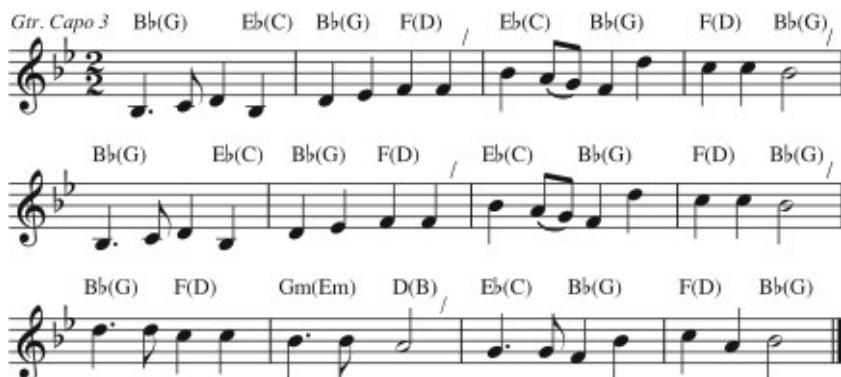


Anglican Diocese of Wangaratta
Parochial District of Wangaratta West & The Warbys
THE SECOND SUNDAY OF EASTER
16th April, 2023—9.30am Eucharist

Processional Hymn TiS 379. tune, Unser Herrscher (Neander)



1. He is risen, he is risen!
Tell it with a joyful voice:
he has burst his three days' prison;
let the whole wide world rejoice.
Death is conquered, we are free,
Christ has won the victory.
2. Come, with high and holy gladness,
sing our Lord's triumphant song;
not one touch of twilight sadness
dims his resurrection morn;
brightly dawns the radiant east,
brighter far our Easter feast.
3. He is risen, he is risen!
He has opened heaven's gate:
we are free from sin's dark prison,
risen to a holier state;
soon a brighter Easter beam
on our longing eyes shall stream.

Cecil Frances Alexander, 1846 *alt*

The Acclamation

Alleluia! Christ is risen.

He is risen indeed. Alleluia!

The Welcome & Greeting

The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit, be with you all.

And also with you.

Prayer of Preparation

**Almighty God, to whom all hearts are open,
all desires known,
and from whom no secrets are hidden:
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.**

Invitation to Confession

Christ our Passover Lamb has been offered for us, therefore we come to celebrate the festival.

Lord have mercy.

Christ have mercy.

Lord have mercy.

Some moments of silence

Let us confess our sins in penitence and faith, with a sincere and a true heart.

**Almighty God, our heavenly Father,
we have sinned against you
in thought, and word, and deed,
and in what we have failed to do.
Have mercy on us, forgive us all that is past,
and grant that we may serve you
and live a new life to your glory;
through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

Absolution

Almighty God, who forgives all who truly repent, have mercy on you, pardon and deliver you from all your sins, confirm and strengthen you in all goodness, and keep you in life eternal; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Hymn of Praise (*sung or said*)

**Glory to God in the highest,
and peace to God's 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. A-men.**

The Collect

Let us pray

Almighty and eternal God,
the strength of those who believe
and the hope of those who doubt,
may we, who have not seen, have faith
and receive the fullness of Christ's blessing,
who is alive and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

Please be seated

THE MINISTRY OF THE WORD

A Reading from the Acts of the Apostle [2. 14a, 22-32]

But Peter, standing with the eleven, raised his voice and addressed them: 'Men of Judea and all who live in Jerusalem, let this be known to you, and listen to what I say.

'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.

Hear the word of the Lord.

THANKS BE TO GOD

Psalm 16

Preserve me, O God:
for in you have I taken refuge.

**I have said to the Lord, You are my lord:
and all my good depends on you.**

As for those who are held holy on the earth:
the other gods in whom people delight,

**Though the idols are many that they run after:
their offerings of blood I will not offer,
nor take their name upon my lips.**

The Lord is my appointed portion and my cup:
you hold my lot in your hands.

**The share that has fallen to me is in pleasant places:
and a fair land is my possession.**

I will bless the Lord who has given me counsel:
at night also he has instructed my heart.

