

SAINT JOHN'S  
The Episcopal Church in Pine Meadow  
THE SECOND SUNDAY OF EASTER – APRIL 7, 2024

HAPPY EASTER! – Welcome to Saint John's! Please visit our website at [RedDoors.com](http://RedDoors.com) for more information. Greeters are available for questions or requests. Regarding our worship today, we are following the Book of Common Prayer, Rite II. The blue hymnal is for hymns with simple numbers, hymns from LEVAS, the red and black hymnal, are noted with an 'L'. Italics and all uppercase are directions or section notes; while the congregation is invited to read aloud all bolded sections and to sing all the hymns with fearless joy!

ANNOUNCEMENTS

BLESSING OF PRAYER SHAWLS

PRELUDE: 'O, Sons and Daughters' A. Giamanco

THE TOLLING OF THE STEEPLE BELL

*The Community stands*

HYMN 193 'That Easter Day with Joy Was Bright'

THE EASTER ACCLAMATION

Alleluia. Christ is risen.

**The Lord is risen indeed. Alleluia.**

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.**

THE GLORIA

S280

**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.**

THE COLLECT OF THE DAY

The Lord be with you.

**And also with you.**

Let us pray.

Almighty and everlasting God, who in the Paschal mystery established the new covenant of reconciliation: Grant that all who have been reborn into the fellowship of Christ's Body may show forth in their lives what they profess by their faith; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

THE FIRST READING

ACTS 4:32-35

A Reading from the Acts of the Apostles.

Now the whole group of those who believed were of one heart and soul, and no one claimed private ownership of any possessions, but everything they owned was held in common. With great power the apostles gave their testimony to the resurrection of the Lord Jesus, and great grace was upon them all. There was not a needy person among them, for as many as owned lands or houses sold them and brought the proceeds of what was sold. They laid it at the apostles' feet, and it was distributed to each as any had need.

The Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

THE PSALM 133 *Ecce, quam bonum!*

BCP p.787

*The Psalter reading appointed for today is Psalm 133. We will say the psalter reading in unison.*

**1 Oh, how good and pleasant it is, \***

**when brethren live together in unity!**

**2 It is like fine oil upon the head \***

**that runs down upon the beard,**

**3 Upon the beard of Aaron, \***

**and runs down upon the collar of his robe.**

**4 It is like the dew of Hermon \***

**that falls upon the hills of Zion.**

**5 For there the Lord has ordained the blessing: \***

**life for evermore.**

THE SECOND TESTAMENT READING

1 John 1:1-2:2

A Reading from the First Letter of John.

We declare to you what was from the beginning, what we have heard, what we have seen with our eyes, what we have looked at and touched with our hands, concerning the word of life-- this life was revealed, and we have seen it and testify to it, and declare to you the eternal life that was with the Father and was revealed to us-- we declare to you what we have seen and heard so that you also may have fellowship with us; and truly our fellowship is with the Father and with his Son Jesus Christ. We are writing these things so that our joy may be complete.

This is the message we have heard from him and proclaim to you, that God is light and in him there is no darkness at all. If we say that we have fellowship with him while we are walking in darkness, we lie and do not do what is true; but if we walk in the light as he himself is in the light, we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus his Son cleanses us from all sin. If we say that we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. If we confess our sins, he who is faithful and just will forgive us our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness. If we say that we have not sinned, we make him a liar, and his word is not in us.

My little children, I am writing these things to you so that you may not sin. But if anyone does sin, we have an advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ the righteous; and he is the atoning sacrifice for our sins, and not for ours only but also for the sins of the whole world.

The Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

*The Community stands*

HYMN 208 v 1,2,5 'Alleluia! The Strife is O'er, The Battle Done'

THE GOSPEL

JOHN 20:19-31

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

**Glory to you, Lord Christ.**

When it was evening on that day, the first day of the week, and the doors of the house where the disciples had met were locked for fear of the Jews, Jesus came and stood among them and said, "Peace be with you." After he said this, he showed them his hands and his side. Then the disciples rejoiced when they saw the Lord. Jesus said to them again,

"Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, so I send you." When he had said this, he breathed on them and said to them, "Receive the Holy Spirit. If you forgive the sins of any, they are forgiven them; if you retain the sins of any, they are retained."

