

# TRINITY EPISCOPAL CATHEDRAL



THE SECOND SUNDAY OF EASTER

APRIL 27, 2025 - 4:00PM

FESTAL EVENSONG

## The Resurrection of our Lord Jesus Christ

Alleluia! Christ is Risen!

So what? What difference does it make? Who cares?

Who cares if a first-century carpenter in some backwater province of the ancient Roman Empire ran afoul of the ruling authorities and got himself killed on a cross? What difference does it make that some Jewish preacher told a bunch of semi-literate fishermen and crooked tax collectors and blind, lame, maimed beggars and women of highly-suspect reputations that his death would unfold in precise fulfillment of a divine plan established from before the foundations of the world were laid? And if, as the great last act of his plan, this humble hero, this weak warrior, this meek Messiah told his gullible followers that he would rise again from the dead...so what is that to me and to you?

Let me be clear: if Jesus Christ did not rise from the dead then there is no more meaning to this day than a sugar rush from a basketful of jelly beans and a once-a-year consumption of mint jelly (which is, surely, more than enough for anybody). If Christ is not raised, we who gather in this Cathedral are fools—and worse. We are lost. We are separated from God our Creator and our Father. We are cut off from the everlasting promises given to Abraham. We are bereft of the sustaining and sanctifying power of the Holy Ghost. We are dead in our sins. As another first-century Jew—a man called Saul of Tarsus, better known as Saint Paul the Apostle—says, if Christ is not raised, “we are of all men most miserable.”

“But,” Paul continues in his First Letter to the Corinthian Church, “now is Christ risen from the dead, and become the firstfruits of them that slept.” The firstfruits—of an abundant harvest! For if Death is the tyrant ruling over all humankind, if Sin is the sickness infecting every human heart, then Christ Jesus’ victory over those oppressors is great Good News for every human who has ever or will ever live.

If Jesus of Nazareth was who he said he was—is who he says he is—then nothing else in our universe, nothing else in our world, nothing else in our lives, nothing else in our hearts can ever be the same. If Jesus of Nazareth did what the Scriptures say he did—is doing what the Scriptures say he is doing—then this day is the turning point of all time and space. If Jesus of Nazareth was raised from the dead—is even now risen from the dead—then this day is the hinge on which all human history bends. This day is the starting point of a new Creation that will not at last go down to dust and decay and Death, but will instead be united with God in eternity.

Perhaps you are sitting in the pew right now listening to the Easter acclamation and wondering “So what? Who cares? What difference does it make?” I pray that by the power of the Holy Spirit you might see and know and believe and trust that Jesus Christ is risen from the dead—and that the life you live hereafter and the death you will one day die might be transformed by this truth. I pray that you will continue to grow in the knowledge and love of the Lord here at Trinity Cathedral, where all that we are and all that we do flows from the announcement that the tomb was found empty that first Easter morning. I pray that you will find the grace to say, with all your heart:

The Lord is risen indeed! Alleluia!

The Very Reverend Dane E. Boston, Dean of Trinity Cathedral

## FESTAL EVENSONG

*Please maintain a reverent silence before the service*

The setting of the Preces & Responses is by Bernard Rose (1916-1996)

The setting of the Canticles is by Samuel Coleridge-Taylor (1875-1912)

VOLUNTARY: Melody

Coleridge-Taylor

*The people stand and join in singing from the blue Hymnal 1982.*

Hymn 212 “Awake, arise, lift up your voice”

*Richmond*

THE INVITATORY (*sung by the Officiant and Choir*)

∞ O Lord, open thou our lips.

℞ And our mouth shall show forth thy praise.

∞ O God, make speed to save us.

℞ O Lord, make haste to help us.

∞ Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost;

℞ As it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be;  
world without end. Amen.

∞ Praise ye the Lord.

℞ The Lord’s Name be praised.

GREETING

THE PSALMS APPOINTED

*The people sit for the singing of the Psalm and stand at the Gloria Patri.*

Psalm 126

*In convertendo*

When the Lord turned again the captivity of Sion \*  
then were we like unto them that dream.

