



Old St. Paul's
Anglican Church



Third Sunday of Easter

Third Sunday of Easter

May 4, 2025

Holy Eucharist

Organ Prelude

- 1. Thine is the Glory (Handel)**
- 2. Good Christians All, Rejoice and Sing (Holstein)**

THE GATHERING OF THE COMMUNITY

Opening Hymn

CP 233 He Rose

Welcome & Opening Remarks

Opening Greeting

Celebrant Alleluia! Christ is risen.

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

Celebrant May his grace and peace be with you.

People **May he fill our hearts with joy.**

Celebrant The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit, be with you all.

People **And also with you.**

Words of Welcome & Introduction

This morning, on this third Sunday of Easter we continue to celebrate and give thanks for the hope and promise of the resurrection. We remember that Easter isn't about one day at it's very least it is a season that lasts until the Ascension but truly Easter is a faith we hold on to and proclaim every day of our lives.

Collect for Purity

Celebrant Almighty God,

All **to you all hearts are open,**

all desires known,

and from you no secrets are hidden.

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.

Gloria (Sung)

The Collect of the Day

O God, your Son made himself known to his disciples in the breaking of bread. Open the eyes of our faith, that we may see him in his redeeming work, who is alive and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

Family Hymn

I am a C-H-R-I-S-T-I-A-N (Video)

THE PROCLAMATION OF THE WORD

First Reading

First Reading: Acts 9: 1 - 20

A Reading from the Book of Acts

The Conversion of Saul

I MEANWHILE Saul, still breathing threats and murder against the disciples of the Lord, went to the high priest ² and asked him for letters to the synagogues at Damascus, so that if he found any who belonged to the Way, men or women, he might bring them bound to Jerusalem. ³ Now as he was going along and approaching Damascus, suddenly a light from heaven flashed around him. ⁴ He fell to the ground and heard a voice saying to him, "aul, Saul, why do you persecute me?" ⁵ He asked, "Who are you, Lord?" The reply came, " I am Jesus, whom you are persecuting. ⁶ But get up and enter the city, and you will be told what you are to do." ⁷ The men who were traveling with him stood speechless because they heard the voice but saw no one. ⁸ Saul got up from the ground, and though his eyes were open, he could see nothing; so they led him by the hand and brought him into Damascus. ⁹ For three days he was without sight, and neither ate nor drank. ¹⁰ Now there was a disciple in Damascus named Ananias. The Lord said to him in a vision, "Ananias." He answered, "Here I am, Lord." ¹¹ The Lord said to him, "Get up and go to the street called Straight, and at the house of Judas look for a man of Tarsus named Saul. At this moment he is praying, ¹² and he has seen in a vision a man named Ananias come in and lay his hands on him so that he might regain his sight." ¹³ But Ananias answered, "Lord, I have heard from many about this man, how much evil he has done to your saints in Jerusalem; ¹⁴ and here he has authority from the chief priests to bind all who invoke your name." ¹⁵ But the Lord said to him, "Go, for he is an instrument whom I have chosen to bring my name before Gentiles and kings and before the people of Israel; ¹⁶ I myself will show him how

much he must suffer for the sake of my name.”¹⁷ So Ananias went and entered the house. He laid his hands on Saul and said, “Brother Saul, the Lord Jesus, who appeared to you on your way here, has sent me so that you may regain your sight and be filled with the Holy Spirit.”¹⁸ And immediately something like scales fell from his eyes, and his sight was restored. Then he got up and was baptized,¹⁹ and after taking some food, he regained his strength. For several days he was with the disciples in Damascus,²⁰ and immediately he began to proclaim Jesus in the synagogues, saying, “He is the Son of God.”

Reader The word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God**

Psalm 30

Said responsively by the full verse

1 I will exalt you, O Lord, because you have lifted me up and have not let my enemies triumph over me.

2 O Lord my God, I cried out to you, and you restored me to health.

3 You brought me up, O Lord, from the dead; you restored my life as I was going down to the grave.

4 Sing to the Lord, you servants of his; give thanks for the remembrance of his holiness.

5 For his wrath endures but the twinkling of an eye, his favour for a lifetime.

6 Weeping may spend the night, but joy comes in the morning.

7 While I felt secure, I said, “I shall never be disturbed. You, Lord, with your favour, made me as strong as the mountains.”

