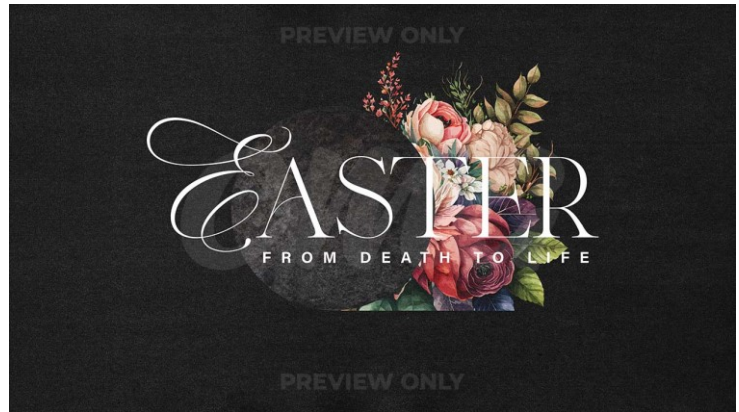


**The 3rd Sunday of Easter  
10:00 a.m. Holy Communion -  
April 14, 2024  
Rev Robert Morrison, Presider  
and Celebrant  
St. Martin's Episcopal Church  
*It is the ancient tradition of the  
Church not to say the Prayer of  
Confession during the Easter  
Season.***



**Prelude** *(Without music, use this time for quiet meditation.)*

**Opening Hymn #180** "He is Risen"

Presider: Alleluia. Christ is risen.

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

**Collect for Purity:** *Presider Let us pray together*

**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** *(say together) BCP p. 356*

**Glory to God in the highest,  
and peace to his 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. Amen.**

**Presider** The Lord be with you.

**People** **And also with you.**

**The 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. Amen.**

### **The Liturgy of the Word**

**The First Lesson is a Reading from the Acts of the Apostles 3:12-19**

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 4** *Cum invocarem* (Say Together)

**<sup>1</sup> 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.**

**<sup>2</sup> "You mortals, how long will you dishonor my glory; \*  
how long will you worship dumb idols  
and run after false gods?"**

**<sup>3</sup> Know that the LORD does wonders for the faithful; \*  
when I call upon the LORD, he will hear me.**

**<sup>4</sup> Tremble, then, and do not sin; \*  
speak to your heart in silence upon your bed.**

**<sup>5</sup> Offer the appointed sacrifices \*  
and put your trust in the LORD.**

**<sup>6</sup> Many are saying, "Oh, that we might see better times!" \*  
Lift up the light of your countenance upon us, O LORD.**

**<sup>7</sup> You have put gladness in my heart, \*  
more than when grain and wine and oil increase.**

**<sup>8</sup> I lie down in peace; at once I fall asleep; \*  
for only you, LORD, make me dwell in safety.**

**The Second Lesson is a Reading from the First Letter of John 3:1-7**

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 God’s people;
- **People Thanks be to God.**

**Gospel Hymn #178** *“Alleluia! Alleluia! Give Thanks to the Risen Lord”*

Deacon            **The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Luke 24:36b-48**  
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.

- Deacon            The Gospel of the Lord.
- People            **Praise to you, Lord Christ.**

**The Sermon**

Rev Robert Morrison

*silence for reflection*

***The Nicene' Creed (let us say together) (BCP p.358)***

Celebrant and People

***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.***

**Prayers of the People – Special Bid Your Prayers for Easter 2024**

PotP Leader

Reader: Trusting in the power of God that raised Christ from the dead, we pray now for the needs and hopes of the world, the Church, and our own hearts.

Reader: For Michael, our Presiding Bishop, for Diana, our Bishop, and for leaders of local churches everywhere, that their lives may model and proclaim Resurrection joy, peace, and hope, let us pray to the Lord.

**All: Lord, hear our prayer.**

Reader: For the leaders of our country, that the laws they create may embody God's vision of a world remade and refashioned on justice and equity for all, let us pray to the Lord.