**I have set the Lord always before me:
he is at my right hand, and I shall not fall.**

Therefore my heart is glad and my spirit rejoices:
my flesh also shall rest secure.

**For you will not give me over to the power of death:
nor suffer your faithful one to see the Pit.**

You will show me the path of life:
in your presence is the fulness of joy,
and from your right hand flow delights for evermore.

A Reading from the First Letter of St Peter [1. 1-12]

Peter, an apostle of Jesus Christ,
To the exiles of the Dispersion in Pontus, Galatia, Cappadocia,
Asia, and Bithynia, who have been chosen and destined by God
the Father and sanctified by the Spirit to be obedient to Jesus
Christ and to be sprinkled with his blood:
May grace and peace be yours in abundance.

Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ!
By his great mercy he has given us a new birth into a living hope
through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead, and into
an inheritance that is imperishable, undefiled, and unfading, kept
in heaven for you, who are being protected by the power of God
through faith for a salvation ready to be revealed in the last time.
In this you rejoice, even if now for a little while you have had to
suffer various trials, so that the genuineness of your faith—being
more precious than gold that, though perishable, is tested by
fire—may be found to result in praise and glory and honour
when Jesus Christ is revealed. Although you have not seen him,
you love him; and even though you do not see him now, you
believe in him and rejoice with an indescribable and glorious joy,
for you are receiving the outcome of your faith, the salvation of
your souls.

Concerning this salvation, the prophets who prophesied of the
grace that was to be yours made careful search and inquiry,
inquiring about the person or time that the Spirit of Christ within
them indicated, when it testified in advance to the sufferings

destined for Christ and the subsequent glory. It was revealed to them that they were serving not themselves but you, in regard to the things that have now been announced to you through those who brought you good news by the Holy Spirit sent from heaven—things into which angels long to look!

Hear the word of the Lord.

THANKS BE TO GOD

Please Stand

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

I am the first and the last. Says the Lord, and the living One.

I was dead and behold I am alive for evermore, evermore.

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

The Gospel of Our Lord Jesus Christ According to John [20. 19-31]

Glory to you Lord Jesus 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.

For the Gospel of the Lord,
praise to you Lord Jesus Christ.

Sermon

A time of silence for reflection may follow the sermon

Creed

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

**I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord,
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,
born of the virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died, and was buried;
he descended to the dead.**

**On the third day he rose from the dead;
he ascended into heaven,
and is seated at the right hand of the Father;
from there he will come to judge the living and the dead.**

**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. Amen.**

THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Let us pray for the world and for the Church.

Lord, we give thanks for all who, though they have not seen you, have believed. We give thanks for the disciples and your appearing to them in the Upper Room.

Help us to know that you are with us in your risen power. We pray for Christians who are fearful of persecution, for all who are suffering because of their faith.

May your church speak out boldly in the power of your resurrection.

Christ, risen Lord, be with us

and give us your peace.

We pray for all who are seekers after justice, freedom and peace. Bless the work of the United Nations and all peace-keeping forces. Protect all who seek to bring new life and peace to troubled communities. We pray for community workers and all local councils.

Christ, risen Lord, be with us

and give us your peace.

We give thanks for those who taught us the faith, who shared their beliefs with us.

We are grateful for all who have set us examples to follow.

May we rejoice in your presence in our homes.

May we show forth your power in our lives.

Bless us in all our dealings and relationships.

Christ, risen Lord, be with us

and give us your peace.

We pray for all who are locked in by guilt or fear,
all who are afraid to venture because of risk and danger.

We pray for all who need healing of past hurts,
for the healing of memories, for all who are suffering from losing
loved ones through accidents, crime, or illness.

Christ, risen Lord, be with us

and give us your peace.

We give thanks for all who have passed beyond death and
rejoice in your kingdom, for all who have triumphed over sin and
suffering and are now at peace.

Christ, risen Lord, be with us

and give us your peace.

Concluding prayer

Heavenly Father,
you have delivered us from the power of darkness
and brought us into the kingdom of your Son:
grant that, as his death has recalled us to life,
so his continual presence in us may raise us to eternal joy;
through Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

THE GREETING OF PEACE

Even though you do not see him now, you believe in him and rejoice with an indescribable and glorious joy, for you are receiving the outcome of your faith, the salvation of your souls.

