



# EASTER DAY APRIL 20, 2025

10:00 A.M. SERVICE

St. Paul's Syracuse  
The Downtown Episcopal Church

## *Understanding Episcopal Liturgy*

*What is the reason for having the large, single candle lit and placed in the center of the chancel during the Easter season?*

The candle in the center of the chancel is called the Paschal Candle. Episcopal Churches share this liturgical tradition with Lutheran, Methodist, Presbyterian, and Roman Catholic Churches. The Paschal Candle is always the largest candle in the worship service, normally at least 24 inches tall, and at least 2 inches in diameter. It is decorated with symbols of Christ's presence and work among us, including a cross and the Greek letters alpha and omega. One might argue that, while all of the other candles in the worship space are more or less optional, the Paschal Candle is the only candle which is required for worship.

The lighting of the Paschal Candle is the first ritual of the Easter Vigil. After the Paschal Candle is lit the deacon or priest sings *The Exultet*, a hymn of praise describing God's work and Christ's work in bringing reconciliation and salvation to humankind. With *The Exultet* in mind, the Paschal Candle places God's saving work in the center of our worship throughout the Easter Season, up through the day of Pentecost.

The Paschal Candle is also lit at every baptism service. The symbolism of the Paschal Candle at baptism comes from St. Paul's description of our participation in Christ's work of kenosis, or self-emptying. In chapter six of Romans St. Paul describes the practice of Christians of emptying their lives of sins. Paul makes a connection between us emptying ourselves of the power of sin through baptism, and Christ's emptying of himself through his death: *Do you not know that all of us who have been baptized into Christ Jesus were baptized into his death? Therefore we have been buried with him by baptism into death, so that, just as Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father, so we too might walk in newness of life.*

*If you have a question about something in our liturgy, I will be happy to answer it. Please ask in person, or send an email to me at [revmajor@stpaulsyr.org](mailto:revmajor@stpaulsyr.org).*

*Fr. Philip +*

# ORDER OF SERVICE

**ORGAN VOLUNTARY** • Sonata in C Major

Godfrey Finger (c.1660-1730)

- I. Moderato
- II. Adagio
- III. Allegro
- IV. Grave / Allegro

*The people are invited to stand.*

**HYMN 207** • “Jesus Christ is risen today”

*Easter Hymn*

## LITURGY OF THE WORD

*Celebrant* Alleluia. Christ is risen.

*People* **The Lord has risen indeed. Alleluia.**

**CANTICLE** •

*Festival Canticle*

*Antiphon*

This is the feast of vic-tory for our God.

Al-le-lu-ia, al-le-lu-ia, al-le-lu-ia!

3 Sing with all the peo-ple of God, and

3 join in the hymn of all cre-a-tion. [Ant.]

### COLLECT OF THE DAY

*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 for ever.

*All* **Amen.**

*Please be seated.*

**LESSON • Isaiah 65:17-25**

*Lector*

A reading from the Prophet Isaiah.

I am about to create new heavens  
and a new earth;

the former things shall not be remembered  
or come to mind.

But be glad and rejoice forever  
in what I am creating;

for I am about to create Jerusalem as a joy,  
and its people as a delight.

I will rejoice in Jerusalem,  
and delight in my people;

no more shall the sound of weeping be heard in it,  
or the cry of distress.

No more shall there be in it

an infant that lives but a few days,

or an old person who does not live out a lifetime;

for one who dies at a hundred years will be considered a youth,

and one who falls short of a hundred will be considered accursed.

They shall build houses and inhabit them;

they shall plant vineyards and eat their fruit.

They shall not build and another inhabit;

they shall not plant and another eat;

for like the days of a tree shall the days of my people be,

and my chosen shall long enjoy the work of their hands.

They shall not labor in vain,

or bear children for calamity;

for they shall be offspring blessed by the Lord--

and their descendants as well.

Before they call I will answer,

while they are yet speaking I will hear.

The wolf and the lamb shall feed together,

the lion shall eat straw like the ox;

but the serpent-- its food shall be dust!

They shall not hurt or destroy

on all my holy mountain, says the Lord.

*Lector*

Hear what the Spirit is saying to God's people.

