



Sunday April 18, 2021
The Third Sunday of Easter

The Holy Eucharist: Rite Two

Prelude

Trumpet Voluntary in D Major - Henry Purcell

Welcome

The Word of God

Gathering Hymn

Hymn 182 vs. 1,4,5 - *Christ is alive! Let Christians Sing*

Choristers singing hymns this morning - Claudia Blanchette, Eric Boberg, Judy Jones and George Wright

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.

Celebrant Alleluia. Christ is risen.

People The Lord is risen indeed. Alleluia.

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.*

Song of Praise

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 of the Day

Celebrant The Lord be with you.

People **And also with you.**

Celebrant Let us pray.

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 Lessons

First Reading: Acts 3:12-19

A Reading from the Acts of the Apostles.

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.**

Psalm 4 *Cum invocarem*

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.

Second Reading: 1 John 3:1-7

A Reading from the first letter of John.

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.**

Sequence Hymn

Hymn 208 v. 1, 2, 5 - *Alleluia! The Strife is o'er, the battle done*

Choristers singing hymns this morning - Claudia Blanchette, Eric Boberg, Judy Jones and George Wright

Antiphon (at the beginning)

Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!

Ped.

1 The strife is o'er, the bat - tle done, the vic - to -
 2 The powers of death have done their worst, but Christ their
 *3 The three sad days are quick - ly sped, he ris - es
 4 He closed the yawn - ing gates of hell, the bars from
 5 Lord! by the stripes which wound - ed thee, from death's dread

1 ry of life is won; the song of tri - umph
 2 le - gions hath dis - persed: let shout of ho - ly
 3 glo - rious from the dead: all glo - ry to our
 4 heaven's high por - tals fell; let hymns of praise his
 5 sting thy serv - ants free, that we may live and

1 has be - gun. Al - le - lu - ia!
 2 joy out - burst. Al - le - lu - ia!
 3 ris - en Head! Al - le - lu - ia!
 4 tri - umphs tell! Al - le - lu - ia!
 5 sing to thee. Al - le - lu - ia! [Ant.]

Antiphon (at the end)

Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!

Ped.

Gospel: Luke 24:36b-48

Deacon The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Luke.
People **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.
People **Praise to you, Lord Christ.**

The Sermon

The Rev. Rebecca Liberty

The 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, Form IV

Let us pray for the Church and for the world.
 Grant, Almighty God, that all who confess your Name may be united in your truth,
 live together in your love, and reveal your glory in the world.

Lord, in your mercy

Hear our prayer.

Guide the people of this land, and of all the nations, in the ways of justice and peace;
 that we may honor one another and serve the common good.

Lord, in your mercy

Hear our prayer.

Give us all a reverence for the earth as your own creation, that we may use its resources rightly in the service of others and to your honor and glory.

Lord, in your mercy

Hear our prayer.

Bless all whose lives are closely linked with ours, and grant that we may serve Christ in them, and love one another as he loves us.

Lord, in your mercy

Hear our prayer.

Comfort and heal all those who suffer in body, mind, or spirit; give them courage and hope in their troubles, and bring them the joy of your salvation.

Lord, in your mercy

Hear our prayer.

We commend to your mercy all who have died, that your will for them may be fulfilled; and we pray that we may share with all your saints in your eternal kingdom.

Lord, in your mercy

Hear our prayer.

The Peace

<i>Celebrant</i>	The peace of the Lord be always with you.
<i>People</i>	And also with you.

The Holy Communion

Offertory Sentence

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

Offertory Anthem

Air (from Water Music Suite) - G. F. Handel

You may give online at <https://stjohnsbangor.org/online-giving/> or by texting "StJohnsBangor Donation" to 73256. Standard text message rates apply. Checks should be made payable to St. John's Episcopal Church and mailed to 234 French St., Bangor ME 04401. Thank you for your continued support.

The Great Thanksgiving

<i>Celebrant</i>	The Lord be with you.
<i>People</i>	And also with you.
<i>Celebrant</i>	Lift up your hearts.
<i>People</i>	We lift them to the Lord.
<i>Celebrant</i>	Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
<i>People</i>	It is right to give him thanks and praise.

Proper Preface

It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere 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:

**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.

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 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.*

The Lord's Prayer

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,
 forever and ever. Amen.

By not partaking of the elements at this time, we express our longing for God's presence and our longing to gather once again in person as the body of Christ. None of us partake at this time, including those present in the church, as an expression of our unity as a congregation.

