

Fourth Sunday of Easter

May 3, 2020

MISSION STATEMENT

To know and love God as He is revealed to us in Jesus Christ, to bring others to His saving love, and to serve the world in His name.



THE EPISCOPAL CHURCH OF ST. JOHN IN THE WILDERNESS

(Established 1836)
Flat Rock, North Carolina

Holy Eucharist, Rite II

8:45 am

Entrance Hymn: No. 664 My Shepherd will supply my need

Resignation

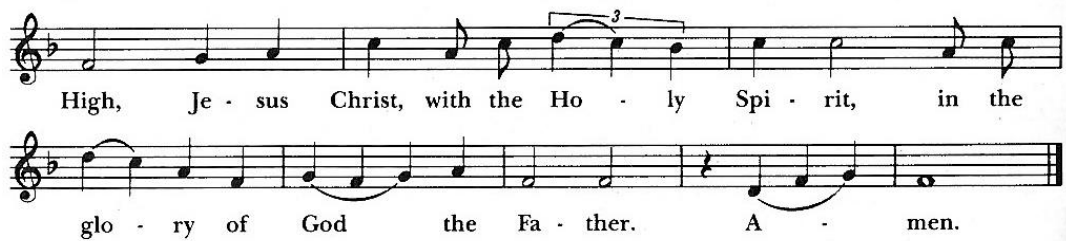
Celebrant Alleluia. Christ is risen.

People The Lord is risen indeed. Alleluia.

Glory to God *Gloria in excelsis*



1. Glo - ry to God in the high - est, and
peace to his peo - ple on earth. 2. Lord God, heaven - ly
King, al - might - y God and Fa - ther, we wor - ship you, we
give you thanks, we praise you for your glo - ry. 3. Lord Je - sus
Christ, on - ly Son of the Fa - ther, Lord God, Lamb of God, 4. you
take a - way the sin of the world: have mer - cy
on us; 5. you are seat - ed at the right hand of the Fa - ther: re -
ceive our prayer. 6. For you a - lone are the Ho - ly One,
you a - lone are the Lord, 7. you a - lone are the Most



Setting: Robert Powell (b. 1932)

THE MINISTRY OF THE WORD

The Celebrant says to the people

The Lord be with you.

People

And also with you.

Celebrant

Let us pray.

O God, whose Son Jesus is the good shepherd of your people: Grant that when we hear his voice we may know him who calls us each by name, and follow where he leads; who, with you and the Holy Spirit, lives and reigns, one God, for ever and ever.

People

Amen.

The First Lesson: Acts 2:42-47

Those who had been baptized devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching and fellowship, to the breaking of bread and the prayers.

Awe came upon everyone, because many wonders and signs were being done by the apostles. All who believed were together and had all things in common; they would sell their possessions and goods and distribute the proceeds to all, as any had need. Day by day, as they spent much time together in the temple, they broke bread at home and ate their food with glad and generous hearts, praising God and having the goodwill of all the people. And day by day the Lord added to their number those who were being saved.

The word of the Lord.

People

Thanks be to God.

The Psalm: Psalm 23

The Lord is my shepherd; *

I shall not be in want.

He makes me lie down in green pastures *
and leads me beside still waters.

He revives my soul *
and guides me along right pathways for his Name's sake.

Though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death,
I shall fear no evil; *

for you are with me;
your rod and your staff, they comfort me.

You spread a table before me in the presence of those who trouble me; *
you have anointed my head with oil,
and my cup is running over.

Surely your goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life, *
and I will dwell in the house of the Lord for ever.

The Second Reading: 1 Peter 2:19-25

It is a credit to you if, being aware of God, you endure pain while suffering unjustly. If you endure when you are beaten for doing wrong, what credit is that? But if you endure when you do right and suffer for it, you have God's approval. For to this you have been called, because Christ also suffered for you, leaving you an example, so that you should follow in his steps.

“He committed no sin,
and no deceit was found in his mouth.”

When he was abused, he did not return abuse; when he suffered, he did not threaten; but he entrusted himself to the one who judges justly. He himself bore our sins in his body on the cross, so that, free from sins, we might live for righteousness; by his wounds you have been healed. For you were going astray like sheep, but now you have returned to the shepherd and guardian of your souls.

The word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

Deacon The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to John

People **Glory to you, Lord Christ.**

The Gospel: John 10:1-10

Jesus said, “Very truly, I tell you, anyone who does not enter the sheepfold by the gate but climbs in by another way is a thief and a bandit. The one who enters by the gate is the shepherd of the sheep. The gatekeeper opens the gate for him, and the sheep hear his voice. He calls his own sheep by name and leads them out. When he has brought out all his own, he goes ahead of them, and the sheep follow him because they know his voice. They will not follow a stranger, but they will run from him because they do not know the voice of strangers.” Jesus used this figure of speech with them, but they did not understand what he was saying to them.

