-35

Now the whole group of those who believed were of one heart and soul, and no one claimed private ownership of any possessions, but everything they owned was held in common. With great power the apostles gave their testimony to the resurrection of the Lord Jesus, and great grace was upon them all. There was not a needy person among them, for as many as owned lands or houses sold them and brought the proceeds of what was sold. They laid it at the apostles' feet, and it was distributed to each as any had need.

The lector closes the reading, saying

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

People **Thanks be to God.**

Silence and stillness

THE PSALM: PSALM 133

Spoken in unison

- 1 Oh, how good and pleasant it is, *
 when the community lives together in unity!
- 2 It is like fine oil upon the head *
 that runs down upon the beard,
- 3 Upon the beard of Aaron, *
 and runs down upon the collar of his robe.
- 4 It is like the dew of Hermon *
 that falls upon the hills of Zion.
- 5 For there the LORD has ordained the blessing: *
 life for evermore.

THE SECOND LESSON: 1 JOHN 1:1 - 2:2

We declare to you what was from the beginning, what we have heard, what we have seen with our eyes, what we have looked at and touched with our hands, concerning the word of life—this life was revealed, and we have seen it and testify to it, and declare to you the eternal life that was with the Father and was revealed to us—we declare to you what we have seen and heard so that you also may have fellowship with us; and truly our fellowship is with the Father and with his Son Jesus Christ. We are writing these things so that our joy may be complete. This is the message we have heard from him and proclaim to you, that God is light and in him there is no darkness at all. If we say that we have fellowship with him while we are walking in darkness, we lie and do not do what is true; but if we walk in the light as he himself is in the light, we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus his Son cleanses us from all sin. If we say that we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. If we confess our sins, he who is faithful and just will forgive us our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness. If we say that we have not sinned, we make him a liar, and his word is not in us. My little children, I am writing these things to you so that you may not sin. But if anyone does sin, we have an advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ the righteous; and he is the atoning sacrifice for our sins, and not for ours only but also for the sins of the whole world.

The lector closes the reading, saying

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

People **Thanks be to God.**

Silence and stillness

Children in second grade and below are invited to follow the cross and process to Children's Chapel. They will return in time for Baptisms to be with their families.

THE HOLY GOSPEL: JOHN 20:19-31

Please stand.

Reader The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to John.
People **Glory to you, Lord Christ.**

When it was evening on that day, the first day of the week, and the doors of the house where the disciples had met were locked for fear of the Jews, Jesus came and stood among them and said, "Peace be with you." After he said this, he showed them his hands and his side. Then the disciples rejoiced when they saw the Lord. Jesus said to them again, "Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, so I send you." When he had said this, he breathed on them and said to them, "Receive the Holy Spirit. If you forgive the sins of any, they are forgiven them; if you retain the sins of any, they are retained." But Thomas (who was called the Twin), one of the twelve, was not with them when Jesus came. So the other disciples told him, "We have seen the Lord." But he said to them, "Unless I see the mark of the nails in his hands, and put my finger in the mark of the nails and my hand in his side, I will not believe." A week later his disciples were again in the house, and Thomas was with them. Although the doors were shut, Jesus came and stood among them and said, "Peace be with you." Then he said to Thomas, "Put your finger here and see my hands. Reach out your hand and put it in my side. Do not doubt but believe." Thomas answered him, "My Lord and my God!" Jesus said to him, "Have you believed because you have seen me? Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have come to believe." Now Jesus did many other signs in the presence of his disciples, which are not written in this book. But these are written so that you may come to believe that Jesus is the Messiah, the Son of God, and that through believing you may have life in his name.

Reader The Gospel of the Lord.
People **Praise to you, Lord Christ.**

Please be seated at the invitation of the preacher.

SERMON *The Rev. Sara Milford*
PRESENTATION AND EXAMINATION OF THE CANDIDATES BCP 301

Presider The Candidate(s) for Holy Baptism will now be presented.

INFANTS AND YOUNGER CHILDREN

Parents and Godparents

I present [Name] to receive the Sacrament of Baptism.

The Presider asks the parents and godparents

Will you be responsible for seeing that the child you present is brought up in the Christian faith and life?

Parents and Godparents

I will, with God's help.

Presider Will you by your prayers and witness help this child to grow into the full stature of Christ?

Parents and Godparents

I will, with God's help.

Then the Celebrant asks the following questions of the candidates who can speak for themselves, and of the parents and godparents who speak on behalf of the infants and younger children

Question Do you renounce Satan and all the spiritual forces of wickedness that rebel against God?

