



Christ Episcopal Church

Roxbury, Connecticut

Seventh Sunday of Easter

12 May 2024, 9:00 AM

Ringing of the Bells

*At ten minutes before the hour, the altar candles are lit, inviting all into a time of preparation for our worship.
Please silence electronic devices.*

Prelude

Themes from the *Ninth Symphony* of Ludwig van Beethoven on the 200th Anniversary of its debut performance at the Vienna Kärnthnerthor Theater, May 7, 1824, L. van Beethoven conducting.

Welcome

The Rev. Stephen Nagy

THE WORD OF GOD

Processional Hymn

Joyful, Joyful, We Adore Thee

Hymn 376

Celebrant Alleluia! Christ is risen!

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

The Celebrant says

If anyone is in Christ, there is a new creation: everything old has passed away; see, everything has become new!

GLORIA

FROM MASS FOR CHRIST CHURCH ROXBURY IN F MAJOR

GREGORY J. CAVA

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Glo-ry to God in the hi-gh - est, and peace to his peo - ple on earth. Lord God. Hea-ven-ly King. Al - mi - gh-ty God and
Fa-ther. We wor-ship you, we give you thanks, we pra - ise you for your glo-ry! Lord Je - s - us Christ; On-ly s-on of the
Fa-ther. Lord God. Lamb of God. You take a - way the sins of the world have mer-cy on us. You are seat-ed at the
right hand of God: Fa-ther re-ceive our prayer. For you - a - lone are the Ho-ly One. You a - lone are he Lord.
You a - lo-ne are the Most High Je - sus Christ with the Ho-ly Spir-it in the glo-ry o - f God the Fa - ther. A - men.
A - men. A - men.

The Collect of the Day

Celebrant The Lord be with you.

People **And also with you.**

Celebrant Let us pray.

O God, the King of glory, you have exalted your only Son Jesus Christ with great triumph to your kingdom in heaven: Do not leave us comfortless, but send us your Holy Spirit to strengthen us, and exalt us to that place where our Savior Christ has gone before; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, in glory everlasting. Amen.

The Lessons

A Reading from Acts (1:15-17; 21-26)

Read by Stephen Morris

In those days Peter stood up among the believers (together the crowd numbered about one hundred twenty persons) and said, "Friends, the scripture had to be fulfilled, which the Holy Spirit through David foretold concerning Judas, who became a guide for those who arrested Jesus-- for he was numbered among us and was allotted his share in this ministry. So one of the men who have accompanied us during all the time that the Lord

Jesus went in and out among us, beginning from the baptism of John until the day when he was taken up from us-- one of these must become a witness with us to his resurrection." So they proposed two, Joseph called Barsabbas, who was also known as Justus, and Matthias. Then they prayed and said, "Lord, you know everyone's heart. Show us which one of these two you have chosen to take the place in this ministry and apostleship from which Judas turned aside to go to his own place." And they cast lots for them, and the lot fell on Matthias; and he was added to the eleven apostles.

The Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

Psalm 1

Led by Stephen Morris

In Unison

- 1 Happy are they who have not walked in the counsel of the wicked, *
nor lingered in the way of sinners,
nor sat in the seats of the scornful!
- 2 Their delight is in the law of the LORD, *
and they meditate on his law day and night.
- 3 They are like trees planted by streams of water,
bearing fruit in due season, with leaves that do not wither; *
everything they do shall prosper.
- 4 It is not so with the wicked; *
they are like chaff which the wind blows away.
- 5 Therefore the wicked shall not stand upright when judgment comes, *
nor the sinner in the council of the righteous.
- 6 For the LORD knows the way of the righteous, *
but the way of the wicked is doomed

A Reading from the first letter of John (5:9-13)

Read by Stephen Morris

If we receive human testimony, the testimony of God is greater; for this is the testimony of God that he has testified to his Son. Those who believe in the Son of God have the testimony in their hearts. Those who do not believe in God have made him a liar by not believing in the testimony that God has given concerning his Son. And this is the testimony: God gave us eternal life, and this life is in his Son. Whoever has the Son has life; whoever does not have the Son of God does not have life.

I write these things to you who believe in the name of the Son of God, so that you may know that you have eternal life.

The Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

Gradual Hymn

Hail the Day That Sees Him Rise

Hymn 214

The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ, according to John (17:6-21)

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

“I have revealed you to those whom you gave me out of the world. They were yours; you gave them to me and they have obeyed your word. Now they know that everything you have given me comes from you. For I gave them the words you gave me and they accepted them. They knew with certainty that I came from you, and they believed that you sent me. I pray for them. I am not praying for the world, but for those you have given me, for they are yours. All I have is yours, and all you have is mine. And glory has come to me through them. I will remain in the world no longer, but they are still in the world, and I am coming to you. Holy Father, protect them by the power of your name, the name you gave me, so that they may be one as we are one. While I was with them, I protected them and kept them safe by that name you gave me. None has been lost except the one doomed to destruction so that Scripture would be fulfilled.