At the same time, we pray that we might recognize God's presence with us in our longing.

Prayer for Spiritual Communion

Beloved, a spiritual communion is a personal devotional that anyone can pray, expressing desire to receive Holy Communion in this moment, but in which circumstances impede us from actually receiving Holy Communion.

Since we now are apart, let us pray:

Gracious Christ, you invite us to your feast, setting before us your heart's bread, and your life's wine. We yearn with all our souls to feast with you at the Altar, to taste and see the Lord's goodness today. Since we cannot now find union at the table, grant your presence spiritually. We offer you our hearts, lives and souls, that we may become eternally one. Amen.

Time for Reflection - Communion Anthem

Alleluia No. 1 - Donald Fishel

Blessing

The blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be upon you and remain with you for ever. *Amen.*

Dismissal

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

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

Postlude

Grave, Adagio (from Partita No.2, BWV 826)- J.S. Bach

Alleluia No 1- Donald Fishel

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Parish Prayer List

For the Sick, Injured, or Distressed – Sparrow, Jack, Phil, Pat T., Dorothy, Ella D., Myrick C., Barbara, Shawn, John M., Bonnie A., Owen D., Sophia, Jim, Darah L., Ralph R., David B., and Leslie J. *Continued prayers for – Anita, Marthe, Eddie, Sarah B., Deej P., Bryson, Evan, Ann P., Len, Ross, Jaydon, Jesse, the Island Nursing Home Community, Oma O., Barbara B., John F., Eileen, Maurice, and The Harrison Family.*

For our Homebound Members – *Evelyn L., Joline F., Kathleen D., Mary, Charles, Robert B., Christa F., Lilly P., Earlene B., Cathy K., Betty C. and Eileen H.*

For Everyone affected by the COVID19 virus: for all who are sick or dying, all who mourn; for all who are isolated, anxious, or scared; for those most vulnerable in our institutions and on our streets, for those sacrificing and volunteering to provide safe beds and nutritious meals; for students, families, teachers, and school administrators; for all who are working in essential services, especially our doctors and nurses and all in our health care systems, for all working in our grocery stores and supply chains, and for those who clean and sterilize; for all who willingly sacrifice their own needs and desires for sake of others' health and well being.

For the World: for Peace and Goodwill among Nations and for peoples in war-torn places, especially those in those in the Middle East, Afghanistan and Iraq. For an end to war and all forms of violence. For all who suffer for conscience's sake. For our enemies and those who wish us harm. For all suffering effects of climate change and of natural disasters. For all those affected by gun violence. For refugees, immigrants, and those who are displaced, especially for children.

For our Nation: for all who suffer from injustice; for eyes to see injustice and for the will to work for fairness for all of God's people; for all who protest and for those who are charged to maintain our safety; and for all who struggle to change our world and its systems of oppression.

For the Leaders of our Country, State and Community: Joseph Biden Jr., President; Members of Congress, especially, Susan Collins, Angus King, Chellie Pingree, Jared Golden of Maine; Janet Mills, Governor; and Daniel Tremble, Mayor - for those who serve in the courts of this land - that they govern with wisdom, civility, and compassion.

For our Military Personnel, especially those of this Parish: Sarah M., Dillan L., Joshua M., Aaron B., and Timothy W.

For the Departed - Ian Bockus+, Jeanette, and for all who have died from the Coronavirus around the world

With Thanksgiving for the lives of those celebrating birthdays during the coming week including David F., Edmund H., James M., and Susana P.

If you would like to add or reinstate a name or concern for our parish prayer list, please contact one of the clergy.

Please use this list for your own personal prayers too.

Announcements, Opportunities & Invitations

Alleluia! **We will gather for a story and prayer time on this Sunday, April 18 at 2p in the St. John's churchyard.** After our gathering, we will have a surprise visit from Mr. E. Bunny, who will be available for socially distanced photos. If your child is not a fan of giant bunnies, please let me know, and I will ensure that our furry friend does not appear until your departure :) We will mask (except for babies) and distance; the weather looks good but if that changes, we will reschedule. If you have questions or concerns please email me at youth@stjohnsbangor.org. I hope to see you and your family-- it's been a long, hard winter. -Take care, Anne-Marie.

You are invited to join the **women's book group, gathering next on April 20 we'll explore *Unsettling Truths: The Ongoing, Dehumanizing Legacy of the Doctrine of Discovery, 2019*, by Mark Charles and Soong-Chan Rah.** And on May 18 we will focus on *Wolf Hall* by Hilary Mantel, 2009. If you are interested in any or all meetings, please contact Jane Zenk at jzenkjzenk@gmail.com or Marisue Pickering at marisue.pickering@maine.edu.

