

EASTER DAY



April 5, 2026

10:00 am

The Church of the Holy Spirit (Episcopal)

Knowing • Loving • Serving
God + Neighbor

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Women at the Tomb (Icon: Russian, 17th Century)

On Holy Week, Eastertide and Antisemitism

The story of Jesus' death and resurrection makes many references to "the Jews." Language such as "the doors of the house where the disciples had met were locked for fear of the Jews" (John 20:19) and "his blood be on us and on our children" (Mt. 27:25) has fueled centuries of murderous violence and state-sponsored genocide against our Jewish sisters and brothers – all, somehow, rationalized as righteousness in the minds of the persecutors. The 1662 version of our Anglican prayer book, in fact, guided the faithful to pray on Good Friday that God would take from all "Jews, Turks, Infidels, and Heretics" their "ignorance, hardness of heart, and contempt of thy Word." That language survived until 1928.

Our gospels (themselves written decades after the events we remember, grieve and celebrate this week) actually tell a story of what scholar Craig S. Keener understands as "competing Judaisms." Almost all of the persons the gospels name this week understood themselves as Jewish – both persecutors and the persecuted. The evangelists wrote as Jewish Christians, critiquing other Jews and particularly leadership, from within – as did the prophets of Hebrew scripture. We have been given the story of the Jews as a sacred stand-in for the larger story of humankind.

There are parts of our own selves that wish, like the Jerusalem leadership, to be rid of Jesus. There are parts of our own selves that, like a number of Jesus' own disciples, seek to position the self as righteous over/against some perceived inferior "other." The gospels never invite or justify such a response. The gospels certainly do not condone antisemitism. The hateful uses to which the Passion and Easter narratives have been put in the course of Christian history should bring us to our knees.

A number of Christian churches have purged NRSV reference to "the Jews" completely from Holy Week and Eastertide liturgies. It can be said that such edits reduce the potential for antisemitic readings of these texts. Our own liturgies have been guided by the wisdom of scholars Raymond Brown and Amy-Jill Levine, who ask us to avoid such editing but instead to hazard discomfort, to reflect upon our own responses to scriptural references to "the Jews" and to move through Holy Week deeply mindful of the sin of systemic Christian antisemitism, committed to confronting it, and honoring the beauty and witness of a kindred faith which continues to inform our own.

Faithfully,



The Prelude

A medley of Easter hymns

Please stand as you are able as the bell is rung.

The Word of God

The Opening Hymn 207 Jesus Christ is risen today

Easter Hymn

1 Je - sus Christ is risen to - day, Al - le - lu - ia!
 2 Hymns of praise then let us sing, Al - le - lu - ia!
 3 But the pains which he en - dured, Al - le - lu - ia!
 4 Sing we to our God a - bove Al - le - lu - ia!

our tri - um - phant ho - ly day, Al - le - lu - ia!
 un - to Christ, our heaven - ly King, Al - le - lu - ia!
 our sal - va - tion have pro - cured; Al - le - lu - ia!
 praise e - ter - nal as his love; Al - le - lu - ia!

who did once up - on the cross, Al - le - lu - ia!
 who en - dured the cross and grave, Al - le - lu - ia!
 now a - bove the sky he's King, Al - le - lu - ia!
 praise him, all ye heaven - ly host, Al - le - lu - ia!

suf - fer to re - deem our loss. Al - le - lu - ia!
 sin - ners to re - deem and save. Al - le - lu - ia!
 where the an - gels ev - er sing. Al - le - lu - ia!
 Fa - ther, Son, and Ho - ly Ghost. Al - le - lu - ia!

Repeat three times

Celebrant

Al - le - lu - ia. Christ is ris - en.

People

The Lord is risen indeed. Al - le - lu - ia.

The Collect of the Day

The Lord be with you.
People **And also with you.**
Celebrant 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 forever. **Amen.**

Please be seated for the lessons.

