

# The Holy Eucharist Online

with spiritual communion

April 12, 2020  
Easter Day



**Trinity**  
Episcopal Church

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The prelude offers a time to prepare our hearts and minds for worship.

Our worship begins today with a shout of praise and declaration of resurrection: Our “Alleluia!” comes from the Hebrew for “Praise God!”

On Easter Sunday, the first reading may be taken from either the Hebrew Scriptures or the Christian Scriptures. The words of the prophet Jeremiah, speaking to God’s people 600 years before Christ’s coming, contain a promise of survival, renewal, and rebuilding that may resonate especially in this uncertain time.

## Organ Prelude

Prelude in G Major, BWV 541  
J. S. Bach

## THE LITURGY OF THE WORD

*Book of Common Prayer, page 355*

*Celebrant* Alleluia! Christ is risen!

*People* **Christ is risen indeed! Alleluia!**

*Celebrant* The Lord be with you.

*People* **And also with you.**

Let us pray.

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. **Amen.**

## Introit

Cherub Choir, *recorded Easter 2019*

*Alleluia! Christ is Risen!*

Michael Bedford

## A Reading from the Prophet Jeremiah

*31:1-6*

At that time, says the Lord, I will be the God of all the families of Israel, and they shall be my people. Thus says the Lord: The people who survived the sword found grace in the wilderness; when Israel sought for rest, the Lord appeared to him from far away. I have loved you with an everlasting love; therefore I have continued my faithfulness to you. Again I will build you, and you shall be built, O virgin Israel! Again you shall take your tambourines, and go forth in the dance of the merrymakers. Again you shall plant vineyards on the mountains of Samaria; the planters shall plant, and shall enjoy the fruit. For there shall be a day when sentinels will call in the hill country of Ephraim: “Come, let us go up to Zion, to the Lord our God.”

The Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

- 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.

**A reading from the Acts of the Apostles (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

We read the psalm **responsively**, which means that the leader reads one verse and the congregation *responds* with the next.

The Psalm assigned for our Easter celebration is an ancient ritual song of celebration, of a king returning to praise God after a great victory.

We hear this reading every Easter Sunday, regardless of what other scripture we read. It is chosen as a summary of the good news of Jesus' life, death, and resurrection, as preached to some of the first non-Jewish Christians.

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.”

The Word of the Lord.  
**Thanks be to God.**

**Sequence**  
Canterbury Virtual Choir

*Now the Green Blade Rises*  
Shirley McRae

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

*Matthew 28:1-10*

After the sabbath, as the first day of the week was dawning, Mary Magdalene and the other Mary went to see the tomb. And suddenly there was a great earthquake; for an angel of the Lord, descending from heaven, came and rolled back the stone and sat on it. His appearance was like lightning, and his clothing white as snow. For fear of him the guards shook and became like dead men. But the angel said to the women, “Do not be afraid; I know that you are looking for Jesus who was crucified. He is not here; for he has been raised, as he said. Come, see the place where he lay. Then go quickly and tell his disciples, ‘He has been raised from the dead, and indeed he is going ahead of you to Galilee; there you will see him.’ This is my message for you.” So they left the tomb quickly with fear and great joy, and ran to tell his disciples. Suddenly Jesus met them and said, “Greetings!” And they came to him, took hold of his feet, and worshiped him. Then Jesus said to them, “Do not be afraid; go and tell my brothers to go to Galilee; there they will see me.”

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

**The Sermon**

Four Gospel writers tell the story of the resurrection; we cycle through those over three years. This year, our readings focus on the Gospel according to Matthew, so we hear Matthew’s account of the empty tomb and risen Jesus.

The Nicene Creed  
358

*Book of Common Prayer, page*

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:  
by the power of the Holy Spirit  
he became incarnate from the Virgin Mary,  
and was made man.

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.  
With the Father and the Son he is worshiped and glorified.  
He 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 **sermon** is meant to help us reflect on how the Word of God we hear in worship is a living and transforming reality in our own lives.

As part of our response to the Word of God in our lives, we stand to proclaim the core story of our Christian faith together in **The Nicene Creed**, created in the late 4th century by the councils (gatherings of church leaders) in Nicea.

No matter what story of Jesus we are hearing in scripture, we remember and proclaim the whole outline of his life, death, and resurrection, and anticipate his coming again.

## Prayers of the People

In joy and hope let us pray to God who has given us the victory through the risen Christ.