8 Then you hid your face, and I was filled with fear.

9 I cried to you, O Lord; I pleaded with the Lord, saying,

10 “What profit is there in my blood, if I go down to the Pit? will the dust praise you or declare your faithfulness?”

11 Hear, O Lord, and have mercy upon me; O Lord, be my helper.”

12 You have turned my wailing into dancing; you have put off my sack-cloth and clothed me with joy.

13 Therefore my heart sings to you without ceasing; O Lord my God, I will give you thanks for ever.

Second Reading

Second Reading: Revelation 5: 11 - 14

A Reading from the Book of Revelation

¹¹ Then I looked, and I heard the voice of many angels surrounding the throne and the living creatures and the elders; they numbered myriads of myriads and thousands of thousands, ¹² singing with full voice, “Worthy is the Lamb that was slaughtered to receive power and wealth and wisdom and might and honour and glory and blessing!” ¹³ Then I heard every creature in heaven and on earth and under the earth and in the sea, and all that is in them, singing, “To the one seated on the throne and to the Lamb be blessing and honour and glory and might forever and ever!” ¹⁴ And the four living creatures said, “Amen!” And the elders fell down and worshipped.

Reader The word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God**

Gospel Acclamation CP 715

Holy Gospel

Reader The Lord be with you.

People **And also with you.**

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

People **Glory to you, Lord Jesus Christ.**

Gospel: John 21: 1 - 19

Now Jesus did many other signs in the presence of his disciples, which are not written in this book.

I AFTER these things Jesus showed himself again to the disciples by the Sea of Tiberias; and he showed himself in this way. ² Gathered there together were Simon Peter, Thomas called the Twin, Nathanael of Cana in Galilee, the sons of Zebedee, and two others of his disciples. ³ Simon Peter said to them, “I am going fishing.” They said to him, “We will go with you.” They went out and got into the boat, but

that night they caught nothing. ⁴ Just after daybreak, Jesus stood on the beach; but the disciples did not know that it was Jesus. ⁵ Jesus said to them, “Children, you have no fish, have you?” They answered him, “No.” ⁶ He said to them, “Cast the net to the right side of the boat, and you will find some.” So they cast it, and now they were not able to haul it in because there were so many fish. ⁷ That disciple whom Jesus loved said to Peter, “It is the Lord!” When Simon Peter heard that it was the Lord, he put on some clothes, for he was naked, and jumped into the sea. ⁸ But the other disciples came in the boat, dragging the net full of fish, for they were not far from the land, only about a hundred yards off. ⁹ When they had gone ashore, they saw a charcoal fire there, with fish on it, and bread. ¹⁰ Jesus said to them, “Bring some of the fish that you have just caught.” ¹¹ So Simon Peter went aboard and hauled the net ashore, full of large fish, a hundred fifty-three of them; and though there were so many, the net was not torn. ¹² Jesus said to them, “Come and have breakfast.” Now none of the disciples dared to ask him, “Who are you?” because they knew it was the Lord. ¹³ Jesus came and took the bread and gave it to them, and did the same with the fish. ¹⁴ This was now the third time that Jesus appeared to the disciples after he was raised from the dead. ¹⁵ When they had finished breakfast, Jesus said to Simon Peter, “Simon son of John, do you love me more than these?” He said to him, “Yes, Lord; you know that I love you.” Jesus said to him, “Feed my lambs.” ¹⁶ A second time he said to him, “Simon son of John, do you love me?” He said to him, “Yes, Lord; you know that I love you.” Jesus said to him, “Tend my sheep.” ¹⁷ He said to him the third time, “Simon son of John, do you love me?” Peter felt hurt because he said to him the third time, “Do you love me?” And he said to him, “Lord, you know everything; you know that I love you.” Jesus said to him, “Feed my sheep. ¹⁸ Very truly, I tell you, when you were younger, you used to fasten your own belt and to go wherever you wished. But when you grow old, you will stretch out your hands, and someone else will fasten a belt around you and take you where you do not wish to go.” ¹⁹ (He said this to indicate the kind of death by which he would glorify God.) After this he said to him, “Follow me.”