The Lessons

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 merry-makers. 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.
People **Thanks be to God.**

Psalm 118

Rendez a Dieu

1 This is the day the Lord hath made, the hours are
 2 Ho - san - na to the a - noint - ed King, to Da - vid's
 3 Blest be the Lord, who comes in power with mes - sag -
 4 Ho - san - na in the high - est strains the church on

F/C C F B \flat F

all God's own; let heaven re - joice, let
 ho - ly Son! Help us, O Lord; de -
 es of grace, who comes in this ac -
 earth can raise! The high - est heavens in

Gm C F B \flat F/A C F

earth be glad, and praise sur - round the throne.
 scend and bring sal - va - tion from the throne.
 cept - ed hour to save our sin - ful race.
 which God reigns shall now re - sound with praise.

A reading from the Letter of Paul to the Colossians (3:1-4)

If you have been raised with Christ, seek the things that are above, where Christ is, seated at the right hand of God. Set your minds on things that are above, not on things that are on earth, for you have died, and your life is hidden with Christ in God. When Christ who is your life is revealed, then you also will be revealed with him in glory.

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

Please stand as you are able for the sequence hymn and gospel.

The Sequence Hymn 180 He is risen! (vs 1-2)

Unser Herrscher

1 He is ris - en, he is ris - en! Tell it out with
2 Come, ye sad and fear - ful - heart - ed, with glad smile and
*3 Come, with high and ho - ly hymn - ing, hail our Lord's tri -
4 He is ris - en, he is ris - en! He hath o - pened

joy - ful voice: he has burst his three days' pris - on;
ra - diant brow! Death's long sha - dows have de - part - ed;
um - phant day; not one dark - some cloud is dim - ming
hea - ven's gate: we are free from sin's dark pris - on,

let the whole wide earth re - joice: death is con - quered,
Je - sus' woes are o - ver now, and the pas - sion
yon - der glo - rious morn - ing ray, break - ing o'er the
ris - en to a ho - lier state; and a bright - er

we are free, Christ has won the vic - to - ry.
that he bore— sin and pain can vex no more.
pur - ple east, sym - bol of our Eas - ter feast.
Eas - ter beam on our long - ing eyes shall stream.

The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew
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."

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

Hymn 180 He is risen! (vs 3-4, see page 7)

The Sermon

The Rev. Patrick C. Ward

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, 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 and the Son, 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 of the People

Leader In the power of the resurrection, let us pray to the Lord, responding “hear our prayer.”

For the whole bright earth which God has lovingly created and compassionately redeemed, and that our care for all creation may preserve its majesty and glory for all who will come after us. God who brings new life out of death,

People **Hear our prayer.**

Leader For all nations and people of the earth, to whom God show no partiality, that all may be transformed to live together in hope. We remember especially all regions of the world torn apart by war – Iran, Ukraine and Russia, Israel and Gaza, Nigeria, Venezuela, Sudan, South Sudan, Haiti and our own nation – as well as for those suffering from unemployment, fear, dislocation or deportation. God who brings new life out of death,

People **Hear our prayer.**

Leader For Christians in every part of the world, that our Easter faith will make known the selfless love of Christ and strengthen us to share the good news in our daily lives. For people of every faith or no particular faith, that we may honor one another and recognize our interdependence. God who brings new life out of death,

People **Hear our prayer.**

Leader For all who suffer in body, mind or spirit, whom we name before God now (SILENCE) that they may find strength, freedom, comfort and peace. God who brings new life out of death,

People **Hear our prayer.**

Leader For all who have died and all who grieve, whom we name before you now (SILENCE) that in Christ who triumphs over death they may find light perpetual and blessed assurance. God who brings new life out of death,

People **Hear our prayer.**

Leader Finally for all gathered here this Easter morning, that we, like Mary and Mary, may see the tomb empty, recognize the divine in the stranger, and, joyfully believing, walk in newness of life. God who brings new life out of death,

People **Hear our prayer.**

Celebrant Rejoicing in the presence of each other and of our risen Lord, we commend all for whom we pray, and ourselves, to Christ, to whom we give thanks and praise now and forever.

People **Amen.**

The Peace

The peace of the Lord be always with you.

