



**St. Vincent's Episcopal Church  
Easter Day – March 31, 2024**

**Prelude Hymn #180**

***“He is Risen, He is Risen!”*** (with handbells)

*He is risen, he is risen!  
Tell it out with joyful voice:  
he has burst his three days' prison,  
let the whole wide earth rejoice.  
Death is conquered, we are free,  
Christ has won the victory.*

*Come, ye sad and fearful hearted,  
with glad smile and radiant brow!  
Death's long shadows have departed;  
Jesus' woes are over now,  
and the passion that he bore-  
sin and pain can vex no more.*

*He is risen, he is risen!  
he has opened heaven's gate:  
we are free from sin's dark prison,  
risen to a holier state;  
and the brighter Easter beam  
on our longing eyes shall stream.*

**Prelude Hymn #175**

***“Lo, the Fair Beauty of Earth”*** (with handbells)

*Hail thee, festival day!  
blest day that art hallowed forever,  
day whereon Christ arose,  
breaking the kingdom of death.*

*Lo, the fair beauty of earth,  
from the death of the winter arising!  
Every good gift of the year  
now with its Master returns:*

*Hail thee, festival day!  
blest day that art hallowed forever,  
day whereon Christ arose,  
breaking the kingdom of death.*

*He who was nailed to the cross  
is Lord and the ruler of nature;  
all things created on earth  
sing to the glory of God:*

*Hail thee, festival day!  
blest day that art hallowed forever,  
day whereon Christ arose,  
breaking the kingdom of death.*

*Daily the loveliness grows,  
adorned with glory of blossom;  
heaven her gates unbars,  
flinging her increase of light:*

*Hail thee, festival day!  
blest day that art hallowed forever,  
day whereon Christ arose,  
breaking the kingdom of death.*

*Rise from the grave now, O Lord,  
who art author of life and creation.  
Trading the pathway of death,  
life thou bestowest on all:*

*Hail thee, festival day!  
blest day that art hallowed forever,  
day whereon Christ arose,  
breaking the kingdom of death.*

**Processional Hymn #182            “Christ is Alive”**

*Christ is alive! Let Christians sing.  
His cross stands empty to the sky.  
Let streets and homes with praises ring.  
His love in death shall never die.*

*Christ is alive! No longer bound  
to distant years in Palestine,  
He comes to claim the here and now  
and conquer every place and time.*

*Not throned above, remotely high,  
untouched, unmoved by human pains,  
but daily, in the midst of life,  
our Savior with the Father reigns.*

Celebrant: Alleluia! Christ is risen.

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

Celebrant: 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.**

Hear what our Lord Jesus Christ said: You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your mind. This is the first and great commandment. And the second is like it: You shall love your neighbor as yourself. On these two commandments hang all the Law and the Prophets.

**Gloria - #S-280**

***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.***

Celebrant: The Lord be with you.

**All: *And also with you.***

Celebrant: Let us pray.

**Collect of the Day**

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 Liturgy of the Word**

**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 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: The word of the Lord.

**All: Thanks be to God.**

**Let us say responsively by whole verse, select verses of Psalm 118**

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.

**Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit: \* As it was in the beginning, is now, and will be for ever. Amen.**

**A Reading from the First Letter of Paul to the Corinthians (15:1-11)**

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.

Reader: The word of the Lord.

**All: Thanks be to God.**

## Gospel Song

### **"He is Exalted"**

*He is exalted, the King is exalted on high; I will praise Him.  
He is exalted, forever exalted and I will praise His name!  
He is the Lord, forever His truth shall reign;  
Heaven and earth rejoice in His Holy name.  
He is exalted, the King is exalted on high.*

*He is exalted, the King is exalted on high; I will praise Him.  
He is exalted, forever exalted and I will praise His name!  
He is the Lord, forever His truth shall reign;  
Heaven and earth rejoice in His Holy name.  
He is exalted, the King is exalted on high.  
He is exalted, the King is exalted on high.*

## **The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to John (20:1-18)**

**All: 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.

Deacon: The Gospel of the Lord.

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

***Alleluia - Hymn #205, refrain (x3)***

***Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!***

***Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!***

***Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!***

## **The Sermon**

## Presentation and Examination of Candidates

Celebrant: The Candidates for Holy Baptism will now be presented.

**Parents and Godparents:** *We present McKenna Lorraine to receive the Sacrament of Baptism.*

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

**Parents and Godparents:** *We will with God's help.*

Celebrant: Will you by your prayers and witness help these persons to grow into the full stature of Christ?

**Parents and Godparents:** *We will with God's help*

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

**Answer:** *I renounce them.*

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

**Answer:** *I renounce them.*

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

**Answer:** *I renounce them.*

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

**Answer:** *I do.*

Celebrant: Do you put your whole trust in his grace and Love?

**Answer:** *I do.*

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

**Answer:** *I do.*

Celebrant: Do you believe in God the Father?

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

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

**All:** *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.*

Celebrant: Do you believe in God the Holy Spirit?  
**All:** *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.*

Celebrant: Will you continue in the apostles' teaching and fellowship, in the breaking of bread, and in the prayers?  
**All:** *I will, with God's help.*

Celebrant: Will you persevere in resisting evil, and, whenever you fall into sin, repent and return to the Lord?  
**All:** *I will, with God's help.*

Celebrant: Will you proclaim by word and example the Good News of God in Christ?  
**All:** *I will, with God's help.*

Celebrant: Will you seek and serve Christ in all persons, loving your neighbor as yourself?  
**All:** *I will, with God's help.*

Celebrant: Will you strive for justice and peace among all people, and respect the dignity of every human being?  
**All:** *I will, with God's help.*

### **Prayers for the Candidates**

Let us now pray for those who are to receive the Sacrament of new birth.

