

**THE THIRD SUNDAY OF EASTER**  
**April 26, 2020 10 a.m.**  
**Virtual Worship – Holy Eucharist Rite II (Alternative Form)**  
**[www.stthomasgreenville.org](http://www.stthomasgreenville.org) or**  
**Saint Thomas Episcopal Church, Greenville, Alabama Youtube Channel**



ST. THOMAS EPISCOPAL CHURCH  
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Clergy and Staff

The Rt. Rev. Russell Kendrick, *Bishop of the Diocese of the Central Gulf Coast*  
The Rev. Linda Suzanne Borgen, *Rector*  
James Warren, *Director of Music*; Gary Mather, *Organist*  
Dent Neilson, *Verger*  
Noel Seale, *Parish Administrator*  
Julie Smith, *Nursery Nanny*

Vestry

Jean Hancock, *Senior Warden*; Lori Neilson, *Junior Warden*  
Laura Watts, Jr., *Clerk*; Cemira Powell, *Treasurer*  
Kenneth Edwards, Ed McFerrin, Lucy McGowin,  
Magoo Hamilton, Travis Powell and Mickey Worthington

## The Liturgy of the Word

### Processional Hymn

*That Easter day with joy was bright (verse 2)*

H 193

His risen flesh with radiance glowed,  
his wounded hands and feet he showed;  
those scars their solemn witness gave  
that Christ was risen from the grave.

### Opening Acclamation

BCP 355

**Celebrant** Alleluia. Christ is risen.

*People* The Lord is risen indeed. Alleluia.

### Celebrant

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.*

### A Song of Praise

BCP 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.

### Collect of the Day

**Celebrant** The Lord be with you.

*People* And also with you.

**Celebrant** Let us pray.

### Collect

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 Word of God

### First Reading 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.*

### Psalm 116:1-3, 10-17

*Dilexi, quoniam*

BCP 599

<sup>1</sup> I love the LORD, because he has heard the voice of my supplication, \*  
because he has inclined his ear to me whenever I called upon him.

<sup>2</sup> The cords of death entangled me;  
the grip of the grave took hold of me; \*  
I came to grief and sorrow.

<sup>3</sup> Then I called upon the Name of the LORD: \*  
"O LORD, I pray you, save my life."

<sup>10</sup> How shall I repay the LORD \*  
for all the good things he has done for me?

<sup>11</sup> I will lift up the cup of salvation \*  
and call upon the Name of the LORD.

<sup>12</sup> I will fulfill my vows to the LORD \*  
in the presence of all his people.

<sup>13</sup> Precious in the sight of the LORD \*  
is the death of his servants.

<sup>14</sup> O LORD, I am your servant; \*  
I am your servant and the child of your handmaid;  
you have freed me from my bonds.

<sup>15</sup> I will offer you the sacrifice of thanksgiving \*  
and call upon the Name of the LORD.

<sup>16</sup> I will fulfill my vows to the LORD \*  
in the presence of all his people,

<sup>17</sup> In the courts of the LORD's house, \*  
in the midst of you, O Jerusalem.  
Hallelujah!

## 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.*

## Piano Meditation

Gary Mather

## Gospel Luke 24:13-35

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

*People Glory to you, Lord Christ.*

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.

**Celebrant** The Gospel of the Lord.

*People Praise to you, Lord Christ.*

**The Nicene Creed**

BCP 358

*All say together*

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**

**Form I**

BCP 383

With all our heart and with all our mind, let us pray to the Lord,  
saying "*Lord, have mercy.*"

For the peace from above, for the loving-kindness of God, and for the salvation of our souls, let us  
pray to the Lord.

*Lord, have mercy.*

For the peace of the world, for the welfare of the Holy Church of God, and for the unity of all  
peoples, let us pray to the Lord.

*Lord, have mercy.*

For Russell, our Bishop, for Linda Suzanne, our priest, and for all the clergy and people, let us pray to  
the Lord.

*Lord, have mercy.*

For Donald, our President, for the leaders of the nations, and for all those in authority, that they  
would make wise decisions according to God's will, let us pray to the Lord.

*Lord, have mercy.*

For Dexter our mayor, for the city of Greenville, for every city and community, and for those who live in them, let us pray to the Lord.

*Lord, have mercy.*

For the good earth which God has given us, and for the wisdom and will to conserve it, let us pray to the Lord.