People **And also with you.**

The Greeting and Announcements

It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, God 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. 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 forever sing this hymn to proclaim the glory of your Name:

Sanctus S-125

Richard Proulx

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow - er and might,
heaven and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho -
san - na in the high - est. Ho - san - na in the high - est.
Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Ho -
san - na in the high - est. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

Setting: From *A Community Mass*; Richard Proulx (b. 1937)

You may remain standing, or sit or kneel as your personal piety guides you for the remainder of the Eucharistic prayer.

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;**

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 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 Christ, and with Christ, and in Christ, in the unity of the Holy Spirit all honor and glory is yours, Almighty God, now and forever. **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 Breaking of the Bread

Christ our Passover (S-155)

Near

Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia,
lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia. Christ our Pass - o - ver is
sac - ri - ficed for us; there - fore let us keep the feast.
Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

The gifts of God for you, the beloved people of God. Take them in remembrance that Christ lived, died and rose for you, and feed on him in your hearts by faith, with thanksgiving.

The Prayer for Spiritual Communion

Holy Jesus, Redeemer of the World, we believe that you are present in the Blessed Sacrament of this altar. Even while some of us are unable to receive you in the elements of bread and wine, we invite you to enter our hearts and be our companion along the way. Waiting in hope, we know that you are present in every moment of our lives and will never leave us comfortless. For all good things come from you O Lord, and from that goodness, lead us to the love of others. For you live with the Father and the Holy Spirit now and forever. Amen.

The Communion Anthem

Easter Prayer

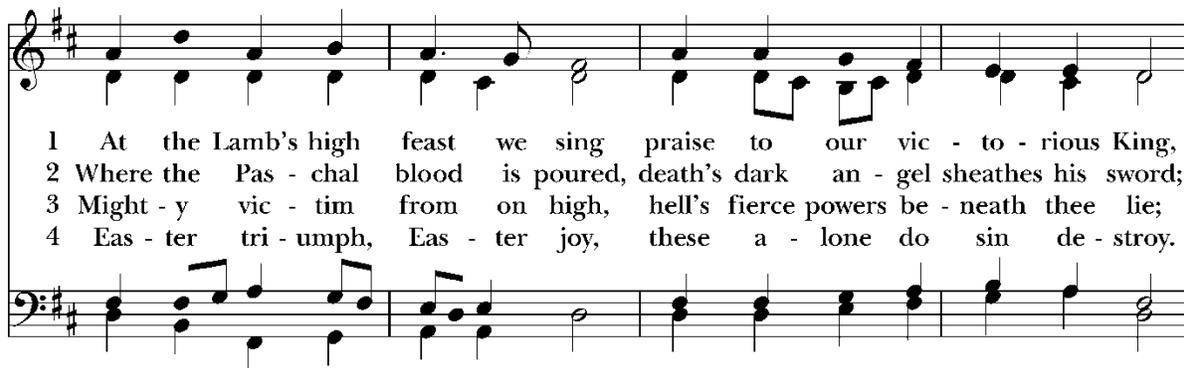
Sam Batt Owens

As once you were in Mary's womb, you also were in Joseph's tomb.
The tomb by you a womb was made; you are the first-born from the dead.
As once you were with God on high, on earth we made you bow and die.
In bowing so you became the King, "Thy kingdom come" all saints now sing.
As once this bread was just mere food, also this wine a common drink;
So now this cup contains your blood, the bread does now your body link.
As once in sin we shamefully lay, through your own flesh is opened the way.
The way to life forevermore with you whom we would ever adore.

