



4300 N. 82nd Street
Scottsdale, AZ 85251
480-947-5525
Pastor Sandy Jones
www.bethanyscottsdale.com

Worship

Easter Sunday

March 31, 2024 9:00 AM

Celebration of the Resurrection of Our Lord

THE GATHERING

Greeting and Announcements
Preparation for Worship

CALL TO WORSHIP

You are invited to stand as you are comfortable.

A Give thanks to our Good God whose unfailing love lasts forever!

C Give thanks to our Risen God whose unfailing love lives forever!

A We gather together in the dawn of a new day. We look toward the tomb to seek the Word made flesh.

C The stone has been rolled away. The tomb is empty! Alleluia!

A We find God alive in the searching, in the garden, in our hope-filled spaces.

C Alleluia. Christ lives and finds us with unfailing love!

GATHERING HYMN – *Jesus Christ is Risen Today* ELW #365 vs. 1, 2, & 4

1 Jesus Christ is ris'n today, Alleluia!
our triumphant holy day, Alleluia!
who did once upon the cross, Alleluia!
suffer to redeem our loss. Alleluia!

2 Hymns of praise then let us sing, Alleluia!
unto Christ, our heav'nly king, Alleluia!
who endured the cross and grave, Alleluia!
sinners to redeem and save. Alleluia!

4 Sing we to our God above, Alleluia!
praise eternal as his love; Alleluia!
praise him, all you heav'nly host, Alleluia!
Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Alleluia!

Text: Latin carol, 14th cent., sts. 1-3; tr. J. Walsh, *Lyra Davidica*, 1708, alt.; Charles Wesley, 1707-1788, st. 4

THANKSGIVING FOR BAPTISM

P Blessed be the holy Trinity, + one God, the wellspring of grace, our Easter, and our joy.

P Look, here is water!

C Here is our water of life! Alleluia

P Immersed in the promises of baptism, let us give thanks for what God has done for us. We give you thanks, O God, for in the beginning your voice thundered over the deep and water became the essence of life. Adam and Eve beheld Eden's verdant rivers. The ark carried your creation through the flood into a new day. Miriam led the dancing as your people passed through the sea into freedom's land. In a desert pool the Ethiopian official entered your boundless baptismal life.

P Look, here is water!

C Here is our water of life! Alleluia

P At the river, your beloved Son was baptized by John and anointed with the Holy Spirit. By the baptism of Jesus' death and resurrection, you opened the floodgates of your reconciling love, freeing us to live as Easter people. We rejoice with glad hearts giving all honor and praise to you, through the risen Christ, our source of living water, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, now and forever.

P Look, here is water!

C Here is our water of life! Alleluia

Silence is kept for reflection.

HYMN OF PRAISE – “Gloria” Heritage Mass

Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace to people of goodwill.

We praise you, we bless you we adore you, we glorify you,

We give you thanks for your great glory.

Lord God, heav'nly King, O God, almighty Father.

Lord Jesus Christ, Only Begotten Son.

Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Father

You take away the sins of the world, have mercy on us;

You take away the sins of the world, receive our prayer;

You are seated at the right hand of the Father, have mercy on us.

For you alone are the Holy One, you alone are the Lord,

You alone are the most High, Jesus Christ,

With the Holy Spirit, in the glory of God the Father. Amen

PRAYER OF THE DAY

A Let us pray:

C God of mercy, we no longer look for Jesus among the dead, for he is alive and has become the Lord of life. Increase in our minds and hearts the risen life we share with Christ, and help us to grow as your people toward the fullness of eternal life with you, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

You may be seated

THE WORD

First Reading – Acts 10:34-43

(Peter's sermon, delivered at the home of Cornelius, a Roman army officer, is a summary of the essential message of Christianity: Everyone who believes in Jesus, whose life, death, and resurrection fulfilled the words of the prophets, receives forgiveness of sins through his name.)

Then Peter began to speak to them: "I truly understand that God shows no partiality, but in every nation anyone who fears him and does what is right is acceptable to him. You know the message he sent to the people of Israel, preaching peace by Jesus Christ—he is Lord of all. That message spread throughout Judea, beginning in Galilee after the baptism that John announced: how God anointed Jesus of Nazareth with the Holy Spirit and with power; how he went about doing good and healing all who were oppressed by the devil, for God was with him. We are witnesses to all that he did both in Judea and in Jerusalem. They put him to death by hanging him on a tree; but God raised him on the third day and allowed him to appear, not to all the people but to us who were chosen by God as witnesses, and who ate and drank with him after he rose from the dead. He commanded us to preach to the people and to testify that he is the one ordained by God as judge of the living and the dead. All the prophets testify about him that everyone who believes in him receives forgiveness of sins through his name."

