

BENEFICE EUCHARIST
4TH SUNDAY OF EASTER 2023
30TH APRIL

Patricia welcomes us to worship

Introit Hymn

President In the name of the Father, and of the Son,
and of the Holy Spirit.
All **Amen.**

The Greeting

President The Lord be with you
All **and also with you.**
President Alleluia. Christ is risen.
All **He is risen indeed. Alleluia.**

The president may repeat the acclamation, getting louder each time. The president then welcomes the people and sets out the eucharistic theme.

Prayers of Penitence

PATRICIA Christ our Passover lamb has been sacrificed for us.
Let us therefore rejoice by putting away all malice and evil and confessing our sins
with a sincere and true heart.

Silence is kept.

PATRICIA Like Mary at the empty tomb, we fail to grasp the wonder of your presence.
Lord, have mercy.
All **Lord, have mercy.**

PATRICIA Like the disciples behind locked doors,
we are afraid to be seen as your followers.
Christ, have mercy.
All **Christ, have mercy.**

PATRICIA Like Thomas in the upper room, we are slow to believe.
Lord, have mercy.
All **Lord, have mercy.**

Absolution

President May the God of love and power forgive you and free you from your sins,
heal and strengthen you by his Spirit, and raise you to new life in Christ our Lord.
All **Amen.**

Gloria in Excelsis

All **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.**

The Collect

President Let us pray that we may reign
 with the risen Christ in glory.

The president then leads the Collect, to which the congregation responds **Amen.**

Liturgy of the Word

First Reading – read by PATRICIA

A reading from the Acts of the Apostles

They devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching and fellowship, to the breaking of bread and the prayers.

Awe came upon everyone, because many wonders and signs were being done by the apostles. All who believed were together and had all things in common; they would sell their possessions and goods and distribute the proceeds to all, as any had need. Day by day, as they spent much time together in the temple, they broke bread at home and ate their food with glad and generous hearts, praising God and having the goodwill of all the people. And day by day the Lord added to their number those who were being saved.

At the end of the reading ...

Reader This is the word of the Lord.
All **Thanks be to God.**

New Testament Reading – read by Sarah

A reading from the first letter of Peter

For it is to your credit if, being aware of God, you endure pain while suffering unjustly. If you endure when you are beaten for doing wrong, where is the credit in that? But if you endure when you do right and suffer for it, you have God's approval. For to this you have been called, because Christ also suffered for you, leaving you an example, so that you should follow in his steps.

'He committed no sin,

and no deceit was found in his mouth.'

When he was abused, he did not return abuse; when he suffered, he did not threaten; but he entrusted himself to the one who judges justly. He himself bore our sins in his body on the cross, so that, free from sins, we might live for righteousness; by his wounds you have been healed. For you were going astray like sheep, but now you have returned to the shepherd and guardian of your souls.

At the end of the reading ...

Reader This is the word of the Lord.
All **Thanks be to God.**

Gradual Hymn

Gospel Reading – read by Bennett

Reader Alleluia, alleluia.
I am the first and the last, says the Lord, and the living one; I was dead,
and behold I am alive for evermore.

All **Alleluia.**

Reader Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ
according to John
Glory to you, O Lord.

‘Very truly, I tell you, anyone who does not enter the sheepfold by the gate but climbs in by another way is a thief and a bandit. The one who enters by the gate is the shepherd of the sheep. The gatekeeper opens the gate for him, and the sheep hear his voice. He calls his own sheep by name and leads them out. When he has brought out all his own, he goes ahead of them, and the sheep follow him because they know his voice. They will not follow a stranger, but they will run from him because they do not know the voice of strangers.’ Jesus used this figure of speech with them, but they did not understand what he was saying to them.

So again Jesus said to them, ‘Very truly, I tell you, I am the gate for the sheep. All who came before me are thieves and bandits; but the sheep did not listen to them. I am the gate. Whoever enters by me will be saved, and will come in and go out and find pasture. The thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy. I came that they may have life, and have it abundantly.

At the end of the Gospel ..

Reader This is the Gospel of the Lord.
All **Praise to you, O Christ.**

Sermon - Bennett

Affirmation of faith – led by Bennett

Intercessions – led by Catherine

President In joy and hope let us pray to the Father.

Please sit. Prayers are offered

Intercessor Lord, in your mercy
hear our prayer.

(or)

Lord, hear us.

Lord, graciously hear us.

After the final prayer ...

Intercessor God of mercy,
hear our prayer
and make us one in heart and mind
to serve you with joy forever.
Amen.

Liturgy of the Eucharist

The Peace

President The risen Christ came and stood among his disciples and said, 'Peace be with you.' Then were they glad when they saw the Lord. Alleluia.

The peace of the risen Christ be always with you
All **and also with you. Alleluia.**

President Let us offer one another a sign of peace.

All may exchange a sign of peace, greeting one another with these words
Christ is risen.