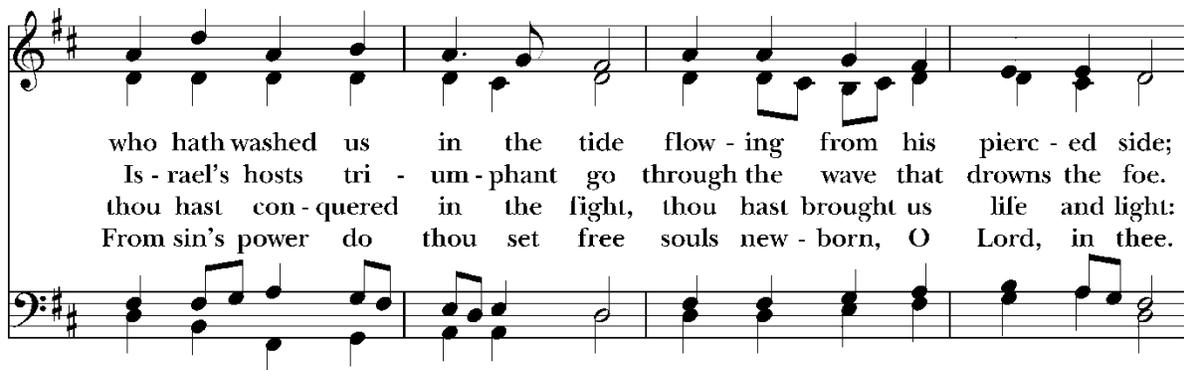
The Communion Hymns

Hymn 174 At the Lamb's high feast

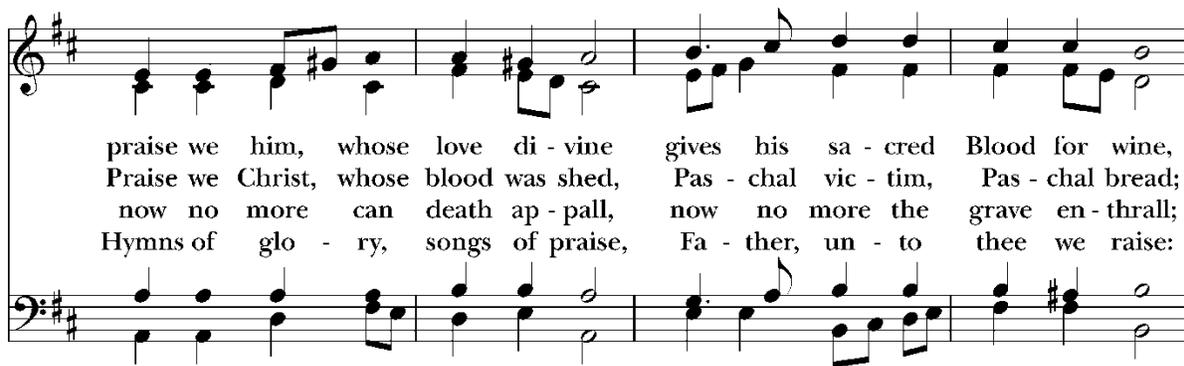
Salzburg



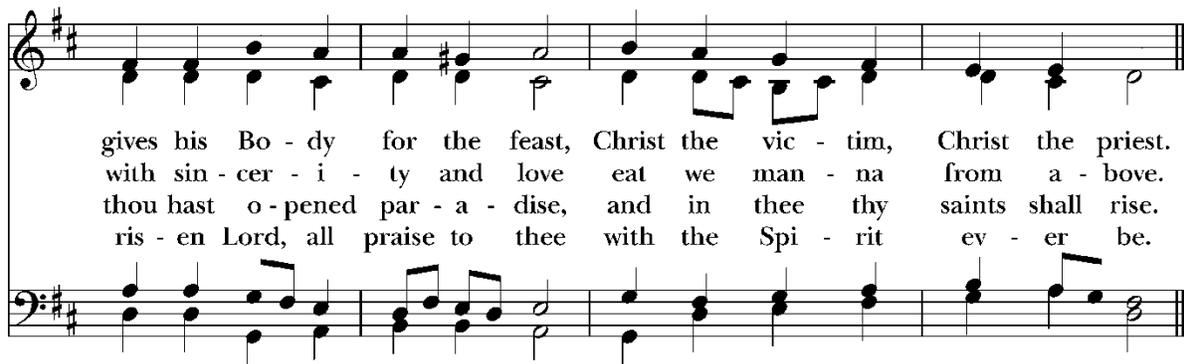
1 At the Lamb's high feast we sing praise to our vic - to - rious King,
2 Where the Pas - chal blood is poured, death's dark an - gel sheathes his sword;
3 Might - y vic - tim from on high, hell's fierce powers be - neath thee lie;
4 Eas - ter tri - umph, Eas - ter joy, these a - lone do sin de - stroy.



