

The Festival Choral Eucharist for the Resurrection of Jesus Christ



Easter Day

31 March, 2024

St. Michael's Episcopal Church

Brattleboro, Vermont

www.stmichaelsvermont.org

Prelude: "We Pray Now to the Holy Spirit" by Dietrich Buxtehude

Welcome

Hymn in Procession

The Hymnal 207

Distant

1 Je - sus Christ is risen to - day, Al - le - lu - ia!
2 Hymns of praise then let us sing, Al - le - lu - ia!
3 But the pains which he en - dured, Al - le - lu - ia!
4 Sing we to our God a - bove Al - le - lu - ia!

our tri - um - phant ho - ly day, Al - le - lu - ia!
un - to Christ, our heav - en - ly King, Al - le - lu - ia!
our sal - va - tion have pro - cured; Al - le - lu - ia!
praise e - ter - nal as his love; Al - le - lu - ia!

who did once up - on the cross, Al - le - lu - ia!
who en - dured the cross and grave, Al - le - lu - ia!
now a - bove the sky he's King, Al - le - lu - ia!
praise him, all ye heav - en - ly host, Al - le - lu - ia!

suf - fer to re - deem our loss. Al - le - lu - ia!
sin - ners to re - deem and save, Al - le - lu - ia!
where the an - gels ev - er sing, Al - le - lu - ia!
Fa - ther, Son, and Ho - ly Ghost, Al - le - lu - ia!

After the hymn, the Presider says this opening acclamation responsively three times.

Celebrant Alleluia. Christ is risen.

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

The Congregation and the Choir sing

The Hymnal 205

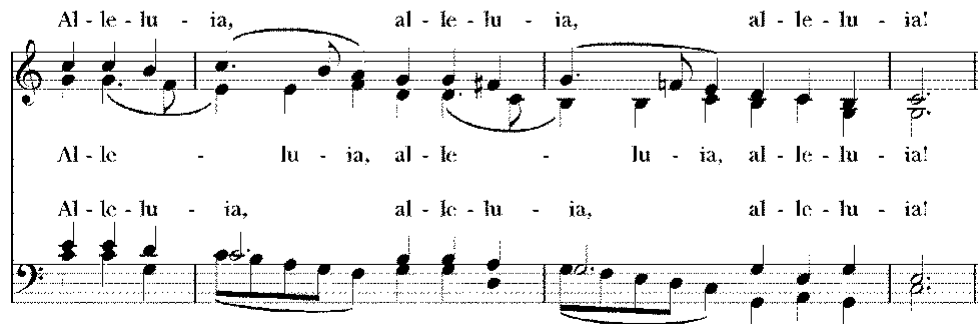
During the hymn the people are sprinkled with water as a remembrance of Baptism.



1 Good Chris - tians all, re - joice and sing! Now is the
*2 The Lord of life is risen to - day! Sing songs of
3 Praise we in songs of vic - to - ry that love, that
4 Your Name we bless, O ris - en Lord, and sing to -
5 To God the Fa - ther, God the Son, to God the



1 tri - umph of our King! To all the world glad news we bring:
2 praise a - long his way; let all the earth re - joice and say:
3 life which can - not die, and sing with hearts up - lift - ed high:
4 day with one ac - cord the life laid down, the life re - stored:
5 Spi - rit, al - ways One, we sing for life in us be - gun:



Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!
Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!
Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!

Words: Cyril A. Alington (1872-1955), alt., Copyright © of Hymns Ancient and Modern Limited. S. 5, Norman Neely (b. 1923) Copyright ©1971 Walton Music Corporation. All rights reserved. Used with permission. Music: *Gloria tui Gen*, Melchior Vulpinus (1560?-1616)

Collect of The Day

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Let us pray.

