CHRIST CHURCH THE EPISCOPAL CHURCH IN ASPEN



3ND SUNDAY OF EASTER APRIL 26, 2020

Welcome to Christ Church! We're glad you're worshiping with us today.

Be thoughtful, be silent, be reverent; invite God into your home.

Before the service, speak to the Lord; during the service, let the Lord speak to you; after the service, speak to one another.

Morning Prayer The Book of Common Prayer, pp. 78

Good morning. My name is the Rev. Stephen Ayres, and I am the priest at Christ Episcopal Church in Aspen, Colorado. Thank you for tuning in. I hope this meditation will bring you comfort during this period of social isolation.

During this period of mandatory church closure, Christ Church will be live streaming two programs each Sunday. This 8:00 service includes the gospel, a meditation, and a few prayers and is streamed via Facebook Live. For those without Facebook, the same service will be posted on christchurchaspen.org on the Service and Sermons page.

This abbreviated service of Morning Prayer begins on page 78 of the Book of Common Prayer. You can find our prayer book online at BCPONLINE.ORG.

Alleluia! Christ is risen.

The Lord is risen indeed, Alleluia!

Christ has entered, not into a sanctuary made with hands, a copy of the true one, but into heaven itself, now to appear in the presence of God on our behalf.

Dearly beloved, we have come together in the presence of Almighty God our heavenly Father, to set forth his praise, to hear his holy Word, and to ask, for ourselves and on behalf of others, those things that are necessary for our life and our salvation. And so that we may prepare ourselves in heart and mind to worship him, let us kneel in silence, and with penitent and obedient hearts confess our sins, that we may obtain forgiveness by his infinite goodness and mercy.

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.

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*.

Lord, open our lips.

And our mouth shall proclaim your praise.

Officiant and People

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit: as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be for ever. Amen

Christ our Passover Pascha nostrum 1 Corinthians 5:7-8; Romans 6:9-11; 1 Corinthians 15:20-22 Alleluia.

Christ our Passover has been sacrificed for us; *

therefore let us keep the feast,

Not with old leaven, the leaven of malice and evil, *

but with the unleavened bread of sincerity and truth. Alleluia.

Christ being raised from the dead will never die again; *

death no longer has dominion over him.

The death that he died, he died to sin, once for all; *

but the life he lives, he lives to God.

So also consider yourselves dead to sin, *

and alive to God in Jesus Christ our Lord. Alleluia.

Christ has been raised from the dead, *

the first fruits of those who have fallen asleep.

For since by a man came death, *

by a man has come also the resurrection of the dead.

For as in Adam all die, *

so in Christ shall all be made alive. Alleluia.

PSALM 116:1-3, 10-17

Dilexi, quoniam

I love the Lord, because he has heard the voice of my supplication, *because he has inclined his ear to me whenever I called upon him.

The cords of death entangled me; the grip of the grave took hold of me; * I came to grief and sorrow.

Then I called upon the Name of the Lord: * "O Lord, I pray you, save my life."

How shall I repay the Lord * for all the good things he has done for me?

I will lift up the cup of salvation * and call upon the Name of the Lord.

I will fulfill my vows to the Lord * in the presence of all his people.

Precious in the sight of the Lord * is the death of his servants.

O Lord, I am your servant; * I am your servant and the child of your handmaid; you have freed me from my bonds.

I will offer you the sacrifice of thanksgiving * and call upon the Name of the Lord.

I will fulfill my vows to the Lord *in the presence of all his people,

In the courts of the Lord's house, * in the midst of you, O Jerusalem. Hallelujah!

A READING FROM THE ACTS OF THE APOSTLES 2:14A, 36-41

Peter, standing with the eleven, raised his voice and addressed the crowd, "Let the entire house of Israel know with certainty that God has made him both Lord and Messiah, this Jesus whom you crucified." Now when they heard this, they were cut to the heart and said to Peter and to the other apostles, "Brothers, what should we do?" Peter said to them, "Repent, and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ so that your sins may be forgiven; and you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit. For the promise is for you, for your children, and for all who are far away, everyone whom the Lord our God calls to him." And he testified with many other arguments and exhorted them, saying, "Save yourselves from this corrupt generation." So those who welcomed his message were baptized, and that day about three thousand persons were added.