who hath washed us in the tide flow - ing from his pierc - ed side;
Is - rael's hosts tri - um - phant go through the wave that drowns the foe.
thou hast con - quered in the fight, thou hast brought us life and light:
From sin's power do thou set free souls new - born, O Lord, in thee.



praise we him, whose love di - vine gives his sa - cred Blood for wine,
Praise we Christ, whose blood was shed, Pas - chal vic - tim, Pas - chal bread;
now no more can death ap - pall, now no more the grave en - thrall;
Hymns of glo - ry, songs of praise, Fa - ther, un - to thee we raise:



gives his Bo - dy for the feast, Christ the vic - tim, Christ the priest.
with sin - cer - i - ty and love eat we man - na from a - bove.
thou hast o - pened par - a - dise, and in thee thy saints shall rise.
ris - en Lord, all praise to thee with the Spi - rit ev - er be.

Hymn 178 Alleluia! Give thanks to the risen Lord

Alleluia No. 1

Refrain

Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia! Give thanks to the
 ris - en Lord. Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia! Give
 Praise to his Name.

1 Je - sus is Lord of all the earth.
 2 Spread the good news o'er all the earth:
 3 We have been cru - ci - fied with Christ.
 4 Come, let us praise the liv - ing God,

Repeat Refrain

He is the King of cre - a - tion.
 Je - sus has died and has ris - en. Al - le -
 Now we shall live for ev - er.
 joy - ful - ly sing to our Sa - vior.

Hymn 335 I am the bread of life

I Am the Bread of Life



1 I am the bread of life; — they who
 2 (The) Bread that — I will give — is my
 3 (Un-) less — you eat — of the
 4 I am the re - sur - rec - tion, —
 5 (Yes,) Lord, — we be - lieve — that —



1 come to me shall not — hun - ger; they who be -
 2 Flesh for the life of the world, — and they who
 3 Flesh of the Son of — Man — and —
 4 I — am the — life. — They who be -
 5 you — are the — Christ, — the —



1 lieve in me shall not thirst. No one can come to
 2 eat — of this bread, they shall — live for
 3 drink — of his Blood, you shall not have life with -
 4 lieve — in me, e - ven — if they
 5 Son — of God who — has



1 me — un - less the — Fa - ther draw them.
 2 ev - er. — they shall — live for ev - er.
 3 in you. you shall not have life with - in you.
 4 die, — they shall — live for ev - er.
 5 come — in - to — the — world. —

Refrain

And I will raise them up, and I will raise them
up, and I will raise them up on the
last day. _____

2 The
3 Un- day.
4 —
5 Yes,

The Prayer after Communion

Let us pray.

Eternal God, by grace you accept us as living members of your Son Jesus Christ, and feed us with spiritual food in this sacrament of his Body and Blood. Send us now into the world in peace to do your work of reconciliation as faithful witnesses of Christ our Lord. To Him, to you, and to the Holy Spirit may all creation sing hymns of thanks and praise. Amen.

The Blessing

May the God who raises Jesus to new life, raise us up to good works and new faith. **Amen.**

May the God who raises us up, send us out to be holy people in the world. **Amen.**

May the God who sends us out, gather us again at a table in that kingdom which is both now and forever. **Amen.**

And, may the God of all grace, who creates, redeems and sanctifies all things, bless, preserve and keep you both now and forever. **Amen.**

The Closing Hymn 182 Christ is alive!