Answer **I renounce them.**

Question Do you renounce the evil powers of this world which corrupt and destroy the creatures of God?

Answer **I renounce them.**

Question Do you renounce all sinful desires that draw you from the love of God?

Answer **I renounce them.**

Question Do you turn to Jesus Christ and accept him as your Savior?

Answer **I do.**

Question Do you put your whole trust in his grace and love?

Answer **I do.**

Question Do you promise to follow and obey him as your Lord?

Answer **I do.**

The Presider addresses the congregation, saying

Will you who witness these vows do all in your power to support *these persons in their life* in Christ?

People: **We will.**

The Presider then says these or similar words

Let us join with *those who are* committing *themselves* to Christ and renew our own baptismal covenant.

THE BAPTISMAL COVENANT

BCP 304

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.**

HYMN: WE KNOW THAT CHRIST IS RAISED

H 296

PRAYERS FOR THE CANDIDATES

BCP 305

The Presider then says to the congregation

Let us now pray for *this person* who *is* to receive the Sacrament of new birth.

A Person appointed leads the following petitions

Leader Deliver *them*, O Lord, from the way of sin and death.

People **Lord, hear our prayer.**

Leader Open *their* hearts to your grace and truth.

People **Lord, hear our prayer.**

Leader Fill *them* with your holy and life-giving Spirit.

People **Lord, hear our prayer.**

Leader Keep *them* in the faith and communion of your holy Church.

People **Lord, hear our prayer.**

Leader Teach *them* to love others in the power of the Spirit.
People **Lord, hear our prayer.**

Leader Send *them* into the world in witness to your love.
People **Lord, hear our prayer.**

Leader Bring *them* to the fullness of your peace and glory.
People **Lord, hear our prayer.**

The Presider says

Grant, O Lord, that all who are baptized into the death of Jesus Christ your Son may live in the power of his resurrection and look for him to come again in glory; who lives and reigns now and for ever. **Amen.**

THANKSGIVING OVER THE WATER

BCP 306

The Presider blesses the water, first saying

The Lord be with you.
People **And also with you.**
Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
People **It is right to give him thanks and praise.**

Presider We thank you, Almighty God, for the gift of water. Over it the Holy Spirit moved in the beginning of creation. Through it you led the children of Israel out of their bondage in Egypt into the land of promise. In it your Son Jesus received the baptism of John and was anointed by the Holy Spirit as the Messiah, the Christ, to lead us, through his death and resurrection, from the bondage of sin into everlasting life.

We thank you, Father, for the water of Baptism. In it we are buried with Christ in his death. By it we share in his resurrection. Through it we are reborn by the Holy Spirit. Therefore in joyful obedience to your Son, we bring into his fellowship those who come to him in faith, baptizing them in the Name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

At the following words, the Presider touches the water

Now sanctify this water, we pray you, by the power of your Holy Spirit, that those who here are cleansed from sin and born again may continue for ever in the risen life of Jesus Christ our Savior.

To him, to you, and to the Holy Spirit, be all honor and glory, now and for ever. **Amen.**

THE BAPTISM

BCP 307

Each candidate is presented by name to the Presider, or to an assisting priest or deacon, who then immerses, or pours water upon, the candidate, saying

[Name], I baptize you in the Name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

Then the Priest places a hand on the person's head, marking on the forehead the sign of the cross [using Chrism if desired] and saying to each one

[Name], you are sealed by the Holy Spirit in Baptism and marked as Christ's own for ever. **Amen.**

When this action has been completed for all candidates, the Priest, at a place in full sight of the congregation, prays over them, saying

Let us pray.

Heavenly Father, we thank you that by water and the Holy Spirit you have bestowed upon *these* your *servants* the forgiveness of sin, and have raised *them* to the new life of grace. Sustain *them*, O Lord, in your Holy Spirit. Give *them* an inquiring and discerning heart, the courage to will and to persevere, a spirit to know and to love you, and the gift of joy and wonder in all your works. **Amen.**

When all have been baptized, the Presider says

Let us welcome the newly baptized.

Presider and People

We receive you into the household of God. Confess the faith of Christ crucified, proclaim his resurrection, and share with us in his eternal priesthood.

THE PEACE

BCP 360

Please stand.

Presider The peace of the Lord be always with you.

People **And also with you.**

Please be seated.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Weekly announcements can be found online at www.stpaulsfay.org/s/epistle.pdf

THE HOLY COMMUNION

OFFERTORY

Gifts can be made online at www.tithe.ly/give?c=454227



ANTHEM: HE IS RISEN

WOOD

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

EUCCHARISTIC PRAYER D

BCP 372

Please stand.