Almighty God, who through your only-begotten Son Jesus Christ overcame death and opened to us the gate of everlasting life: Grant that we, who celebrate with joy the day of the Lord's resurrection, may be raised from the death of sin by your life-giving Spirit; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

First Reading

Isaiah 25: 6-9

After the reading the lector says

Hear what the Spirit is saying to God's people
People **Thanks be to God.**

Remain seated

Psalm 118: 1-2, 14-17, 22-24

**Give thanks to the LORD, for he is good; *
his mercy endures for ever.**

**Let Israel now proclaim, *
"His mercy endures for ever."**

**The LORD is my strength and my song, *
and he has become my salvation.**

**There is a sound of exultation and victory *
in the tents of the righteous:**

**"The right hand of the LORD has triumphed! *
the right hand of the LORD is exalted!
the right hand of the LORD has triumphed!"**

**I shall not die, but live, *
and declare the works of the LORD.**

**The same stone which the builders rejected *
has become the chief cornerstone.**

**This is the LORD'S doing, *
and it is marvelous in our eyes.**

**On this day the LORD has acted; *
we will rejoice and be glad in it.**

Second Reading

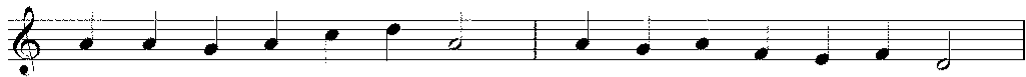
Acts 10: 34-43

After the reading the lector says

Hear what the Spirit is saying to God's people
People **Thanks be to God.**

Gradual

The Hymnal 184

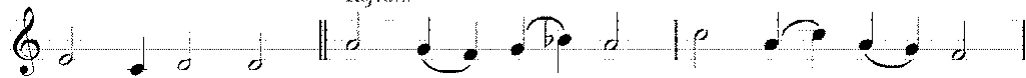


1 Christ the Lord is risen a - gain! Christ has bro - ken ev - ery chain!
 2 He who gave for us his life, who for us en - dured the strife,
 3 He who bore all pain and loss com - fort - less up - on the cross



Now through all the world it rings that the Lamb is King of kings.
 takes our sin and guilt a - way that with an - gels we may say:
 is ex - alt - ed now to save, wrest - ing vic - tory from the grave.

Refrain



Al - le - lu - ia!
 Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia,
 Al - le - lu - ia!



al - le - lu - ia! Christ, our Pas - chal Lamb in - deed,



Christ, to - day your peo - ple feed. Al - le - lu - ia!

Words: Michael Weisse (1486-1534); tr. Catherine Winkworth (1827-1878); alt. Music: *Christ ist erstanden*, melody from *Geistliche Lieder*, 1533; harmon. after Hans Leo Hassler (1564-1612) Copyright © The Church Pension Fund. All rights reserved. Used with permission.

Gospel

Mark 16: 1-8

The people turn to face the Gospel book and remain standing for the reading of the Gospel

Officiant The Holy Gospel of our Savior Jesus Christ according to Mark.
People **Glory to you, Lord Christ.**

Following the Gospel, the Officiant says
 The Gospel of the Lord.

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

The Sermon

The Reverend adwoa Wilson

After the sermon a period of silence is kept.

Prayers of the People

Reader: Alleluia, Christ is risen.
Congregational response: **The Lord is risen indeed! Alleluia.**

The Celebrant bids the

Peace

The peace Christ be always with you.
And also with you.

Following the Peace, the Celebrant recites a sentence from Holy Scripture; all prepare for the Holy Eucharist.

Anthem “Gaudeamus Hodie” by Mary Lynn Lightfoot

Offering

During the hymn, ushers pass the offering plates. Representatives from the parish bring the people’s offerings of food bread and wine for the Eucharist, and money for mission and ministry to the Altar. You may also make a donation online using **the QR code** on the announcements page or at www.stmichaelsvermont.org under “Give” & “Give Online.” Our ministry at St. Michael’s depends on your generosity. Thank you!

All stand to sing

Hymn

The Hymnal 178

Descant

Al - le - lu - ia, al - le -

Refrain

Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia! Give thanks to the

lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!

ris - en Lord. Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia! Give

|| 1-4 || *Final Ending*

Praise to his Name. Name.

Praise to his Name. Name.

1 Je - sus is Lord of all the earth.
2 Spread the good news o'er all the earth:
3 We have been cru - ci - fied with Christ.
4 Come, let us praise the liv - ing God.