Truro

1 Christ is a - live! Let Chris - tians sing. His cross stands
 2 Christ is - a - live! No long - er bound to dis - tant
 3 Not throned a - bove, re - mote - ly high, un - touched, un -
 4 In ev - ery in - sult, rift, and war where co - lor,
 5 Christ is a - live! His Spi - rit burns through this and

1 emp - ty to the sky. Let streets and homes with
 2 years in Pal - es - tine, he comes to claim the
 3 moved by hu - man pains, but dai - ly, in the
 4 scorn or wealth di - vide, he suf - fers still, yet
 5 ev - ery fu - ture age, till all cre - a - tion

1 prais - es ring. His love in death shall nev - er die.
 2 here and now and con - quer ev - ery place and time.
 3 midst of life, our Sa - vior with the Fa - ther reigns.
 4 loves the more, and lives, though ev - er cru - ci - fied.
 5 lives and learns his joy, his jus - tice, love, and praise.

The Dismissal

Deacon

Let us bless the Lord, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

People

Thanks be to God, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

The Postlude

Toccata from Symphony 5

C.M.Widor

Celebrant

The Rev. Nancy J. Hagner

Preacher

The Rev. Patrick C. Ward

Minister of Music

Joan Kirchner

Eucharistic Ministers

Meg Nemitz, Cynthia Murray

Readers

Peter Jensen, Susan Warner, Doug Fromm

Ushers

Mary Anne Bragdon, John Harter, Karen Gardner

Altar Guild

Barbara Wahlquist

Audio/Video

Jen Marlin

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EASTER ALTAR FLOWERS ARE GIVEN TO THE GLORY OF GOD AND

IN LOVING MEMORY OF

Willard Andrews
Ship & Midge Atwater
David Barkhuff
Earle & Louise Barkhuff
Hap & Betty Barnes
Maggie & George Bartlett
Carol & Sam Bartlett
Lisa Belshaw
Rev. James & Marcia
Birdsall
Charles & Bertheline
Blanchett
Eleanor B. Bragdon
Robert A. Bragdon
Gurdon Brewster
Fr. Ken Campbell
Kent Carlson
Pat & Dick Carroll
Maj. Louis & Catherine
Consiglio
Ralph S. Consiglio
Victor Consiglio
Jim & Elaine Dewing
Elenore & Malcolm
Dickinson
Don & Janine
Dan English & Parents
Harrison Faulkner
Jef Faulkner
John Faulkner
Quique Faulkner
Viola Faulkner
David G. Fickett
David R. Fickett
John & Frances Fickett
Woodford & E. Lyall
Fickett
Raymond & Lee Gonzalez
Robert R. Gregory, Jr.
Donald R. Hagner
Sandy MacIvor Hartwell
Rev. John & Elizabeth
Heuss
Mark Hickey

Elizabeth G. Hilton
Dorese Hoselton
George S. Husson
Patricia H. Husson
Anna Jansky
Marc Kashnor
Dr. Francis Kelly
James Lazenby
Arthur & Dorothy Longden
Arthur Longden, Jr.
Roger & Therese Lovejoy
Glenn & Lynn Lowery
J. Duvanier Lucil
Margaret Mace
John & Marilyn Marlin
Elizabeth McCarte
Janice McGrath
Violet McGrath
Ron Mittelstaedt
Sue Mittelstaedt
John Moody
Maria Patricia Munck
Douglas Murray
Jay & Marjorie Nocivelli
Diana Oliveira
Susan Owens
Jeanne M. Paradise
Rev. Scott I. Paradise
Jennifer S. Peters
Robert & Mary Joyce
Petrie
The Rev. John Pickells
Ann & Frank Pike
David Pike
Rev. Chester & Margretta
Porteus
Randy Powers
Peter Reagan
Hays H. Rockwell
Catherine & Frank Rossetti
Susan Ryan
Joachim A. Schneider
Janet & Bill Stebbins
George Stuteville

Cay & Curt Sweeney
Jean Elizabeth Tisne
Bill Wahlquist
Henry & Theresa Ward
Rodney & Martha Wheeler
Bob Whitman
Steve Wolf
Charles F. Young
Margaret L. Young
Timmy Young

In thanksgiving for:

our parents
our children,
our grandchildren
Anda
Adalyn
Ella
Jacob
Kaylee
Patrick
Will
Mom & Dad
Ellen's Brother
Janice
John
Steve
Violet
Christopher E. Faulkner
Roger & Patrick

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