

**Holy Trinity Church**  
**446 Hamilton St. Southbridge, Massachusetts 01550**  
*A parish in the Episcopal Diocese of Western Massachusetts*

**The Third Sunday of Easter**

**April 18, 2021**

*9:30 a.m. choral service*

*The Rev. Richard Signore, Celebrant & Preacher*  
*Anne Bouvier-Monroe, Organist*  
*John Grant, Reader*

*Prelude: "Morning Has Broken" -Hymntune: Buinessan*

**Processional hymn LEVAS #213 Children of the Heavenly Father** *Words: Carolina Sandell-Berg; Music: Swedish Fold Melody*

**Children of the heav'nly Father safely in His bosom gather; Nestling bird nor star in heaven, such a refuge e'er was given.**

**God His own doth tend and nourish, in His holy courts they flourish; from all evil things He spares them, in His mighty arms He bears them.**

**Acclamation**

*Celebrant* Alleluia! Christ is risen! **People** The Lord is risen indeed! Alleluia!

**Collect for Purity**

**Gloria: S-236 Glory to you, Lord**

*Setting: John Rutter*

**Glory to you, Lord God of our fathers; you are worthy of praise; glory to you.**

**Glory to you for the radiance of your holy Name; we will praise you and highly exalt you for ever.**

**Collect** *(said by all)*

**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.**

**First Reading:** Reader A reading from the book of Acts

Peter addressed the people, "You Israelites, why do you wonder at this, or why do you stare at us, as though by our own power or piety we had made him walk? The God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob, the God of our ancestors has glorified his servant Jesus, whom you handed over and rejected in the presence of Pilate, though he had decided to release him. But you rejected the Holy and Righteous One and asked to have a murderer given to you, and you killed the Author of life, whom God raised from the dead. To this we are witnesses. And by faith in his name, his name itself has made this man strong, whom you see and know; and the faith that is through Jesus has given him this perfect health in the presence of all of you.

"And now, friends, I know that you acted in ignorance, as did also your rulers. In this way God fulfilled what he had foretold through all the prophets, that his Messiah would suffer. Repent therefore, and turn to God so that your sins may be wiped out."

*Acts 3:12-19*

Reader The Word of the Lord **People** Thanks be to God

**Silence**

**PSALM 4** *said by all, in unison* **BCP p. 587**

**Answer me when I call, O God, defender of my cause; \***

**you set me free when I am hard-pressed;**

**have mercy on me and hear my prayer.**

"You mortals, how long will you dishonor my glory; \*  
 how long will you worship dumb idols  
 and run after false gods?"  
 Know that the Lord does wonders for the faithful; \*  
 when I call upon the Lord, he will hear me.  
 Tremble, then, and do not sin; \*  
 speak to your heart in silence upon your bed.  
 Offer the appointed sacrifices \*  
 and put your trust in the Lord.  
 Many are saying, "Oh, that we might see better times!" \*  
 Lift up the light of your countenance upon us, O Lord.  
 You have put gladness in my heart, \*  
 more than when grain and wine and oil increase.  
 I lie down in peace; at once I fall asleep; \*  
 for only you, Lord, make me dwell in safety.

### Alleluia Verse



### Holy Gospel Luke 24:36b-48

*Celebrant* The Holy Gospel of our Savior Jesus Christ  
**People** Glory to you, Lord Christ.

Jesus himself stood among the disciples and said to them, "Peace be with you." They were startled and terrified, and thought that they were seeing a ghost. He said to them, "Why are you frightened, and why do doubts arise in your hearts? Look at my hands and my feet; see that it is I myself. Touch me and see; for a ghost does not have flesh and bones as you see that I have." And when he had said this, he showed them his hands and his feet. While in their joy they were disbelieving and still wondering, he said to them, "Have you anything here to eat?" They gave him a piece of broiled fish, and he took it and ate in their presence. Then he said to them, "These are my words that I spoke to you while I was still with you—that everything written about me in the law of Moses, the prophets, and the psalms must be fulfilled." Then he opened their minds to understand the scriptures, and he said to them, "Thus it is written, that the Messiah is to suffer and to rise from the dead on the third day, and that repentance and forgiveness of sins is to be proclaimed in his name to all nations, beginning from Jerusalem. You are witnesses of these things.

*Celebrant* The Gospel of the Lord **People** Praise to you Lord Christ

### Sermon *Fr. Richard Signore*

#### Prayers of the People III

Prayer Book, p. 387

Father, we pray for your holy Catholic Church;  
*That we all may be one.*

Grant that every member of the church may truly and humbly serve you;  
*That your Name may be glorified by all people.*

We pray for all bishops, priests, and deacons;  
*That they may be faithful ministers of your Word and Sacraments.*

We pray for all who govern and hold authority in the nations of the world;  
*That there may be justice and peace on earth.*

Give us grace to do your will in all that we undertake;  
*That our works may find favor in your sight.*

Have compassion on those who suffer from any grief or trouble;  
*That they may be delivered from their distress.*

Give to the departed eternal rest;  
*Let light perpetual shine upon them.*

We praise you for your saints who have entered into joy;  
*May we also come to share in your heavenly kingdom.*

Let us pray for our own needs and those of others.

**Prayer for the Parish - O everlasting source of love, in whom our faith resides, guide us surely ever forward on our lifelong journey. Not so fast that we miss the beauty that surrounds us on the way, nor miss your grace so freely given that teaches us how to grow. But with a steady presence felt and a sense of gratitude may we find our place amidst the jungle of life within the kingdom of heaven on earth. Amen**

### **Confession & Absolution**

**BCP, p. 360**

**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.**

### **The Peace**

## **The Liturgy of the Table**

**Offertory Hymn: “That Easter Day With Joy Was Bright” -Setting by Dale Wood, The Sacred Music Press 2000**

### **The Great Thanksgiving B**

**Prayer Book, p. 367**

### **The Lord’s Prayer**

**Prayer Book, p. 364**

### **Fraction Anthem: WLP #876**

**The disciples knew the Lord Jesus in the breaking of the bread.  
The bread which we break, alleluia, is the communion of the Body of Christ.  
One body are we, alleluia, for though many we share one bread.**

**Communion Music: “Sursum Corda” Alfred Smith**

### **Prayer**

**My Jesus, I believe that you are truly present in the Blessed Sacrament of the Altar. I love you above all things, and long for you in my soul. Since I cannot now receive you sacramentally, come at least spiritually into my heart. As though you have already come, I embrace you and unite myself entirely to you; never permit me to be separated from you. Amen. (St. Alphonsus de Liguori, 1696-1787)**

### **The Post Communion Prayer**

### **Blessing**

**Recessional Hymn #180**

*Words: Cecil Frances Alexander; Music: Joachim Neander*

**He is risen, he is risen! Tell it out with joyful voice; he has burst his three days' prison; let the whole wide earth rejoice: death is conquered, we are free, Christ has won the victory.**

**Come, ye sad and fearful hearted, with glad smile and radiant brow! Death's long shadows have departed; Jesus' woes are over now, and the passion that he bore - sin and pain can vex no more.**

**Dismissal**     Let us bless the Lord.     **Thanks be to God.**

**Postlude:**    *"Prelude in C Major" Attributed to JS Bach*

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