

# ST. GEORGE'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH



## EASTER

### *Easter Worship Booklet*

Sunday, April 19, 2020

Virtual Service 9:30 a.m.

*Welcome to St. George's! We are blessed by your attendance at our worship today.*

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## **Welcome to St. George's**

Whether you are here for the first time or the thousandth time, we are glad you have chosen to join us for worship today. As each and every person gathers here to worship God, we all are strengthened and able to offer a fuller worship than we can apart. We are blessed by your presence.

***Church Seasons:*** Easter is a festival season of fifty days whose first day is Easter Day, the Sunday of the Resurrection, and whose last day is the Day of Pentecost. Easter begins after sundown on Holy Saturday. The celebration of Easter historically is initiated with the Easter Vigil, which can be observed after sundown but ideally is kept just before sunrise, so that the proclamation of Jesus' resurrection comes with the dawn of the new day or beginning of a new way of life. In our church, we celebrate Easter at our regular service times. Easter Day is the principal feast of the church year and the color is white symbolizing the purity we have been given through Christ's blood sacrifice for us. In most languages the name of the day is Pascha, which means "Passover." As Christians we believe Jesus Christ's sacrifice as the Lamb of God is the ultimate and final sacrifice for our sins. No other blood sacrifice need be paid on our behalf. During the Easter season we recall our Baptismal covenant with its key promises and commitments. (see page 304 in the book of Common Prayer). We remember through Baptism we died to sin and were resurrected with Jesus Christ and made new. In baptism we put on Christ, marked with the anointing oil as a symbol of receiving the Holy Spirit and sealed as Christ's own forever. Nothing can separate us from God having been given this seal. This marks the beginning of new life through Christ, and opens an opportunity to start anew. We recently reaffirmed our baptismal vows with the nine people baptized, in which we recommitted and made covenant with God to turn from the darkness and evil and turn to the light and God, continuing in the teaching of the apostles and when we sin repenting and turning back to God. This is the way for those who believe. It is the way of the new life of peace we have been given through Jesus Christ. Alleluia! Alleluia! Jesus Christ is Risen today!

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### **Ways to be Connected to Community**

**Online Services at 9:30 AM on Facebook Live**  
*(Facebook Page: St Georges Texas City)*

**The Resurrected Life Bible Study at 11 AM on Zoom this Sunday!**  
*(Sundays April 19th—May 31st)*

# **The Holy Eucharist: Rite Two**

## **The Liturgy of the Word of God**

**Processional Hymn**

**He is Risen, He is Risen!**

**Hymnal 180**

## **The Word of God**

**Opening Acclamation**

**The Book of Common Prayer (BCP) 355**

*The Celebrant says*

Alleluia. Christ is Risen.

**People**      ***The Lord is risen indeed. Alleluia.***

*The Celebrant then says the following prayer that our hearts may be made pure for worship*

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.***

**The Trisagion**

**BCP 356**

Lord, have mercy.

***Christ, have mercy.***

Lord, have mercy.

**The Collect of the Day**

*The Celebrant says to the people*

The Lord be with you.

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

*The Celebrant says the Collect.*

Almighty and everlasting God, who in the Paschal mystery established the new covenant of reconciliation: Grant that all who have been reborn into the fellowship of Christ's Body may show forth in their lives what they profess by their faith; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. ***Amen.***

## **The Lessons**

### **The First Lesson**

Lector    A Reading (Lesson) from Acts 2:14a, 22-32.

Peter, standing with the eleven, raised his voice and addressed the crowd, “You that are Israelites, listen to what I have to say: Jesus of Nazareth, a man attested to you by God with deeds of power, wonders, and signs that God did through him among you, as you yourselves know— this man, handed over to you according to the definite plan and foreknowledge of God, you crucified and killed by the hands of those outside the law. But God raised him up, having freed him from death, because it was impossible for him to be held in its power. For David says concerning him,

‘I saw the Lord always before me,  
for he is at my right hand so that I will not be shaken;  
therefore my heart was glad, and my tongue rejoiced;  
moreover my flesh will live in hope.

For you will not abandon my soul to Hades,  
or let your Holy One experience corruption.

You have made known to me the ways of life;  
you will make me full of gladness with your presence.’

“Fellow Israelites, I may say to you confidently of our ancestor David that he both died and was buried, and his tomb is with us to this day. Since he was a prophet, he knew that God had sworn with an oath to him that he would put one of his descendants on his throne. Foreseeing this, David spoke of the resurrection of the Messiah, saying,

‘He was not abandoned to Hades,  
nor did his flesh experience corruption.’

This Jesus God raised up, and of that all of us are witnesses.”

The Word of the Lord.

