

Third Sunday of Easter

April 26, 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. 180 He is risen, he is risen!

Unser Herrscher

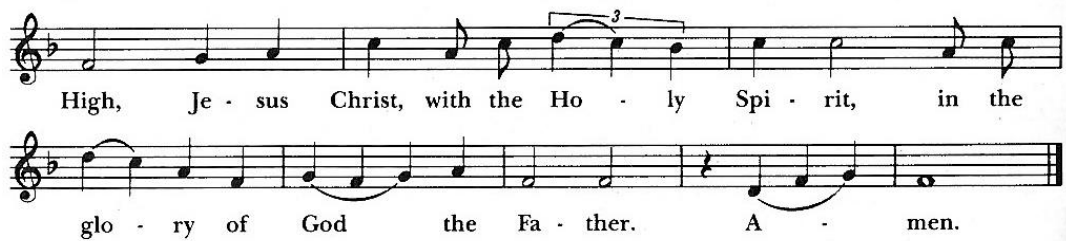
Celebrant Alleluia. Christ is risen.

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 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.

People

Amen.

The First Lesson: Acts 2:14a, 36-41

Peter, standing with the eleven, raised his voice and addressed the crowd, "Let the entire house of Israel know with certainty that God has made him both Lord and Messiah, this Jesus whom you crucified."

Now when they heard this, they were cut to the heart and said to Peter and to the other apostles, "Brothers, what should we do?" Peter said to them, "Repent, and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ so that your sins may be forgiven; and you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit. For the promise is for you, for your children, and for all who are far away, everyone whom the Lord our God calls to him." And he testified with many other arguments and exhorted them, saying, "Save yourselves from this corrupt generation." So those who welcomed his message were baptized, and that day about three thousand persons were added.

The word of the Lord.

People

Thanks be to God.

The Second Reading: 1 Peter 1:17-23

If you invoke as Father the one who judges all people impartially according to their deeds, live in reverent fear during the time of your exile. You know that you were ransomed from the futile ways inherited from your ancestors, not with perishable things like silver or gold, but with the precious blood of Christ, like that of a lamb without defect or blemish. He was destined before the foundation of the world, but was revealed

at the end of the ages for your sake. Through him you have come to trust in God, who raised him from the dead and gave him glory, so that your faith and hope are set on God.

Now that you have purified your souls by your obedience to the truth so that you have genuine mutual love, love one another deeply from the heart. You have been born anew, not of perishable but of imperishable seed, through the living and enduring word of God.

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: Luke 24:13-35

Now on that same day two of Jesus' disciples were going to a village called Emmaus, about seven miles from Jerusalem, and talking with each other about all these things that had happened. While they were talking and discussing, Jesus himself came near and went with them, but their eyes were kept from recognizing him. And he said to them, "What are you discussing with each other while you walk along?" They stood still, looking sad. Then one of them, whose name was Cleopas, answered him, "Are you the only stranger in Jerusalem who does not know the things that have taken place there in these days?" He asked them, "What things?" They replied, "The things about Jesus of Nazareth, who was a prophet mighty in deed and word before God and all the people, and how our chief priests and leaders handed him over to be condemned to death and crucified him. But we had hoped that he was the one to redeem Israel. Yes, and besides all this, it is now the third day since these things took place. Moreover, some women of our group astounded us. They were at the tomb early this morning, and when they did not find his body there, they came back and told us that they had indeed seen a vision of angels who said that he was alive. Some of those who were with us went to the tomb and found it just as the women had said; but they did not see him." Then he said to them, "Oh, how foolish you are, and how slow of heart to believe all that the prophets have declared! Was it not necessary that the Messiah should suffer these things and then enter into his glory?" Then beginning with Moses and all the prophets, he interpreted to them the things about himself in all the scriptures.

As they came near the village to which they were going, he walked ahead as if he were going on. But they urged him strongly, saying, "Stay with us, because it is almost evening and the day is now nearly over." So he went in to stay with them. When he was at the table with them, he took bread, blessed and broke it, and gave it to them. Then their eyes were opened, and they recognized him; and he vanished from their sight. They said to each other, "Were not our hearts burning within us while he was talking to us on the road, while he was opening the scriptures to us?" That same hour they got up and returned to Jerusalem; and they found the eleven and their companions gathered together. They were saying, "The Lord has risen indeed, and he has appeared to Simon!"

Then they told what had happened on the road, and how he had been made known to them in the breaking of the bread.

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

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.

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. Agnes"

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.

Blessing

Dismissal

Dismissal Hymn: No. 208 Alleluia! The strife is o'er, the battle done

Victory

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, Harriette 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