

Alleluia! He is Risen!



The Seventh Sunday of Easter

May 21, 2023

11:00 a.m.

The Rev. Christopher Ashmore+
Interim Rector

THE EPISCOPAL PARISH OF ALTON

St. Paul's Episcopal Church

Alton, Illinois

Welcome to the Episcopal Parish of Alton! We are glad to have you worship with us today. All baptized Christians are invited to receive the Bread and Wine of Holy Communion or to simply come forward for a blessing. Please introduce yourself to the priest or one of the greeters, and join us for the coffee hour following worship.

The Holy Eucharist: Rite II

BCP p. 355

Prelude

Chancel Radiance

C.W. Kern

Hymn #450 *All hail the power of Jesus' name*

Hymnal 1982

Celebrant: Alleluia!! Christ is risen!!

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

Celebrant:

Almighty God, to you all hearts are open, all desires known, and from you no secrets are hid: 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.

The Hymnal 1982, Service Music - #S280 Canticle 20, Glory to God: *Gloria in excelsis*

1. Glo - ry to God in the high - est, and
peace to his peo - ple on earth. 2. Lord God, heaven - ly
King, al - mighty 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
 High, Je - sus Christ, with the Ho - ly Spi - rit, in the
 glo - ry of God the Fa - ther. 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 Word of God

The Lessons *Please be seated*

A reading from the Acts of the Apostles

Acts 1:6-14

When the apostles had come together, they asked Jesus, “Lord, is this the time when you will restore the kingdom to Israel?” He replied, “It is not for you to know the times or periods that the Father has set by his own authority. But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you; and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth.” When he had said this, as they were watching, he was lifted up, and a cloud took him out of their sight. While he was going and they were gazing up toward heaven, suddenly two men in white robes stood by them. They said, “Men of Galilee, why do you stand looking up toward heaven? This Jesus, who has been taken up from you into heaven, will come in the same way as you saw him go into heaven.”

Then they returned to Jerusalem from the mount called Olivet, which is near Jerusalem, a sabbath day’s journey away. When they had entered the city, they went to the room upstairs where they were staying, Peter, and John, and James, and Andrew, Philip and Thomas, Bartholomew and Matthew, James son of Alphaeus, and Simon the Zealot, and Judas son of James. All these were constantly devoting themselves to prayer, together with certain women, including Mary the mother of Jesus, as well as his brothers.

The Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

Psalm 68:1-10, 33-36

Exsurgat Deus

The people respond with the verses in bold italics

- 1 Let God arise, and let his enemies be scattered; *
let those who hate him flee before him.
- 2 Let them vanish like smoke when the wind drives it away; *
as the wax melts at the fire, so let the wicked perish at the presence of God.
- 3 But let the righteous be glad and rejoice before God; *
let them also be merry and joyful.
- 4 Sing to God, sing praises to his Name;
exalt him who rides upon the heavens; *
YAHWEH is his Name, rejoice before him!
- 5 Father of orphans, defender of widows, *
God in his holy habitation!
- 6 God gives the solitary a home and brings forth prisoners into freedom; *
but the rebels shall live in dry places.
- 7 O God, when you went forth before your people, *
when you marched through the wilderness,
- 8 The earth shook, and the skies poured down rain,
at the presence of God, the God of Sinai, *
at the presence of God, the God of Israel.
- 9 You sent a gracious rain, O God, upon your inheritance; *
you refreshed the land when it was weary.
- 10 Your people found their home in it; *
in your goodness, O God, you have made provision for the poor.
- 33 Sing to God, O kingdoms of the earth; *
sing praises to the Lord.
- 34 He rides in the heavens, the ancient heavens; *
he sends forth his voice, his mighty voice.
- 35 Ascribe power to God; *
his majesty is over Israel;
his strength is in the skies.
- 36 How wonderful is God in his holy places! *
the God of Israel giving strength and power to his people!
Blessed be God!

A reading from the first letter of Peter

4:12-14; 5:6-11

Beloved, do not be surprised at the fiery ordeal that is taking place among you to test you, as though something strange were happening to you. But rejoice insofar as you are sharing Christ's sufferings, so that you may also be glad and shout for joy when his glory is revealed. If you are reviled for the name of Christ, you are blessed, because the spirit of glory, which is the Spirit of God, is resting on you.

Humble yourselves therefore under the mighty hand of God, so that he may exalt you in due time. Cast all your anxiety on him, because he cares for you. Discipline yourselves, keep alert. Like a roaring lion your adversary the devil prowls around, looking for someone to devour. Resist him, steadfast in your faith, for you know that your brothers and sisters in all the world are undergoing the same kinds of suffering. And after you have suffered for a little while, the God of all grace, who has called you to his eternal glory in Christ, will himself restore, support, strengthen, and establish you. To him be the power forever and ever. **Amen.**

The Word of the Lord. **People: Thanks be to God.**

Hymn #603

When Christ was lifted from the earth

Hymnal 1982

Please stand if you are able

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

People: Glory to you, Lord Christ.