But Thomas (who was called the Twin), one of the twelve, was not with them when Jesus came. So the other disciples told him, "We have seen the Lord." But he said to them, "Unless I see the mark of the nails in his hands, and put my finger in the mark of the nails and my hand in his side, I will not believe."

A week later his disciples were again in the house, and Thomas was with them. Although the doors were shut, Jesus came and stood among them and said, "Peace be with you." Then he said to Thomas, "Put your finger here and see my hands. Reach out your hand and put it in my side. Do not doubt but believe." Thomas answered him, "My Lord and my God!" Jesus said to him, "Have you believed because you have seen me? Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have come to believe."

Now Jesus did many other signs in the presence of his disciples, which are not written in this book. But these are written so that you may come to believe that Jesus is the Messiah, the Son of God, and that through believing you may have life in his name.

The Gospel of the Lord.

**Praise be to you, Lord Christ.**

THE DOXOLOGY – HYMN 380 v. 3

**Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; Praise him, all creatures here below;  
Praise him above, ye heavenly host: Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.**

*The Community sits*

SERMON

The Rev. Marilyn Anderson

*The Community Stands*

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

*Presider:* We come into the light of the resurrection, seeking to share in the life of the risen Jesus, as we pray: Alleluia! Christ is risen. Christ is risen indeed. Alleluia!

*Reader* Almighty One, you have filled your Church with new life and empowered us through the conquering love of Jesus: Raise us with your Spirit that we may live in the power of Christ's resurrection to bring life and light to all the world. Alleluia! Christ is risen.

**Christ is risen indeed. Alleluia!**

The right hand of the Most High has triumphed over evil and death, bringing new hope to all the world: Speak your living truth unto everyone who leads and holds authority among the nations, that they may be agents of life and justice. Alleluia! Christ is risen.

**Christ is risen indeed. Alleluia!**

The Apostle Peter has taught us, O God, that you show no partiality but accept all who live reverently and do right: Let your peace extend to every person, that the power of evil and injustice may be banished, and all people may live as beloved children of the divine. Alleluia! Christ is risen.

**Christ is risen indeed. Alleluia!**

Be with us in this community that we may be glad witnesses of your goodness, O Holy One. Alleluia! Christ is risen.

**Christ is risen indeed. Alleluia!**

Let Christ's resurrection power bring healing and hope to those for whom we pray, especially those on our parish prayer list.

Remember in the light of the resurrection those who have died, especially those for whom our altar flowers are given. Alleluia! Christ is risen.

**Christ is risen indeed. Alleluia!**

*Presider:* You have raised Jesus of Nazareth from death on the cross into resurrection life, O Eternal One: Feed us with his life as we eat and drink with him in this Easter Eucharist, that we may be his witnesses, sharing in the Spirit's work of reconciliation and peace, through the Risen One, Jesus Christ our Savior. **Amen.**

*The Community stands*

THE PEACE

The peace of the Lord be always with you.

**And also with you.**

*The Community exchanges a sign of peace.*

THE OFFERTORY

Walk in love, as Christ loved us and gave himself for us, an offering and sacrifice to God.

*Ephesians 12:1*

HYMN 318 'Here, O My Lord, I See Thee Face To Face'

*A collection is taken for the work of the Church.*

*The Community stands*

AT THE PRESENTATION OF ALMS

All things come of Thee, O Lord.

**And of thy own have we given thee.**

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING – Eucharistic C

BCP 369

The Lord be with you.

**And also with you.**

Lift up your hearts.

**We lift them to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**It is right to give God thanks and praise.**

*The Community stands or kneels*

God of all power, Ruler of the Universe, you are worthy of glory and praise. **Glory to you for ever and ever.** At your command all things came to be: the vast expanse of interstellar space, galaxies, suns, the planets in their courses, and this fragile earth, our island home. **By your will they were created and have their being.** From the primal elements you brought forth the human race, and blessed us with memory, reason, and skill. You made us the rulers of creation. But we turned against you, and betrayed your trust; and we turned against one another. **Have mercy, Lord, for we are**