Repeat Refrain

He is the King of cre - a - tion.
Je - sus has died and has ris - en.
Now we shall live for ev - er. Al - le -
joy - ful - ly sing to our Sa - vior.

The descant may be sung after stanzas 3 and 4.

Words: Donald Fishel (b. 1956). Music: *Alleluia* No. 2, Donald Fishel (b. 1956). Words, Music (melody), Copyright ©1973, The Word of God, an Beth Publishing (b. 1928), Charles Mahory (b. 1951) and George Meme (b. 1958) Copyright ©1978, Celebration. All rights reserved. Used with permission.

The Holy Communion

The Great Thanksgiving

The people remain standing. The Celebrant faces them and sings

Celebrant *People*
The Lord be with you. And al - so with you.

Celebrant *People*
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.

The Presider sings the Proper Preface.

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:

Then all sing:

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

The Presider recalls (and makes present for all) Jesus' life and last supper.

Presider:

And seeing that the power of sin is broken, and Christ is all in all, we praise you and we bless you.

People: **We praise you,**
 we bless you,
 we give thanks to you
 and we pray to you,
 O Lord our God.

The Presider asks the Holy Spirit to consecrate the bread and the wine to be God's holy food.

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

The Lord's Prayer

**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,
the power, and the glory, for ever and ever. Amen.**

The Breaking of the Bread

The presider breaks the bread. Then all sing this hymn:

This setting is not used in Lent.

Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.
Christ our Pass - o - ver is sac - ri - ficed for us;
there - fore let us keep the feast.
Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

Invitation to Receive the Sacrament of Holy Communion

At St. Michael's, we believe that God's love is unconditional. We welcome all people and we affirm the worth, dignity, and gifts of every person as a beloved child of God. In our celebration of the Eucharist, there is no one here who is ineligible or unwelcome; no one who has too many doubts or too few beliefs. This is the table of a loving God set for all creation through the power of Jesus Christ. You, who are part of that creation, are welcome.

Gluten-free wafers and grape juice are available. Please indicate that preference to the liturgical minister.

Postcommunion Prayer

Celebrant 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

The following blessing is said. The people respond to each petition with a loud "Amen."

May Almighty God, who has redeemed us and made us children through the resurrection of Christ our Savior, bestow upon you the riches of blessing. **Amen.**

May God, who through the water of baptism has raised us from sin into newness of life, make you holy and worthy to be united with Christ for ever. **Amen.**

May God, who has brought us out of bondage to sin into true and lasting freedom in the Redeemer, bring you to your eternal inheritance. **Amen.**

And the blessing of God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, be upon you and remain with you for ever. **Amen.**

After the blessing, all stand to sing the

Hymn in Procession

The Hymnal 210

Hymn is printed on the next page.

Descant

3 Now let the heavens be joy - ful, let earth her song be - gin,

1 The day of re - sur - rec - tion! Earth, tell it out a - broad;
 2 Our hearts be pure from e - vil, that we may see a - right
 3 Now let the heavens be joy - ful, let earth her song be - gin,

the round world keep high tri - umph, and all that is there - in;
 the Pass - o - ver of glad - ness, the Pass - o - ver of God.
 the Lord in rays e - ter - nal of re - sur - rec - tion light;
 the round world keep high tri - umph, and all that is there - in;

let all things seen and un - seen their notes to - geth - er blend,
 From death to life e - ter - nal, from earth un - to the sky,
 and, lis - tening to his ac - cents, may hear so calm and plain
 let all things seen and un - seen their notes to - geth - er blend,
 for Christ the Lord is ris - en, our joy that hath no end.
 our Christ hath brought us o - ver with hymns of vic - to - ry.
 his own "All hail!" and, hear - ing, may raise the vic - tor strain.
 for Christ the Lord is ris - en, our joy that hath no end.