The Gospel

John 17:1-11

Jesus looked up to heaven and said, "Father, the hour has come; glorify your Son so that the Son may glorify you, since you have given him authority over all people, to give eternal life to all whom you have given him. And this is eternal life, that they may know you, the only true God, and Jesus Christ whom you have sent. I glorified you on earth by finishing the work that you gave me to do. So now, Father, glorify me in your own presence with the glory that I had in your presence before the world existed.

"I have made your name known to those whom you gave me from the world. They were yours, and you gave them to me, and they have kept your word. Now they know that

everything you have given me is from you; for the words that you gave to me I have given to them, and they have received them and know in truth that I came from you; and they have believed that you sent me. I am asking on their behalf; I am not asking on behalf of the world, but on behalf of those whom you gave me, because they are yours. All mine are yours, and yours are mine; and I have been glorified in them. And now I am no longer in the world, but they are in the world, and I am coming to you. Holy Father, protect them in your name that you have given me, so that they may be one, as we are one.”

Celebrant: The Gospel of the Lord.

People: Praise to you, Lord Christ.

The Sermon

The Rev. Christopher Ashmore+

The Nicene Creed

Please stand

BCP p. 358

*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 worshiped 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: Form III

BCP p. 387

Celebrant: Let us pray for the Church and for the world.

The People respond with the lines in bold italics

Father, 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 +Brian, our bishop, Christopher+, our priest, and 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.

Remembering especially Claudette, Kirk, Marie, Charles, Robin, Bianca, Albert, Audrey, Linda, Byron, Debra, Al, Richard, Mother Jane, Terry, Kay, Barb, John, Don, Tony, Dan, and those we name now (*pause*), have compassion on those who suffer from any grief or trouble; ***That they may be delivered from their distress.***

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.***

Let us pray for our own needs and those of others. *Silence*

The People may add their own petitions.

The Celebrant adds a concluding collect.

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

Confession of Sin

BCP p. 360

Celebrant: Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

Silence

Most merciful God, 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 neighbors 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.

The Priest stands and says

Almighty God have mercy on you, forgive you all your sins through our Lord Jesus Christ, strengthen you in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep you in eternal life. *Amen.*

The Peace

Celebrant: The peace of the Lord be always with you.

People: And also with you.

Welcome and Announcements

Offertory Sentence

Offertory Anthem *Meditation on 'Christe Sanctorum'* arr. A. Giamanco

The Great Thanksgiving

Eucharistic Prayer D

BCP p. 372

Celebrant: Blessed are you, Lord God, King of the universe, King eternal; By your goodness we have this bread to offer, which earth has given and human hands have made. It will become for us the bread of life.

People: Blessed be God forever.

Celebrant: Blessed are you, Lord God, King of the universe, King eternal; By your goodness we have this wine to offer, fruit of the vine and work of human hands. It will become our spiritual drink.

People: Blessed be God forever.

ho - ly Lord, God of power and might,
 heaven 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.

The people stand or kneel if they are able

Then the Celebrant continues

We acclaim you, holy Lord, glorious in power. Your mighty works reveal your wisdom and love. You formed us in your own image, giving the whole world into our care, so that, in obedience to you, our Creator, we might rule and serve all your creatures. When our disobedience took us far from you, you did not abandon us to the power of death. In your mercy you came to our help, so that in seeking you we might find you. Again and again you called us into covenant with you, and through the prophets you taught us to hope for salvation.

Father, you loved the world so much that in the fullness of time you sent your only Son to be our Savior. Incarnate by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, he lived as one of us, yet without sin. To the poor he proclaimed the good news of salvation; to prisoners, freedom; to the sorrowful, joy. To fulfill your purpose he gave himself up to death; and, rising from the grave, destroyed death, and made the whole creation new.

And, that we might live no longer for ourselves, but for him who died and rose for us, he sent the Holy Spirit, his own first gift for those who believe, to complete his work in the world, and to bring to fulfillment the sanctification of all.

At the following words concerning the bread, the Celebrant is to hold it, or lay a hand upon it, and at the words concerning the cup, to hold or place a hand upon the cup and any other vessel containing wine to be consecrated.

When the hour had come for him to be glorified by you, his heavenly Father, having loved his own who were in the world, he loved them to the end; at supper with them he 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."

Father, we now celebrate this memorial of our redemption. Recalling Christ's death and his descent among the dead, proclaiming his resurrection and ascension to your right hand, awaiting his coming in glory; and offering to you, from the gifts you have given us, this bread and this cup, we praise you and we bless you.

Celebrant and People

We praise you, we bless you, we give thanks to you, and we pray to you, Lord our God.

The Celebrant continues

Lord, we pray that in your goodness and mercy your Holy Spirit may descend upon us, and upon these gifts, sanctifying them and showing them to be holy gifts for your holy people, the bread of life and the cup of salvation, the Body and Blood of your Son Jesus Christ.

Grant that all who share this bread and cup may become one body and one spirit, a living sacrifice in Christ, to the praise of your Name.

Remember, Lord, your one holy catholic and apostolic Church, redeemed by the blood of your Christ. Reveal its unity, guard its faith, and preserve it in peace.

