



St. Vincent's Episcopal Church
Third Sunday of Easter - April 14, 2024

Prelude Song BB18 ***"How Great is Our God"***

*The splendor of the King,
clothed in majesty;
Let all the earth rejoice,
Let all the earth rejoice.
He wraps Himself in light
and darkness tries to hide,
and trembles at His voice,
and trembles at His voice.*

*How great is our God!
Sing with me:
How great is our God!
And all will see how great,
how great is our God!*

*And age to age He stands
and time is in His hands
Beginning and the end.
Beginning and the end.
the Godhead, three in one.
Father, Spirit, Son,
the Lion and the Lamb,
the Lion and the Lamb.*

*How great is our God!
Sing with me:
How great is our God!
And all will see how great,
how great is our God.*

Processional Hymn #205 ***"Good Christians All, Rejoice and Sing"***

*Good Christians all, rejoice and sing!
Now is the triumph of our King!
To all the world glad news we bring:
"Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!"*

*The Lord of life is risen today!
Sing songs of praise along his way;
let all the earth rejoice and say:
"Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!"*

*Praise we in songs of victory
that love, that life which cannot die,
and sing with hearts uplifted high:
"Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!"*

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.

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

Celebrant: Let us pray.

Collect of the Day

O God, whose blessed Son made himself known to his disciples in the breaking of bread: Open the eyes of our faith, that we may behold him in all his redeeming work; who lives and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. ***Amen.***

The Liturgy of the Word

A Reading from the Acts of the Apostles (3:12-19)

Peter addressed the people, "You Israelites, why do you wonder at this, or why do you stare at us, as though by our own power or piety we had made him walk? The God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob, the God of our ancestors has glorified his servant Jesus, whom you handed over and rejected in the presence of Pilate, though he had decided to release him. But you rejected the Holy and Righteous One and asked to have a murderer given to you, and you killed the Author of life, whom God raised from the dead. To this we are witnesses. And by faith in his name, his name itself has made this man strong, whom you see and know; and the faith that is through Jesus has given him this perfect health in the presence of all of you. "And now, friends, I know that you acted in ignorance, as did also your rulers. In this way God fulfilled what he had foretold through all the prophets, that his Messiah would suffer. Repent therefore, and turn to God so that your sins may be wiped out."

Reader: The word of the Lord

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

Let us read responsively by whole verse, Psalm 4

1 Answer me when I call, O God, defender of my cause; * you set me free when I am hard-pressed; have mercy on me and hear my prayer.

***2 "You mortals, how long will you dishonor my glory; *
how long will you worship dumb idols and run after false gods?"***

3 Know that the Lord does wonders for the faithful; * when I call upon the Lord, he will hear me.

4 Tremble, then, and do not sin; * speak to your heart in silence upon your bed.

5 Offer the appointed sacrifices * and put your trust in the Lord.

***6 Many are saying, "Oh, that we might see better times!" *
Lift up the light of your countenance upon us, O Lord.***

7 You have put gladness in my heart, * more than when grain and wine and oil increase.

8 I lie down in peace; at once I fall asleep; * for only you, Lord, make me dwell in safety.

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 John (3:1-7)

See what love the Father has given us, that we should be called children of God; and that is what we are. The reason the world does not know us is that it did not know him. Beloved, we are God's children now; what we will be has not yet been revealed. What we do know is this: when he is revealed, we will be like him, for we will see him as he is. And all who have this hope in him purify themselves, just as he is pure. Everyone who commits sin is guilty of lawlessness; sin is lawlessness. You know that he was revealed to take away sins, and in him there is no sin. No one who abides in him sins; no one who sins has either seen him or known him. Little children, let no one deceive you. Everyone who does what is right is righteous, just as he is righteous.

Reader: The word of the Lord

People: *Thanks be to God*

Gospel Hymn #182

“Christ is Alive! Let Christians Sing”

*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.*

THE HOLY GOSPEL OF OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST ACCORDING TO Luke (24:36b-48)

All: *Glory to you, Lord Christ.*

Jesus himself stood among the disciples and said to them, “Peace be with you.” They were startled and terrified, and thought that they were seeing a ghost. He said to them, “Why are you frightened, and why do doubts arise in your hearts? Look at my hands and my feet; see that it is I myself. Touch me and see; for a ghost does not have flesh and bones as you see that I have.” And when he had said this, he showed them his hands and his feet. While in their joy they were disbelieving and still wondering, he said to them, “Have you anything here to eat?” They gave him a piece of broiled fish, and he took it and ate in their presence. Then he said to them, “These are my words that I spoke to you while I was still with you—that everything written about me in the law of Moses, the prophets, and the psalms must be fulfilled.” Then he opened their minds to understand the scriptures, and he said to them, “Thus it is written, that the Messiah is to suffer and to rise from the dead on the third day, and that repentance and forgiveness of sins is to be proclaimed in his name to all nations, beginning from Jerusalem. You are witnesses of these things.

Deacon: The Gospel of the Lord.

All: *Praise to you, Lord Christ.*

Alleluia - #205, refrain (x3)

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

The Sermon

The Nicene Creed

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 Prayers of the People

Reader: Let us pray for the whole state of Christ's Church and the world:
O God, we give thanks for the goodness of creation, for the victory of resurrection, and for the grace of redemption. We praise you for leading us from darkness into light, and for bringing us through the waters of death into new life in you: Lord, in your mercy,

People: Where there is darkness, let us sow light.

Reader: That the Church throughout our world, especially in our nation, our diocese, those in our sanctuary and at home, all celebrating the resurrection with joy, may bring the light of Christ into the world: Lord, in your mercy,

People: Where there is darkness, let us sow light.

