



St. John's Episcopal Church
The Second Sunday of Easter
April 26 and 27, 2025

The Prelude *Vruechten*

setting by James Biery

The Opening Hymn *This joyful Eastertide*

The Hymnal 1982, 192

Celebrant Alleluia. Christ is risen!

The Book of Common Prayer, page 355

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

The Gloria

The Hymnal 1982, S 280

1. Glo - ry to God in the high - est, and
peace to his peo - ple on earth. 2. Lord God, heaven - ly
King, al - might - y God and Fa - ther, we wor - ship you, we
give you thanks, we praise you for your glo - ry. 3. Lord Je - sus
Christ, on - ly Son of the Fa - ther, Lord God, Lamb of God, 4. you
take a - way the sin of the world: have mer - cy
on us; 5. you are seat - ed at the right hand of the Fa - ther: re -
ceive our prayer. 6. For you a - lone are the Ho - ly One,
you a - lone are the Lord, 7. you a - lone are the Most



Music: Robert Powell (b. 1932), rev. Setting: Copyright © Church Publishing Inc.

The Collect

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 Lesson

Acts 5:27-32

In our lesson from the Book of Acts the apostles are brought before the council of religious authorities in Jerusalem and again commanded to cease teaching in the name of Jesus. Peter and the apostles claim a higher authority, and proclaim that the executed Jesus is their exalted Leader and Savior, offering forgiveness to Israel. The apostles and the Holy Spirit must bear witness to Jesus.

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.

People **Thanks be to God.**

The Response, Psalm 150

Laudate Dominum

This is a song of praise and rejoicing in which all that has breath is invited to join. We will read the psalm responsively breaking at the half-verse.

Psalm 150

- 1 Hallelujah!
Praise God in his holy temple; *
praise him in the firmament of his power.
- 2 Praise him for his mighty acts; *
praise him for his excellent greatness.
- 3 Praise him with the blast of the ram's-horn; *
praise him with lyre and harp.
- 4 Praise him with timbrel and dance; *
praise him with strings and pipe.
- 5 Praise him with resounding cymbals; *
praise him with loud-clanging cymbals.
- 6 Let everything that has breath *
praise the LORD. Hallelujah!

The Second Lesson

Revelation 1:4-8

In this lesson "John the Seer" addresses seven representative churches in Asia Minor with a hymn of praise to Christ, the firstborn from the dead and now ruler of all. The resurrected Jesus frees disciples from their sins and makes them a kingdom of priests serving his God and Father the One who is and was and is to come.

John to the seven churches that are in Asia: Grace to you and peace from him who is and who was and who is to come, and from the seven spirits who are before his throne, and from Jesus Christ, the faithful witness, the firstborn of the dead, and the ruler of the kings of the earth.

To him who loves us and freed us from our sins by his blood, and made us to be a kingdom, priests serving his God and Father, to him be glory and dominion forever and ever. Amen.

Look! He is coming with the clouds; every eye will see him, even those who pierced him; and on his account all the tribes of the earth will wail. So it is to be. Amen. "I am the Alpha and the Omega," says the Lord God, who is and who was and who is to come, the Almighty.

The Word of the Lord

People **Thanks be to God**

The Gradual Hymn *We walk by faith, and not by sight*

The Hymnal 1982, 209

The Gospel

John 20:19-31

Then, all standing, as able,

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

People **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.

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

The Sermon

The Reverend Alan R. Hesse

The Nicene Creed

Enriching Our Worship I

**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,
was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the
Virgin Mary
and became truly human.
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,
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, Form III

Gracious God, we pray for your holy Catholic Church;
That we all may be one.

Grant that every member of the Church may truly and humbly serve you;
That your Name may be glorified by all people.

We pray for our bishop Julia, for our rector Alan and for all bishops, priests, and deacons;
That they may be faithful ministers of your Word and Sacraments.

We pray for all who govern and hold authority in the nations of the world;
That there may be justice and peace on the earth.

Give us grace to do your will in all that we undertake;
That our works may find favor in your sight.

We pray for those on our prayer list: Mary, Susan, Christy, Brian, Steve, Charlie, Bruce, Dave, Alannah, MaryAnn, Dave, Luke, Bruce, April, Lyn, Henry, Steve, and Philip M.

Have compassion on those who suffer from any grief or trouble;
That they may be delivered from their distress.

The altar is adorned with flowers for this weekend by the Donaruma family.

Give to the departed eternal rest.
Let light perpetual shine upon them.

We praise you for your saints who have entered into joy;
May we also come to share in your heavenly kingdom.

In our Diocesan Cycle of Prayer, we give thanks for the members of the Churches of the Charles River Deanery: **Grace Church** (Newton), **St. John's Church** (Newtonville), **St. Mary's Church** (Newton Lower Falls), **Parish of St. Paul** (Newton Highlands), **Prison Ministries**.

I invite your own thanksgivings and petitions. Let us pray for our own needs and those of others.

The Celebrant adds a concluding Collect

The Peace

Celebrant The Peace of the Lord be always with you.

People And also with you.

The Offertory Anthem *All Earth Rejoice With A Gladsome Voice*

Antonio Vivaldi

The Doxology

*Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;
Praise God, all creatures here below;
Praise God above, ye heav'nly host;
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost! Amen.*



The Great Thanksgiving -- Eucharistic Prayer A

The people remain standing.

