

# Ante Communion Service: Resurrection of our Lord: Easter 2021

## Opening Hymn

## Jesus Christ is Risen Today

St. Bart's 2011

*Jesus Christ is risen today, Alleluia! our triumphant holy day, Alleluia!  
who did once, upon the cross, Alleluia! suffer to redeem our loss, Alleluia!*

*Hymns of praise then let us sing, Alleluia! unto Christ, our heavenly King, Alleluia!  
who endured the cross and grave, Alleluia! sinners to redeem and save, Alleluia!*

*But the pains which he endured, Alleluia! our salvation have procured, Alleluia!  
now above the sky he's king, Alleluia! where the angels ever sing, Alleluia!*

*Sing we to our God above, Alleluia! praise eternal as his love, Alleluia!  
praise him, all ye heavenly host, Alleluia! Father, Son, and Holy Ghost, Alleluia!*

*Celebrant* Blessed be the Holy Trinity, one God, the fountain of living water, the rock who gave birth,  
our light and our salvation. **Amen.**

*Celebrant* Almighty God, to whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom  
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 Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

*A moment of silence for self-reflection*

*Celebrant* Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

*People*

**Gracious God, have mercy on us.**

**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.**

*Celebrant* Joined to Christ in the waters of baptism, we are clothed with God's mercy and forgiveness.  
In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

*Celebrant* The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit  
be with you all.

*People*

**And also with you.**

In peace, let us pray to the Lord.

**Lord, have mercy.**

For the peace from above, and for our salvation, let us pray to the Lord.

**Lord, have mercy.**

For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the church of God, and for the unity of all,  
let us pray to the Lord.

**Lord, have mercy.**

For our holy house, and for all who offer their worship and praise, let us pray to the Lord.

**Lord, have mercy.**

Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gracious Lord.

**Amen.**

**This is the feast of victory for our God. Alleluia. Alleluia. Alleluia.**

**Worthy is Christ the Lamb who was slain, whose blood set us free to be people of God.**

**This is the feast of victory for our God. Alleluia. Alleluia. Alleluia.**

**Power, and wisdom, and strength, and honor, and blessing, and glory are his.**

**This is the feast of victory for our God. Alleluia. Alleluia. Alleluia.**

**Sing with all the people of God, and join in the hymn of all creation:**

**Blessing, honor, and glory, and might be to God and the Lamb forever. Amen.**

**This is the feast of victory for our God. Alleluia. Alleluia. Alleluia.**

**For the Lamb who was slain has begun his reign. Alleluia.**

**This is the feast of victory for our God. Alleluia. Alleluia. Alleluia.**

*Celebrant* Let us pray: **Almighty God, who through your only-begotten Son Jesus Christ overcame death and opened to us the gate of everlasting life: Grant that we, who celebrate with joy the day of the Lord's resurrection, may be raised from the death of sin by your life-giving Spirit; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.**

**First Reading**

**Isaiah 25:6-9**

On this mountain the Lord of hosts will make for all peoples a feast of rich food, a feast of well-aged wines, of rich food filled with marrow, of well-aged wines strained clear.

And he will destroy on this mountain the shroud that is cast over all peoples, the sheet that is spread over all nations; he will swallow up death forever. Then the Lord God will wipe away the tears from all faces, and the disgrace of his people he will take away from all the earth, for the Lord has spoken.

It will be said on that day, Lo, this is our God; we have waited for him, so that he might save us.

This is the Lord for whom we have waited; let us be glad and rejoice in his salvation.

The Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

**Psalm 118:1-2, 14-24**

*Confitemini Domino*

Give thanks to the Lord, for he is good; \*

**his mercy endures for ever.**

Let Israel now proclaim, \*

**"His mercy endures for ever."**

The Lord is my strength and my song, \*

**and he has become my salvation.**

There is a sound of exultation and victory \*

**in the tents of the righteous:**

"The right hand of the Lord has triumphed! \*

**the right hand of the Lord is exalted! the right hand of the Lord has triumphed!"**

I shall not die, but live, \*

**and declare the works of the Lord.**

The Lord has punished me sorely, \*

**but he did not hand me over to death.**

Open for me the gates of righteousness; \*

**I will enter them; I will offer thanks to the Lord.**

"This is the gate of the Lord; \*

**he who is righteous may enter."**

I will give thanks to you, for you answered me \*

**and have become my salvation.**

The same stone which the builders rejected \*

**has become the chief cornerstone.**

This is the Lord's doing, \*

**and it is marvelous in our eyes.**

On this day the Lord has acted; \*

**we will rejoice and be glad in it.**

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit.

**As it was in the beginning, is now, and every shall be. World without end. Amen.**

## **Second Reading**

**Acts 10:34-43**

Peter began to speak to Cornelius and the other Gentiles: "I truly understand that God shows no partiality, but in every nation anyone who fears him and does what is right is acceptable to him. You know the message he sent to the people of Israel, preaching peace by Jesus Christ--he is Lord of all. That message spread throughout Judea, beginning in Galilee after the baptism that John announced: how God anointed Jesus of Nazareth with the Holy Spirit and with power; how he went about doing good and healing all who were oppressed by the devil, for God was with him. We are witnesses to all that he did both in Judea and in Jerusalem. They put him to death by hanging him on a tree; but God raised him on the third day and allowed him to appear, not to all the people but to us who were chosen by God as witnesses, and who ate and drank with him after he rose from the dead. He commanded us to preach to the people and to testify that he is the one ordained by God as judge of the living and the dead. All the prophets testify about him that everyone who believes in him receives forgiveness of sins through his name."

The Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

## **Gospel**

**John 20:1-18**

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

**Glory to you, Lord Christ.**

Early on the first day of the week, while it was still dark, Mary Magdalene came to the tomb and saw that the stone had been removed from the tomb. So she ran and went to Simon Peter and the other disciple, the one whom Jesus loved, and said to them, "They have taken the Lord out of the tomb, and we do not know where they have laid him." Then Peter and the other disciple set out and went toward the tomb. The two were running together, but the other disciple outran Peter and reached the tomb first. He bent down to look in and saw the linen wrappings lying there, but he did not go in. Then Simon Peter came, following him, and went into the tomb. He saw the linen wrappings lying there, and the cloth that had been on Jesus' head, not lying with the linen wrappings but rolled up in a place by itself. Then the other disciple, who reached the tomb first, also went in, and he saw and believed; for as yet they did not understand the scripture, that he must rise from the dead. Then the disciples returned to their homes. But Mary stood weeping outside the tomb. As she wept, she bent over to look into the tomb; and she saw two angels in white, sitting where the body of Jesus had been lying, one at the head and the other at the feet. They said to her, "Woman, why are you weeping?" She said to them, "They have taken away my Lord, and I do not know where they have laid him." When she had said this, she turned around and saw Jesus standing there, but she did not know that it was Jesus. Jesus said to her, "Woman, why are you weeping? Whom are you looking for?" Supposing him to be the gardener, she said to him, "Sir, if you have carried him away, tell me where you have laid him, and I will take him away." Jesus said to her, "Mary!"

She turned and said to him in Hebrew, “Rabbouni!” (which means Teacher). Jesus said to her, “Do not hold on to me, because I have not yet ascended to the Father. But go to my brothers and say to them, ‘I am ascending to my Father and your Father, to my God and your God.’” Mary Magdalene went and announced to the disciples, “I have seen the Lord”; and she told them that he had said these things to her.

The Gospel of the Lord.