Reader The Gospel of Christ.

People Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

Gospel Response

Sermon – Rev’d Canon Tony

Musical Presentation

I am the Bread of Life (Toolan) – Old St. Paul’s Choir

The Apostles’ Creed

Celebrant Let us confess the faith of our baptism, as we say,

All **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.**

Flowers on the Altar

The Flowers on the Altar today are dedicated to the Glory of God and in loving memory of Ellen Tree; given by her son Paul and family.

Prayers of the People

Today we pray For Todd, our Bishop, Anne, our Metropolitan and acting Primate Chris, National Indigenous Bishop, and Marinez, Bishop of Amazonia, and for Tony our Interim Priest, the presbyters, the deacons and all who minister in Christ, and for all the holy people of God.

Let us Pray to the Lord

People: Hear our prayer and move our hearts to action

Today we pray especially for those who are sick or infirm that need our prayers:

and now for all those who you wish to name either silently or aloud that are in need of our prayers today.

Let us Pray to the Lord

People: Hear our prayer and move our hearts to action

God our Maker, Source of Easter power and hope, You have walked with your faithful people through many generations, people facing challenge and uncertainty, people seeking your purpose and promise. We still face challenges and uncertainty, even with Easter in our hearts. Walk with us and with those for whom we pray for this day, so that your resurrecting power may lead us in lives of faithfulness.

Let us Pray to the Lord

People: Hear our prayer and move our hearts to action

We pray for children and young people who think about the future in uncertain times, facing threats old and new. Give them hope rooted in the knowledge that their lives matter to you. Show them how to make a difference in the world, whatever threats they face as they grow. And help older generations to take them seriously and hear their concern, responding in a way that leads to a renewed hope.

Let us Pray to the Lord

People: Hear our prayer and move our hearts to action

We pray for people for whom age or experience, illness or disability create barriers to full participation in your world. Surround each one in pain or despair with your comfort and renew in each one a sense of dignity and purpose. Show them how much they matter to you and to us.

Let us Pray to the Lord

People: Hear our prayer and move our hearts to action

We pray for all those facing grief and any kind of loss. Give them strength and comfort. We pray for communities challenged by forces beyond their control: natural disaster and environmental threats, conflict and violence, economic hardship. Give courage to those facing these challenges, and wisdom to those who lead, so that wellbeing may be restored and hope for the future prevail.

Let us Pray to the Lord

People: Hear our prayer and move our hearts to action

We pray for the forgiveness of our sins, recognizing that we often are so unfaithful in living out our lives and our faith. We ask you to lay your forgiving hand upon us, granting us your absolution and leading us into the new life of our resurrection faith.

Let us Pray to the Lord

People: Hear our prayer and move our hearts to action

As signs of spring emerge, we pray for your creation, for creatures losing habitat and unique species at risk, for oceans clogged with plastic, and the earth aching for moisture as the climate warms. Jesus, help us to honour you by caring for the earth and its fragile balances in the ways we live and the priorities we set.

Let us Pray to the Lord

People: Hear our prayer and move our hearts to action

Loving God, we thank you for hearing our prayers, for feeding us with your word, and for encouraging us in living out our baptismal identity. Inspire us to love and serve you, and all people, in the power of your Spirit and in the name of your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Confession and Absolution

Celebrant Dear friends in Christ,
God is steadfast in love and infinite in mercy;
he welcomes sinners
and invites them to his table.
Let us confess our sins,
confident in God's forgiveness.

Silence is kept.

Celebrant Most merciful God,
**All 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 neighbours as ourselves.
We are truly sorry and we 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. Amen.**

Celebrant Almighty God have mercy upon you,
pardon and deliver you from all your sins,
confirm and strengthen you in all goodness,
and keep you in eternal life;
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

People **Amen.**

The Peace

Celebrant The peace of the Lord be always with you.

