# THE SECOND SUNDAY OF EASTER

April 27, 2025 | 5:00 pm | The Episcopal Church of the Redeemer

Holy Eucharist in the Celtic Tradition

This liturgy is adapted from "A Celtic Liturgy for Every Season" by Elizabeth Grover.



## PRELUDE

The people's response is in bold. **OPENING WORDS** 

Alleluia! Christ is risen. The Lord is risen indeed. Alleluia! Christ is alive in our hearts. The God who is love dwells in us. Alleluia!

## THE LIGHTING OF THE CANDLES

We will light a light in the name of the Maker The God of wisdom and the Author of all peace. We will light a light in the name of Christ Jesus whose life modeled radical peace. We will light a light in the name of the Spirit The Holy One who brings us peace and comfort.

## **OPENING PRAYER**

The Lord be with you. And also with you. Let us pray. O God, you made the universe with all its marvelous order, its atoms, worlds, and

Ashgrove Elizabeth's Song galaxies, and the infinite complexity of living creatures: Grant that, as we probe the mysteries of your creation, we may come to know you more truly, and more fully understand the purpose to which we are called; in the name of Christ our Lord. **Amen.** 

#### **FIRST LESSON**

#### Acts 5:27-32

When the temple police had brought the apostles, they had them stand before the council. The high priest questioned them, saying, "We gave you strict orders not to teach in this name, yet here you have filled Jerusalem with your teaching and you are determined to bring this man's blood on us" But Peter and the apostles answered, "We must obey God rather than any human authority. The God of our ancestors raised up Jesus, whom you had killed by hanging him on a tree. God exalted him at his right hand as Leader and Savior that he might give repentance to Israel and forgiveness of sins. And we are witnesses to these things, and so is the Holy Spirit whom God has given to those who obey him."

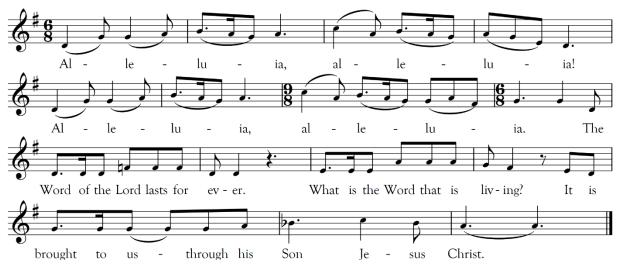
The Word of the Lord. Thanks be to God.

## THE RESPONSE

What To Eat, And What To Drink, And What To Leave For Poison: 1 by Camille T. Dungy

Only now, in spring, can the place be named: tulip poplar, daffodil, crab apple, dogwood, budding pink-green, white-green, yellow on my knowing. All winter I was lost. Fall, I found myself here, with no texture my fingers know. Then, worse, the white longing that downed us deep three months. No flower heat. That was winter. But now, in spring, the buds flock our trees. Ten million exquisite buds, tiny and loud, flaring their petalled wings, bellowing from ashen branches vibrant keys, the chords of spring's triumph: fisted heart, dogwood; grail, poplar; wine spray, crab apple. The song is drink, is color. Come. Now. Taste.

#### **GOSPEL SONG**



#### THE GOSPEL

ЈОНИ 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 your 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 our 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 HOMILY

There will be a pause for silent reflection immediately following the homily.

## THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

We pray now for the needs of all people throughout the world, remembering
that God created all and loves all. Let us pray.
Heavenly Father, we come before you with reverence but with faith that
through our prayers your presence can bless. We pray for the Church that its
mission may reach to the ends of the earth.
May we be Christ to each other and light to the world.
We pray for the world that its leaders may follow the path of justice and its
peoples the way of peace.
May we and all nations respect one another in freedom, truth, and love.
We pray for our community that those who make decisions that affect the lives
of others may be inspired by your wisdom.
May we all act with integrity, respect, and courage that we may live together
in harmony.
We pray for those any need or trouble.
Particular intercessions are offered.
God of hope, comfort and restore all who suffer in body, mind or spirit.
May they know the power of your healing love through human compassion.
We remember those who have died and those who mourn.
Particular intercessions are offered.
Father, into your hands we commend them.
Bring those who mourn peace in their time of loss.
We pray for ourselves in this church community and for the ministries in
which we serve God here.
Particular intercessions are offered.
Lord, you have called us to serve you.

All Grant that we may walk in your presence with your truth in our minds, your strength in our souls and your love in our hearts, that we may share the light of your love with all, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

## SHARING THE PEACE

God makes peace within us. Let us claim it. God makes peace between us. Let us share it.

## THE HOLY COMMUNION

## OFFERTORY

Eleanor of Uson

We encourage you to give your offering electronically today through our CoR App. (Search Redeemer Cincy in your app store.) Or you may choose to give online via our secure online system located here: <u>https://redeemercincy.tpsdb.com/Give/offering</u> There are also two collection spots in the narthex (look for the Give Here signs) where you may deposit your offering safely.

## THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

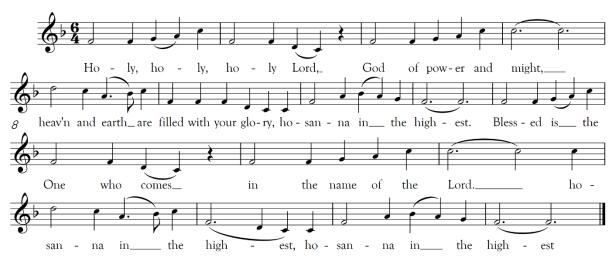
Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

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

We offer you praise and hearts lifted high, O God, by whose word the heavens were formed and the earth was brought forth from the waters. The reflection of your glory shines in each created thing, and though earth's flowering fades, you plant within us imperishable seeds for our salvation and call life out of death into the light that endures forever. And so with heaven and earth's host of light, with the saints of every nation, and with those who now live in the spirit as you are Spirit, we join in the song of your unending greatness: *Celebrant and People* 



Blessed are you, O God, for the great day of salvation prepared from the beginning of the world, when Christ, though rejected on earth, will be seen by all to be chosen and precious in your sight. We bless you for Christ who carried in his body to the tree sin's destructive powers that we and all people might be set free. Through Christ you inspire the hope in us that earth's forces of darkness will be scattered, and angels of glory and principalities of light will bring a new heaven and a new earth.

Jesus, on the night when he was betrayed, took bread, and having blessed it, he broke the bread, and gave it to his disciples, saying: "Take, eat; this is my body which is broken for you. Do this in remembrance of me." In the same way he took wine and, having given thanks for it, he poured it out, and gave the cup to his disciples, saying: "This cup is the new covenant in my blood. Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me."

#### Remembering his eternal self-giving, we proclaim the mystery of Christ among us. Made one with him and one with each other, we offer these gifts, and with them ourselves, a single, holy living sacrifice.

Send your Holy Spirit upon us, O God, and upon this bread and wine, that they may be the body and blood of Christ. May our inner selves be nourished that, in the outward things of life, we may follow the way of Christ and grow more and more into salvation; through Christ, by whom, with whom, and in whom, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, all glory and honor is yours, almighty God, world without end. **AMEN.** 

As our Savior Christ has taught us, we now say,

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, the power, and the glory are yours, now and forever. Amen

## THE BREAKING OF THE BREAD

Gracious God, we come to your table; Nourish us with the bread of life and the cup of heaven.

#### THE SHARING OF A HOLY MEAL

#### **COMMUNION MUSIC**

Spring the Summer Long

#### **CLOSING PRAYER**

Let us pray.

O God, who has renewed the earth by the gift of creation,

we thank you for opening our hearts

and making us new with this holy meal.

As we have shared this bread and wine,

may we also generously share our lives in love,

and as we seek you in your creation each day,

may we find the patience and vision

to see your love at work in all things

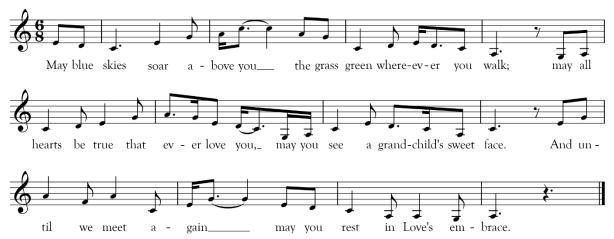
and the grace to let our lives reflect that love;

through Christ our Lord. Amen.

Lord of all light, as we go forth into the world, we extinguish the lights that here represent the presence of the Holy in our midst.

But we will carry the light in our hearts and we pray that as we go about our work in the world, we will shine with the love of God. Amen.

#### **CELTIC BENEDICTION**



## THE BLESSING

The Lord of creation open your eyes to behold the beauty around you,The Lord of light shine forth to guide you on your way, and the Lord of love enfold you in their arms, this day and every day.And the blessing of God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit,

be with you now and always. Amen.



#### THE DISMISSAL

Let us go forth in the name of Christ. Thanks be to God.

#### THE POSTLUDE

## PARTICIPANTS IN TODAY'S WORSHIP

Celebrant & Pi	eacher
Lector	Pattie Kovach
Lay Reader	Andrea Rogers
Intercessor	Robin Henderson
Celtic Guild	John Calhoun
Bread Guild	Ryan Andrews
Altar Guild	Missy Darling, Ivan Delgado, Amanda Rasche, Sarah Kate Rasche
Flower Guild	Courtney Vice, Vicky Carroll, Sue Wilkening,
	Cindy Bryden, Christine Bennett

#### VISION STATEMENT

# We have a vision of a worshiping community that knows Jesus and grows in love:

- United in relationships of holy connection and communion;
- Growing with people of every age, race, gender, sexual orientation, socioeconomic situation, and political persuasion;
- Inspired by our understanding of why we are Christian, why we are Episcopalian, why Redeemer matters to us;
- Sent into the world, rooted and grounded in love, to serve all people with humility, compassion, and faithfulness.

#### THE EPISCOPAL CHURCH OF THE REDEEMER

