The Third Sunday of Easter Morning Worship for April 18, 2021

Welcome

Gathering Music

Opening Sentence of Scripture

One Alleluia, alleluia.

I am the first and the last, says the Lord – the living one;

I was dead, and behold I am alive for evermore.

(Revelation 1:17-18)

Hymn – The strife is o'er, the battle done (Victory) – The Hymnal 1982 #208



Words: Latin, 1695; tr. Francis Pott (1832-1909), alt. Music: Victory, Giovanni Pierluigi da Palestrina (1525-1594); adapt. and arr. Willam Henry Monk (1826-1889)

Alleluia! Christ is risen. One

The Lord is risen indeed. Alleluia! Many

Holy One, open our lips. One

And our mouth shall proclaim your praise. Many

Let us pray Psalm 4 together, responsively, by whole verse. One

Psalm 4

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.

"You mortals, how long will you dishonor my glory; *

how long will you worship dumb idols and run after false gods?"

Know that God does wonders for the faithful; *

when I call, God will hear me.

Tremble, then, and do not sin; *

speak to your heart in silence upon your bed.

Offer the appointed sacrifices *

and put your trust in the Most High.

Many are saying, "Oh, that we might see better times!" *

Lift up the light of your countenance upon us, O God.

You have put gladness in my heart, *

more than when grain and wine and oil increase.

I lie down in peace; at once I fall asleep; *

for only you, God, make me dwell in safety.

At the end of the Psalm is said

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit: * as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen.

The Lessons

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.

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

Thanks be to God. Many

Canticle: Glory to God

Glory to God 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.

At the end of the Canticle is said

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit: * as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen.

A Reading from The Gospel of Luke (24:36b-48)

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.

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

Thanks be to God. Many

Sermon by The Rev'd Nora Cruz-Diaz

The Nicene Creed

All together

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, was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the Virgin Mary and became truly human. 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, who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified, who 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

Let us now pray in the words our Savior Jesus Christ has taught us.

Our Father, who art in heaven, Many 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.

Our Lord lives, for death has no more power over him. One

And so we, God's holy church, proclaim the resurrection, saying: Alleluia! Christ is risen!

Created in the image and likeness of God, we pray to see God's image in one another.

May our lives proclaim:

Alleluia! Christ is risen! Many

Tested in our faith and strengthened by God's love, we pray for open hearts, that we may live to proclaim: One

Alleluia! Christ is risen! Many

Liberated from sin and death by water and Spirit, we pray for those who do not share our hope, One

that they may proclaim:

Alleluia! Christ is risen! Many

Sharing in the joy of the newly baptized, we pray for their growth unto the full stature of Christ, One

that they may proclaim:

Alleluia! Christ is risen! Many

One Joining with those who share in the passion of Christ through illness, famine, war, temptation, and trial,

we pray for courage and strength, that those who suffer may proclaim:

Alleluia! Christ is risen! Many

United in our hope that we and all who die will live again, we pray for family and friends who have died One

in the hope of the resurrection we proclaim:

Alleluia! Christ is risen! Many

The Collect of the Day

Risen Christ, you filled your disciples with boldness and fresh hope: strengthen us to proclaim your risen life and fill us with your peace, to the glory of God the Father. Amen.

A Prayer for the Mission of the Church

Lord Jesus Christ, you stretched out your arms of love on the hard wood of the cross that everyone might come within the reach of your saving embrace: So clothe us in your Spirit that we, reaching forth our hands in love, may bring those who do not know you to the knowledge and love of you; for the honor of your Name. Amen.

Intercessions and thanksgivings now follow either silently or aloud.

A General Thanksgiving

All together

Accept, O Lord, our thanks and praise for all that you have done for us. We thank you for the splendor of the whole creation, for the beauty of this world, for the wonder of life, and for the mystery of love.

We thank you for the blessing of family and friends, and for the loving care which surrounds us on every side.

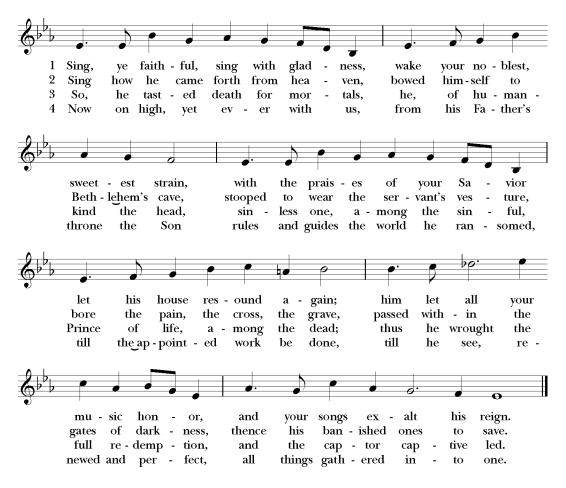
We thank you for setting us at tasks which demand our best efforts, and for leading us to accomplishments which satisfy and delight us.

We thank you also for those disappointments and failures that lead us to acknowledge our dependence on you alone.

Above all, we thank you for your Son Jesus Christ; for the truth of his Word and the example of his life; for his steadfast obedience, by which he overcame temptation; for his dying, through which he overcame death; and for his rising to life again, in which we are raised to the life of your kingdom.

Grant us the gift of your Spirit, that we may know Christ and make Christ known; and through Christ, at all times and in all places, may give thanks to you in all things. Amen.

Hymn – Sing, ye faithful, sing with gladness (Finnian) – The Hymnal 1982 #492



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A Closing Prayer

Holy One, you have called us in the Body of your Son Jesus Christ to continue his work of reconciliation and reveal you to the world. Forgive us the sins which tear us apart; give us the courage to overcome our fears and doubts and to seek that unity which is your gift and your will; through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord, who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. *Amen*.

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

Many Thanks be to God. Alleluia, Alleluia!