**All: Lord, hear our prayer.**

Reader: For Christians around the world, that we may realize our connectedness as the family of God and the body of the resurrected Christ, let us pray to the Lord.

**All: Lord, hear our prayer.**

Reader: For an end to wars, violence, oppression and anarchy, especially in Ukraine, Russia, the Holy Land, and Haiti—and for the peace of the risen Christ to be established in all corners of our world, let us pray to the Lord.

**All: Lord, hear our prayer.**

Reader: For all who are ill, and for those nearing the end of their earthly life (pause), that they may feel the tender and loving presence of Christ, let us pray to the Lord.

**All: Lord, hear our prayer.**

Reader: For all who have died in the hope of the resurrection, and for all the departed whose faith is known to God alone (pause), let us pray to the Lord.

**All: Lord, hear our prayer.**

Reader: For the cares and concerns of our own hearts, and for those who have commended themselves to our prayers (pause), let us pray to the Lord.

**All: Lord, hear our prayer.**

Celebrant: Eternal God, may our hearts be filled with Easter joy as we celebrate the resurrection of Jesus. Help us, his followers, to bring healing to the human spirit, joy to places of sadness, and hope to hearts that are in despair.

We ask all of this in Your Son's' name.

**All: Amen.**

### **The Peace**

- *Presider*      The peace of the Lord be always with you.
- *People*      **And also with you.**

*The Ministers and People greet one another in the name of the Lord.*

### **The Liturgy of the Table**

#### **The Offertory Sentence;**

Presider: Walk in love as Christ loved us and gave himself for us, an offering & sacrifice to God.

**Hymn of Presentation 'Doxology** (sing to the tune: "Old One Hundredth")

***Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;***

***Praise God, all creatures here below;***

***Praise God above you heavenly hosts:***

***Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.***

### **The Great Thanksgiving Eucharistic Prayer A BCP p. 361**

The Lord be with you.

***And also with you.***

Lift up your hearts.

***We lift them to the lord.***

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

***It is right to give God thanks and praise.***

It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and every-where 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:

*Celebrant and People*

***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; Hosanna in the highest.***

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. ***Amen.***

### The Lord's Prayer (*let us say together*)

***Our Father who art in heaven,  
hallowed be your name,  
your kingdom come, your 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 and deliver us from evil.  
For Thine is the kingdom, the power, and the glory,  
now and forever. Amen.***

### The Breaking of the Bread

Alleluia! Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us;

***Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia!***

The Gifts of God for the People of God. Take them in remembrance that Christ died for you and feed on him in your hearts by faith, with thanksgiving.

### Communion Hymn

*Instrumental*

### Post-Communion Prayer of Thanksgiving (*we pray together*)

***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.***

### Prayer for St. Martin's (*let us pray together*)

***God of Love, open our eyes and ears to perceive you at work in creation, the church, and our parish. Fill our hearts with your love that we may reach out in love to others. Stir up our imagination with your Holy Spirit that we may find new ways to live into life with you. Give us a vision of your mission that we may share your love and your spirit in all the places where we work and play and worship you. In Jesus' holy name, Amen.***

### Birthdays, Anniversaries, and Travelling Mercies

#### Announcements

#### Easter Blessings

May Almighty God, who has redeemed us and made us his children through the resurrection of his Son our Lord, bestow upon you the riches of his blessing. ***Amen.***

May God, who through the water of baptism has raised us from sin into newness of life, make you holy and worthy to be united with Christ for ever. ***Amen.***

May God, who has brought us out of bondage to sin into true and lasting freedom in the Redeemer, bring you to your eternal inheritance. ***Amen.***

And the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be upon you and remain with you this day and for ever. . ***Amen.***

#### Closing Hymn #182

*"Christ is Alive! Let Christians Sing"*

**Dismissal** Let us go into the world rejoicing in the power of the Spirit. Alleluia, Alleluia!  
**People** ***Thanks be to God. Alleluia. Alleluia!***