



# The Third Sunday of Easter

Church of the Holy Comforter – Vienna, Virginia  
The Holy Eucharist Rite II

May 4, 2025 at 10:00 A.M.

*The liturgy follows the Book of Common Prayer, beginning at page 355.*

**OPENING VOLUNTARY:** Fugue in C Minor

Johann Sebastian Bach

## THE ENTRANCE

**AT THE PROCESSION, HYMN 180** “He is risen, he is risen!”

*Unser Herrscher*

*Sung by all, standing.*

*Presider* Alleluia. Christ is risen.

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

*The Presider says the Collect for Purity*

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.**

**GLORIA IN EXCELSIS, HYMNAL, S 278**

William Mathias

*Sung by all.*

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 -



### THE COLLECT OF THE DAY

The Lord be with you. **And also with you.** 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 WORD OF GOD

### THE FIRST LESSON *[The people are seated.]*

Acts 9:1-6

Saul, still breathing threats and murder against the disciples of the Lord, went to the high priest and asked him for letters to the synagogues at Damascus, so that if he found any who belonged to the Way, men or women, he might bring them bound to Jerusalem. Now as he was going along and approaching Damascus, suddenly a light from heaven flashed around him. He fell to the ground and heard a voice saying to him, "Saul, Saul, why do you persecute me?" He asked, "Who are you, Lord?" The reply came, "I am Jesus, whom you are persecuting. But get up and enter the city, and you will be told what you are to do."

The Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

### PSALM 30 *Exaltabo te, Domine*

David Boulware-Kelley

*The cantor sings the refrain, which is then repeated by all. Thereafter, the cantor sings the verses, and all join on the refrain, as indicated.*



- 1 I will exalt you, O LORD,  
because you have lifted me up \*  
and have not let my enemies triumph over me.
- 2 O LORD my God, I cried out to you, \*  
and you restored me to health.
- 3 You brought me up, O LORD, from the dead; \*  
you restored my life as I was going down to the grave. *[Ref.]*
- 4 Sing to the LORD, you servants of his; \*  
give thanks for the remembrance of his holiness.

- 5 For his wrath endures but the twinkling of an eye, \*  
his favor for a lifetime.
- 6 Weeping may spend the night, \*  
but joy comes in the morning. [Ref.]
- 7 While I felt secure, I said,  
"I shall never be disturbed. \*  
You, LORD, with your favor, made me as strong as the mountains."
- 8 Then you hid your face, \*  
and I was filled with fear.
- 9 I cried to you, O LORD; \*  
I pleaded with the Lord, saying,
- 10 "What profit is there in my blood, if I go down to the Pit? \*  
will the dust praise you or declare your faithfulness? [Ref.]
- 11 Hear, O LORD, and have mercy upon me; \*  
O LORD, be my helper."
- 12 You have turned my wailing into dancing; \*  
you have put off my sack-cloth and clothed me with joy.
- 13 Therefore my heart sings to you without ceasing; \*  
O LORD my God, I will give you thanks for ever. [Ref.]

#### THE SECOND LESSON

Revelation 5:11-14

I looked, and I heard the voice of many angels surrounding the throne and the living creatures and the elders; they numbered myriads of myriads and thousands of thousands, singing with full voice, "Worthy is the Lamb that was slaughtered to receive power and wealth and wisdom and might and honor and glory and blessing!" Then I heard every creature in heaven and on earth and under the earth and in the sea, and all that is in them, singing, "To the one seated on the throne and to the Lamb be blessing and honor and glory and might forever and ever!" And the four living creatures said, "Amen!" And the elders fell down and worshiped.

The Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

AT THE SEQUENCE, HYMN 417 "This is the feast of victory for our God"

*Festival Canticle*

*Sung by all, standing. During the singing of the Sequence Hymn, children through second grade may follow the Dove Cross to Children's Chapel.*

#### THE HOLY GOSPEL

John 21:1-19

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

**Glory to you, Lord Christ.**

Jesus showed himself again to the disciples by the Sea of Tiberias; and he showed himself in this way. Gathered there together were Simon Peter, Thomas called the Twin, Nathanael of Cana in Galilee, the sons of Zebedee, and two others of his disciples. Simon Peter said to them, "I am going fishing." They said to him, "We will go with you." They went out and got into the boat, but that night they caught nothing. Just after daybreak, Jesus stood on the beach; but the disciples did not know that it was Jesus. Jesus said to them, "Children, you have no fish, have you?" They answered him, "No." He said to them, "Cast the net to the right side of the boat, and you will find some." So they cast it, and now they were not able to haul it in because there were so many fish. That disciple whom Jesus loved said to Peter, "It is the Lord!" When Simon Peter heard that it was the Lord, he put on some clothes, for he was naked, and jumped into the sea. But the other disciples came in the boat, dragging the net full of fish, for they were not far from the land, only about a hundred yards off. When they had gone ashore, they saw a charcoal fire there, with fish on it, and bread. Jesus said to them, "Bring some of the fish that you have just caught." So Simon Peter went aboard and hauled the net ashore, full of large fish, a hundred fifty-three of them; and though there were so many, the net was not torn. Jesus said to them, "Come and have breakfast." Now none of the disciples dared to ask him, "Who are you?" because they knew it was the Lord. Jesus came and took the bread and gave it to them, and did the same with the fish. This was now the third time that Jesus appeared to the disciples after he was raised from the dead. When they had finished breakfast, Jesus said to Simon Peter, "Simon son of John, do you love me more than these?" He said to him, "Yes, Lord; you know that I love you." Jesus said to him, "Feed my lambs." A second time he said to