Words: John of Damascus (8th cent.), tr. John Mason Neale (1818-1866), alt. Music: *Ellacombe*, melody from *Gesangbuch... der Herzogl. Württembergischen katholischen Hofkapelle*, 1784, alt.; adapt. *Katholisches Gesangbuch*, 1863, harmon. William Henry Monk (1823-1889); desc. Cyril Winn (1834-1973)
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At the back of the nave, the Officiant and People say this

Dismissal

Officiant Let us go forth in the name of Christ, alleluia, alleluia, alleluia

People **Thanks be to God, alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.**

Postlude “Postlude on ‘Jesus Christ is Risen Today’” by Noel Rawsthorne

Please join us on the Rectory yard outside for the Easter Egg Hunt and/or downstairs in the Undercroft for Coffee Hour!

Participants Today

Miranda Smith, lay assistant; **Ed McCatty** and **William Stearns**, readers and element bearers; **Cary Gaunt**, intercessor; **Craig Irvine** and **Alex O’Pray**, chalice bearers; **Betsy Bates** and **Liz Vick & Craig Hammond**, ushers. **Jane Sbardella** and **Sherry Stimmel**, Altar Guild. **Marie Lawrence**, Easter Flowers.

EASTER FLOWERS

The following gifts have been made for the flowers in the sanctuary this Easter season.

To the glory of God

From Elizabeth Vick & Craig Hammond

In thanksgiving for

The lives of David and Jamie Morgan *from Brian & Joyce Vining Morgan*

All at St. Michael’s, especially for your care and generosity at the time of our leave taking *from Jean & Peter Smith*

In memory of

My mother, Phyllis Lindquist, *from Mary Lindquist*

Nini & Bumpa *from Hailey and Ryan Cogliano*

Bob Anderson *from Becky Anderson*

Daniel Dobson *from Susan Gantt Kubert*

Bruce Hesselbach *from Carol Hesselbach*

Richard d. Blazej and Doris E. Spahr *from Lucy Spahr-Blazej*

Tim Gallagher and Nancy & Halsey Hicks *from Pam & Paul Gallagher*

At St. Michael's we believe that God's love is unconditional. We welcome all people and we affirm the worth, dignity, and gifts of every person as a beloved child of God.

All are welcome to receive the sacrament of Holy Communion.

- **WELCOME TO VISITORS!** All are welcome at this table. If you have any questions about the liturgy, location of the bathrooms, or anything else, please ask one of the ushers or greeters. Thank you for joining us today.
- **GLUTEN FREE WAFERS AND GRAPE JUICE** are available for Communion at both 8:00 am and 10:15 services. Please make yourselves known to the priest when you come up for Communion.
- **CHILDREN ARE WELCOME HERE!** There are clipboards with paper and crayons, as well as activity bags with coloring books at the back of the Sanctuary for children who are interested in coloring or drawing during the service. Feel free to come in and out of the worship area as needed with your children! Please ask an usher if you need assistance.

ST. MICHAEL'S WEEKDAY WORSHIP

Morning Prayer, 8-8:30 am, Monday-Friday, on Zoom, Tuesday & Wednesday in-person the Chapel

Breakfast with the Psalms, 8:30-10 am, Wednesday at The Works, Main St, Brattleboro

Centering Prayer, 11:30-11:55 am, Wednesday in the Chapel

Eucharist with the Saints, 12 noon-12:30, Wednesday in the Chapel

Contemplative Worship, 5:30-6:00 pm, Thursday in the Chapel, in-person and on Zoom

Centering Prayer, 8 am, Saturday in the Chapel

HAPPY BIRTHDAY to *Jan Bennett*, Today; *Becky Anderson*, Tuesday.

EASTER SUNDAY is the most important day of celebration in the Christian Year. On this day we celebrate how Christ overcame death to rise to new life, offering his redemption and love to all.

TODAY IS SAINT MICHAEL'S ANNUAL EASTER EGG HUNT: We will hide them on today for our kids to find. The Easter Egg Hunt takes place outside after the 10:15 service. Kids of all ages are urged to participate!

CHURCH OFFICE CLOSED THIS WEEK: Although the office will be closed, we will occasionally read email and listen to phone messages during the week of April 1 – 5.

ADULT FORUM: There is no Adult Forum today, but Forums begin again next Sunday, April 7.

