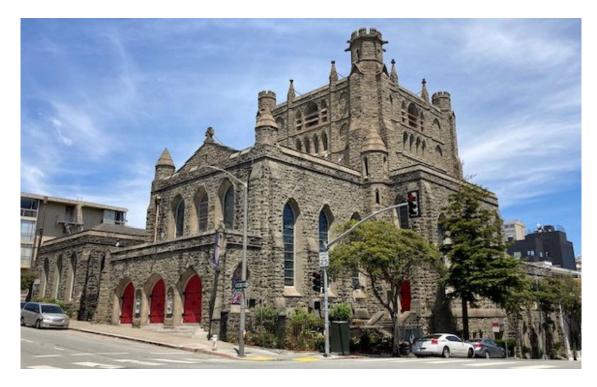
# Trinity†St. Peter's Episcopal Church

The Third Sunday of Easter

April 14, 2024



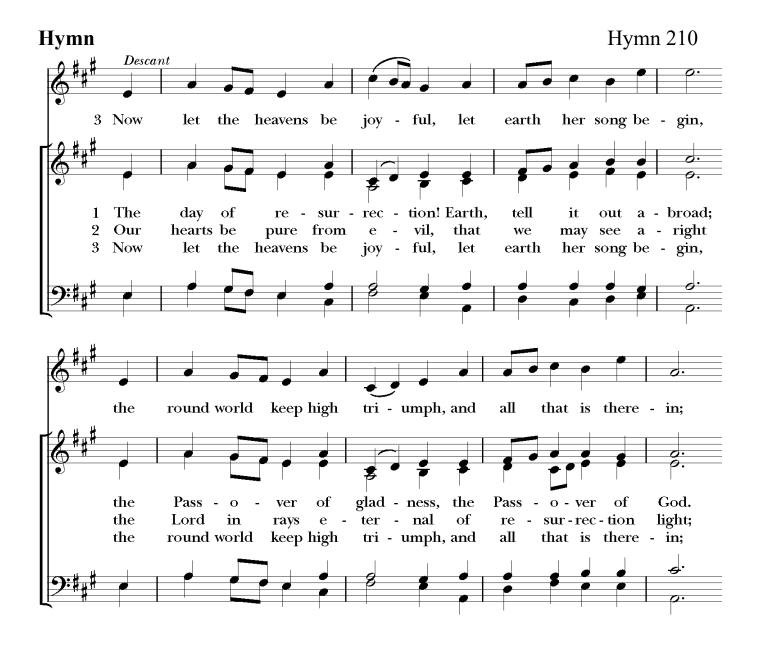
Prelude: "Christ lag in Todesbanden"

Johann Sebastian Bach

# **Holy Eucharist**

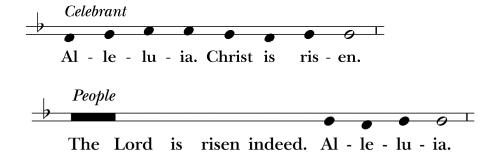
## **Entrance Rite**

At the sound of the bell, all stand as they are able for the beginning of our worship.





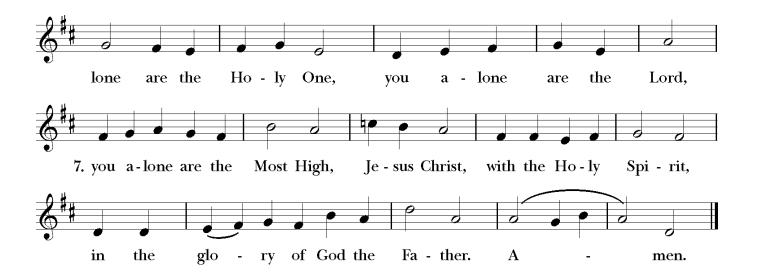
All remaining standing as are able,



#### Celebrant and People

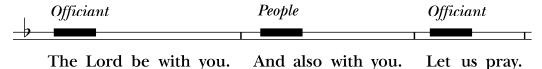
Almighty God, to you all hearts are open, all desires known, and from you no secrets are hid: Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you, and worthily magnify your holy Name; through Christ our Lord. Amen.



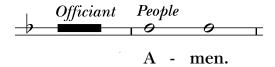


## The Liturgy of the Word

## Collect of the Day



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.



All sit.

First Reading Acts 3:12-19

A Reading from the Book of Acts.