<i>Celebrant</i>	<i>People</i>
The Lord be with you. And al - so with you.	
<i>Celebrant</i>	<i>People</i>
Lift up your hearts. We lift them to the Lord.	

Celebrant

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People

It is right to give him 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 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 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:

Sanctus

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Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow - er and
 might, hea - ven and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho -
 san - na in the high - est. Bless - ed is he who
 comes in the name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

Music: Robert Powell (b. 1932). Setting: Copyright © Church Publishing Inc.

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:

Celebrant and People

Christ has died.

Christ is risen.

Christ will come again.

The Celebrant continues

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,

**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 Anthem

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Lamb of God, you take a - way the
sins of the world: have mer - cy on us. Lamb of God, you
take a - way the sins of the world: have mer - cy on us.
Lamb of God, you take a - way the sins of the world: grant us peace.

Music: Robert Powell (b. 1932). Setting: Copyright © Church Publishing Inc.

Celebrant The Gifts of God for the People of God.

All who seek God and are drawn to Christ, are welcome at the Lord's Table.

Please hold out your hand to receive the host. You may ask for the chalice or receive the wine in the small cups offered to you in a tray.

If you prefer not to receive the wine, please cross your arms and wait for the minister to say "The blood of Christ, the cup of salvation."

As you return to your seats, deposit your cup in the place provided.

If you prefer to receive a blessing you may cross your arms across your chest.

If you would like to remain in your seat and receive communion, please let an usher know.

The Communion Hymns *One bread, one body*

Lift Every Voice and Sing, 151

*One bread, one body, one Lord of all,
one cup of blessing which we bless.
And we, though many, throughout the earth,
We are one body in this one Lord.*

1 Gentile or Jew, servant or free,
woman or man, no more.
One Lord. **Refrain**

2 Many the gifts, many the works,
one in the Lord of all.
One Lord. **Refrain**

3 Grain for the fields, scattered and grown,
gathered to one for all.
One Lord. **Refrain**

Words: 1 Corinthians 10:16, 17; 12:4; Galatians 3:28; The Didache 9. Music: John B. Foley,
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The Post Communion Prayer

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 Blessing

Welcome & Announcements

The Closing Hymn *Good Christians all, rejoice and sing*

The Hymnal 1982, 205

The Dismissal

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

People Thanks be to God. Alleluia, alleluia.

The Postlude *Organ Voluntary*

Serving Today

Celebrant: The Rev. Alan R. Hesse

Lectors: Lillian Woo (5pm); Phyllis Helfrich (9:30am)

Lay Eucharistic Ministers: Mary Ames (5pm); Jared Cohen (9:30am)

Musicians: Misao Koyama and Choir

Ushers: Mary Howe and Lynn Tozier

Altar Guild: Melissa Abbott, Judy Cohen, and Jann Czarnetzki

Announcements

Thank you to everyone who helped ready the church and grounds for Holy Week and Easter. Inside the florals honored loved ones; outside, David Foster's crew once again filled the urns with seasonal beauty. Our altar guild, buildings and grounds crew, choir and musicians, ushers, hospitality group, Mary Ames and Nancy Silva who packed and hid 300 Easter eggs, parishioners and visitors, all contributed in some way to make this a joyous week!

St. John's Episcopal Church Sandwich Caring for Creation Committee is hosting a screening of this eye-opening documentary on Tuesday, April 29, 2025 at 7:00 PM in the parish hall behind the main sanctuary at 159 Main Street, Sandwich. Tickets are free and can be reserved at <https://kinema.com/events/Food-and-Country-bir9mu>.

April 26 - May 4, 2025

Saturday, April 26

9:30am AA, Parish Hall
5pm Worship with Holy Eucharist

Sunday, April 27

9:30am Worship Service with Holy Eucharist
Hospitality following worship, Parish Hall

Monday, April 28

10am Al-Anon, Parish Hall
12:30 Thrift Shop Volunteers Luncheon, Parish Hall

Tuesday, April 29

12noon AA, Parish Hall
7pm Caring for Creation "Food and Country" video,
Parish Hall

Wednesday, April 30

7pm Choir Rehearsal, Church

Thursday, May 1

12noon AA, Parish Hall
4:30pm Lasit Performing Arts, Church
5pm Women's Group, Parish Hall
6pm AA, Undercroft

Friday, May 2

1pm Caring for Creation, Zoom link:
<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/892976341>

Saturday, May 3

9:30am AA, Parish Hall
5pm Worship Service with Holy Eucharist

Sunday, May 4

9:30am Worship with Holy Eucharist
Hospitality following Worship, Parish Hall

Welcome to St. John's!

Whether this is your first visit to St. John's or you are a long-time member, please know that there is a warm welcome for you here!

Please feel free to participate fully in our service today and in the life of the parish. We are glad you have come and hope you leave feeling closer to God! At several points in the service, you may notice that some people are kneeling, some are standing and some are sitting. We are given this choice and you should feel free to do whichever is most appropriate for you. Please know that you are invited to fully participate in the Holy Eucharist as a Baptized Christian. *All who seek God and are drawn to Christ, are welcome at the Lord's Table.*

If you would like to know more about St. John's and may be interested in membership or interested in being placed on our email mailing list, please contact the church office.

Saint John's Episcopal Church

The Episcopal Church of Sandwich Est. 1854

159 Main St, Sandwich, MA



Office Hours, Tues-Fri 9am-2pm

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