**Praise to you, Lord Christ.**

## **Sermon**

**Hymn                    The strife is o'er, the battle done**

*Wash Nat'l Cathedral*

*Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!*

*The strife is o'er, the battle done, the victory of life is won;  
the song of triumph has begun. Alleluia!*

*The powers of death have done their worst, but Christ their legions hath dispersed:  
let shout of holy joy outburst. Alleluia!*

*The three sad days are quickly sped, he rises glorious from the dead:  
all glory to our risen Head! Alleluia!*

*He closed the yawning gates of hell, the bars from heaven's high portals fell;  
let hymns of praise his triumphs tell! Alleluia!*

*Lord! by the stripes which wounded thee, from death's dread sting thy servants free,  
that we may live and sing to thee. Alleluia! Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!*

**Nicene Creed                    Said by all.**

**We believe in one God, the Father 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  
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 worshipped 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**

*Celebrant                    With the whole people of God in Christ Jesus, let us pray for the church,  
those in need, and all of God's creation. In peace, we pray to you, Lord God.*

*Silence*

For this community, the nation, and the world;  
**For all who work for justice, freedom, and peace.**

For the peace and unity of the world;  
**That a spirit of respect may grow among nations and peoples.**

For the just and proper use of your creation;  
**For the victims of hunger, fear, injustice, and oppression.**

For all bishops and other ministers;  
**For all who serve God in his Church.**

For all who love and trust in God, that divisions may cease;  
**And that all may be one, as you and the Father are one.**

For all who are in danger, sorrow, or any kind of trouble;  
**For those who minister to the sick, the friendless, and the needy.**

For wisdom in this time of pandemic;  
**That our actions may protect the health of ourselves and others.**

For the special needs and concerns of this congregation.

*Silence. The People may add their own petitions.*

Hear us, Lord;

**For your mercy is great.**

We thank you, Lord, for all the blessings of this life. *Silence.*

We will exalt you, O God our King;

**And praise your Name for ever and ever.**

We pray for all who have died, that they may have a place in your eternal kingdom.

*Silence.* Lord, let your loving kindness be upon them.

**May they be filled with your love.**

Into your hands, gracious God, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in your mercy;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

**Amen.**

And now, as our Savior Christ has taught us, we pray together:

**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.**

We pray together for Christ's presence:

**My Jesus, I believe that you are truly present in the Blessed Sacrament of the bread and wine.**

**I love you above all things, and long for you in my soul.**

**Since I cannot now receive you sacramentally, come spiritually into my heart.**

**I embrace you and unite myself entirely to you; never permit me to be separated from you.**

**Amen.**

*Celebrant:* While we long to receive the sacrament of Christ's Body,

*People:* **We become the sacrament of Christ's Body.**

*Celebrant:* Let your lives be manna to feed our hunger for communion.

*People:*     **The love we share becomes bread for the world.**

### **Blessing**

May Christ, the Son of God, be manifest in you, that your lives may be a light to the world; and the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be in you, among you, and remain with you always. **Amen.**

### **Closing Hymn**

### **Crown Him with Many Crowns**

*St. Bart's*

*1 Crown him with many crowns, the Lamb upon his throne;  
Hark! how the heavenly anthem drowns all music but its own;  
awake, my soul, and sing of him who died for thee,  
and hail him as thy matchless King through all eternity.*

*2 Crown him the Son of God before the worlds began,  
and ye, who tread where he hath trod, crown him the Son of man;  
who every grief hath known that wrings the human breast,  
and takes and bears them for his own, that all in him may rest.*

*3 Crown him the Lord of life, who triumphed over the grave,  
and rose victorious in the strife for those he came to save;  
his glories now we sing, who died, and rose on high,  
who died, eternal life to bring, and lives that death may die.*

*4 Crown him of lords the Lord, who over all doth reign,  
who once on earth, the incarnate Word, for ransomed sinners slain,  
now lives in realms of light, where saints with angels sing  
their songs before him day and night, their God, Redeemer, King.*

*5 Crown him the Lord of heaven, enthroned in worlds above;  
crown him the King, to whom is given, the wondrous name of Love.  
Crown him with many crowns, as thrones before him fall,  
crown him, ye kings, with many crowns, for he is King of all.*

### **Dismissal**

*The Lord Bless You and Keep You [Lutkin]*

*Acapeldridge*

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The Rev. Cheryl Fox, Pastor and Vicar