Peter addressed the people, "You Israelites, why do you wonder at this, or why do you stare at us, as though by our own power or piety we had made him walk? The God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob, the God of our ancestors has glorified his servant Jesus, whom you handed over and

rejected in the presence of Pilate, though he had decided to release him. But you rejected the Holy and Righteous One and asked to have a murderer given to you, and you killed the Author of life, whom God raised from the dead. To this we are witnesses. And by faith in his name, his name itself has made this man strong, whom you see and know; and the faith that is through Jesus has given him this perfect health in the presence of all of you.

"And now, friends, I know that you acted in ignorance, as did also your rulers. In this way God fulfilled what he had foretold through all the prophets, that his Messiah would suffer. Repent therefore, and turn to God so that your sins may be wiped out."

Reader Hear what the Spirit is saying to God's people.

People Thanks be to God.

#### **Psalm**

Psalm 4 Cum invocarem

1 Answer me when I call, O God, defender of my cause; \* you set me free when I am hard-pressed; have mercy on me and hear my prayer.

- 2 "You mortals, how long will you dishonor my glory; \* how long will you worship dumb idols and run after false gods?"
- 3 Know that the Lord does wonders for the faithful; \* when I call upon the Lord, he will hear me.
- 4 Tremble, then, and do not sin; \* speak to your heart in silence upon your bed.
- 5 Offer the appointed sacrifices \* and put your trust in the Lord.
- 6 Many are saying, "Oh, that we might see better times!" \* Lift up the light of your countenance upon us, O Lord.
- 7 You have put gladness in my heart, \* more than when grain and wine and oil increase.

8 I lie down in peace; at once I fall asleep; \* for only you, Lord, make me dwell in safety.

Second Reading 1 John 3:1-7

A reading from the First Letter of John.

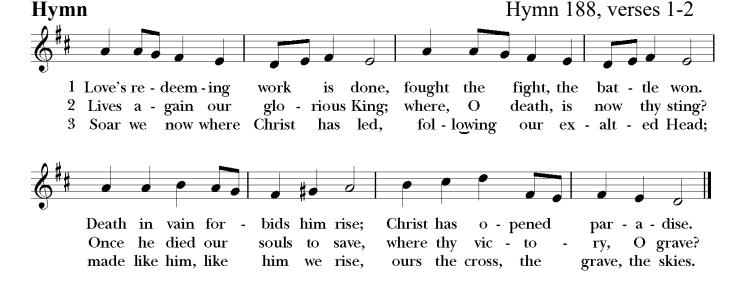
See what love the Father has given us, that we should be called children of God; and that is what we are. The reason the world does not know us is that it did not know him. Beloved, we are God's children now; what we will be has not yet been revealed. What we do know is this: when he is revealed, we will be like him, for we will see him as he is. And all who have this hope in him purify themselves, just as he is pure.

Everyone who commits sin is guilty of lawlessness; sin is lawlessness. You know that he was revealed to take away sins, and in him there is no sin. No one who abides in him sins; no one who sins has either seen him or known him. Little children, let no one deceive you. Everyone who does what is right is righteous, just as he is righteous.

*Reader* Hear what the Spirit is saying to the Churches.

People Thanks be to God.

All stand as are able.



Holy Gospel Luke 24:36b-48

All remain standing as are able.

Celebrant The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Luke.

People Glory to you, Lord Christ.

Jesus himself stood among the disciples and said to them, "Peace be with you." They were startled and terrified, and thought that they were seeing a ghost. He said to them, "Why are you frightened, and why do doubts arise in your hearts? Look at my hands and my feet; see that it is I myself. Touch me and see; for a ghost does not have flesh and bones as you see that I have." And when he had said this, he showed them his hands and his feet. While in their joy they were disbelieving and still wondering, he said to them, "Have you anything here to eat?" They gave him a piece of broiled fish, and he took it and ate in their presence.

Then he said to them, "These are my words that I spoke to you while I was still with you — that everything written about me in the law of Moses, the prophets, and the psalms must be fulfilled." Then he opened their minds to understand the scriptures, and he said to them, "Thus it is written, that the Messiah is to suffer and to rise from the dead on the third day, and that repentance and forgiveness of sins is to be proclaimed in his name to all nations, beginning from Jerusalem. You are witnesses of these things.

Celebrant The Gospel of the Lord.