Reader: Hear what the Spirit is saying to us.

Response: Thanks be to God.

Psalm 118:1-2, 14-24

Give thanks to the LORD, for the LORD is good;
God's mercy endures forever.

Let Israel now declare,

“God’s mercy endures forever.”

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

Shouts of rejoicing and salvation echo in the tents of the righteous:

“The right hand of the LORD acts valiantly!

The right hand of the LORD is exalted!

The right hand of the LORD acts valiantly!”

I shall not die, but live,

and declare the works of the LORD.

The LORD indeed punished me sorely,
but did not hand me over to death.

Open for me the gates of righteousness;

I will enter them and give thanks to the LORD.

“This is the gate of the LORD;

here the righteous may enter.”

I give thanks to you, for you have answered me

and you have become my salvation.

The stone that the builders rejected
has become the chief cornerstone.

By the LORD has this been done;

it is marvelous in our eyes.

This is the day that the LORD has made;

let us rejoice and be glad in it.

Second Reading – 1 Corinthians 15:1-11

(The core of the Christian faith and Paul’s preaching is the death and resurrection of Jesus Christ. As the crucified and risen Christ appeared to the earliest of his followers, so we experience the presence of the Risen One in the preaching of this faith.)

Now I want you to understand, brothers and sisters, the good news^[a] that I proclaimed to you, which you in turn received, in which also you stand, through which also you are being saved, if you hold firmly to the message that I proclaimed to you—unless you have come to believe in vain.

For I handed on to you as of first importance what I in turn had received: that Christ died for our sins in accordance with the scriptures and that he was buried and that he was raised on the third day in accordance with the scriptures and that he appeared to Cephas, then to the twelve. Then he appeared to more than five hundred brothers and sisters at one time, most of whom are still alive, though some have died. Then he appeared to James, then to all the apostles. Last of all, as to one untimely born, he appeared also to

me. For I am the least of the apostles, unfit to be called an apostle because I persecuted the church of God. But by the grace of God I am what I am, and his grace toward me has not been in vain. On the contrary, I worked harder than any of them, though it was not I but the grace of God that is with me. Whether then it was I or they, so we proclaim and so you believed.

Reader: Hear what the Spirit is saying to us.

Response: Thanks be to God.

You are invited to stand as you are comfortable

Gospel Acclamation – Alleluia. Christ, our paschal lamb, has been sacrificed. Therefore, let us keep the feast. Alleluia!

P The holy Gospel according to John.

C **Glory to you, O Lord.**

Gospel Reading – John 20:1-18

(This morning begins with confusion: the stone has been moved and the tomb is empty. Disciples arrive, the angels, and finally Jesus himself. Out of the confusion, hope emerges, and a weeping woman becomes the first to confess her faith in the risen Lord.)

Early on the first day of the week, while it was still dark, Mary Magdalene came to the tomb and saw that the stone had been removed from the tomb. So she ran and went to Simon Peter and the other disciple, the one whom Jesus loved, and said to them, "They have taken the Lord out of the tomb, and we do not know where they have laid him." Then Peter and the other disciple set out and went toward the tomb. The two were running together, but the other disciple outran Peter and reached the tomb first. He bent down to look in and saw the linen wrappings lying there, but he did not go in. Then Simon Peter came, following him, and went into the tomb. He saw the linen wrappings lying there, and the cloth that had been on Jesus' head, not lying with the linen wrappings but rolled up in a place by itself. Then the other disciple, who reached the tomb first, also went in, and he saw and believed; for as yet they did not understand the scripture, that he must rise from the dead. Then the disciples returned to their homes.

But Mary stood weeping outside the tomb. As she wept, she bent over to look into the tomb; and she saw two angels in white, sitting where the body of Jesus had been lying, one at the head and the other at the feet. They said to her, "Woman, why are you weeping?" She said to them, "They have taken away my Lord, and I do not know where they have laid him." When she had said this, she turned around and saw Jesus standing there, but she did not know that it was Jesus. Jesus said to her, "Woman, why are you weeping? Whom are you looking for?" Supposing him to be the gardener, she said to him,

"Sir, if you have carried him away, tell me where you have laid him, and I will take him away." Jesus said to her, "Mary!" She turned and said to him in Hebrew, "Rabbouni!" (which means Teacher). Jesus said to her, "Do not hold on to me, because I have not yet ascended to the Father. But go to my brothers and say to them, 'I am ascending to my Father and your Father, to my God and your God.'" Mary Magdalene went and announced to the disciples, "I have seen the Lord"; and she told them that he had said these things to her.

