

St. Thomas Episcopal Church

50 E. Bagley Road † Berea, OH 44017



EASTER SUNDAY

MARCH 31, 2024

9:30 AM The Holy Eucharist

The Rt. Reverend Anne Jolly, Bishop

The Reverend David R. Radzik, Rector

Cell Phone: (440) 305-0264 Office Phone: (440) 234-3499

Rector Email: Rector@stthomaschurch-berea.org

Parish Office Phone: (440) 234-5241

Email: church@stthomaschurch-berea.org

Prayer Requests: prayerlist@stthomaschurch-berea.org

Kira Seaton, Minister of Music: scuola.musica@sbcglobal.net

Barbara Telfer, Deacon: TelferBJT@hotmail.com



Easter Sunday

The Holy Eucharist

March 31, 2024

PRELUDE on "This Joyful Easter Tide"

Vruechten

(*Hymn 192*)

THE PASCHA NOSTRUM

(to be read by all in unison)

(*1 Corinthians 5:7-8; Romans 6:9-11; 1 Corinthians 15:20-22*)

(*You are invited to ring bells every time someone says or sings Alleluia!*)

ALL: Alleluia.

**Christ our Passover has been sacrificed for us; therefore let us keep the feast,
Not with the old leaven, the leaven of malice and evil,**

but with the unleavened bread of sincerity and truth. Alleluia.

**Christ being raised from the dead will never die again;
death no longer has dominion over him.**

The death that he died, he died to sin, once for all; but the life he lives, he lives to God.

So also consider yourselves dead to sin, and alive to God in Jesus Christ our Lord.

Alleluia.

Christ has been raised from the dead,

the first fruits of those who have fallen asleep.

For since by a man came death, by a man has come also the resurrection of the dead.

For as in Adam all die, so also in Christ shall all be made alive. Alleluia.

Hymn in Procession – "Jesus Christ is Risen Today!"

Hymn 207

Easter Hymn

THE OPENING ACCLAMATION

Celebrant: Alleluia. Christ is risen.

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

THE COLLECT FOR PURITY

The Celebrant say:

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 GLORIA

Hymnal S 280

THE COLLECT

Celebrant: The Lord be with you

People: **And also with you.**

Celebrant: 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 forever. *Amen.*

THE FIRST LESSON

Acts 10:34-43

Reader: A reading from the Acts of the Apostles:

Peter began to speak to Cornelius and the other Gentiles: "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: The Word of the Lord

People: **Thanks be to God**

CHORAL PSALM

Psalm 118

(With the congregation singing the bold parts)

Choir: On this day the Lord has acted, we will rejoice and be glad in it!
ALL: On this day the Lord has acted, we will rejoice and be glad in it!

Solo and Choir: Give thanks to the LORD, for he is good; his mercy endures forever.
Let Israel now proclaim, "His mercy endures forever!"

ALL: On this day the Lord has acted, we will rejoice and be glad in it!

Solo and Choir: There is a sound of victory! The right hand of God has won!
Open the gates of righteousness, and we will offer thanks!

ALL: On this day the Lord has acted, we will rejoice and be glad in it

Solo and Choir: The stone which the builders cast away has become the Cornerstone.
This is the WORK OF THE LORD, and it is amazing in our eyes!

ALL: On this day the Lord has acted, we will rejoice and be glad in it!
On this day the Lord has acted, we will rejoice and be glad in it!

THE SECOND LESSON

1 Corinthians 15:1-11

Reader: A Reading from Saint Paul's Letter to the Corinthians:

I would remind you, brothers and sisters, of the good news 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 have come to believe.

Reader: The Word of the Lord

People: **Thanks be to God**

THE SEQUENCE HYMN: "Alleluia! Alleluia!" Hymn 178 *Alleluia No. 1*
(verses 1-3 before the Gospel, verse 4 after the Gospel Reading)

THE GOSPEL

John 20:1-18

Deacon or Celebrant: The Holy Gospel according to Saint John

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

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.

Deacon or Celebrant: The Gospel of the Lord
People: **Praise to you, Lord Christ**

THE SERMON

The Rev. David R. Radzick

THE NICENE CREED

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:

(At the italic words, it is traditional to bow in remembrance that God became truly human at Christ's incarnation)

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.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE (BCP Form III)

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 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.

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.