The tower reconstruction is proceeding as planned. The demolition portion of the work is completed. Last week, concrete was pumped to the top of the tower and to make a very solid parapet and top structure that will be faced with stone on the outside. The bases for the spires will be built at the same time as the exterior stone is finished and the spires installed. Then the roofers will install a new tower roof. While it was not in the original contract, as the staging comes down. Ben's crew will patch and seal the cracks in the tower wall. Some of that will be done from savings in the work thus far and some will be paid from available Dwelley funds. Then the entrance will be finished. The rough stone around the entrance will be covered or replaced. The main front door will be painted traditional red though we have some minor repairs to make to that door. We want to pave the area to the left side of the tower which has been in bad shape and we will repave the walkway to the stairs and side

entrance and maybe to the Bapst parking lot. We hope to have everything done by Memorial Day. **The BWG will meet next on April 20th at 6:00pm** to define any open issues regarding this work and will report to Vestry in writing at the next meeting. If you have any questions, or would like the meeting Zoom link, please feel free to contact Don Lewis or Ralph Whedon at building@stjohnsbangor.org

A small, private family service will be held in honor of our former deacon, Liz O'Donnell on April 24, 2021, at 2PM at the Episcopal Church of the Transfiguration in Texas. The service will be livestreamed on Facebook for others to attend. In lieu of flowers, donations to Episcopal Relief and Development have been requested.

At the Salvation Army, our group is signed up to cook and serve on the 4th Tuesday of each month. We'll be cooking and placing the food into to-go boxes which the Salvation Army staff will then serve from the truck. We will be practicing social distancing and masks are required, so please bring one. We look forward to seeing you again at the **Salvation Army on April 27th from 9 am - 12:30 pm!**

On May 2nd, we will hold our next in-person Eucharist service at 8 am, and we'll continue to do so a few times a month. We will offer the same liturgy as 10 am (Rite II) but without music or singing. (Music still needs to be pre-recorded for now because of pandemic restrictions and technological limitations, so music will only be included in the live-streamed services at 10.) As we did in the fall, we will observe capacity limits and other common precautions like masks, distancing, hand sanitizer, and adaptations to communion distribution. Socializing before and after the service will happen outdoors. *RSVPs will be required!* Think of it as "pre-registering". The link to register for the May 2nd service will appear on our website on April 19th, as well as in the next issue of "This Week at St. John's" If you need help registering, please email us at office@stjohnsbangor.org.

Please join us for the Big Red Truck Event - 2nd Saturday Spring Donation Drive on Saturday May 8th to benefit the Bangor Homeless Shelter. You may drop off your donations at St. John's Episcopal Church, 225 French Street, Bangor (truck will be parked in front of church for drive-up to drop off items). Donations needed include: canned goods and personal hygiene items.

Help is needed for Second Saturday on May 8th! With our current restrictions (social distancing and John bapst using our kitchen), what we need help with most is food preparation. We need: Casseroles or stews to feed approximately 20-30 people-- we usually have several different ones, so if you can prepare one with 8-10 servings

that would be wonderful. Either hot food delivered around 1115, or food in a crockpot or microwavable container will work. Past menu items have included american chop suey, turkey stew, mac and cheese. A veggie/ salad like coleslaw (30 small servings); dessert that is easy to serve (cookies or brownies) in ziplock bags (you can package, or we can! (30 servings); rolls (30 servings); If you can help with any of these items this month, please email Anne-Marie at youth@stjohnsbangor.org Thanks!

The weather may still be chilly, but summer is coming fast. **For information on summer camps at Camp Bishopswood go to www.bishopswood.org.** A limited number of scholarships are available. Please contact Rev. Liberty for more information at transitionpriest@stjohnsbangor.org.

Where's Phoebe? Well, recently she was at church, checking in with our friends. Big Bird says it's kinda lonely, but they are doing ok. But Phoebe will be ready to ZOOM at the usual Tea Time this Sunday. Don't miss out! **Grab your tea cup and join Phoebe and friends on Sunday at 1700h (5pm).** We might be physically distant, but we are socially connected. Tea Time concludes by 1800 (6pm), but participants are welcome to dip in for shorter periods. Questions? Contact Ann at deacon@stjohnsbangor.org