Then was our mouth filled with laughter \*  
and our tongue with joy.

Then said they among the heathen \*  
The Lord hath done great things for them.

Yea, the Lord hath done great things for us already \*  
whereof we rejoice.

Turn our captivity, O Lord \*  
as the rivers in the south.

They that sow in tears \*  
shall reap in joy.

He that now goeth on his way weeping, and beareth forth good seed \*  
shall doubtless come again with joy, and bring his sheaves with him.

Music: George Garrett (1834-1897)

Psalm 127

*Nisi Dominus*

Except the Lord build the house \*  
their labour is but lost that build it.

Except the Lord keep the city \*  
the watchman waketh but in vain.

It is but lost labour that ye haste to rise up early, and so late take rest, and eat  
the bread of carefulness \*  
for so he giveth his beloved sleep.

Lo, children and the fruit of the womb \*  
are an heritage and gift that cometh of the Lord.

Like as the arrows in the hand of the giant \*  
even so are the young children.

Happy is the man that hath his quiver full of them \*  
they shall not be ashamed when they speak with their enemies in the gate.

Music: Edmund Chipp (1823-1886)

Psalm 128

*Beati omnes*

Blessed are all they that fear the Lord \*  
and walk in his ways.

For thou shalt eat the labours of thine hands \*  
O well is thee, and happy shalt thou be.

Thy wife shall be as the fruitful vine \*  
upon the walls of thine house.

Thy children like the olive-branches \*  
round about thy table.

Lo, thus shall the man be blessed \*  
that feareth the Lord.

The Lord from out of Sion shall so bless thee \*  
that thou shalt see Jerusalem in prosperity all thy life long.

Yea, that thou shalt see thy children's children \*  
and peace upon Israel.

Music: Ivor Atkins (1869-1953)

Psalm 129

*Saepe expugnaverunt*

Many a time have they fought against me from my youth up \*  
may Israel now say.  
Yea, many a time have they vexed me from my youth up \*  
but they have not prevailed against me.  
The plowers plowed upon my back \*  
and made long furrows.  
But the righteous Lord \*  
hath hewn the snares of the ungodly in pieces.  
Let them be confounded and turned backward \*  
as many as have evil will at Sion.  
Let them be even as the grass growing upon the house-tops \*  
which withereth afore it be plucked up;  
Whereof the mower filleth not his hand \*  
neither he that bindeth up the sheaves his bosom.  
So that they who go by say not so much as, The Lord prosper you \*  
we wish you good luck in the Name of the Lord.

Music: George Scaife (1874-1960)

Psalm 130

*De profundis*

Out of the deep have I called unto thee, O Lord \*  
Lord, hear my voice.  
O let thine ears consider well \*  
the voice of my complaint.  
If thou, Lord, wilt be extreme to mark what is done amiss \*  
O Lord, who may abide it?  
For there is mercy with thee \*  
therefore shalt thou be feared.  
I look for the Lord; my soul doth wait for him \*  
in his word is my trust.  
My soul fleeth unto the Lord \*  
before the morning watch, I say, before the morning watch.  
O Israel, trust in the Lord, for with the Lord there is mercy \*  
and with him is plenteous redemption.  
And he shall redeem Israel \*  
from all his sins.

Music: Henry Davies (1869-1941)

Lord, I am not high-minded \*  
I have no proud looks.  
I do not exercise myself in great matters \*  
which are too high for me.  
But I refrain my soul, and keep it low, like as a child that is weaned  
from his mother \*  
yea, my soul is even as a weaned child.  
O Israel, trust in the Lord \*  
from this time forth for evermore.

