



Easter Sunday

April 20, 2025

10:15 a.m.



*The Lord is risen indeed!
Alleluia, alleluia!*

Welcome to Church of the Ascension

Church of the Ascension provides opportunities to

Connect with God and one another,

Grow in faith and understanding, and

Serve the Lord, one another, and the world around us.

We are an active community of faith committed to welcoming all
and sharing the Good News of Jesus Christ.

Christ-centered + Spirit-filled + Mission-minded

The Liturgy of the Word of God

✠ *Please stand as you are able.*

Welcome

Rev. Pierre-Henry Buisson

Prelude

“Christ Is Alive! Alleluia!”

arr. Michael Helman

Handbell Choir

✠ Processional Hymn

“Jesus Christ Is Risen Today”

Hymnal #207



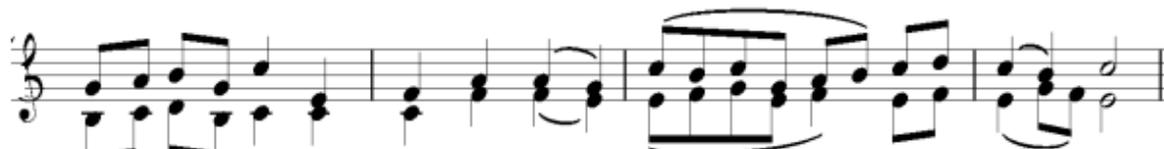
1 Je - sus Christ is risen to - day, Al - le - lu - ia!
2 Hymns of praise then let us sing, Al - le - lu - ia!
3 But the pains which he en-dured, Al - le - lu - ia!
4 Sing we to our God a - bove Al - le - lu - ia!



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!

The Opening Acclamation

Alleluia! Christ is risen. **The Lord is risen indeed. Alleluia!**

Alleluia! Christ is risen. **The Lord is risen indeed. Alleluia!**

Alleluia! Christ is risen. **The Lord is risen indeed. Alleluia!**

1. Glo - ry to God in the high - est, and
 peace to his peo - ple on earth. 2. Lord God, heaven - ly
 King, al - might - y God and Fa - ther, we wor - ship you, we
 give you thanks, we praise you for your glo - ry. 3. Lord Je - sus
 Christ, on - ly Son of the Fa - ther, Lord God, Lamb of God, 4. you
 take a - way the sin of the world: have mer - cy
 on us; 5. you are seat - ed at the right hand of the Fa - ther: re -
 ceive our prayer. 6. For you a - lone are the Ho - ly One,
 you a - lone are the Lord, 7. you a - lone are the Most
 High, Je - sus Christ, with the Ho - ly Spi - rit, in the
 glo - ry of God the Fa - ther. A - men.

The Collect

The Lord be with you. **And also with you.** 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 for ever. **Amen.**

The First Lesson: Acts 10:34-43

A Reading from the Acts of the Apostles

Peter began to speak to Cornelius and the other Gentiles: "I truly understand that God shows no partiality, but in every nation anyone who fears him and does what is right is acceptable to him. You know the message he sent to the people of Israel, preaching peace by Jesus Christ--he is Lord of all. That message spread throughout Judea, beginning in Galilee after the baptism that John announced: how God anointed Jesus of Nazareth with the Holy Spirit and with power; how he went about doing good and healing all who were oppressed by the devil, for God was with him. We are witnesses to all that he did both in Judea and in Jerusalem. They put him to death by hanging him on a tree; but God raised him on the third day and allowed him to appear, not to all the people but to us who were chosen by God as witnesses, and who ate and drank with him after he rose from the dead. He commanded us to preach to the people and to testify that he is the one ordained by God as judge of the living and the dead. All the prophets testify about him that everyone who believes in him receives forgiveness of sins through his name."

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

Psalm 118:1-2, 14-24

1 Give thanks to the LORD, for he is good; *his mercy endures for ever.

2 Let Israel now proclaim, * "His mercy endures for ever."

14 The LORD is my strength and my song, * and he has become my salvation.

15 There is a sound of exultation and victory * in the tents of the righteous:

16 "The right hand of the LORD has triumphed! *

the right hand of the LORD is exalted! the right hand of the LORD has triumphed!"

17 I shall not die, but live, * and declare the works of the LORD.

18 The LORD has punished me sorely, * but he did not hand me over to death.

19 Open for me the gates of righteousness; *

I will enter them; I will offer thanks to the LORD.

20 "This is the gate of the LORD; * he who is righteous may enter."