So again Jesus said to them, “Very truly, I tell you, I am the gate for the sheep. All who came before me are thieves and bandits; but the sheep did not listen to them. I am the gate. Whoever enters by me will be saved, and will come in and go out and find pasture. The thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy. I came that they may have life, and have it abundantly.”

After the Gospel, the Deacon says

The Gospel of the Lord.

People

Praise to you, Lord Christ.

The Sermon

Fr. Josh Stephens

The Nicene Creed

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.

The Prayers of the People

Let us join together in prayer for the Church and for the world, saying, "We pray to the
Lord; *Lord hear our prayer.*"

For our Bishop, and for all the clergy and people.

We pray to the Lord

Lord hear our prayer.

For all of those elected to public office, that in this moment of crisis that they might prove themselves prudent stewards of the public resources, set aside self-interest and dedicate themselves to serving the common good.

We pray to the Lord

Lord hear our prayer.

For all of those placed in harm's way through their service to the sick, especially doctors, nurses, medical technicians, and first responders.

We pray to the Lord

Lord hear our prayer.

For the men and women in law enforcement and military services, that they will be safe on behalf of maintaining safety and public order.

We pray to the Lord

Lord hear our prayer.

For the essential workers that are providing services to the hospitals, clinics, and providing services to all of us that are staying at home.

We pray to the Lord

Lord hear our prayer.

For those who are unemployed, for those who live in fear of being unemployed, that their anxious hearts might be quelled by acts of generosity and compassion.

We pray to the Lord

Lord hear our prayer.

For all of the sick, especially

Vanessa, Lori, Erica, Frances, Tom, Sue, Nancy, Cathy, Carolyn, Ernie and Paula, Tom, Ross Ann, Hariette, John, Sally, Ann, Steve, David, Dave, Nancy, Bob, Mary Frances, the Hulme [HUME] family, Mike, Joshua, Emily, and Joanne.

Are there others?

(followed by a brief silence for additional names by the congregation),

that Christ the good physician might intervene and grant them healing and hope.

We pray to the Lord

Lord hear our prayer.

We pray that the pandemic may be stopped and all those who suffer may find comfort in our Lord, Jesus Christ.

We pray to the Lord

Lord hear our prayer.

With the unknowns that we face in the current crisis, lead us away from fear and anger by showing us your grace and comfort,

We pray to the Lord.

Lord hear our prayer.

For all of the dead and for those who will die alone, bereft of the comfort of family and friends.

We pray to the Lord

Lord hear our prayer.

Silence

The People may add their own petitions.

The Celebrant adds a concluding Collect.

The Exchange of Peace

All stand. The Celebrant says to the people

The peace of the Lord be always with you.

People **And also with you.**

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

A Prayer for Those Celebrating Birthdays and Wedding Anniversaries in May

O God, our times are in your hands. Look with favor, we pray on your servants who are celebrating birthdays or wedding anniversaries this month. Grant that they may grow in wisdom and grace, and strengthen their trust in your goodness all the days of their lives; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

Offertory Hymn: No. 645 The King of love my shepherd is

St. Columba

Eucharistic Prayer D

The people remain standing. The Celebrant faces them and says

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.

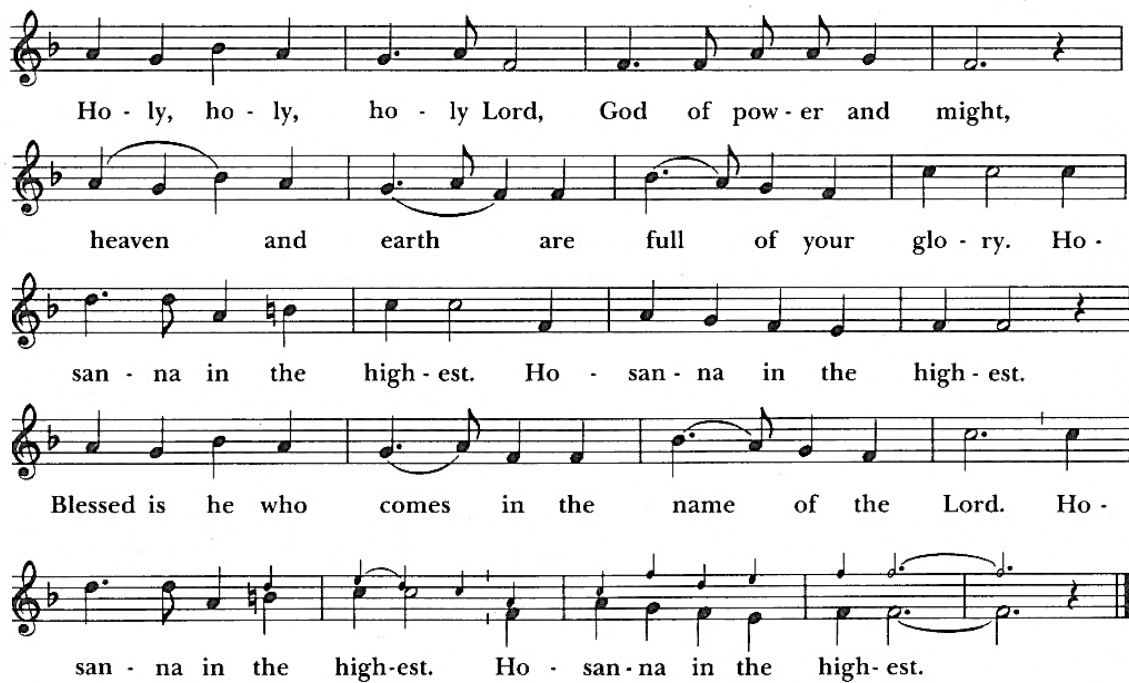
People **It is right to give him thanks and praise.**