Music: Paul Spicer (b. 1952)

**THE FIRST LESSON:** Isaiah 48.8-13

*The people stand.*

**CANTICLE:** *Magnificat - The Song of Mary*      The Book of Common Prayer, p. 65

*The people sit.*

**THE SECOND LESSON:** John 14.1-7

*The people stand.*

**CANTICLE:** *Nunc dimittis - The Song of Simeon*      BCP, p. 66

**THE APOSTLES' CREED** (*said by all*)      BCP, p. 66

I believe in God, the Father almighty,  
maker of heaven and earth;  
And in Jesus Christ his only Son our Lord;  
who was conceived by the Holy Ghost,  
born of the Virgin Mary,  
suffered under Pontius Pilate,  
was crucified, dead, and buried.  
He descended into hell.  
The third day he rose again from the dead.  
He ascended into heaven,  
and sitteth on the right hand of God the Father almighty.  
From thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Ghost,  
the holy catholic Church,  
the communion of saints,  
the forgiveness of sins,  
the resurrection of the body,  
and the life everlasting. Amen.

**THE PRAYERS** (*sung by the Officiant and Choir*)

∇ The Lord be with you.  
℞ And with thy spirit.  
∇ Let us pray.  
℞ Lord have mercy upon us;  
Christ have mercy upon us;  
Lord have mercy upon us.

**THE LORD'S PRAYER**

Our Father, which art in heaven,  
hallowed be thy Name,  
thy kingdom come,  
thy will be done,  
in earth as it is in heaven.  
Give us this day our daily bread.  
And forgive us our trespasses,  
as we forgive them that trespass against us.  
And lead us not into temptation,  
but deliver us from evil. Amen.

**THE SUFFRAGES**

∇ O Lord, show thy mercy upon us.  
℞ And grant us thy salvation.  
∇ O Lord, save the State.  
℞ And mercifully hear us when we call upon thee.  
∇ Endue thy ministers with righteousness.  
℞ And make thy chosen people joyful.  
∇ O Lord, save thy people.  
℞ And bless thine inheritance.  
∇ Give peace in our time, O Lord.  
℞ Because there is none other that fighteth for us,  
but only thou, O God.  
∇ O God, make clean our hearts within us.  
℞ And take not thy Holy Spirit from us.

## THE COLLECTS

Almighty and everlasting God, who in the Paschal mystery hast 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 the same Jesus Christ our Lord, who liveth and reigneth with thee and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. *Amen.*

O God, from whom all holy desires, all good counsels, and all just works do proceed; Give unto thy servants that peace which the world cannot give; that both our hearts may be set to obey thy commandments, and also that by thee, we, being defended from the fear of our enemies, may pass our time in rest and quietness; through the merits of Jesus Christ our Saviour.

Lighten our darkness, we beseech thee, O Lord; and by thy great mercy defend us from all perils and dangers of this night; for the love of thy only Son, our Saviour, Jesus Christ.

*The people sit.*

## THE ANTHEM

Rejoice in God, O ye Tongues; give the glory to the Lord, and the Lamb.

Nations, and languages, and every Creature, In which is the breath of Life.

Let man and beast appear before him, and magnify his name together.

Let Nimrod, the mighty hunter, bind a leopard to the altar and consecrate his spear to the Lord.

Let Ishmail dedicate a tyger, and give praise for the liberty In which the Lord has let him at large.

Let Balaam appear with an Ass, and bless the Lord his people and his creatures for a reward eternal.

Let Daniel come forth with a lion, and praise God with all his might through faith in Christ Jesus.

Let Ithamar minister with a chamois, and bless the name of Him that cloatheth the naked.

Let Jakim with the satyr bless God in the dance,

Let David bless with the bear – The beginning of victory to the Lord – to the Lord the perfection of excellence.

Hallelujah, from the heart of God, and from the hand of the artist inimitable, and from the echo of the heavenly harp in sweetness magnificent and mighty.

For I will consider my cat Jeffry.

For he is the servant of the living God, duly and daily serving him.

For at the first glance of the glory of God in the East he worships in his way.



For this is done by wreathing his body seven times round with elegant quickness.  
For he knows that God is his Saviour.  
For God has blessed him in the variety of his movements.  
For there is nothing sweeter than his peace when at rest.  
For I am possessed of a cat, surpassing in beauty, from whom I take occasion to  
bless Almighty God.