Reader: That the newly baptized, buried, and raised with Christ, may grow in trust and hope: Lord, in your mercy,

People: Where there is darkness, let us sow light.

Reader: That our community, renewed this day through word and sacrament, may care for one another in love that surpasses understanding: Lord, in your mercy,

People: Where there is darkness, let us sow light.

Reader: That the people of the world, remembering the source of creation, may care for the waters of the earth and for all living things and recall that we are all connected to the One who created us all: Lord, in your mercy.

People: *Where there is darkness, let us sow light.*

Reader: That the leaders of nations, knowing their power, may bring peace and justice to the world, praying especially for the President of the United States, the Congress, Supreme Court and all in authority: Lord, in your mercy,

People: *Where there is darkness, let us sow light.*

Reader: That all who have commended themselves to us for any need, especially Hildegard Wackerbauer, the Mata Family, Deacon Chester Trow, Shirley Bonney, Lisa Youla, Nancy Teague-Horner, Ken Von der Heiden, Emily Matthews, and Ray Lamberson, and that all who suffer, recalling the mystery of Christ crucified and risen, may be comforted: Lord, in your mercy,

People: *Where there is darkness, let us sow light.*

Reader: That all who serve in harm's way, especially Trent Polinsky, Skyler Ellis, Danny Taylor, Ryan Cesa, Zack Pierce, Matt Jacoby, Cale Eggart, Joanne Frioli, Caden Watson, Daniel Watson, Courtney Austin, Christopher Austin, James Dunlap, Luke Gibson, and Kelley Fairchild, may serve with compassion, moral strength and a sense of justice: Lord, in your mercy,

People: *Where there is darkness, let us sow light.*

Reader: In thanksgiving for the saints and martyrs, for the witnesses of the resurrection, for Christians who have sacrificed their lives all over the world, and for all who have passed over from the darkness of death into the glorious light of Christ (*especially.....*): Lord, in your mercy,

People: *Where there is darkness, let us sow light.*

Reader: In joy and faith and hope, we commend ourselves and all for whom we pray to the mercy of God, through Jesus Christ, our risen Lord.

All: *Amen.*

Celebrant: 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.

All: *Amen.*

The Confession

Deacon: Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

Minister & People: *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.

Celebrant: 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 Peace

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

Your generous contributions support the mission and ministry of our parish. *Thank You.*

Offertory Song *“The Old Rugged Cross”*

*On a hill far away stood an old rugged cross,
The emblem of suff'ring and shame;
And I love that old cross where the dearest and best
For a world of lost sinners was slain.*

*So I'll cherish the old rugged cross,
Till my trophies at last I lay down;
I will cling to the old rugged cross,
And exchange it some day for a crown.*

*Oh, that old rugged cross, so despised by the world,
Has a wondrous attraction for me;
For the dear Lamb of God left His glory above
To bear it to dark Calvary.*

*So I'll cherish the old rugged cross,
Till my trophies at last I lay down;
I will cling to the old rugged cross,
And exchange it some day for a crown.*

*In the old rugged cross, stained with blood so divine,
Such a wonderful beauty I see;
For 'twas on that old cross Jesus suffered and died
To pardon and sanctify me.*

So I'll cherish the old rugged cross,

*Till my trophies at last I lay down;
I will cling to the old rugged cross,
And exchange it some day for a crown.*

*To the old rugged cross I will ever be true;
Its shame and reproach gladly bear.
Then He'll call me some day to my home far away,
Where His glory forever I'll share.*

*So I'll cherish the old rugged cross,
Till my trophies at last I lay down;
I will cling to the old rugged cross,
And exchange it some day for a crown.*

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.***

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

People: *And also with you.*

Celebrant: Lift up your hearts.

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

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

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

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;***

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, Francis, 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. **AMEN.**

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

All together 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 Fraction

Celebrant: Alleluia! Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us;

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

Agnus Dei

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

People: *Have mercy on us.*

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

People: *Have mercy on us.*

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

People: *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 WLP #791

“Peace Before Us”

*Peace before us, peace behind us,
peace under our feet. Peace within us,
peace over us, let all around us be peace.*

*Love before us, love behind us,
love under our feet. Love within us,
love over us, let all around us be love.*

*Light before us, light behind us,
light under our feet. Light within us,
light over us, let all around us be light.*

*Christ before us, Christ behind us,
Christ under our feet. Christ within us,
Christ over us, let all around us be Christ.*

*Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.*

*Peace before us, peace behind us,
Peace under our feet.
Peace within us, peace over us.
Let all around us be peace.
Let all around us be peace.
Let all around us be peace.*

Communion Song

“Take Our Bread”

Take our bread, we ask you,

Take our hearts, we love you.
Take our lives, O Father,
We are Yours; we are Yours.

Yours as we sit at the table you set,
Yours as we eat the bread our hearts can't forget,
We are the signs of Your life with us yet.
We are Yours; we are Yours.

Take our bread, we ask you,
Take our hearts, we love you.
Take our lives, O Father,
We are Yours; we are Yours.

Your holy people standing washed in Your blood,
Spirit-filled, yet hungry, we await Your food.
We are poor, but we've brought ourselves the best we could.
We are Yours; we are Yours.

Take our bread, we ask you,
Take our hearts, we love you.
Take our lives, O Father,
We are Yours; we are Yours.

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.

Celebrant 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.

The Blessing and Dismissal

Celebrant: 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.**

Closing Hymn #180

“He is Risen, He is Risen”

*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 hath opened heaven's gate;
we are free from sin's dark prison,
risen to a holier state;
and a brighter Easter beam
on our longing eyes shall stream.*

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

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