

ST PAUL'S ELKINS PARK

An Inclusive Multicultural Episcopal Church



*The Second Sunday of Easter
The Lord is Risen*

April 11, 2021

The Rev. Paul DeWitt Reid, Rector

7809 Old York Road, Elkins Park, PA 19027 215.635.4185

ST PAUL'S ELKINS PARK

An Inclusive Multicultural Episcopal Church
stpaulselkinspark.org

*St. Paul's Episcopal Church is a multi-cultural community of faith
with members from all over the world.*

*We welcome all at the Holy Table in our church,
without exception, wherever you are in your spiritual journey.*

*We are a very interesting and articulate group of people
who want to grow in the Spirit, and who seek to follow Christ's path
of compassion and service.*

We'd love to get to know you!

Please feel free to join us for Sunday worship.

You will be most welcome!

Sunday Service

10:00 AM ZOOM Family Communion

Contemporary worship with ancient depth, with all kinds of music.

Tuesday Service

10:00 AM ZOOM Spoken Morning Prayer

Start your day with beauty and devotion with this 15-minute service.

Morning prayer and Bible Study are cancelled for

Cover: *Auferstehung Christi* by Meister von Meiskirch c. 1500 -1543

The Rev. Paul DeWitt Reid, Rector

The Rev. Simpson Coriolan, Priest Associate

David Antony Lofton, Music Director

The Rev. Paul DeWitt Reid, Rector (*on vacation till 4/24/2021*)
The Rev. Simpson Coriolan, Priest Associate and Celebrant
Janet Starwood, Preacher
David Antony Lofton, St. Paul's Music Director
Tessika McClendon, soprano, St. Paul's Music Minister
Shango-Jamal Lewis, baritone, St. Paul's Music Minister
Walter Runge, audio/video, St. Paul's Music Minister
Anne Marie Stanley, mezzo-soprano, Guest Artist, Academy of Vocal Arts
Shawn Roth, Tenor, Guest Artist, Academy of Vocal Arts
Brian Major, baritone, Guest Artist
Michelle Johnson, soprano, Guest Artist

The Holy Eucharist The Word of God

Prelude: *Because He Lives* by William Gaither

Opening Hymn

He Lives

Life Every Voice #42

Join our soloists and sing along at home!

I serve a risen Saviour, He's in the world today
I know that He is living, whatever others say
I see His hand of mercy, I hear His voice of cheer
And just the time I need Him He's always near

[Refrain]

He lives! He lives! Christ Jesus lives today!
He walks with me and talks with me
Along life's narrow way
He lives! He lives! Salvation to impart!
You ask me how I know He lives?
He lives within my heart

In all the world around me I see His loving care
And though my heart grows weary I never will despair
I know that He is leading, through all the stormy blast
The day of His appearing will come at last

[Refrain]

Rejoice, rejoice, O Christian! Lift up your voice and sing
Eternal hallelujahs to Jesus Christ, the King!
The Hope of all who seek Him, the Help of all who find
None other is so loving, so good and kind
[Refrain]

Opening Sentence

The Priest says: Alleluia. Christ is risen.
People The Lord is risen indeed. Alleluia.

Hymn of Praise and Glory (*Gloria*)

Blessed Assurance

Lift Every Voice #219

Join our soloists and sing along at home!

Blessed assurance, Jesus is mine
Oh, what a foretaste of glory divine
Heir of salvation, purchase of God
born of His spirit, washed in His blood

[Refrain]

This is my story, this is my song
Praising my Savior all the day long
This is my story, this is my song
Praising my Savior all the day long

Perfect submission, perfect delight
Visions of rapture now burst on my sight
Angels descending, looking above
Echoes of mercy, whispers of love
[Refrain]

Perfect submission, all is at rest,
I in my savior am happy and blessed
Watching and waiting, looking above,
Filled with His goodness, lost in his love.
[Refrain]

The Collect of the Day

The Celebrant says The Lord be with you.
People And also with you.
Let us pray

The Celebrant says the Collect.

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.**

The First Lesson

A reading from the Book of Acts 4:32-35

Now the whole group of those who believed were of one heart and soul, and no one claimed private ownership of any possessions, but everything they owned was held in common. With great power the apostles gave their testimony to the resurrection of the Lord Jesus, and great grace was upon them all. There was not a needy person among them, for as many as owned lands or houses sold them and brought the proceeds of what was sold. They laid it at the apostles' feet, and it was distributed to each as any had need.

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

People Thanks be to God.