21 I will give thanks to you, for you answered me * and have become my salvation.

22 The same stone which the builders rejected * has become the chief cornerstone.

23 This is the LORD's doing, * and it is marvelous in our eyes.

24 On this day the LORD has acted; * we will rejoice and be glad in it.

The Epistle: Colossians 3:1-4

A Reading from the Letter of Paul to the Colossians

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.

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

Children's Chapel

♠ Sequence Hymn

"Alleluia, Give Thanks to the Risen Lord"

Hymnal #178

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. Jesus is Lord of all the earth.
He is the King of creation. (*Refrain*)

2. Spread the good news o'er all the earth.
Jesus has died and has risen. (*Refrain*)

3. We have been crucified with Christ.
Now we shall live forever. (*Refrain*)

4. Come, let us praise the living God,
Joyfully sing to our Savior. (*Refrain*)

Words: Donald Fishel (b. 1950)
Music: *Alleluia No. 1* Donald Fishel (b. 1950)

The Holy Gospel: Matthew 28:1-12

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

Glory to you, Lord Christ.

On the first day of the week, at early dawn, the women who had come with Jesus from Galilee came to the tomb, taking the spices that they had prepared. They found the stone rolled away from the tomb, but when they went in, they did not find the body. While they were perplexed about this, suddenly two men in dazzling clothes stood beside them. The women were terrified and bowed their faces to the ground, but the men said to them, "Why do you look for the living among the dead? He is not here, but has risen. Remember how he told you, while he was still in Galilee, that the Son of Man must be handed over to sinners, and be crucified, and on the third day rise again." Then they remembered his words, and returning from the tomb, they told all this to the eleven and to all the rest. Now it was Mary Magdalene, Joanna, Mary the mother of James, and the other women with them who told this to the apostles. But these words seemed to them an idle tale, and they did not believe them. But Peter got up and ran to the tomb; stooping and looking in, he saw the linen cloths by themselves; then he went home, amazed at what had happened.

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

The Sermon

The Reverend Pierre-Henry Buisson

♠ Renewal of Baptismal Vows

Through the Paschal mystery, dear friends, we are buried with Christ by Baptism into his death, and raised with him to newness of life. I call upon you, therefore, now that our

Lenten observance is ended, to renew the solemn promises and vows of Holy Baptism, by which we once renounced Satan and all his works, and promised to serve God faithfully in his holy catholic Church.

Do you reaffirm your renunciation of evil and renew your commitment to Jesus Christ?
I do.

Do you believe in God the Father? **I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.**

Do you believe in Jesus Christ, the Son of God? **I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord. He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit and born of the Virgin Mary. He suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried. He descended to the dead. On the third day he rose again. He ascended into heaven, and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again to judge the living and the dead.**

Do you believe in God the Holy Spirit? **I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting.**

Will you continue in the apostles' teaching and fellowship, in the breaking of bread, and in the prayers? **I will, with God's help.**

Will you persevere in resisting evil, and, whenever you fall into sin, repent and return to the Lord? **I will, with God's help.**

Will you proclaim by word and example the Good News of God in Christ? **I will, with God's help.**

Will you seek and serve Christ in all persons, loving your neighbor as yourself? **I will, with God's help.**

Will you strive for justice and peace among all people, and respect the dignity of every human being? **I will, with God's help.**

May Almighty God, the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has given us a new birth by water and the Holy Spirit, and bestowed upon us the forgiveness of sins, keep us in eternal life by his grace, in Christ Jesus our Lord. **Amen.**

The Prayers of the People

Celebrant: In joy and hope, let us pray to the Risen Lord for the Church and the world.

Intercessor: For the Universal Church, its members, and its mission: that our risen Savior may fill us with the joy of his holy and life-giving resurrection, and make us bold witnesses to the Good News we proclaim, let us pray. **Risen Lord, hear our prayer.**

For all the nations of the earth and their leaders, and for this nation in particular: that the God who shows no partiality may guide us in the ways of justice and peace, and make us signs of hope in a wounded world, let us pray. **Risen Lord, hear our prayer.**

For the Middle East, for Ukraine, and for all places torn by war: that the One who rolled away the stone may also roll away every wall of hatred and division, and bring forth reconciliation and new life, let us pray. **Risen Lord, hear our prayer.**

For those who suffer and those in any trouble – especially Pauline, Jeannette, Lianne, Stacy, Bill, Jack, Jackie, Judy, Noah, Liz, Karen, Scott, Jeanne M., Mary, Steve, Betsy, Rick, Darrell, Cathy, Reed – that they may be upheld by your healing presence and delivered from their distress, let us pray. **Risen Lord, hear our prayer.**

For Jeanne C., Pierre-Henry+, Malia, Roger, Jerry, Kat, Deborah, Debbie, and all celebrating birthdays and anniversaries: that they may be renewed in joy and strengthened in love throughout this Easter season, let us pray.