Alleluia.

The peace of the Lord be always with you.

And also with you.

Alleluia!

In Eastertide Peace Greeting goes like this:

Christ is risen.

He is Risen indeed!

Offertory Hymn—AHB 500. tune, Kingsfold

1. I heard the voice of Jesus say,
‘Come unto Me and rest;
lay down, O weary one,
lay down your head upon my breast.’
I came to Jesus as I was, weary and worn and sad;
I found in him a resting place, and he has made me glad.
2. I heard the voice of Jesus say, ‘Behold, I freely give
the living water; thirsty one,
stoop down, and drink, and live.’
I came to Jesus, and I drank of that life giving stream;
my thirst was quenched, my soul revived,
and now I live in him.
3. I heard the voice of Jesus say,
‘I am this dark world's Light;
look unto me, your morn shall rise,
and all your day be bright.’
I looked to Jesus, and I found in him my Star, my Sun;
and in that Light of life I'll walk,
till travelling days are done.

Horatius Bonar, 1846

Creator of all, you wash away our sins,
you give us new birth by the Spirit,
and redeem us in the blood of Christ.
As we celebrate the resurrection, renew your gift of life within us.
We ask this in the name of Jesus Christ the risen Lord. **Amen.**

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

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.

All glory and honour, be yours now and always,
mighty Creator, everliving God.

We give you thanks and praise for your Son,
our Saviour Jesus Christ,
who by the power of your Spirit was born of Mary
and lived as one of us.

He is the true Paschal Lamb who was offered for us
and has taken away the sin of the world.

And now we give you thanks
that you raised him in triumph from the dead.

By his death, he has destroyed death
and by his rising to life again has restored us to eternal life.

Therefore with angels and archangels,
and with all the company of heaven,
we proclaim your great and glorious name,
for ever praising you and saying/singing:

**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.

Holy God, we thank you for these gifts of your creation,
this bread and wine,
and we pray that we who eat and drink them
in obedience to our Saviour Christ,
by the power of the Holy Spirit,
may be partakers of his body and blood,
and be made one with him and with each other
in peace and love. ✠

On the night he was betrayed Jesus took bread;
and when he had given you thanks he broke it,
and gave it to his disciples, saying,

‘Take, eat. This is my body given for you.

Do this in remembrance of me.’ ✠

After supper, he took the cup,
and again giving thanks he gave it to his disciples, saying,
'Drink from this, all of you.

This is my blood of the new covenant
shed for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins.

Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me.' ✠

Therefore we do as our Saviour has commanded:
proclaiming his offering of himself
made once for all upon the cross,
his mighty resurrection and glorious ascension,
and looking for his coming again,
we celebrate, with this bread and this cup,
his one perfect and sufficient sacrifice
for the sins of the whole world.

Praise to you, Lord Jesus:

Dying, you destroyed our death.

Rising, you restored our life.

Christ Jesus, come in glory.

As we eat and drink this holy sacrament,
renew us by your Spirit
that we may be united in the body of your Son
and serve you as a royal priesthood
in the joy of your eternal kingdom.

Receive our praises, Father,
through Jesus Christ our Lord,
with whom and in whom, by the power of the Holy Spirit,
we worship you in songs of never-ending praise:

**Blessing and honour and glory and power
are yours for ever and ever. Amen.**

As our Saviour Christ has taught us, we are confident to pray,

**Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name,
your kingdom come, your will be done,
on earth as in heaven.**

Give us today our daily bread.

**Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us.
Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil.**

**For the kingdom, the power and the glory are yours,
now and for ever. Amen.**

THE BREAKING OF THE BREAD
AND THE COMMUNION

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

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

Jesus, Lamb of God, have mercy on us.

Jesus, bearer of our sins, have mercy on us.

Jesus, redeemer of the world, grant us your peace.

Draw near with faith,
to feed on Christ in your hearts with thanksgiving.

Alleluia!

Communion Meditation

*By your kingly power, O risen Lord,
all that Adam lost is now restored:
in your resurrection be adored.*

Sing the joyful Easter cry,
sound it to the souls in prison,
shout our triumph to the sky:
sing Christ risen, sing Christ risen.