Then, facing the Holy Table, the Celebrant proceeds

It is truly right to glorify you, Father, and to give you thanks; for you alone are God, living and true, dwelling in light inaccessible from before time and for ever.

Countless throngs of angels stand before you to serve you night and day; and, beholding the glory of your presence, they offer you unceasing praise. Joining with them, and giving voice to every creature under heaven, we acclaim you, and glorify your Name, as we sing,

Holy, holy, holy Lord *Sanctus*



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow - er and might,
heaven and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho -
san - na in the high - est. Ho - san - na in the high - est.
Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Ho -
san - na in the high - est. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

Setting: From *A Community Mass*; Richard Proulx (b. 1937)

The people stand or kneel.

Then the Celebrant continues

We acclaim you, holy Lord, glorious in power. Your mighty works reveal your wisdom and love. You formed us in your own image, giving the whole world into our care, so that, in obedience to you, our Creator, we might rule and serve all your creatures. When our disobedience took us far from you, you did not abandon us to the power of death. In your mercy you came to our help, so that in seeking you we might find you. Again and again you called us into covenant with you, and through the prophets you taught us to hope for salvation.

Father, you loved the world so much that in the fullness of time you sent your only Son to be our Savior. Incarnate by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, he lived as one of us, yet without sin. To the poor he proclaimed the good news of salvation; to prisoners, freedom; to the sorrowful, joy. To fulfill your purpose he gave himself up to death; and, rising from the grave, destroyed death, and made the whole creation new.

And, that we might live no longer for ourselves, but for him who died and rose for us, he sent the Holy Spirit, his own first gift for those who believe, to complete his work in the world, and to bring to fulfillment the sanctification of all.

At the following words concerning the bread, the Celebrant is to hold it or lay a hand upon it; and at the words concerning the cup, to hold or place a hand upon the cup and any other vessel containing wine to be consecrated.

When the hour had come for him to be glorified by you, his heavenly Father, having loved his own who were in the world, he loved them to the end; at supper with them he 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."

Father, we now celebrate this memorial of our redemption. Recalling Christ's death and his descent among the dead, proclaiming his resurrection and ascension to your right hand, awaiting his coming in glory; and offering to you, from the gifts you have given us, this bread and this cup, we praise you and we bless you.

Celebrant and People

**We praise you, we bless you,
we give thanks to you,
and we pray to you, Lord our God.**

The Celebrant continues

Lord, we pray that in your goodness and mercy your Holy Spirit may descend upon us, and upon these gifts, sanctifying them and showing them to be holy gifts for your holy people, the bread of life and the cup of salvation, the Body and Blood of your Son Jesus Christ.

Grant that all who share this bread and cup may become one body and one spirit, a living sacrifice in Christ, to the praise of your Name.

Remember, Lord, your one holy catholic and apostolic Church, redeemed by the blood of your Christ. Reveal its unity, guard its faith, and preserve it in peace.

[Remember (NN. and) all who minister in your Church.]

[Remember all your people, and those who seek your truth.]

[Remember _____.]

[Remember all who have died in the peace of Christ, and those whose faith is known to you alone; bring them into the place of eternal joy and light.]

And grant that we may find our inheritance with [the Blessed Virgin Mary, with patriarchs, prophets, apostles, and martyrs, (with _____) and] all the saints who have

found favor with you in ages past. We praise you in union with them and give you glory through your Son Jesus Christ our Lord.

Through Christ, and with Christ, and in Christ, all honor and glory are yours, Almighty God and Father, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, for ever and ever. *AMEN.*

And now, as our Savior Christ has taught us, we are bold to say,

People 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.

A period of silence is kept.

The Celebrant continues

Alleluia. Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us;
People Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia.

Facing the people, the Celebrant says the following Invitation

The Gifts of God for the People of God.