People Praise to you, Lord Christ.

Hymn 188, verse 3 (reverse)

#### Sermon

Pause — a time for reflection

The Nicene Creed S-105

All stand as are able.







#### The Prayers of the People

All remain standing, as they are able.

Leader Christ, the stone which the builders rejected, God has made the cornerstone of a new community. In that name by which wa are founded, let us draw near in confidence, saying: Lord, have mercy.

Leader The risen Christ opened the minds of the disciples to understand the scriptures. May the church find in the scriptures healing, mission and good news for all. For this let us pray to the Lord:

People Lord, have mercy.

Leader Christ showed wounded hands and feet to his unbelieving apostles. May we see the risen one in all the wounded of our world. For this let us pray to the Lord:

People Lord, have mercy.

Leader Christ our cornerstone intercedes for us before God. Let us and all in authority heed God's call for justice in the church, in our community and in the nation. For this let us pray to the Lord:

People Lord, have mercy.

Leader We are saved by a God who is light, in whom there is no darkness at all. Let us beg for God's light in those places which seem darkest. Let us ask that God enlighten all who inflict darkness on others. Let us ask that God shine on those who are victims of evil. For this let us pray to the Lord:

People Lord, have mercy.

Leader In the power of Christ's name we are healed. Let us recall all who need healing and all in the healing professions. For them let us pray to the Lord:

People Lord, have mercy.

#### Celebrant and People

Loving God, you have glorified your Son Jesus and given him the name by which we are saved. Give us the courage to act in his name. Accept our praise, offered in his name, for we offer this prayer through and with and in Jesus, your Son and our Savior.

#### Peace

All stand as are able.

Celebrant The peace of Christ be always with you.

People And also with you.

Then the Minister and the People may greet one another in the name of the Lord.

#### **Announcements**

Announcements may be made at this point in the service, during which the people may be seated.

# **The Holy Communion**

## **The Offertory**

Bread and Wine are offered at the Altar, and the table is set for the Eucharist. A collection is taken for the work of the church and then blessed. In this set of actions, the whole assembly brings together our food, our material resources, our spirits, our bodies, our cares, our relationships, and our intentions, in order to present ourselves and our world as completely as possible to God. All of them will be blessed in the Eucharistic action to come, and creation itself will be renewed.

## **Offertory Sentence**

The Celebrant says

Offer to God a sacrifice of thanksgiving, and make good your vows to the Most High.

Offertory Anthem: "Come, Let Us Join Our Cheerful Songs" Isaac Watts, Alan Bullard

Come, let us join our cheerful songs with angels round the throne; ten thousand are their tongues. But all their joys are one.

Worthy the Lamb that died, they cry, to be exalted thus; 'Worthy the Lamb' our lips reply,' for he was slain for us.

Jesus is worthy to receive honor and pow'r divine; and blessings more than we can give Be, Lord, for ever thine.

The whole creation join in one to bless the sacred name of Him that sits upon the throne and to adore the Lamb

## The Great Thanksgiving

Eucharistic Prayer A

Celebrant Blessed are you, Lord God of all creation: through your goodness we

have this bread to offer, which the earth has given, and human hands

have made. It will become for us the bread of life.

People Blessed be God forever.

Celebrant Blessed are you, Lord God of all creation: through your goodness we

have this wine to offer, fruit of the vine, and work of human hands. It

will become for us the cup of salvation.

People Blessed be God forever.

Celebrant Pray, my sisters, and brothers, that my sacrifice and yours may be

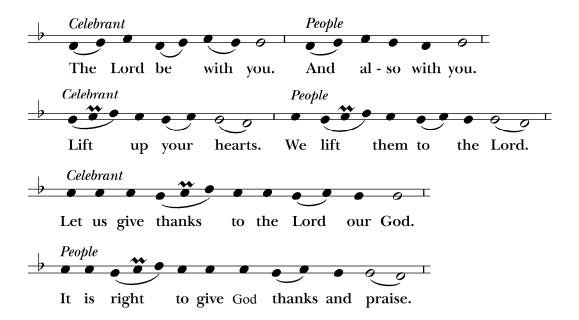
acceptable to God, the Almighty.

People May the Lord receive this sacrifice at your hands to the praise and

glory of God's name, to our benefit, and to that of all God's holy

Church.

All stand as are able.

