



April 24, 2022 - Second Sunday of EASTER

Come Ye Sinners

Come ye sinners the poor and needy
Weak and wounded sick and sore
And Jesus ready stands to save you
Full of pity love and power

I will arise and go to Jesus
He will embrace me in His arms
And in the arms of my dear Savior
Oh there are ten thousand charms

Come ye thirsty, come and welcome
God's free bounty glorify
True belief and true repentance
Every grace that brings us nigh

Come ye weary heavy laden
Lost and ruined by the fall
And if you tarry until you're better
You will never come at all

The Acclamation

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

The Collect for Purity

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 Summary of the Law and Kyrie

Lord, have mercy upon us. *Christ, have mercy upon us.* Lord, have mercy upon us.

The Collect of the Day

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.

Oh Love That Will Never Let Me Go

O Love that will not let me go,
I rest my weary soul in thee;
I give thee back the life I owe,
That in thine ocean depths its flow
May richer, fuller be.

O Joy that seekest me through pain,
I cannot close my heart to thee;
I trace the rainbow through the rain,
And feel the promise is not vain,
That morn shall tearless be.

O light that followest all my way,
I yield my flickering torch to thee;
My heart restores its borrowed ray,
That in thy sunshine's blaze its day
May brighter, fairer be.

O Cross that liftest up my head,
I dare not ask to fly from thee;
I lay in dust life's glory dead,
And from the ground there blossoms red
Life that shall endless be.

Lessons (see insert)

Sermon: The Testimony of the Apostles- Pastor Steve Noll

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 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.

Prayers of the People

Leader: Let us pray for the Church and for the world, saying, "hear our prayer."

[Add particular petitions silently or aloud before "Lord, in your mercy, hear our prayer."]

For the peace of the whole world, and for the well-being and unity of the people of God.

Lord, in your mercy, *hear our prayer.*

For Foley, our Archbishop, and Martyn, our Bishop, and for all the clergy and people of our Diocese and Congregation.

Lord, in your mercy, *hear our prayer.*

For all those who proclaim the Gospel at home and abroad; and for all who teach and disciple others.

Lord, in your mercy, *hear our prayer.*

For our brothers and sisters in Christ who are persecuted for their faith.

Lord, in your mercy, *hear our prayer.*

For our nation, for those in authority, and for all in public service,

Lord, in your mercy, *hear our prayer.*

For all those who are in trouble, sorrow, need, sickness, or any other adversity,

Lord, in your mercy, *hear our prayer.*

We give thanks to you for all your goodness and loving-kindness to us and to all whom you have made.

Lord, in your mercy, *hear our prayer.*

Heavenly Father, grant these our prayers for the sake of Jesus Christ, our only Mediator and Advocate, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. *Amen.*

Prayer for Our Pastor-Elect

We thank you, O heavenly Father, for having guided our church in the search for a new pastor. We pray for the Diocese as it concludes the search process. We pray for Ethan and Natasha and Briar as they prepare to leave their home and congregation in Rwanda. We pray that you will open doors for them to travel to Pittsburgh and find a home. Above all, we pray that you will by your Spirit prepare our hearts to receive them with joy, thanksgiving and expectation, that together we may be a witness in our community and beyond. We ask this through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Confession and Absolution

Let us humbly confess our sins unto Almighty God.

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 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; through Christ our Lord.

The Peace, Announcements, and Doxology

The Great Thanksgiving

The Lord be with you. *And with your spirit.*

Lift up your hearts. *We lift them up to the Lord.*

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God. *It is right to give him thanks and praise.*

It is right to praise you, Father, Lord of all creation; in your love you made us for yourself. When we turned away, you did not reject us, but came to meet us in your Son.

You embraced us as your children and welcomed us to sit and eat with you.

In Christ you shared our life that we might live in him and he in us.

He opened his arms of love upon the cross and made for all the perfect sacrifice for sin.

On the night he was betrayed, at supper with his friends, he took bread, and gave you thanks; he broke it and gave it to them, saying: Take, eat; this is my body which is given for you; do this in remembrance of me.

Father, we do this in remembrance of him; his body is the bread of life.

At the end of supper, taking the cup of wine, he gave you thanks, and said: Drink this, all of you; this is my blood of the new covenant, which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins; do this in remembrance of me.

Father, we do this in remembrance of him: his blood is shed for all.

As we proclaim his death and celebrate his rising in glory, send your Holy Spirit that this bread and this wine may be to us the body and blood of your dear Son.

As we eat and drink these holy gifts make us one in Christ, our risen Lord.

With your whole Church throughout the world we offer you this sacrifice of praise and lift our voice to join the eternal song of heaven: **(sung) 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 Lord's Prayer (together)

Holy Communion

(We invite baptized believers to share the Table with us. You may ask the Priest for bread only or gluten free bread. Cross your arms if you wish only a blessing)

Abide With Me

Abide with me; fast falls the eventide
The darkness deepens; Lord with me abide.
When other helpers, fail and comforts flee,
Help of the helpless, abide with me.

Thou on my head, in early youth didst smile;
And, though rebellious, and perverse meanwhile,
Thou hast not left me, though I oft left Thee,
On to the close Lord, abide with me.