him, "Simon son of John, do you love me?" He said to him, "Yes, Lord; you know that I love you." Jesus said to him, "Tend my sheep." He said to him the third time, "Simon son of John, do you love me?" Peter felt hurt because he said to him the third time, "Do you love me?" And he said to him, "Lord, you know everything; you know that I love you." Jesus said to him, "Feed my sheep. Very truly, I tell you, when you were younger, you used to fasten your own belt and to go wherever you wished. But when you grow old, you will stretch out your hands, and someone else will fasten a belt around you and take you where you do not wish to go." (He said this to indicate the kind of death by which he would glorify God.) After this he said to him, "Follow me."

The Gospel of the Lord.

**Praise to you, Lord Christ.**

**THE SERMON** The Rev. Jackie Thomson

*A brief period of silence is observed for reflection on the sermon. The people stand for the Creed.*

**THE NICENE CREED** *[Said by all.]*

**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** *[All remain standing.]*

*The leader of the Prayers will begin with prayers for the church and the world. Throughout you are invited to add your own petitions either silently or aloud.*

*Intercessor* Heavenly Father, you have promised to hear when we pray in the name of your Son.

We pray for the Church: Father, enliven the church for its mission;

*People* **That we may be salt of the earth and light to the world.**

*Intercessor* Breathe fresh life into your people;

*People* **Give us power to reveal Christ in word and action.**

*Intercessor* We pray for the world: Creator of all, lead us and all people into the ways of justice and peace;

*People* **That we may respect one another in freedom and truth.**

*Intercessor* Awaken in us a sense of wonder for the earth and all that is in it;

*People* **Teach us to care creatively for its resources.**

*Intercessor* We pray for every city, community, and nation:

God of truth, inspire with your wisdom those whose decisions affect the lives of others;

*People* **That all may act with integrity and courage.**

*Intercessor* Give grace to all whose lives are closely linked with ours.

We pray especially for the sick, the hungry, and those in any kind of need;

*People* **May we serve Christ in one another, and love as he loves us.**

*Intercessor* We pray for all those whom we love but see no longer;

*People* **Grant them eternal rest and a place in your everlasting kingdom.**

*Particular prayers may be offered at this time, adding*

*Intercessor* Lord, in your mercy.

*People* **Hear our prayer.**

**THE PEACE**

The peace of the Lord be always with you.

**And also with you.** *[The people greet one another with a sign of God's peace and are then seated.]*

## WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

# THE HOLY COMMUNION

### THE OFFERTORY SENTENCE

*The people remain seated while an offering is received to support Holy Comforter's work of sharing God's love with the world. As the offering is brought forward to the altar, all stand.*

#### AT THE OFFERTORY, ANTHEM: "Come, ye faithful"

R. S. Thatcher

Come, ye faithful, raise the strain  
Of triumphant gladness;  
God hath brought his Israel  
Into joy from sadness;  
'Tis the spring of souls today,  
Christ hath burst his prison,  
And from three days sleep in death  
As a sun hath risen.

Now the queen of seasons, bright  
With the day of splendor,  
With the royal feast of feasts,  
Comes its joy to render;  
Comes to glad Jerusalem,  
Who with true affection  
Welcomes in unwearied strains  
Jesu's resurrection.

Neither might the gates of death,  
Nor the tomb's dark portal,  
Nor the watchers, nor the seal,  
Hold thee as a mortal;  
But today amidst the twelve  
Thou didst stand, bestowing  
That thy peace which evermore  
Passeth human knowing.

#### THE GREAT THANKSGIVING *[The people stand.]*

*Prayer B, Book of Common Prayer, p. 367*

The Great Thanksgiving musical notation. It consists of four staves. The first staff is for the Celebrant and the People, with the lyrics 'The Lord be with you. And al - so with you.' The second staff is for the Celebrant and the People, with the lyrics 'Lift up your hearts. We lift them to the Lord.' The third staff is for the Celebrant, with the lyrics 'Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.' The fourth staff is for the People, with the lyrics 'It is right to give God thanks and praise.'