Psalm 133

Oh, how good and pleasant it is, *
when brethren live together in unity!
It is like fine oil upon the head *
that runs down upon the beard,
Upon the beard of Aaron, *
and runs down upon the collar of his robe.
It is like the dew of Hermon *
that falls upon the hills of Zion.
For there the Lord has ordained the blessing: *
life for evermore.

The Second Lesson

A reading from the first Letter of John 1:1-2:2

We declare to you what was from the beginning, what we have heard, what we have seen with our eyes, what we have looked at and touched with our hands, concerning the word of life-- this life was revealed, and we have seen it and testify to it, and declare to you the eternal life that was with the Father and was revealed to us-- we declare to you what we have seen and heard so that you also may have fellowship with us; and truly our fellowship is with the Father and with his Son Jesus Christ. We are writing these things so that our joy may be complete.

This is the message we have heard from him and proclaim to you, that God is light and in him there is no darkness at all. If we say that we have fellowship with him while we are walking in darkness, we lie and do not do what is true; but if we walk in the light as he himself is in the light, we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus his Son cleanses us from all sin. If we say that we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. If we confess our sins, he who is faithful and just will forgive us our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness. If we say that we have not sinned, we make him a liar, and his word is not in us.

My little children, I am writing these things to you so that you may not sin. But if anyone does sin, we have an advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ the righteous; and he is the atoning sacrifice for our sins, and not for ours only but also for the sins of the whole world.

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

People Thanks be to God.

The Gospel

The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ
according to John 20:19-31

People Glory to you, Lord 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.

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

Homily

Janet Starwood

The Affirmation of Faith (*Creed*)

Let us affirm our faith using the words from the New Zealand Book of Common Prayer

You, O God, are supreme and holy.
 You create our world and give us life.
 Your purpose overarches everything we do.
 You have always been with us.
 You are God.

You, O God, are infinitely generous,
 good beyond all measure.
 You came to us before we came to you.
 You have revealed and proved
 your love for us in Jesus Christ,
 who lived and died and rose again.
 You are with us now.
 You are God.

You, O God, are Holy Spirit.
 You empower us to be your gospel in the world.
 You reconcile and heal; you overcame death.
 You are God. We worship you.

Taken from the New Zealand Book of Common Prayer

The Prayers at the Empty Tomb

Reader

God of all Life, Sacred One whose reality encompasses both life and death; we stand in awe at the gift of life and your promise that no Calvary can ever extinguish your loving purposes.

Roll away the stone, and let us see Christ risen.

Risen Jesus, divine yet always human, crucified yet always alive, Alpha and Omega; your faithful trust in God's call and God's love has opened for us a new way into the very heart of God.

Roll away the stone, and let us see Christ risen.

Sacred Spirit of all Life, you hovered over the waters of creation and embraced the cold tomb with the warmth of your unquenchable energy; move afresh in our lives.

Roll away the stone, and let us see Christ risen.

On this festival of the resurrection we pray for God's people throughout the world, and especially those living under great difficulty in Africa, Haiti, and the Holy Land and throughout the Middle East.

Roll away the stone, and let us see Christ risen.

Through these great Fifty Days of Easter raise up and renew your Church, and especially the Episcopal Church in this land. Bless our bishops, priests, deacons and faithful people in each diocese.

Roll away the stone, and let us see Christ risen.

In our shared life as a nation and as a community, help us to be Easter people; proclaiming in word and action the good news of your New World Order in which the last are placed first, the powerful are cast down and the rich are sent away empty.

Roll away the stone, and let us see Christ risen.

We bring to you all those who need an Easter experience in their lives and their circumstances at this time.

Name those in need of our prayers, either silently or aloud..

Raise them up, restore and heal them, good Lord.

Roll away the stone, **and let us see Christ risen.**

We claim our place in the great company of your Easter people joining in the hymn of praise that crosses time and goes beyond all time.

Please pray for those who have died, either silently or aloud.

**When our hearts are wintry, grieving, or in pain,
Your touch can call us back to life again,
Fields of our hearts that dead and bare have been;
Love is come again like wheat arising green.** ©2006 Greg Jenks

The Peace

All stand. The Celebrant says to the people

People The peace of Christ be always with you.
 And also with you.

Words of Welcome and Announcements

Celebrant: Remember the words of our Lord Jesus when he said it is more blessed to give than to receive

Offertory Anthem

Antiphon

by Ralph Vaughn Williams

Brian Major, baritone

The Holy Communion **Eucharistic Prayer**

Celebrant: All things come of thee, O Lord, and of thine own have we given thee

Celebrant The Lord be with you.