People **And also with you.**

THE CELEBRATION OF THE EUCHARIST

Offertory Hymn

CP 319 Come Let Us Sing a Cheerful Song

Doxology

CP 666 Praise God from Whom All Blessings Flow

Praise God from whom all blessings flow;

praise Him, all creatures here below;

Praise Him above ye heavenly host;

Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

Prayer over the Gifts

Creator of all, you wash away our sins in water, you give us new birth by the Spirit, and redeem us in the blood of Christ. As we celebrate the resurrection, renew your gift of life within us. We ask this in the name of Jesus Christ the risen Lord. **Amen.**

Eucharistic Prayer 2

Celebrant The Lord be with you.

People **And also with you.**

Celebrant Lift up your hearts.

People **We lift them to the Lord.**

Celebrant Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People **It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

Celebrant We give you thanks and praise, almighty God, through your beloved Son, Jesus Christ, our Saviour and Redeemer. He is your living Word, through whom you have created all things.

By the power of the Holy Spirit he took flesh of the Virgin Mary and shared our human nature. He lived and died as one of us, to reconcile us to you, the God and Father of all.

In fulfilment of your will he stretched out his hands in suffering, to bring release to those who place their hope in you; and so he won for you a holy people.

He chose to bear our griefs and sorrows, and to give up his life on the cross, that he might shatter the chains of evil and death, and banish the darkness of sin and despair. By his resurrection he brings us into the light of your presence.

Now with all creation we raise our voices to proclaim the glory of your name.

Sanctus & Benedictus CP 719 (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.
Hosanna in the highest.*

Celebrant Holy and gracious God, accept our praise, through your Son our Saviour Jesus Christ; who on the night he was handed over to suffering and death, took bread and gave you thanks, saying, “Take, and eat: this is my body which is broken for you.”

In the same way he took the cup, saying, “This is my blood which is shed for you. When you do this, you do it in memory of me.”

Remembering, therefore, his death and resurrection, we offer you this bread and this cup, giving thanks that you have made us worthy to stand in your presence and serve you.

We ask you to send your Holy Spirit upon the offering of your holy Church. Gather into one all who share in these sacred mysteries, filling them with the Holy Spirit and confirming their faith in the truth, that together we may praise you and give you glory through your Servant, Jesus Christ. All glory and honour are yours, Father and Son, with the Holy Spirit in the holy Church, now and for ever.

People Amen (Sung)

The Lord's Prayer – (Sung)

Celebrant As our Saviour taught us, let us pray,

All **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 for ever. Amen.

The Breaking of Bread 8 Easter Season

Celebrant Lord, we died with you on the cross.

All **Now we are raised to new life.**

Celebrant We were buried in your tomb.

All **Now we share in your resurrection.**

Celebrant Live in us, that we may live in you.

Celebrant The gifts of God for the People of God.

People **Thanks be to God.**

The Communion

Agnus Dei

The introduction for the first Communion Hymn will play while Slides explaining Communion play while Choir receives their Communion.

Communion Music

Hymns: SNC 114 O Blessed Spring

SNC 12 God Welcomes All

SNC 3 Come and Find a Quiet Centre

Prayer After Communion

Father, we have seen with our eyes and touched with our hands the bread of life. Strengthen our faith that we may grow in love for you and for each other; through Jesus Christ the risen Lord. **Amen.**

Doxology

Celebrant Glory to God,
All whose power, working in us,
can do infinitely more
than we can ask or imagine.
Glory to God from generation to generation,
in the Church and in Christ Jesus,
for ever and ever. Amen.

Benediction/The Blessing

Amen- Sung

Announcements

Benediction Song

My Peace

Closing Hymn

CP 337 God, Your Glorious Presence

Choir and Clergy depart after singing completed

The Postlude

Lift High the Cross (Shackley)

Dismissal

Leader Go in peace to love and serve the Lord, Alleluia!

All Thanks be to God, Alleluia!

CLOSING CREDITS