Risen Lord, hear our prayer.

For the departed: that, rejoicing in the communion of all the saints, they may share fully in the victory of the risen Christ, let us pray. **Risen Lord, hear our prayer.**

The Celebrant: Lord, hear the prayers of your people; and what we have asked faithfully, grant that we may obtain effectually, to the glory of your Name; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

The Peace: The Peace of the Lord be always with you. **And also with you.**

Announcements

Birthday and Anniversary Prayer

O God, our times are in your hands: look with favor, we pray, on your servants as they begin another year. Grant that they may grow in wisdom and grace. Send your blessings upon them, that their homes may be a haven of peace; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

The Celebration of the Holy Communion

To make an online offering, please scan the QR code.



Offertory

“Alleluia Round”

by W. Boyce, arr. R. Proulx

Presentation Hymn

“The Doxology”

Praise God from whom all bles-sing flow; Praise him all crea-tures here be - low;
Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia! Praise him a - bove, ye heaven-ly host;
Praise Fa - ther, Son, and Ho - ly Ghost; Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!
Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!

Words: Thomas Ken (1637-1711). Music: *Lasst Uns Erfreuen*, melody from *Auserlesene Catholische Geistliche Kirchengeseng*, 1623; adapt. Ralph Vaughan William, 1906.

The Great Thanksgiving: Eucharistic Prayer A

The Lord be with you. **And also with you.**

Lift up your hearts. **We lift them to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God. **It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

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:

Sanctus

"Holy, Holy, Holy Lord"

Hymnal #S125

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.

Holy and gracious Father: In your infinite love you made us for yourself, and, when we had fallen into sin and become subject to evil and death, you, in your mercy, sent Jesus Christ, your only and eternal Son, to share our human nature, to live and die as one of us, to reconcile us to you, the God and Father of all.

He stretched out his arms upon the cross, and offered himself, in obedience to your will, a perfect sacrifice for the whole world.

On the night he was handed over to suffering and death, 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 we proclaim the mystery of faith:

Memorial Acclamation

Setting: Mass of Creation



We celebrate the memorial of our redemption, O Father, in his sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving. Recalling his death, resurrection, and ascension, we offer you these gifts. Sanctify them by your Holy Spirit to be for your people the Body and Blood of your Son, the holy food and drink of new and unending life in him. Sanctify us also that we may faithfully receive this holy Sacrament, and serve you in unity, constancy, and peace; and at the last day bring us with all your saints into the joy of your eternal kingdom. All this we ask through your Son Jesus Christ: 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.

The Great Amen

Setting: Mass of Creation



And now as our Savior Christ has taught us we are bold to say:

The Lord's Prayer

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 Bread

Alleluia. Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us;

Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia.

Fraction Anthem

“Be Known To Us, Lord Jesus”

Be known to us, Lord Jesus, in the breaking of the bread.

The bread which we break, alleluia, is the communion of the body of Christ.

One body are we, alleluia, for though many we share one bread.

The Gifts of God for the People of God. Take them in remembrance that Christ died for you, and feed on him in your hearts by faith, with thanksgiving. **Amen.**

The Communion of the People

All baptized are welcome to receive Holy Communion. When directed by an Usher, please come forward to receive Holy Communion. If you would prefer a blessing, please indicate by crossing your arms over

your chest. To receive the wine you can either drink from the common cup or dip your host held by the second Eucharistic minister on both sides of the priest.

Communion Music

"This Is the Feast"

Hymnal #417

Antiphon

This is the feast of vic - to - ry for our God.

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

1 Wor - thy is Christ, the Lamb who was slain, whose
 2 Pow - er, rich - es, wis - dom, and strength, and
 3 Sing with all the peo - ple of God, and
 4 Bless - ing, hon - or, glo - ry, and might be to
 5 For the Lamb who was slain has be -

1 blood set us free to be peo - ple of God. [Ant.]
 2 hon - or, bless - ing, and glo - ry are his. [Ant.]
 3 join in the hymn of all cre - a - tion. [Ant.]
 4 God and the Lamb for ev - er. A - men. [Ant.]
 5 gun his reign. Al - le - lu - ia! [Ant.]