- **APRIL 7: "SPEAKING CHRISTIAN: RESURRECTION: THEN AND NOW"** -- This Adult Form, right after Easter, looks at the most fundamental Christian experience, resurrection, life out of death and invites us to explore what it has meant down through time and what it means and does not mean to us today. We are looking for Contemporary Resurrections.
- **APRIL 14: "A CULTURE OF CARING: BUILDING RELATIONSHIPS AND COMMUNITY"** -- In 2019, Reverend Duncan Hilton, then serving at St. Michael's, spearheaded the initiative to explore the creation of a L'Arche community in Southern Vermont. His vision to create a local L'Arche community continues to shine. At the Forum on April 14 we'll learn more about L'Arche's Mission, how it closely aligns with the spirit of community at St. Michael's, and explore how we can foster a sense of belonging. Friends of L'Arche Southern Vermont believes that "people with intellectual disabilities belong at the center of community, that people of differing

abilities are called into life together, and that we are all transformed when we commit to loving and serving each other.”

NEW DISCUSSION GROUP ON AGING BEGINS APRIL 3: *From Jeff Lewis:* The first Aging Discussion Group has completed its 8-week term and has decided to continue. Others have expressed interest in a similar group discussion. I'd like to offer a second group, Aging II, to start the week after Easter on Wednesdays from 4 to 5:15. Discussion will be based on the Joan Chittister book “The Gift of Years.” We'll meet for an hour and fifteen minutes for 8 weeks. The book is available widely, or I can ask Everyone's Books to order some. Please let me know if you are interested: jeffrey.m.lewis@comcast.net, or 802-579-3877.

TAG SALE FURNITURE DONATIONS NOW BEING ACCEPTED: The Tag Sale team is now ready to begin looking at furniture donations for the upcoming Sat., May 4th Tag Sale which will benefit Brattleboro's community meals program, Loaves and Fishes. This year, we will be looking over potential furniture donations so that we take only what we can sell.

For 1-2 items, a photo might be fine to send to lindariceaprn@gmail.com. For more than 2 items, please request someone to come look at what you have to make sure we can take everything, by calling Linda Rice at 802-257-7982 or 802-275-2268. Linda will schedule someone to come review your furniture donation items. Furniture pickup will be available beginning April 1st and Linda can pass your information on to others on the pickup crew.

We have had some really nice donations of clothing, linens, books, jewelry, puzzles and housewares and would be happy to receive more, as well as sporting goods like bikes and skis.

Thank you for your generosity!

BAPTISM CELEBRATION, APRIL 14, AT THE 10:15 AM SERVICE: 2024 seems to be the year we are catching up on the baptisms missed during the pandemic. Ethan Horton, who was our baby Jesus for the Christmas Pageant of 2019, will be baptized on Sunday, April 14. Ethan is now 4 years old and is very excited to be baptized (or “babaptize” as he likes to say). Below is a great poem about a baptism that I read recently. Please join us for this great celebration!

PRISON MINISTRY UPDATE: A special thank you to the person who left nice gift bags of toiletries in the Bin on the Bench. Toiletries continue to be the biggest need; these include bath soap, body wash, shampoo, deodorant, toothpaste and brushes. If you send a donation to St. Michael's marked for "prison ministry," Cliff will be able to order in bulk. Thank you for your continued support.

WORDS TO PLOWSHARES LOOKING FOR DONATED FIREARMS: Swords to Plowshares, Vermont, Inc, is a local Windham County non-profit devoted to community education aimed at reducing gun violence. Working with the Windham County Sheriff's department, we are seeking unwanted firearms that can be destroyed and the usable parts turned into garden tools and other artwork.

We are currently working with the staff and students in the art department at Putney School and need some donations so that the students can create the tools and other artwork as part of their class. We are also working on our next public educational event scheduled for May 11 at the Putney School.

If you have firearms that you no longer have use for and would like to dispose of them in a safe way and at the same time know that the usable parts will be transformed into garden tools and other works of art, then please respond to this request by sending an email to Tom Ely at thomasely1@gmail.com.