That our risen Savior may fill us and all God's people with the joy of his glorious and life-giving resurrection, we pray. Let the people say, **Amen.**

That the risen Christ may bring peace to the earth, and wisdom and concord to all who lead the nations; that war, famine, and epidemic may cease, we pray. Let the people say, **Amen.**

That those isolated, afflicted, persecuted or living in fear may find renewal and strength in the good news of Easter, we pray. Let the people say, **Amen.**

That God may provide daily bread and abundant life for those who lack food, work or shelter, we pray. Let the people say, **Amen.**

That broken hearts may be made whole, and our communities renewed, in the victory of life over death through the risen Christ, we pray. Let the people say, **Amen.**

That the light of the risen Christ may comfort and strengthen the ill, the injured, the dying, and all those who care for the sick and the vulnerable, we pray. Let the people say, **Amen.**

That, according to Christ's promises, all who have died in the faith of the resurrection may be raised with him on the last day, we pray. Let the people say, **Amen.**

That Christ may send the power of the Holy Spirit upon God's people, so that we may bear faithful witness to his resurrection day by day, we pray. Let the people say, **Amen.**

Almighty God, you have delivered us from the power of darkness and brought us into the kingdom of your Son: grant that, as his death has recalled us to life, so his continual presence in us may raise us to eternal joy; through Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

*In the Easter season, the Confession is omitted in celebration of our freedom from the bondage of sin brought about through Christ's resurrection.*

In response to hearing and reflecting on scripture, we turn to prayer together, asking God's care for our world, the church, for others and for ourselves.

The prayers we are using today are adapted from seasonal prayers used in The Church of England, and follow the pattern outlined on page 383 of *The Book of Common Prayer*, with attention to the church throughout the world, the nation and the world and those in authority, the needs of our local community, those who suffer or experience any trouble, and those who have died.

## Exchange of Peace

*The Celebrant says to the people*

The peace of Christ be always with you.

*People*      **And also with you.**

*The Ministers and People greet one another in the name of the Lord.*

Today, in the spirit of Christ's peace, please reach out to greet someone you might normally see in worship by telephone, internet, or text message.

We would normally receive a collection of money for the support of the church, at this point in a Sunday service, while the choir sings an anthem.

If you are able to fulfill your annual pledge, please mail your regular pledge check to the office, use your bank's online payment system, or visit [www.trinitymoorestown.org/donate](http://www.trinitymoorestown.org/donate) to make your weekly gift or regular pledge offering while we are unable to gather in person.

**Anthem**    *Christ the Lord is Risen Again*

Trinity Virtual Choir    Anthony Foster

## Eucharistic Prayer B

*Book of Common Prayer, page 367*

*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.**

*The Celebrant continues*

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.

Half of all Easter offerings received this year will be directed by the Outreach Commission to support those in immediate need as a result of the COVID-19 outbreak.

The prayer is also called "The Great Thanksgiving" because it focuses on offering thanks to God for all the gifts given to us from creation through our lives now, and especially for the work of Christ.

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 Celebrant continues:*

We give thanks to you, O God, for the goodness and love which you have made known to us in creation; in the calling of Israel to be your people; in your Word spoken through the prophets; and above all in the Word made flesh, Jesus, your Son. For in these last days you sent him to be incarnate from the Virgin Mary, to be the Savior and Redeemer of the world. In him, you have delivered us from evil, and made us worthy to stand before you. In him, you have brought us out of error into truth, out of sin into righteousness, out of death into life.

On the night before he died for us, our Lord Jesus Christ took bread; and when he had given thanks to you, he broke it, and gave it to his disciples, 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; and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, 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."

Therefore, according to his command, O Father,

**We remember his death,**

**We proclaim his resurrection,**

**We await his coming in glory;**

*The Celebrant continues*

And we offer our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving to you, O Lord of all; presenting to you, from your creation, this bread and this wine. We pray you, gracious God, to send your Holy Spirit upon these gifts that they may be the Sacrament of the Body of

The **Sanctus** ("Holy, holy, holy") recalls the words of the prophet Isaiah, overwhelmed by the presence of God in the sanctuary, and the "Hosanna" recognizing Jesus' kingship sung by the people as Jesus entered Jerusalem on Palm Sunday.

The bread and wine are offered to God, and we ask that we may receive God's blessing through these "elements". Each Eucharistic Prayer used in The Episcopal Church quotes scripture (1 Corinthians 11:23-25, and the gospel narratives in Mark, Matthew, and Luke) to recall the blessing and instruction Jesus offered at his last meal with his disciples. These words have been repeated and prayed in this way by people in many languages throughout the world for generations.

The people's **Amen** at the end of the prayer is an affirmation of all that has gone before; and we pray together the prayer that Jesus taught to sum up all our prayers.

At every service in the Episcopal Church, we pray **the Lord's Prayer**, which we learn in the gospels (Matthew 6:9-13, Luke 11:1-4) The prayer takes its name from the request of Jesus' disciples, "Lord, teach us to pray."

The **Fraction**, also called the Breaking of the Bread, recalls Jesus breaking bread at the Last Supper, and reminds us that Jesus' body was broken on the cross for us.