Final Antiphon

This is the feast of vic - to - ry for our God.

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

"Alleluia, He Is Coming"

1. I looked up and I saw my Lord a coming
 I looked up and I say my Lord a coming down the
 road. *Refrain*

2. I looked up and I saw my Lord a weeping.
 I looked up and I saw my Lord a weeping for my
 sins. *Refrain*

3. I looked up and I saw my Lord a dying.
 I looked up and I saw my Lord a dying on the
 cross. *Refrain*

4. I looked up and I saw my Lord a rising
 I looked up and I say my Lord a rising from the
 grave. *Refrain*

Refrain:

Alleluia He is coming. Alleluia He is here.

Alleluia He is coming. Alleluia He is here.

CCLI Song # 34642 Martha Butler © 1979 Butler, Martha E.

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✠ Prayer of Thanksgiving

Let us pray.

Eternal God, heavenly Father, you have graciously accepted us as living members of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ, and you have fed us with spiritual food in the

Sacrament of his Body and Blood. Send us now into the world in peace, and grant us strength and courage to love and serve you with gladness and singleness of heart; through Christ our Lord. Amen.

The Solemn Blessing of Easter

May Almighty God, who has redeemed us and made us his children through the resurrection of his Son our Lord, bestow upon you the riches of his blessing. **Amen.**

May God, who through the water of baptism has raised us from sin into newness of life, make you holy and worthy to be united with Christ for ever. **Amen.**

May God, who has brought us out of bondage to sin into true and lasting freedom in the Redeemer, bring you to your eternal inheritance. **Amen.**

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

Recessional Hymn

“The Day of Resurrection”

Hymnal #210

1. The day of resurrection! Earth, tell it out abroad; the Passover of gladness, the Passover of God.
From death to life eternal, from earth unto the sky, our Christ hath brought us over, with hymns of victory.

3. Now let the heavens be joyful, let earth her song begin, the round world keep high triumph, and all that is therein; let all things seen and unseen their notes in gladness blend, for Christ the Lord hath risen, our joy that hath no end.

2. Our hearts be pure from evil, that we may see aright the Lord in rays eternal of resurrection light; and, listening to his accents, may hear so calm and plain his own "All hail!" and, hearing, may raise the victor strain.

Words: John of Damacus, tr. John Mason Neale
Music: *Ellacombe*, William Henry Monk

The Dismissal

Go in peace to love and serve the Risen Lord. Alleluia, alleluia!
Thanks be to God. Alleluia, alleluia!

Postlude

Worship Assistants	Easter Sunday: April 5	April 12
Organist	Mary Butler	Mary Butler
Musicians	Choir, Handbell Choir	Choir
Ushers	Debbie Linard, <i>1 needed</i>	Debbie Linard, <i>1 needed</i>
Lector	Betsy Reinders	<i>1 needed</i>
Acolyte	Kat Dittrich	Kat Dittrich
Chalicians	Sandy White, Betsy Reinders, Helen Lang, Kim Tompkins	Sandy White, <i>3 needed</i>
Worship Slides	Roberta Gore	John Holbert
Audio Visual	Travis Collins	Travis Collins

April Altar Guild: Susan Considine, Debbie Linard, Liz Lowe

Attendance March 29

8:00 am 40 10:15 am: In-person - 70 YouTube - 3 Facebook - 2 Total: 115

Readings for Next Sunday: The Second Sunday of Easter - A

Acts 2:14a, 22-32 Psalm 16 1 Peter 1:3-9 John 20:19-31

Easter changes everything.

We have walked the long road of Lent — through wilderness and shadow, through ashes and fasting, through the stark solemnity of Holy Week. And then, on the first day of the week, at the empty tomb, everything turns. The stone is rolled away. The grave is empty. The Lord is risen. And we proclaim: ***Alleluia, Christ is risen!***

This is not simply a seasonal greeting. It is the heart of our faith, the ground on which we stand, the word that reshapes every other word we speak. The Resurrection is not one event among many in the life of Jesus — it is the event that gives all the others their meaning. Without Easter, there is no Gospel. With Easter, there is nothing but Good News. And this Good News is not meant to be kept — it is meant to be proclaimed.

May this Easter Season fill us with a joy that cannot be contained. May we answer the summons, Sunday after Sunday, and may our lives be our proclamation.

Rev. Pierre-Henry Buisson