And grant that we may find our inheritance with the Blessed Virgin Mary, with patriarchs, prophets, apostles, and martyrs, and all the saints who have found favor with you in ages

past. We praise you in union with them and give you glory through your Son Jesus Christ our Lord.

Through Christ, and with Christ, and in Christ, all honor and glory are yours, Almighty God and Father, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, for ever and for ever. *Amen.*

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

The Lord's Prayer

(sung)

S119

Our Fa - ther, who art in hea - ven, hal - low - ed
be thy Name, thy king - dom come, thy will be done,
on earth as it is in hea - ven. Give us this day our
dai - ly bread. And for - give us our tres - pas - ses,
as we for - give those who tres - pass a - gainst us. And lead
us not in - to temp - ta - tion, but de - liv - er us
from e - vil. For thine is the king - dom, and the power,
and the glo - ry, for ev - er and ev - er. A - men.

The Breaking of the Bread

Celebrant: Alleluia! Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us.

People: *Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia!*

#S164 The Holy Eucharist, Fraction Anthem: *Jesus, Lamb of God: Agnus Dei*

Je - sus, Lamb of God: have mer - cy on us.

Je - sus, bear - er of our sins: have mer - cy on us.

Je - sus, re - deem - er, re - deem - er of the world:

give us your peace, give us your peace.

Facing the people, the Celebrant says the following Invitation
The Gifts of God for the People of God.

All baptized Christians are welcome to come forward to receive Communion, and everyone is welcome to come to the rail for a blessing.

If you do not wish to receive either the bread or the wine, please cross your arms across your chest as a silent request for a blessing from the priest.

Communion Anthem

Serenade to Spring

arr. J. Holstein

Post-Communion Prayer

Celebrant: 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.

Blessing

Our mighty God, who brought again from the dead our Lord Jesus Christ, take you into his protection, enfold you in his love, direct you on your journey; and the blessing of God Almighty; the Father, and the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be among you and remain with you always. ***Amen.***

Dismissal

Celebrant: Let us go forth into the world rejoicing in the power of the Spirit! Alleluia!
Alleluia!

People: Thanks be to God! Alleluia! Alleluia!

Hymn #494

Crown him with many crowns

Hymnal 1982

Postlude

Triumphal March (from 'Aida')

G. Verdi

SERVING TODAY

Celebrant: The Rev. Christopher Ashmore+
Organist: Gay Anderson
Crucifer: Derreck Cook
Acolyte: April Drennan
Altar Acolyte: Donna Fisher
Chalice/BB: Tom Harris
Lector: Elizabeth Foley
Intercessor: Elizabeth Foley
Altar Guild: S. Lukasik, A. Drennan

NEXT SUNDAY

The Rev. Christopher Ashmore+
Gay Anderson
Chuck Drennan
April Drennan
Destiny Drennan
Marti LoRusso
Susan Lukasik
Susan Lukasik
E. Bumbacher, C. Terry

Calendar and Announcements for the Week of May 21, 2023

See Insert

Calendar & Announcements for week of May 21, 2023

Tuesday, May 23 All Vestry Finance Meeting at 6:00 p.m., St. Paul's

Wednesday, May 24 Book Club will meet at LuciAnna's at 9:30 a.m.

Sunday, May 28 8:30 a.m. Mass – Trinity Chapel
11:00 a.m. Mass – St. Paul's

Next week, Fr. Kip will be in Alton on Tuesday only. He will be away on vacation from May 24 through May 30 and resume office hours on Wednesday, May 31.

Normal office hours are from 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., but may at times be out of the office tending to pastoral care needs. If you would like to meet with Fr. Kip, you may contact him directly at 217-473-1862 or revkash@msn.com.

If you would like to remember a loved one, whether in memory or in thanksgiving with flowers for the Altar, please contact Nancy Weiss-Hayes. You can also provide flowers in celebration of birthdays and anniversaries. Nancy will be posting a sign-up chart on the bulletin board outside of the parish hall. The cost for each bouquet is \$40. If you have access to garden flowers this summer, and would like to donate those, please let Nancy know so that she can help get them into the correct vases to display. Please help us keep our altar beautiful throughout the year.

Morning & Evening Prayer - Father Kip will be conducting morning and evening prayer every Tuesday, Wednesday and Friday in St. Elizabeth's Chapel. Morning Prayer will be at 9:30 a.m. and Evening Prayer will be at 4:30 p.m. Please feel free to join any time that you are able.

We are exploring the possibility of restarting a Bible Study Group. If you are interested, please let Jean Downey or Mimi Almonroeder know what days (Tuesday, Wednesday or Friday) and times would work for you.

Ushers and Greeters needed! The Usher and Greeter ministry is a vital part of the worship service! If you are interested in either or both of these ministries, please contact Marti LoRusso, who serves as our Head Usher, at 618-251-4921.

Maintaining the Garden... We need volunteers to help maintain our beautiful garden at St. Paul's as well as the flower beds and bushes at Trinity throughout the season! Can you help? If so, even occasionally, please contact Donna Fisher at 618-791-3860.