***People    Thanks be to God.***

## Psalm 16

### *Conserva me, Domine*

- 1 Protect me, O God, for I take refuge in you; \*  
**I have said to the LORD, "You are my Lord,  
my good above all other."**
- 2 All my delight is upon the godly that are in the land, \*  
**upon those who are noble among the people.**
- 3 But those who run after other gods \*  
**shall have their troubles multiplied.**
- 4 Their libations of blood I will not offer, \*  
**nor take the names of their gods upon my lips.**
- 5 O LORD, you are my portion and my cup; \*  
**it is you who uphold my lot.**
- 6 My boundaries enclose a pleasant land; \*  
**indeed, I have a goodly heritage.**
- 7 I will bless the LORD who gives me counsel; \*  
**my heart teaches me, night after night.**
- 8 I have set the LORD always before me; \*  
**because he is at my right hand I shall not fall.**
- 9 My heart, therefore, is glad, and my spirit rejoices; \*  
**my body also shall rest in hope.**
- 10 For you will not abandon me to the grave, \*  
**nor let your holy one see the Pit.**
- 11 You will show me the path of life; \*  
**in your presence there is fullness of joy,  
and in your right hand are pleasures for evermore.**

## **The Gospel**

*Then the Celebrant reads the Gospel, first saying*

The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to John.

**People**    *Glory to you, Lord Christ.*

When it was evening on that day, the first day of the week, and the doors of the house where the disciples had met were locked for fear of the Jews, Jesus came and stood among them and said, "Peace be with you." After he said this, he showed them his hands and his side. Then the disciples rejoiced when they saw the Lord. Jesus said to them again, "Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, so I send you." When he had said this, he breathed on them and said to them, "Receive the Holy Spirit. If you forgive the sins of any, they are forgiven them; if you retain the sins of any, they are retained."

But Thomas (who was called the Twin), one of the twelve, was not with them when Jesus came. So the other disciples told him, "We have seen the Lord." But he said to them, "Unless I see the mark of the nails in his hands, and put my finger in the mark of the nails and my hand in his side, I will not believe."

A week later his disciples were again in the house, and Thomas was with them. Although the doors were shut, Jesus came and stood among them and said, "Peace be with you." Then he said to Thomas, "Put your finger here and see my hands. Reach out your hand and put it in my side. Do not doubt but believe." Thomas answered him, "My Lord and my God!" Jesus said to him, "Have you believed because you have seen me? Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have come to believe."

Now Jesus did many other signs in the presence of his disciples, which are not written in this book. But these are written so that you may come to believe that Jesus is the Messiah, the Son of God, and that through believing you may have life in his name.

*After the Gospel, the Reader says*

The Gospel of the Lord.

**People**    *Praise to you, Lord Christ.*

## **The Homily**

## A Corona Virus Prayer

Jesus Christ, you traveled through towns and villages “curing every disease and illness.” At your command, the sick were made well. Come to our aid now, in the midst of the global spread of the coronavirus, that we may experience your healing love.

Heal those who are sick with the virus. May they regain their strength and health through quality medical care.

Heal us from our fear, which prevents nations from working together and neighbors from helping one another. Heal us from our pride, which can make us claim invulnerability to a disease that knows no borders.

Jesus Christ, healer of all, stay by our side in this time of uncertainty and sorrow. Be with those who have died from the virus. May they be at rest with you in your eternal peace.

Be with the families of those who are sick or have died. As they worry and grieve, defend them from illness and despair. May they know your peace.

Be with the doctors, nurses, researchers and all medical professionals who seek to heal and help those affected and who put themselves at risk in the process. May they know your protection and peace.

Be with the leaders of all nations. Give them the foresight to act with charity and true concern for the well-being of the people they are meant to serve. Give them the wisdom to invest in long-term solutions that will help prepare for or prevent future outbreaks. May they know your peace, as they work together to achieve it on earth.

Whether we are home or abroad, surrounded by many people suffering from this illness or only a few, Jesus Christ, stay with us as we endure and mourn, persist and prepare. In place of our anxiety, give us your peace.

Jesus Christ, heal us.

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Let us pray for our own needs and those of others.

***Silence.***

*The Celebrant adds a concluding Collect, or the following Doxology*

For yours is the majesty, O Father, Son, and Holy Spirit; yours is the kingdom and the power and the glory, now and for ever. ***Amen.***

## Confession of Sin

BCP 359

Celebrant      Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

*Minister and 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.***

*The Priest and says*

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

BCP 360

*The Celebrant says to the people*

The peace of the Lord be always with you.

*People      And also with you.*

## Offertory

Offer thanks unto the Lord who is worthy of our praise. You may send your offering by mailing it in to St. George's or by going online [https://www.paypal.com/cgi-bin/webscr?cmd=\\_s-xclick&hosted\\_button\\_id=95TAURM9D63YU](https://www.paypal.com/cgi-bin/webscr?cmd=_s-xclick&hosted_button_id=95TAURM9D63YU)

## The Blessing

Recessional Hymn

Jesus Christ is Risen Today

Hymnal 207

## The Dismissal

Let us go forth in the name of Christ.

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