Spiritual Sharing of Communion

Communion Music: Improvisation on St. Columba

Dewitt Tipton

After Communion, the Celebrant says

Let us pray.

Celebrant and People

Prayer for Spiritual Communion

Faithful God, in the wonder of your wisdom and love you fed your people in the wilderness with the bread of angels, and you sent Jesus to be the bread of life. Though we cannot consume these gifts of Bread and Wine, we thank you that your Church has received the sacrament of Christ's presence, the forgiveness of sins, and all other benefits of Christ's passion. By the power of the Holy Spirit, may we embody your desire and be renewed for your service through Jesus Christ our Savior. Amen.

Easter Blessing

Dismissal

Dismissal Hymn: No. 495 Hail , thou once despised Jesus

In Babilone

THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

The Prayers of the People is that part of our liturgy which offers particular intercessions and thanksgivings to God. **Worshippers, wherever they are in the church, are encouraged to offer aloud or silently their own such prayers during the appropriate part of the Prayers of the People.** As we pray, please remember **those who are ill or with other needs:** Vanessa Wittman, Lori Kristen Raines, Erica, Frances Tindal, Tom, Sue, Nancy Taylor, Cathy Gibson, Carolyn Maloy, Ernie and Paula, Tom Joiner, Ross Ann McKee, Hariette Adams Graham, John Castline, Sally Books, Ann Armstrong, Steve Jones, David Middlebrook, Dave VonHolle, Nancy VonHolle, Bob Carter, Mary Frances, the Hulme family, Mike Woodard, Joshua Verner, Emily Tobin, and Joanne Adams.

THE EPISCOPAL CHURCH OF ST. JOHN IN THE WILDERNESS
PO Box 185, 1905 Greenville Highway, Flat Rock, NC 28731 828-693-9783

Website: www.stjohnflatrock.org

Worship Services 8:45 & 11:00am

Children's Sunday School: 10:00am (during school year only)/Adult Sunday School: 10:00am

Holy Eucharist & Healing Service – Wednesdays 10:30am in the Parish Hall Office Hours- 8:30am-3:30pm M-F

In case of pastoral emergencies:

Father Josh Stephens 828-808-5044 Deacon Sandy Rex 847-507-7212

The Rt. Rev. José McLoughlin, Bishop

The Rev. Josh Stephens, Rector: rector@stjohnflatrock.org

The Rev. Deacon Sandy Rex, Deacon: cwrexiii@rmimidwest.com

Dewitt Tipton, Organist/Director of Music: dewitt.tipton@furman.edu

Diana Byrd, Youth and Families Coordinator: byrddd@gmail.com

Leslie Stott, Parish Office Administrator: officeadmin@stjohnflatrock.org

Tracie Lutz, Administrative Assistant for Finance: aafinance@stjohnflatrock.org

Kevin Hunt, Sexton: sexton@stjohnflatrock.org

VESTRY MEMBERS

Senior Warden: Carol Rector

Junior Warden: Jerry Tanner

2020

Elizabeth Christenbury

Greg Newbold

Carol Rector

Michael Shannon

2021

Jerry Tanner

Cynthia Easterling

Janet Johnson

Shelley Schiro

2022

Terry Enslin

Marie Hyder

Gibson Sims

Dick Zecher

PARISH OFFICERS

Bill Farrell, Asst. Treasurer

Margaret Barker, Clerk of the Vestry

STANDING COMMITTEES

Buildings and Grounds Committee: Robin Howe

By Laws, Canons & Insurance: Jim Olson

Christian Formation: Mary Anne Inglis

Communications & Publicity: Joey Popp

Finance: Jodi Sundeen

Historic Churchyard Committee: Ken Jones

New Member Ministry: Brenda Hillyer, Judy Petersen

Outreach: Tom Deyerle

Personnel: Margaret Barker

Stewardship: David Christenbury

OTHER COMMITTEES AND MINISTRIES

Acolytes: Lynn Savage

Altar Guild: Sandra Jeffery, Marti Smith

Chefs of St. John: Jim Vint

Churchyard Trustees: Pete Petersen

Docents: Albert Gooch

Endowment Trustees: Tom Griswold

Episcopal Church Women (ECW): Kathy Newbold

Eucharistic Visitors: Dick Zecher

Flower Guild: Bay Chamberlain

Flower Memorials: Gaston Motes

Funeral Reception Ministry: Brenda Hillyer

Garden Guild: Jerry & Jan Tanner

Gatekeepers: Albert Gooch, Dick Zecher

Greeters: Betsy Tibbs

Heritage, Archives & Gift Committee: John Barker

Lay Readers: Susan MacDonald

Meal Ministry: Kathy Newbold

Needle Work Ministry: Judy Petersen

Newsletter Editor: Leslie Stott

Ushers: Tom Deyerle, Bettie Orr

Wedding Coordinator: Elaine Howe