P This is the Gospel of our Lord.

C Praise to you, O Christ.

You may be seated

Sermon – Pastor Sandy

HYMN OF THE DAY – Christ Has Arisen, Alleluia ELW #364 vs. 1, 3, 4, 5

1 Christ has arisen, alleluia.

Rejoice and praise him, alleluia.

**For our redeemer burst from the tomb,
even from death, dispelling its gloom.**

Refrain

Let us sing praise to him with endless joy.

Death's fearful sting he has come to destroy.

Our sin forgiving, alleluia!

Jesus is living, alleluia!

3 The angel said to them, "Do not fear.

You look for Jesus who is not here.

See for yourselves the tomb is all bare.

Only the graveclothes are lying there." *Refrain*

4 "Go spread the news: he's not in the grave.

He has arisen this world to save.

Jesus' redeeming labors are done.

Even the battle with sin is won." *Refrain*

5 Christ has arisen to set us free.

Alleluia, to him praises be.

Jesus is living! Let us all sing;

he reigns triumphant, heavenly king. *Refrain*

You are invited to stand as you are comfortable

AFFIRMATION OF OUR FAITH

A We affirm our faith with the words of the Apostles' Creed

C I believe in God the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary, 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, he is seated at the right hand of the Father, and he will come 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.

You may be seated

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

A Rejoicing that Jesus is risen and love has triumphed over fear, let us pray for the church, the world, and all those in need of good news.

A Brief silence

A Holy God, we pray for the body of Christ, the church. Where the church is persecuted, protect it. Where the church is privileged, grant it humility. Where the church is fractured, heal it. Guide us all to embody Christ's love in the world. God of grace,

C hear our prayer.

A Life-giving God, we pray for the earth, your good creation. Join our prayers with branches lifted in praise and roaring waters of new life, that together we may proclaim Easter hope. God of grace.

C hear our prayer

A Merciful God, we pray for all peoples and nations. Free oppressed communities from occupation, exploitation, and abuse. Teach leaders your way of justice. Empower peacemakers and all who work to end violence and strife. God of grace,

C hear our prayer.

A Liberating God, we pray for people everywhere who long for good news. Roll away the stones that keep people from living with dignity and wholeness. Breathe new life and hope into people struggling to make it through each day. God of grace,

C hear our prayer.

A Loving God, we pray for this community of faith and for your Spirit in our midst. Feed us at your Easter table and fill us with your wisdom, that we may serve and care for others. We pray especially for our loved ones Martha, Brian, Jerry, Julie, David, Jack, Tom and James. God of grace,
C hear our prayer.

A What else do the people of God want to lift up to God this day?.....
God of grace,
C hear our prayer.

A Eternal God, we remember those who have gone before us in death. Renew our trust in your promises, that we live with joyful courage and compassion. God of grace,
C hear our prayer.

A Into your hands, most merciful God, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in your abiding love; through Jesus Christ, our resurrected and living Lord.
C Amen

P The peace of the Lord be with you all.
C And also with you
P Let's share God's peace with one another.

THE MEAL

A Lord we give you today what is already yours. You provide so much for us. Thank you for giving us the ability to give and cheerful hearts to do it.
A We continue with the offering.

OFFERING HYMN – Alleluia! Jesus is Risen! ELW #377 vs. 1, 4, & 5

1 Alleluia! Jesus is risen!
Trumpets resounding in glorious light!
Splendor, the Lamb, heaven forever!
Oh, what a miracle God has in sight!

Refrain

Jesus is risen and we shall arise.
Give God the glory! Alleluia!

4 Weeping, be gone; sorrow, be silent:
death put asunder, and Easter is bright.
Cherubim sing: O grave, be open!

Clothe us in wonder, adorn us in light. *Refrain*

- 5 City of God, Easter forever,
golden Jerusalem, Jesus the Lamb,
river of life, saints and archangels,
sing with creation to God the I AM! *Refrain***

Text: Herbert F. Brokering, b. 1926
Text © 1995 Augsburg Fortress.

