

THE SECOND SUNDAY OF EASTER

April 11, 2021



ST MARY'S
IN-THE-HILLS
Episcopal Church

2512 Joslyn Court • Lake Orion, Michigan 48360
(248) 391-0663 • www.stmarysinthehills.org

**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}

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 LESSONS}

THE FIRST LESSON: ACTS 4:32-35

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: PSALM 133

Antiphon:

**Oh, how good and pleasant it is, *
when we live together in unity!**

Oh, how good and pleasant it is, *
when brethren live together in unity!

It is like fine oil upon the head *
that runs down upon the beard,

Upon the beard of Aaron, *
and runs down upon the collar of his robe.

It is like the dew of Hermon *
that falls upon the hills of Zion.

For there the Lord has ordained the blessing: *
life for evermore.

THE SECOND READING: 1 JOHN 1:1-2:2

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 GOSPEL: JOHN 20:19-31

The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to St. 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 to you, Lord Christ.

{THE SERMON}

{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.
Who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified,
Who 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}

In peace, let us pray to Jesus our Lord, raised in power so that he might intercede for us at the very Throne of Grace.

SAVIOR OF THE WORLD, be present in all places of suffering, violence, and pain, especially all those whose suffering is most acutely felt in this time of pandemic, and bring hope even in the darkest night. Inspire us to continue your work of reconciliation and mercy today.

Hear us, Lord.

LORD OF THE CHURCH, empower by your Spirit all your holy people, especially +Bonnie (Perry), our Bishop; +Michael (Curry), our Presiding Bishop; +Justin (Welby), the Archbishop of Canterbury; +Moises (Quezada Mota), Bishop of the Diocese of the Dominican Republic; +Elizabeth (Eaton), +Donald (Kreiss), and +Craig (Satterlee), our Lutheran Bishops in Common Mission; +Wendell (Gibbs) and +Stewart (Wood), our retired Bishops; and Andy+ (Guffey), our priest; and especially for the people of St. Mary's. Give us grace to proclaim the gospel joyfully in word and deed.

Hear us, Lord.

SHEPHERD AND GUARDIAN OF OUR SOULS, guide and enable all who lead and serve our common life, and those on whom we depend for our daily needs. Watch over all those who keep watch for us in the armed forces, especially **Kevin** Tye, **Josh** Tindall, **Craig** Froehlich, **Justin** Briggs, **Josom** Alomran, **Jason** Kelly, **James** Monaghan, **Scott**, **Blake** Abel, **Joshua**, **Jerry** Holley, **Corbin**, **Nick** McKenna, **Sean** Kellogg, **Brandon** Jamison, **Patrick** Kline, **Anna** Whetstone, **Kyle** Sholos, and **Marcus** Powell. Grant that we may seek the peace and welfare of this place and of the world.

Hear us, Lord.

GREAT PHYSICIAN, stretch out your hand to bring comfort, wholeness, and peace to **Suzanne** LaBatt, **Linda & Al** Nielsen, **Sarah** DelCampo, **Christie** Rowden, **Carolyn** Birch, **Dan R.**, **Michael & Laura**, **Kim** Little, **Neil** King, **Jim**, **Irene** Howe, **Terry** Hart, **Michelle** Peasley, **Andrea** Barnett, **Jaime** Kinser, **Gloria** Hemingway, **Bill** Bissett, **Brian and the Kelly Family**, **Patti and the Lee Family**, **Janet** Spears, **Tyrell** Borgeson, **Mike** Sullivan, **Tony** Dulio, **Tim** Boldt, **Barb** Sheldrick, **Joe** Shively **Penny** Clay, **Beth** Shively, **Victoria** Shively, and **Owen** Fraley; and all who suffer in body, mind, or spirit. Fill us with compassion, that we may be channels of your healing love.

Hear us, Lord.

CONQUEROR OF DEATH, remember for good those whom we love but see no longer, especially those we now name _____ (*please add your own names, silently or aloud*). Keep them, we pray, in your everlasting memory, and all those whose lives have been lost to illness or cruelty. Have mercy on us, Lord, have mercy, and help us to live this day in the sure and certain hope of your eternal victory.

Hear us, Lord.

Let us commend ourselves, and all for whom we pray to the mercy and protection of God.

A moment of silence will be held for you to offer your own prayers and intentions.

The Celebrant adds a concluding Collect

{THE PEACE}

THE HOLY COMMUNION

{THE OFFERTORY}

{EUCHARISTIC PRAYER A}

Book of Common Prayer, p. 361

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 God thanks and praise.**

IT IS RIGHT, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth. But chiefly are we bound to praise 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 our voices with Angels and Archangels, and with all the company of heaven, who for ever sing this hymn to proclaim the glory of your Name:

HOLY, HOLY, HOLY, Lord, God of power and might:
Heaven and earth are full of your glory.
Hosanna in the highest.

**Blessed is he that comes in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna in the highest.**

HOLY AND GRACIOUS FATHER: In your infinite love you made us for yourself, and when we had fallen into sin and become subject to evil and death, you, in your mercy, sent Jesus Christ, your only and eternal Son, to share our human nature, to live and die as one of us, to reconcile us to you, the God and Father of all.

He stretched out his arms upon the cross, and offered himself, in obedience to your will, a perfect sacrifice for the whole world.

On the night he was handed over to suffering and death, our Lord Jesus Christ 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."

Therefore we proclaim the mystery of faith:

Christ has died.

Christ is risen.

Christ will come again.

We celebrate the memorial of our redemption, O Father, in this sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving. Recalling his death, resurrection, and ascension, we offer you these gifts.

Sanctify them by your Holy Spirit to be for your people the Body and Blood of your Son, the holy food and drink of new and unending life in him. Sanctify us also that we may faithfully receive this holy Sacrament, and serve you in unity, constancy, and peace; and at the last day bring us with all your saints into the joy of your eternal kingdom.

All this we ask through your Son Jesus Christ: By him, and with him, and in him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit all honor and glory is yours, Almighty Father, now and for ever.

AMEN.

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

O UR 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.

Alleluia. Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us;

Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia.

Celebrant

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.

{SPIRITUAL COMMUNION}

An Act of Reception

O GOD, you are our God; eagerly we seek you;
our souls thirst for you, our flesh faints for you,
as in a barren and dry land where there is no water.
Therefore, we have gazed upon you in your holy place,
that we might behold your power and your glory.
We believe that you are truly present in the Holy Sacrament,
And, since we cannot all at this time receive these gifts,
We pray you to come into our hearts, and to unite us with yourself
as we endeavor to embrace you with our whole heart,
and soul, and mind, and strength.
Let nothing separate us from you,
and let us serve you in this life until, by your grace,
we come to your glorious kingdom and unending peace. Amen.

{PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION}

Officiant and People

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.

{BLESSING}

May the living God remove the suffocating shroud that lies upon our world;
May the risen Savior draw the sting of death, bringing all to life in him;
May the flowing Spirit set us and all creation free and seal our hearts with faith;
and the blessing of God Almighty, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, be with you
and remain with you always. Amen.

Officiant Let us bless the Lord. Alleluia, Alleluia!
People **Thanks be to God. Alleluia, Alleluia!**

St. Mary's In The Hills.

*inspired by the Word and nurtured by the sacraments,
promotes an active and community-conscious congregation
supporting the mission and ministry of
Jesus Christ.*



Here at St. Mary's we believe we are blessed and strengthened by God's diverse creation of age, race, gender, gender identity, sexual orientation, ability, nationality, and spoken language. We welcome all who seek to follow Christ into the full life and service of the Church.