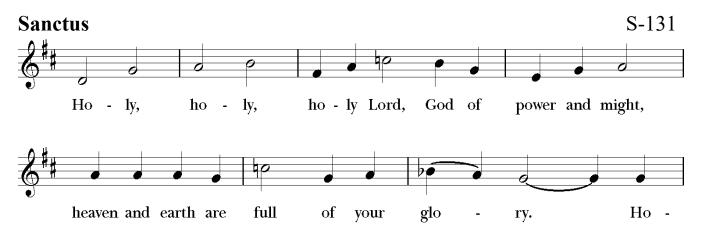


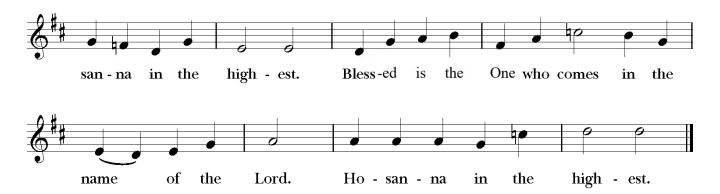
The Celebrant proceeds

It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth.

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:





The people kneel, or remain standing, as they are able.

#### Then the Celebrant continues

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:

Celebrant and People

Christ has died.

Christ is risen.

Christ will come again.

#### The Celebrant continues

We celebrate the memorial of our redemption, O Father, in this 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 Celebrant then continues

As our Savior Christ has taught us, we now pray,

#### People and Celebrant

Our Father and Mother 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.

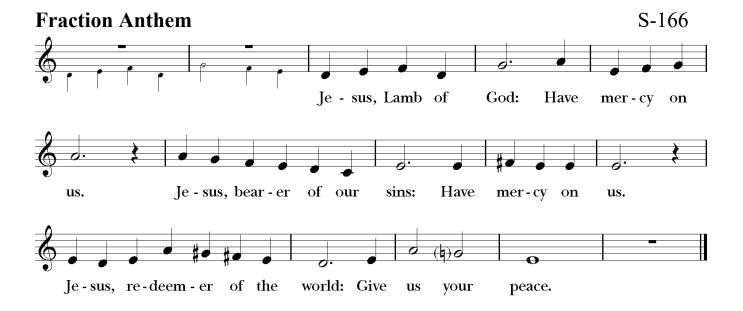
Save us from the time of trial, and deliver us from evil.

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

# The Breaking of the Bread

Celebrant Alleluia, Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us;

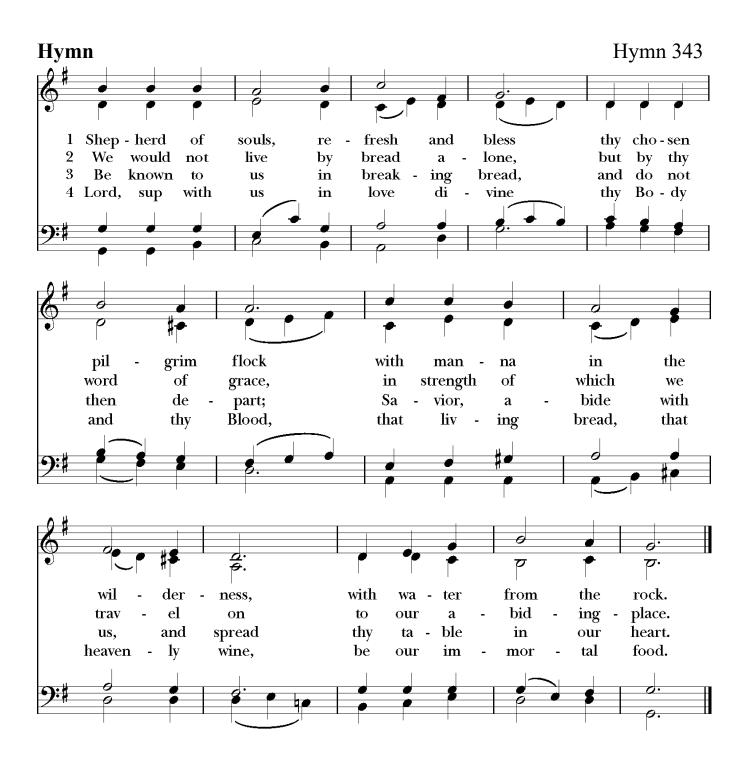
People Therefore let us keep the feast, Alleluia!