*Lord, have mercy.*

For the aged and infirm, for the widowed and orphans, and for the sick and the suffering, remembering especially today those on our prayer list and those suffering from COVID-19, let us pray to the Lord.

*Lord, have mercy.*

For all medical personnel and first responders, for their health and protection as they care for others, let us pray to the Lord.

*Lord, have mercy.*

For the poor and the oppressed, for the unemployed and the destitute, for prisoners and captives, and for all who remember and care for them, let us pray to the Lord.

*Lord, have mercy.*

For all who have died in the hope of the resurrection, and for all the departed, let us pray to the Lord.

*Lord, have mercy.*

For deliverance from all danger, violence, oppression, and degradation, let us pray to the Lord.

*Lord, have mercy.*

For the absolution and remission of our sins and offenses, let us pray to the Lord.

*Lord, have mercy.*

That we may end our lives in faith and hope, without suffering and without reproach, let us pray to the Lord.

*Lord, have mercy.*

Defend us, deliver us, and in thy compassion protect us, O Lord, by thy grace.

*Lord, have mercy.*

In communion with Thomas and all your saints, let us commend ourselves, and one another, and all our life, to Christ our God.

*To thee, O Lord our God.*

Silence.

### **Collects**

O God, the strength of the weak and the comfort of those who suffer; Mercifully accept our prayers, and grant to your servants the help of your power, that sickness may be turned into health and our sorrow into joy; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

Sanctify, O Lord, those whom you have called to the study and practice of the arts of healing, and to the prevention of disease and pain. Strengthen them by your life-giving Spirit, that by their ministries the health of the community may be promoted and your creation glorified; through Jesus Christ our Lord, *Amen.*

O God, the source of all health; So fill our hearts with faith in your love, that with calm expectancy we may make room for your power to possess us, and with grateful hearts accept your healing; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

### **Confession of Sin**

BCP 360

**Celebrant** Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

*The people kneel as they are able.*

### **Confession of Sin**

*All say together*

Most merciful God,  
we confess that we have sinned against you  
in thought, word, and deed,  
by what we have done,  
and by what we have left undone.  
We have not loved you with our whole heart;  
we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves.  
We are truly sorry and we humbly repent.  
For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ,  
have mercy on us and forgive us;  
that we may delight in your will,  
and walk in your ways,  
to the glory of your Name. *Amen.*

### **Absolution**

BCP 360

Almighty God have mercy on you, forgive you all your sins through our Lord Jesus Christ, strengthen you in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep you in eternal life. *Amen.*

### **The Peace**

**Celebrant** The peace of the Lord be always with you

*People And also with you*

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

## **The Holy Communion**

### **Offertory**

*The Priest says*

Offer to God a sacrifice of thanksgiving, and make good your vows to the Most High. *Psalm 50:14*

### **Piano Meditation**

Gary Mather

### **Doxology**

H 380, v 3

### **The Great Thanksgiving**

BCP 372

**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 him thanks and praise.*

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. Fountain of life and source of all goodness, you made all things and fill them with your blessing; you created them to rejoice in the splendor of your radiance. 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,

## **Sanctus**

S130

*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.*

*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.

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. And grant that we may find our inheritance with Thomas, 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 for ever. AMEN.

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

### **People and Celebrant**

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.

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

## **Celebrant**

The Gifts of God for the People of God.

Look on them in remembrance that Christ died for you,  
and feed on him in your hearts by faith, with thanksgiving.

## **Celebrant and people together, in place of the Post-Communion Prayer**

Lord of the Feast, we thank you for gathering us as your people. We call to remembrance the many times we have been fed at your table, and we wait with joyful expectation until we again share the bread of life and cup of salvation. Be present Lord Jesus as you were present with your disciples; may your Holy Spirit sustain us and all your Church. 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. We ask this for the sake of your love. *Amen.*

## **Blessing**

May this Easter season find your hope renewed and your heart filled with love for God and all those He calls you to serve. May you know the love of Christ more deeply and find your faith strengthened. And the blessing of God Almighty, Father, Son and Holy Spirit be upon you and remain with you always. *Amen.*

## **Recessional Hymn**

*That Easterday with joy was bright (verse 5)*

H 193

All praise, O risen Lord we give  
to thee, who, dead, again dost live;  
to God the Father equal praise,  
and God the Holy Ghost, we raise.

## **Dismissal**

**Celebrant** Let us go forth in the name of Christ. Alleluia, alleluia.

*People* Thanks be to God. Alleluia, alleluia.