“I am coming to you now, but I say these things while I am still in the world, so that they may have the full measure of my joy within them. I have given them your word and the world has hated them, for they are not of the world any more than I am of the world. My prayer is not that you take them out of the world but that you protect them from the evil one. They are not of the world, even as I am not of it. Sanctify them by the truth; your word is truth. As you sent me into the world, I have sent them into the world. For them I sanctify myself, that they too may be truly sanctified.

“My prayer is not for them alone. I pray also for those who will believe in me through their message, that all of them may be one, Father, just as you are in me and I am in you. May they also be in us so that the world may believe that you have sent me.”

The Gospel of the Lord

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

The Sermon

The Rev. Stephen Nagy

The Nicene Creed

In unison; please stand as able

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:
by the power of the Holy Spirit
 he became incarnate from the Virgin Mary,
 and was made man.
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 and the Son.
With the Father and the Son he is worshipped and glorified.
He 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 (Based on Form VI)

Led by Judy Martinez

Please stand or kneel as able

In peace, we pray to you, Lord God.

Silence

For all people in their daily life and work;

For our families, friends, and neighbors, and for those who are alone.

For this community, the nation, and the world;

For all who work for justice, freedom, and peace.

For the just and proper use of your creation;

For the victims of hunger, fear, injustice, and oppression.

For all who are in danger, sorrow, or any kind of trouble;

For those who minister to the sick, the friendless, and the needy.

For the peace and unity of the Church of God;

For all who proclaim the Gospel, and all who seek the Truth.

For Michael our presiding bishop, Jeffrey and Laura our bishops, the ministers of Christ Church Roxbury, and all who proclaim the Gospel in word and deed.

For all who serve God in his Church.

For the special needs and concerns of this congregation.

Silence

Gracious God, we pray for those for whom prayers have been requested: Alba, Astrid, Carl, Caroline, Christine, Deke, Diane, Drew, Emily, Esther, James and Robert, Jane, Jeff, Jeffrey, Jennifer, Jenny, Judy, Linda, Mary, Mayo, Meg, Mike, Millie, Nonie, Ronda, Ryan, Sarah, Sandy, Stephen and Lisbet, Tim, Thomas, Tom, and those we name before you aloud and in our hearts.

Silence

Hear us Lord;

For we put our trust in you.

We pray for an end to war and all acts of violence of one group of people against another.

We pray for peace in the Holy Land.

We pray for an end to the violence and polarization that plague our communities.

Hear us, Lord;

For your mercy is great.

We thank you, Lord, for all the blessings of this life. The flowers today are offered by Larry Apolzon and Jim Stanton in remembrance of their mothers, Bea and Prudence.

Silence

Please add your own thanksgivings.

We will exalt you, O God our King;

And praise your Name for ever and ever.

We pray for all who have died, that they may have a place in your eternal kingdom.

Silence

Please add your own petitions.

Lord, let your loving-kindness be upon them;

Who put their trust in you.

Almighty and eternal God, ruler of all things in heaven and earth: Mercifully accept the prayers of your people, and strengthen us to do your will; through Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen.

The Peace

The peace of the Lord be always with you.

People

And also with you.

Announcements (Also see last page of service bulletin)

THE HOLY COMMUNION

Offertory Hymn *Draw Nigh and Take the Body of the Lord* Hymn 328, vv. 1-5

During the offertory hymn, the ushers will collect your gifts and bring them before God's Holy Table. The Celebrant receives the gifts and all sing

Doxology Hymn 380 vs. 3 (*Old Hundredth*)

The Great Thanksgiving

The people stand. The Celebrant faces them and says

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 him thanks and praise.**

Then, facing the Holy Table, the Celebrant proceeds

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

FROM MASS FOR CHRIST CHURCH ROXBURY IN F MAJOR
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GREGORY J. CAVA

Ho - ly Ho - ly - Ho - ly - Lord God of pow - er might, Hea - ven and earth are
full of your glo - ry ry. Ho - sa - na - in the high est! Bles - sed is He who co - in the
Name of the Lord Ho - sa - na - in the high est! Ho - sa - na - is the high - est!

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The people stand or kneel.

Then the Celebrant continues

We give thanks to you, O God, for the goodness and love which you have made known to us in creation; in the calling of Israel to be your people; in your Word spoken through the prophets; and above all in the Word made flesh, Jesus, your Son. For in these last days you sent him to be incarnate from the Virgin Mary, to be the Savior and Redeemer of the world. In him, you have delivered us from evil, and made us worthy to stand before you. In him, you have brought us out of error into truth, out of sin into righteousness, out of death into life.

On the night before he died for us, 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, according to his command, O Father,

Celebrant and People

**We remember his death,
We proclaim his resurrection,
We await his coming in glory;**

The Celebrant continues

And we offer our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving to you, O Lord of all; presenting to you, from your creation, this bread and this wine.