Sing the joyful Easter cry,
let all times and peoples listen:
death has no more victory,
sing Christ risen, sing Christ risen.

Death has lost and life has won;
every newborn soul we christen
has the Father's child become:
sing Christ risen, sing Christ risen.

James Phillip McAuley 1917–76 *alt.*

THE SENDING OUT OF GOD'S PEOPLE

Eternal God, giver of life,
in the breaking of the bread we know the risen Lord.
May we who celebrate this holy feast
walk in his risen light
and bring new life to all creation.

**Father,
we offer ourselves to you as a living sacrifice
through Jesus Christ our Lord.
Send us out in the power of your Spirit
to live and work to your praise and glory. Amen.**

Notices

After Communion Hymn—AHB 287/TiS 367. tune, Vulpius

- 1. The strife is past, the battle done;
now is the victor's triumph won;
now let the song of praise be sung:
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!**
- 2. Death's mightiest powers have done their worst,
and Jesus has his foes dispersed;
let shouts of praise and joy outburst:
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!**
- 3. On the third day he rose again
glorious in majesty to reign;
let us take up the great refrain:
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!**
- 4. He closed the frowning gates of hell;
the bars from heaven's high portals fell;
let hymns of praise his triumph tell:
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!**
- 5. Now by your stripes, our wounded King,
your servants free from death's dread sting,
that we may live in you, and sing
'Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!'**

Anon., Latin, in *Symphonia Sirenum Selectarum*, Cologne, 1695
tr. Francis Pott 1832–1909 alt.
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The Blessing

The God of peace,
who brought again from the dead our Lord Jesus,
that great shepherd of the sheep,
through the blood of the eternal covenant,
make you perfect in every good work to do his will,
working in you that which is well-pleasing in his sight;
and the blessing of God almighty,
the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit,
be upon you and remain with you always. **Amen.**

The Dismissal

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord: Alleluia, alleluia!
In the name of Christ. Alleluia, alleluia!

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CCLI 637628

After making communion, there is often quite wait before we move on to the next part of the service. What is a person to do with all this time in which NOTHING seems to be happening”?

One can always PRAY.

But about what, and for what, and for whom?

One could go through the prayers on the back page of the pewsheet. Or you could just sit quietly with God and allow your thoughts to wander and offer each thought as a prayer.

Above all, it is best to NOT TALK to your neighbours at this point in case they are trying to pray and feel compelled to be nice and respond to you.

This is called ‘guarding the other persons silence’ and is a tremendous habit to practise.

Other good things to do at this point in the service are to re-read the Scripture Lessons & Psalm and the Hymns.

Before you know it, the time will have been filled in and the next thing will be starting and you may be upset that there is now something else to do.

NH

Some notes about Easter

This period of the year, from Easter Day through the Day of Pentecost, is the oldest part of the Church Year. It is directly derived from the fifty-day period in the Jewish calendar, which began with Passover and concluded with Pentecost (the Greek term for “fiftieth day”). The Lord’s death and resurrection took place at Passover, and its completion—the empowering of the apostles by the Holy Spirit—took place on Pentecost. These are the church’s original feast days, which in very early times were both moved to the Sundays following the Jewish festivals, because of the early church’s intense reverence for the first day of the week as the Lord’s Day, the Day of Resurrection. The early Christians considered every Sunday to be a celebration of the rising of Christ and of the coming of the Holy Spirit—a repetition of Easter and Pentecost.

From The Rite Light: Reflections on the Sunday Readings and Seasons of the Church Year.
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There are a growing number of Christians that think that the “Easter” is rooted in pagan Babylonian tradition. One of the basic assumptions is that the name “Easter” is but a Christian remake of “Ishtar”, a Babylonian goddess. Even though the words sound similar, they probably have no etymological connection. The English word “Easter” likely comes from the Proto-Germanic “*austron*”, which means “sunrise” – arguably a fitting name for the “rising from the dead”.

What is more important, however, is that outside of the English-speaking world (and that is a majority of Christians!) “Easter” is known by its proper name “*Pascha*”. *Pascha* is an Aramaic synonym of the Hebrew *Pesach*, which means “Passover”.

Extract from a post by Dr. Faydra Shapiro and Dr. Eli Lizorkin-Eyzenberg