Offertory Hymn

Preparation of the Table

The gifts of the people are gathered and presented.

President Be present, be present, Lord Jesus Christ,
our risen high priest; and make yourself known
in the breaking of bread.

All **Amen.**

The Eucharistic Prayer

President The Lord is here.

All **His Spirit is with us.**

President Lift up your hearts.

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

President Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

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

President It is indeed right, it is our duty and our joy,
at all times and in all places to give you thanks and praise, holy
Father, heavenly King, almighty and eternal God,
through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord.

For he is your living Word; through him you have created all things
from the beginning,
and formed us in your own image.

All **To you be glory and praise for ever.**

President Through him you have freed us from the slavery of sin, giving him
to be born
of a woman and to die upon the cross;
you raised him from the dead and exalted him to your right hand
on high.

All **To you be glory and praise for ever.**

President Through him you have sent upon us your holy and life-giving Spirit,
and made us
a people for your own possession.

All **To you be glory and praise for ever.**

President And now we give you thanks because in his
victory over the grave a new age has dawned, the
long reign of sin is ended,
a broken world is being renewed and humanity is
once again made whole.
Therefore with angels and archangels,
and with all the company of heaven,
we proclaim your great and glorious name,
for ever praising you and *saying*:

All **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.**

President Accept our praises, heavenly Father,
through your Son our Saviour Jesus Christ,
and as we follow his example and obey his
command, grant that by the power of your Holy
Spirit these gifts of bread and wine
may be to us his body and his blood;
who, in the same night that he was betrayed, took
bread and gave you thanks; he broke it and gave it
to his disciples, saying:

Take, eat; this is my body which is given for
you; do this in remembrance of me.

All **To you be glory and praise for ever.**

President In the same way, after supper
he took the cup and gave you thanks;
he gave it to them, saying:
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. Do
this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me.

All **To you be glory and praise for ever.**

President Therefore, heavenly Father, we remember his offering of himself made once for all upon the cross;
we proclaim his mighty Resurrection and glorious Ascension;
we look for the coming of your kingdom, and with this bread and this cup we make the memorial of Christ your Son our Lord. Christ is the bread of life:

All **When we eat this bread and drink this cup,
we proclaim your death, Lord Jesus,
until you come in glory.**

President Accept through him, our great high priest, this our sacrifice of thanks and praise, and as we eat and drink these holy gifts in the presence of your divine majesty, renew us by your Spirit, inspire us with your love, and unite us in the body of your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

All **To you be glory and praise for ever.**

President Through him, and with him, and in him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, with all who stand before you in earth and heaven, we worship you, Father almighty, in songs of everlasting praise:

All **Blessing and honour and glory and power
be yours for ever and ever. Amen.**

The Lord's Prayer

President Rejoicing in God's new creation,
as our Saviour taught us, so we pray

All **Our Father in heaven,
hallowed be your name,
your kingdom come,
your will be done,
on earth as in heaven.
Give us today our daily bread.
Forgive us our sins
as we forgive those who sin against us.
Lead us not into temptation
but deliver us from evil.
For the kingdom, the power,
and the glory are yours
now and for ever.
Amen.**

Breaking of the Bread

The president breaks the consecrated bread.

President Jesus says, I am the bread of life,
whoever eats of this bread will live for ever.

All **Lord, our hearts hunger for you;**

give us this bread always.

Agnus Dei

Lamb of God, you take away the sin
of the world, have mercy on us.

Lamb of God, you take away the sin
of the world, have mercy on us.

Lamb of God, you take away the sin
of the world, grant us peace.

(or)

Jesus, Lamb of God,
have mercy on us.

Jesus, bearer of our sins,
have mercy on us.

Jesus, redeemer of the world,
grant us peace.

Invitation to Communion

President Alleluia. Christ our Passover
is sacrificed for us.

All Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia.

Communion Hymn

Prayer after Communion

*Silence is kept. The Post Communion or another suitable prayer is said.
All respond Amen.*

Notices

Final Prayer

PATRICIA We say together ...

All Father of all, we give you thanks and praise,
that when we were still far off
you met us in your Son and brought us home.
Dying and living, he declared your love, gave
us grace, and opened the gate of glory.

May we who share Christ's body live his risen
life; we who drink his cup bring life to others;
we whom the Spirit lights
give light to the world. Keep us firm in the
hope you have set before us, so we and all
your children shall be free, and
the whole earth live to praise your name;
through Christ our Lord.

Amen.

Blessing and Sending Out

President Alleluia. Christ is risen.

All **He is risen indeed. Alleluia.**

President God, who through the Resurrection
of our Lord Jesus Christ
has given us the victory,
give you joy and peace in your faith;
and the blessing of God almighty,
the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit,
be among you and remain with you always.

All **Amen.**

President Go in the peace of Christ. Alleluia, alleluia.

All **Thanks be to God. Alleluia, alleluia.**

HYMN

Our worship is over: our service begins