People **And also with you.**

Celebrant Lift up your hearts.

People **We lift them to the Lord.**

Celebrant Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People **It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

The Celebrant continues

It is truly right, and good and joyful,
to give you thanks, all-holy God,
source of life and fountain of mercy.

You have filled us and all creation with your
blessing and fed us with your constant love;

you have redeemed us in Jesus Christ
and knit us into one body.
Through your Spirit you replenish us
and call us to fullness of life.

Therefore, joining with Angels and Archangels
and with the faithful of every generation,
we lift our voices with all creation as we say:

Celebrant and People

Sanctus

Spoken

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.

Then the Celebrant continues

Blessed are you, gracious God, creator of the universe and giver of life. You formed us
in your own image and called us to dwell in your infinite love.

You gave the world into our care that we might be your faithful stewards and show
forth your bountiful grace. But we failed to honor your image in one another and in
ourselves; we would not see your goodness in the world around us; and so we violated
your creation, abused one another, and rejected your love. Yet you never ceased to care
for us, and prepared the way of salvation for all people.

Through Abraham and Sarah you called us into covenant with you. You delivered us
from slavery, sustained us in the wilderness, and raised up prophets to renew your
promise of salvation.

Then, in the fullness of time, you sent your eternal Word, made mortal flesh in Jesus.
Born into the human family, and dwelling among us, he revealed your glory. Giving
himself freely to death on the cross, he triumphed over evil, opening the way of
freedom and life.

On the night before he died for us, Our Savior Jesus Christ took bread, and when he had
given thanks to you, he broke it, and gave it to his friends, and said: "Take, eat: This is
my Body which is given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me."

As supper was ending, Jesus 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 poured out for you and for all 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

Remembering his death and resurrection, we now present to you from your creation this bread and this wine. By your Holy Spirit may they be for us the Body and Blood of our Savior Jesus Christ. Grant that we who share these gifts may be filled with the Holy Spirit and live as Christ’s Body in the world. Bring us into the everlasting heritage of your daughters and sons, that with all your saints, past, present, and yet to come, we may praise your Name for ever.

Through Christ and with Christ and in Christ, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, to you be honor, glory, and praise, for ever and ever. AMEN.

The Lord’s Prayer

And now, let us join hands as we say,

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*

The Breaking of the Bread

The Celebrant breaks the consecrated Bread.

We break this bread to share in the Body of Christ.

People *We who are many are one body,* for we all share in the one bread
and the one cup.

Celebrant and People

Agnus Dei

Lamb of God who takes away the sins of the world: have mercy on us.
Lamb of God who takes away the sins of the world: have mercy on us.
Lamb of God who takes away the sins of the world: give us your peace.

Spoken

The Invitation

The Celebrant invites the People with the following words

The Gifts of God for the People of God.

All are welcome at the Lord's table.

After Communion, the Celebrant says

Let us pray.

Celebrant and People

God of abundance, you have fed us

with the bread of life and cup of salvation; you have united us

with Christ and one another;

and you have made us one with all your people in heaven and on earth.

Now send us forth in the power of your Spirit,

that we may proclaim your redeeming love to the world and continue for ever

in the risen life of Christ our Savior. Amen

The Priest blesses the people.

God's Blessing be with you,

Christ's peace be with you,

the Spirit's outpouring be with you,

now and always. *Amen. (source: Celtic)*

Closing Hymn

Christ is Alive

Blue Hymnal #182

Join our soloists and sing along at home!

Christ is alive! Let Christians sing.

The cross stands empty to the sky.

Let streets and homes with praises ring.

His love in death shall never die.

Christ is alive! No longer bound,

To distant years in Palestine.

He comes to claim the here and now,

And conquer every place and time.

Not throned above, remotely high,

Untouched, unmoved by human pains.

But daily, in the midst of life,

Our Savior with the Father reigns.

In every insult, rift, and war,

Where color, scorn or wealth divide,

He suffers still, yet loves the more,
And lives, though ever crucified.

Christ is alive, His spirit burns,
Through this and every future age,
Till all creation lives and learns,
His joy, His justice, love, and praise.

The Celebrant dismisses the people with these words

Let us bless the Lord. Alleluia, Alleluia.

People

Thanks be to God. Alleluia. Alleluia.

Postlude: *Rejoice, The Lord is King* by Dan Forrest

Hymn (After Coffee Hour)

God Be With You

Lift Every Voice #234

Join our soloist and sing along at home!

God be with you, God be with you, God be with you,
Until we meet again (*Repeats*)