We pray you, gracious God, to send your Holy Spirit upon these gifts that they may be the Sacrament of the Body of Christ and his Blood of the new Covenant. Unite us to your Son in his sacrifice, that we may be acceptable through him, being sanctified by the Holy Spirit. In the fullness of time, put all things in subjection under your Christ, and bring us to that heavenly country where, with all your saints, we may enter the everlasting heritage of your sons and daughters; through Jesus Christ our Lord, the firstborn of all creation, the head of the Church, and the author of our salvation.

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,

People and Celebrant

**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 Breaking of the Bread

The Celebrant breaks the consecrated Bread.

A period of silence is kept.

Then may be sung

FRACTION ANTHEM

FROM MASS FOR CHRIST CHURCH ROXBURY IN F MAJOR GREGORY J. CAVA

A - le - lu - ia! A - le - lu - ia! A - le - lu - ia! A - le - lu - ia! Christ, our pas-sov-er is saf-ri-fi-ced for us;
 there - for le - t us keep the feast. A - le - lu - ia! A - le - lu - ia! A - le - lu - ia! A - le - lu - ia!

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Please come forward to receive communion either standing or kneeling along the altar rail.

Gluten free wafers are also available.

If you do not wish to receive, you are invited to come forward for a blessing.

Healing prayer is offered in the back of the church.

Communion Meditation

Light the Fire Again
 by Brian Doerksen

After Communion

The Celebrant says

Let us Pray.

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.

The Bishop, when present, or the Priest, may bless the people

May Almighty God, who has redeemed us and made us his children through the resurrection of his Son our Lord, bestow upon you the riches of his 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 Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be upon you and remain with you for ever. **Amen.**

Recessional Hymn

Crown Him with Many Crowns

1

Crown Him with Many Crowns,
The Lamb upon the throne;
Hark! How the heavenly anthem drowns
All music but its own;
Awake my soul and sing
Of Him who dies for thee,
And Hail Him as thy matchless King
Through all eternity.

2

Crown Him the Son of God,
Before the world began;
And ye who tread where he hath trod,
Crown him the son of man;
Who every grief hath known,
That wrings the human breast;
And takes and bears them for his own,
That all in him may rest.

3

Crown Him the Lord of peace,
Whose pow'r a scepter sways;
From pole to pole that wars may cease,
And all be prayer and praise.
His reign shall know no end,
And round his pierced feet
Fair flow'rs of paradise extend,
Their fragrance ever sweet.

4

Crown Him the Lord of years,
The potentate of time,
Creator of the rolling spheres,
Ineffably sublime.
All hail, Redeemer hail!
For thou hath died for me;
Thy praise and glory shall not fail
Throughout eternity.

The Deacon, or the Celebrant, dismisses the people with these words

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

People **Thanks be to God. Alleluia, Alleluia!**

Postlude

Soldier's March from the *Album for the Young* of Robert Schumann

Ringling of the Bells

Announcements

Happy Mother's Day!! Please join us for **coffee hour** in the parish hall.

Healing prayer is always offered on the Sundays with Eucharist in the back of the church during Communion, or speak with Pastor Stephen or one of our healing ministers.

Inside-Out Bible Study. Today after coffee hour we will conclude our Eastertide bible study: **"What does Jesus think of me?"** We'll draw on a few more examples from the Gospels, including today's reading from John 17, and then see what conclusions we might draw.

Our next **Bernhardt Meadow Eucharist and healing prayer** service is this coming **Wednesday, 15 May at 4:00** in the Bernhardt community center. Come join us for pray, song, snacks and fellowship.

The next **Vestry Meeting will be Thursday, May 23 at 6:00 PM.** Please note that is a different day (Thursday rather than Tuesday) and 1/2 hour earlier than usual.

Spring is sprung! Help beautify our sanctuary and honor a loved one or celebrate a special occasion with **flowers.** **Sign up on the bulletin board** in the narthex or call Millie Snowden at 203-266-7404 for information.

Is your **yard heart** a little worse for wear after winter? Not to worry! We still have a supply. Ask a Vestry member if you would like one. Spread the love!

Thank you to our ministers today

Music Minister: Mr. Gregory J. Cava

Welcoming: Linda West

Lector: Stephen Morris

Eucharistic Minister: Judy Martinez

Altar Guild chair: Deb Howes

Chandeliere: Mike Snowden

Christ Episcopal Church

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Priest in Charge: The Rev. Stephen Nagy, 860-354-4113, revsrnagy@gmail.com

Sr. Warden: Dona Murphy, 860-354-6760; Jr. Warden: Barbara Dratch, 860-354-4265

The Episcopal Church in Connecticut

The Right Reverend Jeffrey W. Mello, Bishop Diocesan

The Right Reverend Laura J. Ahrens, Bishop Suffragan

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