**sinner in your sight.** Again and again, you called us to return. Through prophets and sages you revealed your righteous Law. And in the fullness of time you sent your only Son, born of a woman, to fulfill your Law, to open for us the way of freedom and peace. **By his blood, he reconciled us. By his wounds, we are healed.** And chiefly are we bound to praise you for the glorious resurrection of your Son Jesus Christ our Lord; for he is the true Paschal Lamb, who was sacrificed for us, and has taken away the sin of the world. By his death he has destroyed death, and by his rising to life again he has won for us everlasting life. Therefore we praise you, joining with the heavenly chorus, with prophets, apostles, and martyrs, and with all those in every generation who have looked to you in hope, to proclaim with them your glory, in their unending hymn:

#### THE SANCTUS

S129

**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 Celebrant continues*

And so, Father, we who have been redeemed by him, and made a new people by water and the Spirit, now bring before you these gifts. Sanctify them by your Holy Spirit to be the Body and Blood of Jesus Christ our Lord. On the night he was betrayed he took bread, said the blessing, broke the bread, and gave it to his friends, 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, gave thanks, 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."

Remembering now his work of redemption, and offering to you this sacrifice of thanksgiving, **We celebrate his death and resurrection, as we await the day of his coming.**

Lord God of our Fathers and Mothers: God of Abraham and Sarah, Isaac and Rebecca, and Jacob, Leah and Rachel; God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ: Open our eyes to see your hand at work in the world about us. Deliver us from the presumption of coming to this Table for solace only, and not for strength; for pardon only, and not for renewal. Let the grace of this Holy Communion make us one body, one spirit in Christ, that we may worthily serve the world in his name. **Risen Lord, be known to us in the breaking of the Bread.** Accept these prayers and praises, Father, through Jesus Christ our great High Priest, to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit, your Church gives honor, glory, and worship, from generation to generation. **AMEN. ALLELUIA.**

#### THE LORD'S PRAYER

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

**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 FRACTION AND INVITATION TO HOLY COMMUNION

*The Presider breaks the consecrated Bread. A period of silence is observed.*

Alleluia. Alleluia. Alleluia. Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us;

**Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia. Alleluia. Alleluia.**

The Gifts of God for the People of God. Take them in remembrance that Christ died for you, and feed on Him in your hearts by faith, with thanksgiving.

#### THE ACT OF RECEPTION

**Gracious God, in union with the faithful across the Church, we thank you for gathering us as your people. We present ourselves to You, along with all who cannot gather around the altar at this time, believing and trusting in Your real presence in the sacrament of Holy Communion. We love you above all things; our soul longs for you. And so, we call to remembrance the many times we have been fed at your table. If we cannot now receive you sacramentally, we still implore you to come spiritually into our hearts. We embrace you with all the affection of our soul. May this spiritual**

**Communion be for us an armor of faith and shield of goodwill and liberation. Sustain us, heal us, and encourage us, with your Holy Spirit until we meet again as one Church and one Body. We ask this for your love. Amen.**

THE COMMUNION

*Please maintain an atmosphere of quiet reverence during communion.*

HYMN 693

'Just As I Am'

*The Community Stands or Kneels*

THE POST COMMUNION PRAYER

Let us pray.

**Eternal God, heavenly Father, you have graciously accepted us as living members of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ, and you have fed us with spiritual food in the Sacrament of his Body and Blood. Send us now into the world in peace, and grant us strength and courage to love and serve you with gladness and singleness of heart; through Christ our Lord. Amen.**

THE FOUR-FOLD EASTER BLESSING

*The Presider faces the people and says*

May Almighty God, who has redeemed us and made us his children through the resurrection of his Son our Lord, bestow upon you the riches of his blessing. **Amen.**

May God, who through the water of baptism has raised us from sin into newness of life, make you holy and worthy to be united with Christ for ever. **Amen.**

May God, who has brought us out of bondage to sin into true and lasting freedom in the Redeemer, bring you to your eternal inheritance. **Amen.**

And the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be upon you and remain with you for ever. **Amen.**

*The Community Stands*

RECESSIONAL HYMN 490

'I Want To Walk As A Child Of The Light'

THE DISMISSAL

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

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

THE POSTLUDE: '*Voluntary in A Flat Major*' John Stanley