CONCLUDING COLLECT:

Officiant:

Grant, O God, that your holy and life-giving Spirit may so move every human heart and especially the hearts of the people of this land, that barriers which divide us may crumble, suspicions disappear, and hatreds cease; that our divisions being healed, we may live in justice and peace; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

ALL: Amen.

(Names of parishioners & friends on our prayer list are on the last page of the bulletin)

GENERAL CONFESSION

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

Celebrant & People:

**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.

EXCHANGE OF PEACE:

Officiant: The peace of the Lord be with you.

All: **And also with you**

OFFERTORY:

"Living Hope"

Wickham and Johnson

*How great the chasm that lay between us. How high the mountain I could not climb.
In desperation I turned to Heaven and spoke your Name into the night.
Then through the darkness, your loving kindness tore through the shadows of my soul.
The work is finished, the end is written, Jesus Christ, my living Hope.*

*Who could imagine so great a mercy? What heart could fathom such boundless grace?
The God of ages stepped down from glory to wear my sin and bear my shame.
The cross has spoken: I am forgiven. The King of Kings calls me his own.
Beautiful Savior, I'm yours forever. Jesus Christ my living hope.*

*Hallelujah! Praise the one who set me free! Hallelujah! Death has lost its grip on me!
You have broken every chain. There's salvation in your name. Jesus Christ, my living hope.
Then came the morning that sealed the promise. Your buried body began to breathe.
Out of the silence the roaring Lion declared the grave has no claim on me. Jesus, yours is the victory!*

THE HOLY COMMUNION

The people remain standing. The Celebrant, whether bishop or priest, faces them and sings or says:

Celebrant: The Lord be with you.

People: **And also with you.**

Celebrant: Lift up your hearts.

People: **We lift them up unto the Lord.**

Celebrant: Let us give thanks unto 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. 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 forever sing this hymn to proclaim the glory of your Name:

THE SANCTUS

S 128

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 the Ever-blessed Virgin Mary, Blessed Joseph, Blessed Thomas, and 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 forever. **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.

FRACTION ANTHEM

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COMMUNION HYMN "I am the Bread of Life" Hymn 335 *I am the Bread of Life*

After Communion, the Celebrant says: Let us pray.

The People may join in saying this prayer:

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 BLESSING

CLOSING HYMN "The Strife Is O'er" Hymn 208 *Victory*

DISMISSAL

POSTLUDE Recessional on "Victory"

SERVING THIS MORNING:

Celebrant: Father David R. Radzik

Lay Reader: Joseph Allotta

Flowers: Anita Cooper

Music:

The Choir, with guest musicians Nicholle Pierce, Kimberly Coxe, Sue Griffith, Noah Venesile, and Gwendolyn Jenkins

Chalice Bearer: Peggy Zambounis

Bread Baker: Etta Scheu

Altar: Barb Pertz

The services of our guest musicians for Holy Week were paid for by an anonymous donor.

WEEKLY CALENDAR:

EASTER	03/31	EASTER SUNDAY Worship in the Chapel - 9:30am
MONDAY	04/01	Alcoholics Anonymous in Harkess Hall, (7-9pm)
TUESDAY	04/02	Holy Communion in the Chapel
THURSDAY	04/04	AA/Bluebook in Harkess Hall, (8pm)
SUNDAY	04/07	Choir Warm-up before service – 9:00am SUNDAY Worship in the Chapel - 9:30am Choir Rehearsal – after services in the Chapel

THIS WEEK'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

MEGAN DENMAN IN RECITAL. St. Thomas and Tri-C Alumna Megan Denman will be playing a piano concert at Cuyahoga Community College, Western Campus on **Saturday, April 13 at 7pm**, in the Western Campus Theatre, 11000 Pleasant Valley Road, Parma. A frequent soloist and collaborator in the Midwest, Megan was our musician at the Contemporary service for its first few years, and has continued to play in a number of churches in Northeastern Ohio.

Tickets to the Concert will be available at the door for \$10. Proceeds will go toward the Western Campus Choir/Music Club Fund for the trip to Ireland.

THE RED DOOR CAFÉ: The Red Door Café takes place every Tuesday from 10am to 12pm in front of our main entrance on Bagley Rd, which has heavy pedestrian traffic during school hours. Help us get to know our BW neighbors, this is a great opportunity!