#### *The Presider proceeds*

It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth. *[The Presider continues.]*

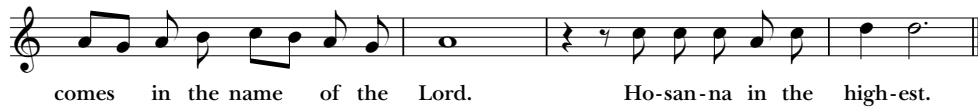
Therefore we praise you, joining our voices with Angels and Archangels and with all the company of heaven, who for ever sing this hymn to proclaim the glory of your Name:

#### SANCTUS, HYMNAL, S 128

William Mathias

*Sung by all.*

Sanctus musical notation. It consists of four staves. The first staff has the lyrics 'Ho - ly, ho - ly,'. The second staff has the lyrics 'ho - ly Lord, God of power and might,'. The third staff has the lyrics 'heaven and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho-san-na in the'. The fourth staff has the lyrics 'high - est. Bless - ed is he who'.



*The Presider continues and gives thanks to God for the reconciling work of Christ and prays over the bread and wine.*

#### MEMORIAL ACCLAMATION

*Presider* Therefore, according to his command, O Father,

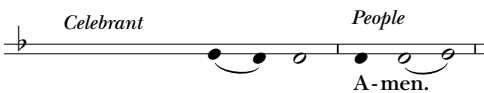
*People* **We remember his death, We proclaim his resurrection, We await his coming in glory;**

*The Presider continues*

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.



#### THE LORD'S PRAYER

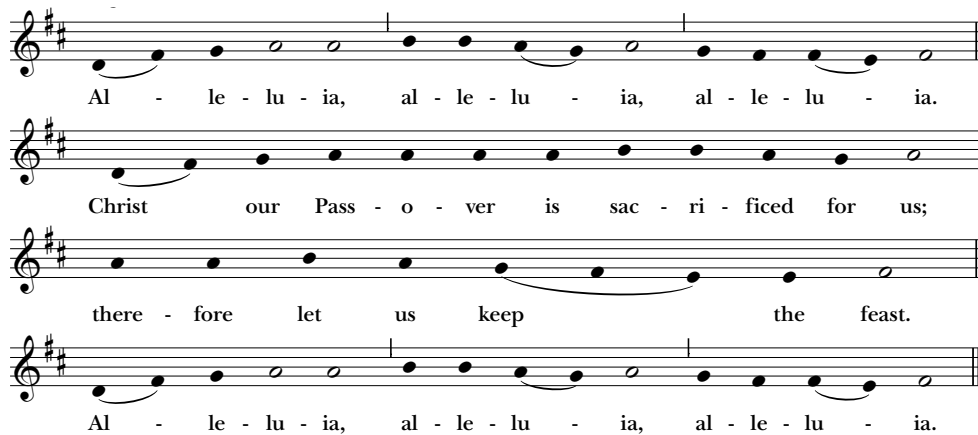
*Presider* And now, as our Savior Christ has taught us, we are bold to say,

*People* **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, HYMNAL, S 154

David Hurd

*Sung by all.*



#### INVITATION [The People are seated.]

*As Jesus welcomed all to his table, so do we at Holy Comforter. The bread and the wine are the central symbols of God's presence and we invite you to share in the Eucharist in whatever way feels comfortable to you, regardless of age or tradition. We also offer gluten-free bread and unfermented grape juice as alternatives—just let the priest know. If you prefer to receive a blessing, cross your arms in front of your chest. The Holy Eucharist is an outward and visible sign of an inward and spiritual grace, a mutual indwelling of Christ in us and us in him. Come to the table and be joined into Christ's ministry of love and reconciliation.*

#### HEALING PRAYERS

*Anyone wishing for healing prayers—whether for yourself or for another or for our hurting world—is invited to come to the prayer station in the back of the nave after receiving communion. You need only say as much as you wish, and anything said will be held in confidence.*

COMMUNION MUSIC [Sung by all.]

HYMN 343 "Shepherd of souls, refresh and bless"

St. Agnes

HYMN 306 "Come, risen Lord, and deign to be our guest"

Sursum Corda

SENDING OF EUCHARISTIC VISITORS

*Presider* In the name of God and of this congregation, I send you forth bearing these holy gifts, that those to whom you go may share with us in the Communion of Christ's Body and Blood.

*People* **We who are many are one body because we share one bread, one cup.**

THE POSTCOMMUNION PRAYER [Said by all.]

**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 EASTER BLESSING

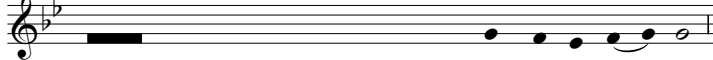
AT THE CLOSING, HYMN 205 (stanzas 1, 3-5) "Good Christians all, rejoice and sing!"

Gelobt sei Gott

*Sung by all, standing.*

DISMISSAL IN EASTER SEASON, HYMNAL, S 175

*Deacon*



Go in peace to love and serve the Lord, al - le - lu - ia,



al - le - lu - ia.

*People*



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

CLOSING VOLUNTARY: Prelude on *Christ lag in Todesbanden* (Hymn 186)

Johann Sebastian Bach