✣ THE EPISCOPAL CHURCH OF THE HOLY CROSS ✣

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We plow the fields and scatter the good seed on the land –
But it is fed and watered by God's almighty hand.
All good gifts around us are sent from heaven above,
Then thank the Lord, O thank the Lord for all his love.

THE HOLY EUCHARIST – RITE II

THE CHURCH GATHERS FOR WORSHIP

Salutation Book of Common Prayer, p. 355

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

Collect for Purity *(unison)*: 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 Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Song of praise: Christ our Passover *Pascha nostrum*

Alleluia! Christ our Passover has been sacrificed for us; therefore let us keep the feast – not with the old leaven, the leaven of malice and evil, but with the unleavened bread of sincerity and truth. Christ, being raised from the dead, will never die again; death no longer has dominion over him. The death that he died, he died to sin, once for all; but the life he lives, he lives to God. So also consider yourselves dead to sin, and alive to God in Jesus Christ our Lord. Christ has been raised from the dead, the first fruits of those who have fallen asleep. For since by a man came death, by a man has come also the resurrection of the dead. For as in Adam all die, so also in Christ shall all be made alive. Alleluia!

THE WORD OF GOD

Collects of the day *(unison)*: O God, you have prepared for those who love you such good things as surpass our understanding: Pour into our hearts such love towards you, that we, loving you in all things and above all things, may obtain your promises, which exceed all that we can desire; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. Amen.

Almighty God, in giving us dominion over things on earth you made us fellow workers in your creation: Bless the lands and waters, and multiply the harvests of the world. Bless all those who work on land and sea to bring forth their fruits for our use. Give us wisdom and reverence so to use the resources of nature, that no one may suffer from our abuse of them, and that generations to come may yet praise you for your bounty; through Jesus Christ our Lord. ***Amen.***

First Lesson ***Acts 10:44-48***

While Peter was still speaking, the Holy Spirit fell upon all who heard the word. The circumcised believers who had come with Peter were astounded that the gift of the Holy Spirit had been poured out even on the Gentiles, for they heard them speaking in tongues and extolling God. Then Peter said, "Can anyone withhold the water for baptizing these people who have received the Holy Spirit just as we have?" So he ordered them to be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ. Then they invited him to stay for several days. *Response:* ***Thanks be to God.***

Psalm 98 *Cantate Domino* ***BCP 727***

1 Sing to the LORD a new song, for he has done marvelous things.

2 With his right hand and his holy arm has he won for himself the victory.

3 The LORD has made known his victory; his righteousness has he openly shown in the sight of the nations.

4 He remembers his mercy and faithfulness to the house of Israel,
and all the ends of the earth have seen the victory of our God.

5 Shout with joy to the LORD, all you lands; lift up your voice, rejoice, and sing.

6 Sing to the LORD with the harp, with the harp and the voice of song.

7 With trumpets and the sound of the horn shout with joy before the King, the LORD.

8 Let the sea make a noise and all that is in it, the lands and those who dwell therein.

9 Let the rivers clap their hands, and let the hills ring out with joy before the LORD,
when he comes to judge the earth.

10 In righteousness shall he judge the world and the peoples with equity.

Epistle: 1 John 5:1-6 Everyone who believes that Jesus is the Christ has been born of God, and everyone who loves the parent loves the child. By this we know that we love the children of God, when we love God and obey his commandments. For the love of God is this: that we obey his commandments. And his commandments are not burdensome, for whatever is born of God conquers the world. And this is the victory that conquers the world: our faith. Who is it that conquers the world, but the one who believes that Jesus is the Son of God? This is the one who came by water and blood, Jesus Christ, not with the water only but with the water and the blood. And the Spirit is the one that testifies, for the Spirit is the truth. *Response:* ***Thanks be to God.***

Gospel: John 15:9-17 *Response:* ***Glory to you, Lord Christ.***

Jesus said to his disciples, "As the Father has loved me, so I have loved you; abide in my love. If you keep my commandments, you will abide in my love, just as I have kept my Father's commandments and abide in his love. I have said these things to you so that my joy may be in you, and that your joy may be complete.