THE BREAD BAKERS are looking for bakers to join their team of volunteers. If you are interested, please contact Peggy Zambounis at 440-336-1682.

ST. THOMAS KNITTING MINISTRY NEWS: St. Thomas knitters donated 34 chemo caps to Southwest General Health Center's Seidman Cancer Center. Following COVID, they are now accepting chemo caps again. If you are interested in knitting chemo caps, please contact Julie Kalbrunner for the instructions and/or an in-service. Yarn can be provided but a #9 circular 16' needle and a set of #9 double point needles (or similar) are needed. This is a satisfying way to accomplish something while watching tv or waiting at the doctor's office or during a child's practice.

VETERANS' LUNCHEON news: We have suspended the Veteran's Luncheon temporarily as we continue the search for a Coordinator for this very popular outreach. If you can help with this once-per-month activity, please contact Fr. David Radzik.

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED in the church office to help maintain presence during week, maintain sick list, and assist with parish bulletin. Contact Fr. Dave if you're interested.

SHARING WITH HOME-BOUND OR AILING FAMILY AND FRIENDS

In our continuing search for ways to care for our church community, we invite you to let us know of people in your lives who might benefit from cards and prayers.

As we reach out to those who God has put in our path, please consider not only updating us on your existing prayer concerns, but also let us know if there are others who might benefit from a card or inclusion on our prayer list.

Prayer list requests can be sent via email to Dave Frazier at frazida@gmail.com.

Every week members and friends of our church family will be selected as card recipients; it is amazing how receiving a card in the mail can brighten someone's day!

Our recipients for the next few weeks are:

Charles and Marilyn Glass
10412 Leawood Oval, Strongsville, OH 44136-8832

Ellen Herron
19290 Trillium Trail, Strongsville, OH 44149



IN OUR PRAYERS THIS WEEK:

Diocese Circle of Prayer in the Central East Mission Area of Ohio: Please pray for Trinity Church, Alliance; St. Mark's Church, Canton; St. Paul's Church, Canton; Trinity Church, Coshocton.

Caregivers: George D'Arras and Nancy Braford

Birthdays: Rosalie Ferline, Mark Simon

Expecting the Gift of a Child: Caroline Renzenbrink

Missionary: Michelle Wood & **Military Service:** David Brabson, Ryan Dawson, Robby Hartman, Annmarie Miller, Eli Modesitt, John Toolis, Blake Schwartz, Jimmy Loder, Caleb Jones, and Maria Estrada.

Others: The Rosenkranz Family, The Suckart Family, Terri Depp, Christina Last, Chris Reinhart, Karen, and Mary

Sick and Suffering: Owen Heller, Sue Butz, Gloriann Rota, Heather Flowers, Carol Flowers, Spencer Griffith, Linda, Matt Carlsen, Gabrielle Johnson, Mark, Kirsten Lisi, Carol Oswald, Ellie, Jane Macintosh, Evelyn & Churchill Ward, Roanne Lisi, Alicia Glynn, Chris Slager, Alma Stoica, Brian Smith, Reva Telfer, Krista Lisi, John Willis, Lynn, the Katricak Family, Bob Modesitt, Kevin Flowers, Owen Ward, Carole Pozek, Peggy Ryel, Sandy Shoenfelt, Kathy Everson, Frannie Millward, Tom Griffith, Dennis Braford, Lauren Isaac, Jan Jordan, Jude Swearingen, Bruce, Landyn Hill, Rita, Rudy Capece, Linda Gulla, Clint Hist, Bill Hacker, Nellie Cooper, the McKinney Family, Tommy, Helen Depp, Clint Anderson, Christina, Lori Hobaty, Robert Yates, Charles Beck, and the Perdue family. **Recovering:** Tony Domenick, Shelly Campbell, Jim Blanca, Gerald Gowern, Mark Simon, Jay Murillo.

Pray for the people worldwide suffering from devastating fires, floods, famine, earthquakes, volcano eruptions, or lack of clean water, and pray for the victims of gun violence everywhere.

Pray for peace in Israel, Gaza, and Ukraine: Eternal God, in whose perfect kingdom no sword is drawn but the sword of righteousness, no strength known but the strength of love: So mightily spread abroad your Spirit, that all peoples may be gathered under the banner of the Prince of Peace, as children of one Father; to whom be dominion and glory, now and forever. Amen.