Spoken at 8:45 and sung at 11:00

Presider The Lord be with you.

People **And also with you.**

Lift up your hearts.

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

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give him thanks and praise.

The Presider continues

It is truly right to glorify you, Father, and to give you thanks; for you alone are God, living and true, dwelling in light inaccessible from before time and for ever.

Fountain of life and source of all goodness, you made all things and fill them with your blessing; you created them to rejoice in the splendor of your radiance.

Countless throngs of angels stand before you to serve you night and day; and, beholding the glory of your presence, they offer you unceasing praise. Joining with them, and giving voice to every creature under heaven, we acclaim you, and glorify your Name, as we sing,

SANCTUS: HOLY, HOLY, HOLY LORD

H S-128

Ho - ly, ho - ly,
ho - ly Lord, God of power and might,
heaven and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho - san - na in the
high - est. Bless - ed is he who
comes in the name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

Setting: William Mathias (b. 1934)

Please stand or kneel.

The Presider continues

BCP 362

We acclaim you, holy Lord, glorious in power. Your mighty works reveal your wisdom and love....

...Recalling Christ's death and his descent among the dead, proclaiming his resurrection and ascension to your right hand, awaiting his coming in glory; and offering to you, from the gifts you have given us, this bread and this cup, we praise you and we bless you.

Presider and People

**We praise you, we bless you,
we give thanks to you,
and we pray to you, Lord our God.**

The Presider continues

BCP 363

Lord, we pray that in your goodness and mercy your Holy Spirit may descend upon us ...

... Through Christ, and with Christ, and in Christ, all honor and glory are yours, Almighty God and Father, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, for ever and ever.

Presider and People

AMEN.

Presider

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

Presider and People

**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 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

BCP 364

The Presider breaks the consecrated Bread.

A period of silence is kept.

FRACTION ANTHEM: GOD'S PASCHAL LAMB

God's Pas - chal Lamb is sac - ri - ficed for us.

There - fore with joy we keep the East - er feast; For -

sak - ing sin, we share the bread of truth.

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

Words: Carl P. Daw, Jr. (b. 1944)

Music: Sine Nomine, Ralph Vaughan Williams (1872-1958)

Facing the people, the Presider says the following Invitation

The Gifts of God for the People of God.

and may add

Take them in remembrance that Christ died for you, and feed on him in your hearts by faith, with thanksgiving.

*Whoever you are and wherever you are in your pilgrimage of faith,
you are welcome in this place; you are welcome at God's table.*

To receive Communion, come forward down the center aisle. Hand sanitizer is available. You may come up the chancel steps to the altar rail or receive at the floor station in front of the pulpit. If you need the clergy to bring Communion to your pew, please let an usher know. To receive the bread, extend your open palm to the minister. Gluten-free wafers are available upon request. To receive the wine, guide the base of the chalice with your hand so that you can sip from the cup. You may also intinct/dip the bread into the wine if you prefer. If you prefer not to receive in either or both kinds, cross your arms over your chest to indicate your intention. Return to your pew by the side aisles.

PRAYER FOR SPIRITUAL COMMUNION

For those joining us at home

In union, O Lord, with your faithful people at every altar of your Church, where the Holy Eucharist is now being celebrated, we desire to offer to you praise and thanksgiving. We remember your death, Lord Christ; we proclaim your resurrection; we await your coming in glory. Since we cannot receive you today in the Sacrament of your Body and Blood, we beg you to come spiritually into our hearts. Cleanse and strengthen us with your grace, Lord Jesus, and let us never be separated from you. May we live in you, and you in us, in this life and in the life to come. Amen.

HYMN: AT THE LAMB'S HIGH FEAST WE SING

H 174

COMMISSIONING OF EUCHARISTIC VISITORS

Minister In the name of this congregation, we send you forth bearing these holy gifts, that [*names of recipients*] may share with us the communion of Christ's Body and Blood.

People **We who are many are one Body, because we all share one Bread, one Cup.**

POSTCOMMUNION PRAYER

BCP 365

Please stand or kneel.

Presider and People

Eternal God, heavenly Father, you have graciously accepted us as living members of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ, and you have fed us with spiritual food in the Sacrament of his Body and Blood. Send us now into the world in peace, and grant us strength and courage to love and serve you with gladness and singleness of heart; through Christ our Lord. Amen.

HYMN: WE WALK BY FAITH, AND NOT BY SIGHT

H 209

THE BLESSING

THE DISMISSAL

After the dismissal sentence

People **Thanks be to God. Alleluia, Alleluia.**

POSTLUDE

Please remain in your pew until the procession has passed by.

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