I need Thy presence, every passing hour.
What but Thy grace, can foil the tempter's power?
Who, like Thyself, my guide and stay can be?

Through cloud and sunshine, abide with me.

I fear no foe, with Thee at hand to bless
Ills bear no weight, tears lose their bitterness
Where is thy sting death? Where grave thy victory?
I triumph still, abide with me.

Hold Thou Thy cross, before my closing eyes;
Shine through the gloom, and point me to the skies.
Heaven's morning breaks, and earth's vain shadows flee;
In life, in death, Lord, abide with me.

His Mercy Is More

Praise the Lord His mercy is more
Stronger than darkness new every morn
Our sins they are many His mercy is more

What love could remember no wrongs we have done
Omniscient all knowing He counts not their sum
Thrown into a sea without bottom or shore
Our sins they are many His mercy is more

What patience would wait as we constantly roam
What Father so tender is calling us home
He welcomes the weakest the vilest the poor
Our sins they are many His mercy is more

What riches of kindness He lavished on us
His blood was the payment His life was the cost
We stood 'neath a debt we could never afford
Our sins they are many His mercy is more

Post Communion Prayer

Heavenly Father, 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 Blessing and Dismissal

All of our problems: *We send to the cross of Christ*
All of our difficulties: *We send to the cross of Christ*
All of the devil's works: *We send to the cross of Christ*
And all of our hopes: *We set on the risen Lord!*

The Lord bless us and keep us. The Lord make his face to shine upon us. The Lord lift up his countenance upon us and give us peace. And the blessing of God the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit be with us all evermore.
Alleluia! Alleluia! Let us bless the Lord. *Thanks be to God! Alleluia! Alleluia!*

The Epistle

Acts 5: 12-29 Now many signs and wonders were regularly done among the people by the hands of the apostles. And they were all together in Solomon's Portico. ¹³ None of the rest dared join them, but the people held them in high esteem. ¹⁴ And more than ever believers were added to the Lord, multitudes of both men and women, ¹⁵ so that they even carried out the sick into the streets and laid them on cots and mats, that as Peter came by at least his shadow might fall on some of them. ¹⁶ The people also gathered from the towns around Jerusalem, bringing the sick and those afflicted with unclean spirits, and they were all healed. ¹⁷ But the high priest rose up, and all who were with him (that is, the party of the Sadducees), and filled with jealousy ¹⁸ they arrested the apostles and put them in the public prison. ¹⁹ But during the night an angel of the Lord opened the prison doors and brought them out, and said, ²⁰ "Go and stand in the temple and speak to the people all the words of this Life." ²¹ And when they heard this, they entered the temple at daybreak and began to teach. Now when the high priest came, and those who were with him, they called together the council and all the senate of the people of Israel and sent to the prison to have them brought. ²² But when the officers came, they did not find them in the prison, so they returned and reported, ²³ "We found the prison securely locked and the guards standing at the doors, but when we opened them we found no one inside." ²⁴ Now when the captain of the temple and the chief priests heard these words, they were greatly perplexed about them, wondering what this would come to. ²⁵ And someone came and told them, "Look! The men whom you put in prison are standing in the temple and teaching the people." ²⁶ Then the captain with the officers went and brought them, but not by force, for they were afraid of being stoned by the people. ²⁷ And when they had brought them, they set them before the council. And the high priest questioned them, ²⁸ saying, "We strictly charged you not to teach in this name, yet here you have filled Jerusalem with your teaching, and you intend to bring this man's blood upon us." ²⁹ But Peter and the apostles answered, "We must obey God rather than men.

The Word of the Lord. *Thanks be to God.*

The Gospel

The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ According to St. John
(20:19-31):

Glory to you, Lord Christ!

On the evening of that day, the first day of the week, the doors being locked where the disciples were for fear of the Jews, Jesus came and stood among them and said to them, "Peace be with you." ²⁰ When he had said this, he showed them his hands and his side. Then the disciples were glad when they saw the Lord. ²¹ Jesus said to them again, "Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, even so I am sending you." ²² And when he had said this, he breathed on them and said to them, "Receive the Holy Spirit. ²³ If you forgive the sins of any, they are forgiven them; if you withhold forgiveness from any, it is withheld." ²⁴ Now Thomas, one of the Twelve, called the Twin, was not with them when Jesus came. ²⁵ So the other disciples told him, "We have seen the Lord." But he said to them, "Unless I see in his hands the mark of the nails, and place my finger into the mark of the nails, and place my hand into his side, I will never believe." ²⁶ Eight days later, his disciples were inside again, and Thomas was with them. Although the doors were locked, Jesus came and stood among them and said, "Peace be with you." ²⁷ Then he said to Thomas, "Put your finger here, and see my hands; and put out your hand, and place it in my side. Do not disbelieve, but believe." ²⁸ Thomas answered him, "My Lord and my God!" ²⁹ Jesus said to him, "Have you believed because you have seen me? Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have believed." ³⁰ Now Jesus did many other signs in the presence of the disciples, which are not written in this book; ³¹ but these are written so that you may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God, and that by believing you may have life in his name.

The Gospel of the Lord. *Glory to you, Lord Christ!*