Christ and his Blood of the new Covenant. Unite us to your Son in his sacrifice, that we may be acceptable through him, being sanctified by the Holy Spirit. In the fullness of time, put all things in subjection under your Christ, and bring us to that heavenly country where, with all your saints, we may enter the everlasting heritage of your sons and daughters; through Jesus Christ our Lord, the firstborn of all creation, the head of the Church, and the author of our salvation.

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.**

And now, 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 Celebrant breaks the consecrated Bread, then says Alleluia. Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us; Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia.*

*During this time of worshipping together but physically distant, we depend on the long established teaching of the Church that if a person is prevented from physically receiving the Sacrament for reasons of extreme illness or disability, the desire for Christ's presence alone is enough for all the benefits of the Sacrament to be received. This is often referred to as "spiritual communion."*

## A prayer for Spiritual Communion

**My Jesus, I believe that you are truly present in the Blessed Sacrament of the Altar. I love you above all things, and long for you in my soul. Since I cannot now receive you sacramentally, come at least spiritually into my heart. As though you have already come, I embrace you and unite myself entirely to you; never permit me to be separated from you. Amen.**

*(St. Alphonsus de Liguori, 1696-1787)*

## Post communion prayer

*Book of Common Prayer, page 365*

**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.**

## Easter Blessing

God the Father, by whose love Christ was raised from the dead,  
open to you who believe the gates of everlasting life. **Amen.**

God the Son, who in bursting from the grave has won a glorious  
victory, give you joy as you share the Easter faith. **Amen.**

God the Holy Spirit, who filled the disciples with the life of the  
risen Lord, empower you and fill you with Christ's peace. **Amen.**

And the blessing of God Almighty, the holy and undivided  
Trinity, be upon you and remain with you for ever. **Amen.**

## Hymn 207

Virtual Congregation

*Jesus Christ is Risen Today*  
*Easter Hymn*

Because we cannot physically receive the bread and wine together today, we name our need for Christ's nourishing presence in our spirits in this prayer for spiritual communion.

The **Post-Communion Prayer** thanks God for the blessings received in the spiritual food of this sacrament and asks that we be prepared by it to go into the world to share in God's ongoing work.

The three-fold Easter blessing names each person of the Trinity, praying their particular gifts of Easter to strengthen and bless God's gathered people.

A final hymn is sung to complete our worship in the praise of God.

The dismissal sends us to take our worship into the fullness of our daily lives, living in the name of Christ. Our enthusiastic “Alleluia” as the final word of worship returns today in our celebration of the resurrection.

**The Dismissal**

*Deacon* Let us go forth in the name of Christ,  
Alleluia, alleluia!

*People* **Thanks be to God, alleluia, alleluia!**

**Organ Postlude**

Intermezzo, Op. 9, No. 6  
Hermann Schroeder

+++++

**Worship Leaders**

Joan and John Dighton, *Lectors*  
The Rev. Leslie G. Mazzacano, *Deacon*  
The Rev. Emily A. Mellott, *Officiant*  
Vernon Williams, *Organist, Choirmaster, and Cinematographer*  
Tyler Horn, *Videography Assistant*

## Easter Memorial Gifts

This week, we offer our services with particular thanksgiving for all those in whose honor or memory Easter gifts have been given. We hope to apply these gifts to special music and flowers for a service when we are all able to worship in the church again.

### In Memory of:

Mr. & Mrs. George Maxfield  
Earl E. Johnson

Bryce & Twyla Kerr

Amy Wallace

Loved ones

Jean Thomas

Our Parents

Frederic & Keturah Wood

Our dear friend, Jean Thomas

Allen Stone, Dorothy McKissick,  
Mary & Charles Zeigler

Thomas, Gladys & Robert Fletcher

Patricia M. Fletcher

William & Madeline Frost

Michelle McAleer

William & Florence McGuire

Eleanor Redfern

Carol Rittenhouse

Jean Thomas

Deceased members of the Hanusey,  
Emmons, & Hallam Family

Demetra & John Gatti

Elisabeth & Frank Satkofsky

Ken Anderson

### Given by:

Nancy & Jim Johnson

Brian & Cindy Kerr

The Wallace Family

Holly & Ed Pearson

Herb & Liz Thomas

Henry & Carol Rossell

Elsa Wood

Hannelore (Hannie) Hahn & Eric Hahn

Linda & John Zeigler

David Fletcher

Richard & Sandra Say

Christine Hallam

Susan & Gerald Satkofsky

Helen Anderson

Nancy Taylor Dodd

Max & Yvonne Bieberbach

**In Thanksgiving for:**

Our grandsons & children

Our family

Our children, grandchildren, & greatgrands

Trinity

Tom Dodd

Jill Bieberbach

**Given by:**

Nancy & Jim Johnson

Harry & Mary Shea

Linda & John Zeigler

Helen Anderson