You are invited to stand as you are comfortable

OFFERTORY – “*Make Me a Servant*”

**Make me a servant, humble and meek.
Lord, let me lift up those who are weak.
And may the prayer of my heart always be;
Make me a servant, make me a servant,
Make me a servant today.**

OFFERING PRAYER

A Risen One,

C you call us to believe and bear fruit. May the gifts that we offer here be signs of your abiding love. Form us to be your witnesses in the world, through Jesus Christ our true vine. Amen

GREAT THANKSGIVING

P The Lord be with you.

C And also with you.

P Lift up your hearts.

C We lift them up to the Lord.

P Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

C It is right to give God our thanks and praise.

PREFACE

P It is indeed right, our duty and our joy, that we should at all times and in all places give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God, for the glorious resurrection of our Savior Jesus Christ, the true Paschal Lamb who gave himself to take away our sin; who in dying has destroyed death, and in rising has brought us eternal life. And so with Mary Magdalene and Peter and all the witnesses of the resurrection, with the earth and the sea and all their creatures, and with angels and archangels, cherubim and seraphim, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

“Holy, Holy, Holy”

Holy, holy, holy Lord, Lord God of hosts.

Heaven and earth are full of your glory.

Hosanna! Hosanna in the highest.

Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.

Hosanna! Hosanna in the highest.

THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE

P Holy God, holy and mighty, holy and immortal: you we praise and glorify, you we worship and adore. You formed the earth from chaos; you encircled the globe with air; you created fire for warmth and light; you nourished the lands with water. You molded us in your image, and with mercy higher than the mountains, with grace deeper than the seas, you blessed your people, Israel. That we might be adopted to live in your Spirit, you called to us through the life and death of Jesus.

P In the night in which he was betrayed, our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks; broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying: Take and eat; this is my body, given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me.

P Again after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it for all to drink, saying: This cup is the new covenant in my blood, shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin. Do this for the remembrance of me.

P Together as the body of Christ, we proclaim the Lord's death until he comes.

C Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.

P With this bread and cup we remember your Son. We remember his life lived for others, and his death and resurrection. We await his coming, when, with the world made perfect through your wisdom, all our sins and sorrows will be no more.

C Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.

P Holy God, send upon us and this meal your Holy Spirit, whose breath revives us for life, whose fire rouses us to love. Enfold in your arms all who share this holy food.

C Amen. Come, Holy Spirit.

P Holy God, receive our praise and petitions and fill us with your blessing, until needy no longer and bound to you in love, we feast forever in the triumph of the Lamb: through whom all glory and honor is yours, O God, O Living One, with the Holy Spirit, in your holy church, now and forever.

C Amen.

THE LORD'S PRAYER

A Gathered into one, let us pray as Jesus taught us:

C 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, forever and ever. AMEN.

COMMUNION INVITATION

P The risen Christ is made known to us in the breaking of the bread. Come and eat at God's table.

You may be seated

COMMUNION HYMN – *Mosaic Choir*

You are invited to stand as you are comfortable

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

A Shepherding God,

C you have prepared a table before us and nourished us with your love. Send us forth from this banquet to proclaim your goodness and share the abundant mercy of Jesus our redeemer and friend. Amen

THE SENDING

BENEDICTION

P Alleluia! Christ is risen!

C Christ is risen indeed! Alleluia!

P The God of resurrection power, the Christ of unending joy, and the Spirit of Easter hope + bless you now and always.

C Amen

CLOSING HYMN – I Know That My Redeemer Lives ELW #619 vs. 1, 2, 4, & 8

1 I know that my Redeemer lives!

What comfort this sweet sentence gives!

He lives, he lives, who once was dead;

he lives, my ever-living head!

2 He lives triumphant from the grave;

he lives eternally to save;

he lives exalted, throned above;
he lives to rule his church in love.

4 He lives to silence all my fears;
he lives to wipe away my tears;
he lives to calm my troubled heart;
he lives all blessings to impart.

8 He lives, all glory to his name!
He lives, my Savior, still the same;
what joy this blest assurance gives:
I know that my Redeemer lives!

Text: Samuel Medley, 1738-1799, alt.

DISMISSAL

A Alleluia! Go in peace. Rejoice and be glad!

C Thanks be to God! Alleluia!

**Bethany's Mission Statement –
Accepting
Serving
Loving . . .
We Share God's Embrace**

Pastor	The Rev. Sandra Jones
Accompanist	Kristan Youn
Assisting Minister	Kim Hepola
Lector	Mary Anne Clark
Communion	Barbara Brown & Laurie Greer
Ushers	Moe & Tom Aaby