A READING FROM THE GOSPEL OF LUKE

Now on that same day two of Jesus' disciples were going to a village called Emmaus, about seven miles from Jerusalem, and talking with each other about all these things that had happened. While they were talking and discussing, Jesus himself came near and went with them, but their eyes were kept from recognizing him. And he said to them, "What are you discussing with each other while you walk along?" They stood still, looking sad. Then one of them, whose name was Cleopas, answered him, "Are you the only stranger in Jerusalem who does not know the things that have taken place there in these days?" He asked them, "What things?"

They replied, "The things about Jesus of Nazareth, who was a prophet mighty in deed and word before God and all the people, and how our chief priests and leaders handed him over to be condemned to death and crucified him. But we had hoped that he was the one to redeem Israel. Yes, and besides all this, it is now the third day since these things took place. Moreover, some women of our group astounded us. They were at the tomb early this morning, and when they did not find his body there, they came back and told us that they had indeed seen a vision of angels who said that he was alive. Some of those who were with us went to the tomb and found it just as the women had said; but they did not see him." Then he said to them, "Oh, how foolish you are, and how slow of heart to believe all that the prophets have declared! Was it not necessary that the Messiah should suffer these things and then enter into his glory?" Then beginning with Moses and all the prophets, he interpreted to them the things about himself in all the scriptures. As they came near the village to which they were going, he walked ahead as if he were going on. But they urged him strongly, saying, "Stay with us, because it is almost evening and the day is now nearly over." So he went in to stay with them. When he was at the table with them, he took bread, blessed and broke it, and gave it to them. Then their eyes were opened, and they recognized him; and he vanished from their sight. They said to each other, "Were not our hearts burning within us while he was talking to us on the road, while he was opening the scriptures to us?" That same hour they got up and returned to Jerusalem; and they found the eleven and their companions gathered together. They were saying, "The Lord has risen indeed, and he has appeared to Simon!" Then they told what had happened on the road, and how he had been made known to them in the breaking of the bread.

Sermon

Let us say together the Apostles Creed p96 BCP

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

Let us pray

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.

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*.

O God, you make us glad with the weekly remembrance of the glorious resurrection of your Son our Lord: Give us this day such blessing through our worship of you, that the week to come may be spent in your favor; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen*.

O God, the author of peace and lover of concord, to know you is eternal life and to serve you is perfect freedom: Defend us, your humble servants, in all assaults of our enemies; that we, surely trusting in your defense, may not fear the power of any adversaries; through the might of Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

Let us pray for our family and friends a Christ Church, Aspen CEC MEMBERS: Bob & Marsha, George, Margo & Keith, Veronica, BobbiAnn, John, Kim, Tom, Bob, All Those Serving Their Country, The young people and students of Aspen FRIENDS & FAMILY OF CEC MEMBERS: Noel, Susan & Mickey, Petra, Harrison, Charlie, Elizabeth, Beverly, Jocelyn, Henry, Annie, Otto

For the doctors, nurses and first responders in the Roaring Fork Valley and throughout the world, as they combat the coronavirus pandemic and for all those who are suffering with the coronavirus.

For the thousands of souls who have died from the coronavirus around the world this week.

LET US PRAY FOR OUR CHRIST CHURCH RECTOR SEARCH EFFORTS

Father, we thank you for loving us and living through us. May all that we do flow from our deep connection with you. At this time of transition for Christ Church and our search for a new Rector, we ask for your help in discerning your will in making decisions to strengthen and grow our church to your glory. Help us to be attentive to one another, respecting our individual desires for our church so that we may become unified in our mission. We pray for your guidance as we seek the leader who can help us to become the Christian community we aspire to be. We offer this prayer in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ. Amen

O God, you have made of one blood all the peoples of the earth, and sent your blessed Son to preach peace to those who are far off and to those who are near: Grant that people everywhere may seek after you and find you; bring the nations into your fold; pour out your Spirit upon all flesh; and hasten the coming of your kingdom; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen*.

Almighty God, you have given us grace at this time with one accord to make our common supplication to you; and you have promised through your well-beloved Son that when two or three are gathered together in his Name you will be in the midst of them: Fulfill now, O Lord, our desires and petitions as may be best for us; granting us in this world knowledge of your truth, and in the age to come life everlasting. *Amen*.

Then may be said Alleluia, Alleluia, Let us bless the Lord. Thanks be to God. Alleluia, Alleluia

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit, be with us all evermore. *Amen.*

Thank you for joining with members of Christ Church, Aspen in this moment of prayer and reflection. Please like, share, or forward this web cast. If you would like to support Christ Church's ministry, you can find a donate button on christchurchaspen.org. Have a blessed week. I look forward to worshipping with you next weekend.