Leader: Deliver her, O Lord, from the way of sin and death.

**People:** *Lord, hear our prayer.*

Leader: Open her heart to your grace and truth.

**People:** *Lord, hear our prayer.*

Leader: Fill her with your holy and lifegiving Spirit.

**People:** *Lord, hear our prayer.*

Leader: Keep her in the faith and communion of your holy Church.

**People:** *Lord, hear our prayer.*

Leader: Teach her to love others in the power of the Spirit.

**People:** *Lord, hear our prayer.*

Leader: Send her into the world in witness to your love.

**People:** *Lord, hear our prayer.*

Leader: Bring her to the fullness of your peace and glory.

**People:** *Lord, hear our prayer.*

Celebrant: 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 forever. Amen.

### Thanksgiving over the Water

Celebrant: The Lord be with you.

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

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

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

Celebrant: 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.

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.

Celebrant: *McKenna Lorraine*, I baptize you in the Name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

Celebrant: Let us pray.

Heavenly Father, we thank you that by water and the Holy Spirit you have bestowed upon this your servant the forgiveness of sin, and have raised her to the new life of grace. Sustain her, O Lord, in your Holy Spirit. Give her 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.

Celebrant: *McKenna Lorraine*, you are sealed by the Holy Spirit in Baptism and marked as Christ's own for ever. Amen.

Celebrant: Let us welcome the newly baptized.

**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

Celebrant: The peace of the Lord be always with you.

**All:** ***And also with you.***



## Announcements

### Offertory

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

#### **Offertory Hymn #208**

***“Alleluia! The Strife is O’er”***

*Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!*

*The strife is o'er, the battle done,  
the victory of life is won;  
the song of triumph has begun.  
Alleluia!*

*The powers of death have done their worst,  
but Christ their legions hath dispersed:  
let shout of holy joy outburst.  
Alleluia!*

*He closed the yawning gates of hell,  
the bars from heaven's high portals fell;  
let hymns of praise his triumphs tell!  
Alleluia!*

*Lord! by the stripes which wounded thee,  
from death's dread sting thy servants free,  
that we may live and sing to thee.  
Alleluia!*

*Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!*

#### **Doxology (Hymnal #380 v.3)**

***Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;  
Praise him all creatures here below;  
Praise him above, ye heavenly host;  
Praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost. Amen.***

### Offertory Response

Celebrant: All things come from thee, O Lord.  
**All: *And of thy own have we given thee.***

### Presentation of the Gifts

Celebrant: Blessed are you, Lord, God of all creation. Through your goodness we have this bread to offer, which the earth has given and human hands have made. For us it becomes the bread of life.  
**All: *Blessed be God forever.***

Celebrant: Blessed are you, Lord, God of all creation. Through your goodness we have this wine to offer, fruit of the vine and work of human hands. For us it becomes the cup of salvation.

**All: *Blessed be God forever.***

### **The Liturgy of the Eucharist – Prayer B**

Celebrant: The Lord be with you.

**All: *And also with you.***

Celebrant: Lift up your hearts.

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

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

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

Celebrant: It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and every-where 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:

#### **Sanctus #S-129**

***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.***

Celebrant: 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,

**Celebrant and People:  
*We remember his death,  
We proclaim his resurrection,  
We await his coming in glory;***

Celebrant: 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 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 the ever blessed Virgin Mary, Vincent, and 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.

**All: AMEN.**

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

**All: 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: Alleluia! Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us;

**All: Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia!**

### Agnus Dei

Celebrant: O Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world,

**All: have mercy on us.**

Celebrant: O Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world,

**All: have mercy on us.**

Celebrant: O Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world,

**All: grant us your peace.**

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.

### **Communion Song BB41**

### **“Lord I Lift Your Name on High”**

*Lord I lift your name on high  
Lord I love to sing your praises  
I'm so glad you are in my life  
I'm so glad you came to save us.*

*You came from heaven to earth,  
to show the way  
From the earth to the cross,  
my debt to pay  
From the cross to the grave,  
from the grave to the sky  
Lord I lift your name on high.*

*Lord I lift your name on high  
Lord I love to sing your praises  
I'm so glad you are in my life  
I'm so glad you came to save us.*

*You came from heaven to earth,  
to show the way  
From the earth to the cross,  
my debt to pay  
From the cross to the grave,  
from the grave to the sky  
Lord I lift your name on high.  
Lord I lift your name on high.*

**Choir Anthem**                      ***“This is the Day”***

### **An Act of Spiritual Communion**

***People: I believe, Lord, that you are truly in Heaven and in the Blessed Sacrament of the Altar. I love you above all things and I very much want to receive you into my soul, but not being able to do so sacramentally now, come at least spiritually into my heart. And as if I had already received you, I embrace you and I fully join You. Lord, do not let me ever be separated from You. Amen***

### **Post Communion Prayer**

Celebrant: Let us pray.

***All: 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.***

### **The Easter Blessing**

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.***

**Recessional Hymn #207**                      ***“Jesus Christ is Risen Today”*** (with handbells)

*Jesus Christ is risen today, Alleluia!  
our triumphant holy day, Alleluia!  
who did once, upon the cross, Alleluia!*

*suffer to redeem our loss, Alleluia!*

*Hymns of praise then let us sing, Alleluia!  
unto Christ, our heavenly King, Alleluia!  
who endured the cross and grave, Alleluia!  
sinners to redeem and save, Alleluia!*

*But the pains which he endured, Alleluia!  
our salvation have procured, Alleluia!  
now above the sky he's king, Alleluia!  
where the angels ever sing, Alleluia!*

Celebrant: Let us go forth in the name of Christ. Alleluia, Alleluia!

**All: Thanks be to God. Alleluia, Alleluia!**