For the Mouse is a creature of great personal valour.  
For this is a true case—Cat takes female mouse—male mouse will not depart,  
but stands threat'ning and daring.  
. . . .If you will let her go, I will engage you, as prodigious a creature as you are.  
For the Mouse is a creature of great personal valour.  
For the Mouse is of an hospitable disposition.

For the flowers are great blessings.  
For the flowers have their angels, even the words of God's Creation.  
For the flower glorifies God and the root parries the adversary.  
For there is a language of flowers.  
For the flowers are peculiarly the poetry of Christ.  
For I am under the same accusation with my Savior—  
For they said, he is besides himself.  
For the officers of the peace are at variance with me, and the watchman smites  
me with his staff.  
For the Silly fellow! Silly fellow! is against me, and belongeth neither to me nor  
to my family.  
For I am in twelve HARSHIPS, but he that was born of a virgin shall deliver  
me out of all.

For H is a spirit and therefore he is God.  
For K is king and therefore he is God.  
For L is love and therefore he is God.  
For M is musick and therefore he is God.  
For the instruments are by their rhimes.  
For the Shawm rhimes are lawn fawn moon boon and the like.  
For the harp rhimes are sing ring string and the like.  
For the cymbal rhimes are bell well toll soul and the like.  
For the flute rhimes are tooth youth suit mute and the like.  
For the Bassoon rhimes are pass class and the like.  
For the dulcimer rhimes are grace place beat heat and the like.  
For the Clarinet rhimes are clean seen and the like.  
For the trumpet rhimes are sound bound soar more and the like.  
For the TRUMPET of God is a blessed intelligence and so are all the instruments  
in HEAVEN.

For GOD the father Almighty plays upon the HARP of stupendous magnitude and melody.

For at that time malignity ceases and the devils themselves are at peace.

For this time is perceptible to man by a remarkable stillness and serenity of soul.

Hallelujah, from the heart of God, and from the hand of the artist inimitable, and from the echo of the heavenly harp in sweetness magnificent and mighty.

Words: Christopher Smart (1722-1771)

Music: Benjamin Britten (1913-1976)

*The people stand.*

### THE GENERAL THANKSGIVING (*said by all*)

Almighty God, Father of all mercies,  
we thine unworthy servants  
do give thee most humble and hearty thanks  
for all thy goodness and loving-kindness  
to us and to all men.

We bless thee for our creation, preservation,  
and all the blessings of this life;  
but above all for thine inestimable love  
in the redemption of the world by our Lord Jesus Christ,  
for the means of grace, and for the hope of glory.

And, we beseech thee,  
give us that due sense of all thy mercies,  
that our hearts may be unfeignedly thankful;  
and that we show forth thy praise not only with our lips, but in our lives,  
by giving up our selves to thy service,  
and by walking before thee  
in holiness and righteousness all our days;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord,  
to whom, with thee and the Holy Ghost,  
be all honor and glory, world without end. Amen.

Hymn 196 “Look there! The Christ, our Brother, comes”

*Petrus*

### A PRAYER OF ST. JOHN CHRYSOSTOM

Almighty God, who hast given us grace at this time with one accord to make our common supplication unto thee; and dost promise, that when two or three are gathered together in thy Name thou wilt grant their requests; Fulfil now, O Lord, the desires and petitions of thy servants, as may be most expedient for them;

granting us in this world knowledge of thy truth, and in the world to come life everlasting. *Amen.*

*The Officiant concludes with the following*

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

**THE DISMISSAL** (*sung by the Officiant and choir*)

☩ The Lord be with you.

✠ And with thy spirit.

☩ Let us bless the Lord.

✠ Thanks be to God.

**VOLUNTARY:** Sortie in E-flat

Louis Lefébure-Wély (1817-1869)

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Choir: The Cathedral Choir of Adults

The Right Reverend Daniel P. Richards, *Bishop*

The Very Reverend Dane E. Boston, *Dean*

The Reverend Canon James P. Hartley, *Sub-Dean & Canon Pastor*

The Reverend Canon Mia C. McDowell, *Canon Catechist*

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