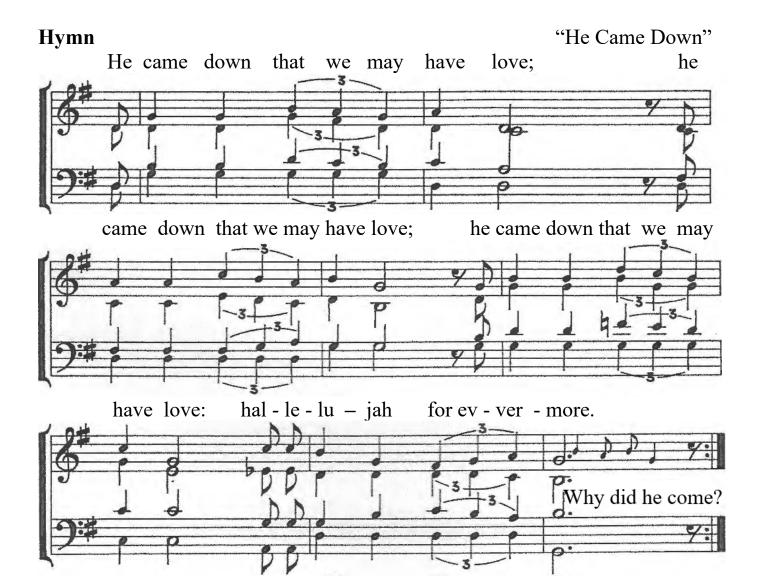


The Celebrant says,

# The Gifts of God for the People of God.

The People may be seated; the usher will indicate each row for communion. All who feel called are welcome to receive communion; alternatively, you may cross your arms over your chest if you prefer to receive a blessing.





After Communion, the Celebrant says

## Let us pray.

Celebrant and People, all standing or kneeling as they are able

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.

# **Blessing**

The God of peace, who brought again from the dead our Lord Jesus *Celebrant:* 

Christ, the great Shepherd of the sheep, through the blood of the everlasting 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 among you, and remain with you always.

People: Amen.



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## **Dismissal**

Celebrant: Let us go forth in the name of Christ.

People: Thanks be to God.

Postlude: "The Emperor's Fanfare"

Antonio Soler

## **Mystagogy**

In the seventh and eighth chapters of the Gospel of John, we see the evangelist using an ancient, and a Jewish, method of mystagogy, a means by which to understand the Christ. John uses the Feast of Tabernacles as a means to unravel the mysteries of the Christ. Mystagogy was a technique used by many religions to inculcate those who wished to understand or enter into a religion's mysteries. Thus there would be a mystagogue or a hierophant to lead whomever was searching into understandings about the mysteries of the religion.

In the early Christian Church, this role was assigned to the bishop, so that catechumens might be properly prepared for Baptism, initiation into the Church. Thus, the idea of mystagogy in Christianity became closely connected with the Easter mystery, because the Great Vigil of Easter was one of several times that baptisms were celebrated. The early church fathers are a rich treasure trove of mystagogical homilies meant to educate catechumens on the sacramental mysteries and to lead them into their practice. If you are interested in this practice, there are several volumes by Roman Catholic and Eastern Catholic authors on mystagogy and the catechumenate. I can also recommend Ezra Ham's volume, John, the Mystagogic Gospel, Volumes I and II. The growth of the catechumenate in recent years attests to its effectiveness in educating not only the young but anyone interested in learning the mysteries of Christianity. Easter is the ideal time to begin and work on this ministry. Deacon Ezra offers a different view of the Gospel of John, and gives us an effective tool for catechesis.

#### Future First Sundays Organ Recital, and Evensong, at 5:00 p.m., Spring 2024

May 5 Evensong with the Choir of Trinity†St. Peter's

June 2 Robert Gurney

We're glad you joined us this Sunday! If you'd like to learn more about T+SP, please feel free to contact us using the information below or visit our website: trinity-stpeters.org

Clergy: The Rev. Dr. Michael Hiller, priestly@batnet.com

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Louis Cortellesso (Junior Warden), cortellessolouis@gmail.com Paul Nettelmann (Treasurer), paulnettelmann@sbcglobal.net Sandy Kameron (Secretary), singsonsundays@sonic.net Lois M. Webb (Assistant Secretary), lodisgt@yahoo.com

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