"This is my commandment, that you love one another as I have loved you. No one has greater love than this, to lay down one's life for one's friends. You are my friends if you do what I command you. I do not call you servants any longer, because the servant does not know what the master is doing; but I have called you friends, because I have made known to you everything that I have heard from my Father. You did not choose me but I chose you. And I appointed you to go and bear fruit, fruit that will last, so that the Father will give you whatever you ask him in my name. I am giving you these commands so that you may love one another."

Response: ***Praise to you, Lord Christ.***

Homily Rev. Carol Carlson

WE RESPOND TO GOD'S WORD

The Apostles' Creed: I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, his only son, our Lord. He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit and born of the Virgin Mary. He suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried. He descended to the dead. On the third day he rose again. He ascended into heaven, and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

The Peace The peace of the Lord be always with you. ***And also with you.***

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THE HOLY COMMUNION

The Great Thanksgiving: Prayer D BCP 372

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.***

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 say, ***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.

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 all 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.

We praise you, we bless you, we give thanks to you, and we pray to you, Lord our God.

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.

Remember Justin, Michael, Sean, Carol, Dick and all who minister to your Church; this congregation, St. Peter's, and all who minister to the world. Strengthen our witness to your love and care; help us in all our needs.

Remember all your people, especially those under persecution, all who suffer for justice and peace, and all who seek your truth.

Remember our national and local leaders, that they may serve justice and fulfill their duties in integrity and up-

rightness. Save us from ignorance, deceit and tyranny; heal our nation's wounds and defeat our enemies without and within.

Remember those who suffer from terror, despair, abuse, slavery, disease, loneliness, addiction, homelessness, violence, sorrow, constant pain, unemployment, injustice, ignorance. Deliver them from their trouble and give us hearts to recognise and minister to their needs.

Remember those dear to us who need your strength and help: David, Reid, Bill, Sue, Martha, Janet, Jim, Katie, Carlo, Ian, Peggy, Gayle, Jason, Dale, Joseph, Juanita, John, Gianna, Mia, Susie, Amber, John and Becky, Pat, Ron, Catherine, Ken, Mark, Marissa, Dorothy, Ed, Brady, Payton, Char and Dick, Terry, Maddie, Davey and Roland, Justin.

Remember those who put themselves at risk on others' behalf: Lisa, Scott, Nick, Kelly, Sean, Jane, Rich, Chris and Becky, William; Corey, Danny, Keith, Morgan, Cordell, Chris, Zach, Harrison, David, Jennifer, Ryan and Jade, Mack, Mason, Makayla, Natalie and Nathan, Vince, Geo, Sam, Jordan, Justin and Caitlyn, Isaac.

Remember all who have died in the peace of Christ, and those whose faith is known to you alone; bring them into the place of eternal joy and light. ✣

And grant that we may find our inheritance with 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.

The Lord's Prayer: Our Father in heaven: hallowed be your name; your Kingdom come; your will be done; on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins, as we forgive those who sin against us. Save us from the time of trial; and deliver us from evil; for the Kingdom and the power and the glory are yours, now and forever. Amen.

The Breaking of the Bread: Alleluia! Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us;
therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia!

The Communion + All are invited to partake, physically and/or spiritually.

Prayer after Communion: Almighty and ever-living God, we thank you for feeding us with the spiritual food of the most precious Body and Blood of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ; and for assuring us in these holy mysteries that we are living members of the Body of your Son and heirs of your eternal kingdom. And now, Father, send us out to do the work you have given us to do, to love and serve you as faithful witnesses of Christ our Lord. To him, to you, and to the Holy Spirit, be honor and glory, now and for ever. Amen.

THE CHURCH GOES FORTH INTO THE WORLD

Blessing

Dismissal *Response:* ***Thanks be to God! Alleluia! Alleluia!***

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PARISH ANNOUNCEMENTS

Every morning is Easter morning from now on! And every Sunday is a feast of the resurrection. As we meditate on what that means for each and all of us, we seek to express in our worship and in our lives the joy that new life brings. Jesus's resurrection message is 'You shall be my witnesses' – that means all of us, bringing the good news of Jesus and his church to everyone we know.

We are looking forward to resuming in-person worship two weeks from today, on the feast of Pentecost, the conclusion of the Great Fifty Days of Easter and the descent of the Holy Spirit upon the gathered church. If you wish to donate geraniums to decorate the church inside and out in celebration of the feast, see Debby Seifert.