*People*

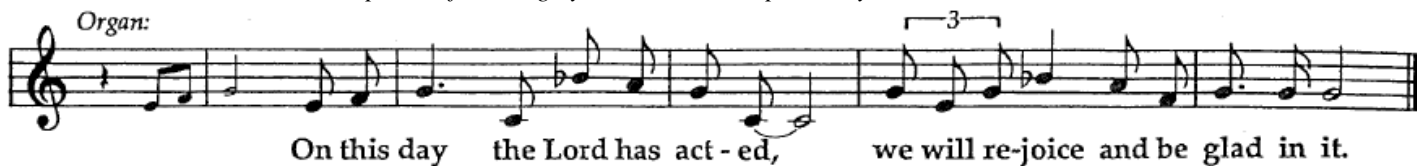
**Thanks be to God.**

## THE RESPONSE

PSALM • 118:14-17, 22-23 *Confitemini Domino*

Peter Hallock (1924-2014)

*The Antiphon is first sung by the Choir and repeated by All, and then as indicated.*



The LORD is my strength and my song, and he has become my salvation. There is a sound of exultation and victory in the tents of the righteous. **Antiphon**

"The right hand of the LORD has triumphed! the right hand of the LORD is exalted! the right hand of the LORD has triumphed!" I shall not die, but live, and declare the works of the LORD. **Antiphon**

The same stone which the builders rejected has become the chief cornerstone. This is the LORD's doing, and it is marvelous in our eyes. **Antiphon**

## EPISTLE • Corinthians 15:19-26

*Lector*

A reading from Paul's first letter to the Corinthians.

If for this life only we have hoped in Christ, we are of all people most to be pitied. But in fact Christ has been raised from the dead, the first fruits of those who have died. For since death came through a human being, the resurrection of the dead has also come through a human being; for as all die in Adam, so all will be made alive in Christ. But each in his own order: Christ the first fruits, then at his coming those who belong to Christ. Then comes the end, when he hands over the kingdom to God the Father, after he has destroyed every ruler and every authority and power. For he must reign until he has put all his enemies under his feet. The last enemy to be destroyed is death.

*Lector*

Hear what the Spirit is saying to God's people.

*People*

**Thanks be to God.**

*The people are invited to stand.*

## GRADUAL HYMN • 204 "Now the green blade riseth"

*Noël nouvelet*

*Please remain standing.*

## HOLY GOSPEL • Luke 24:1-12

*Celebrant*

The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ, according to Luke.

*People*

**Glory to you, Lord Christ.**

*Celebrant*

On the first day of the week, at early dawn, the women who had come with Jesus from Galilee came to the tomb, taking the spices that they had prepared. They found the stone rolled away from the tomb, but when they went in, they did not find the body. While they were perplexed about this, suddenly two men in dazzling clothes stood beside them. The women were terrified and bowed their faces to the ground, but the men said to them, "Why do you look for the living among the dead? He is not here, but has risen. Remember how he told you, while he was still in Galilee, that the Son of Man must be handed over to sinners, and be crucified, and on the third day rise again." Then they remembered his words, and returning from the tomb, they told all this to the eleven and to all the rest. Now it was Mary Magdalene, Joanna, Mary the mother of James, and the other women with them who told this to the apostles. But

these words seemed to them an idle tale, and they did not believe them. But Peter got up and ran to the tomb; stooping and looking in, he saw the linen cloths by themselves; then he went home, amazed at what had happened.

*Celebrant  
People*

The Gospel of our Lord Jesus.  
**Praise to you, Lord Christ.**

*Please be seated.*

**SERMON**

The Rev. Philip Major

*A brief silence follows the sermon.*

*The people are invited to stand.*

**NICENE CREED**

*The word “creed” comes from the Latin credo, translated here as “we believe.” Credo is not simply belief in accurate propositions, but more deeply a sense of relationship or trust—an alternate translation might be “we give our heart,” “we trust,” “we rely upon.” Developed in the fourth century as a means of unifying a divided church, the Nicene Creed has been used by Christians in worship for almost two*

*thousand years, and connects us to our ancient ancestors in the Communion of Saints. The Creed is used in worship not because it comprises a list of doctrinal statements one must affirm in order to be considered a Christian, but rather as a song of praise and confidence in the Holy Trinity: God in three persons who creates, redeems and sanctifies a holy people.*

*All*                    **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.**

*Please remain standing.*

## PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Almighty God, long ago faithful women proclaimed the good news of Jesus' resurrection, and the world was changed forever. Teach us to keep faith with them, that our witness may be as bold, our love as deep, and our faith as true.

*The people add their own prayers, silently or aloud.*

Let all creation give thanks to the Risen Lord. **Give thanks to the risen Lord.**

We pray for the leaders of the Church, Michael our presiding Bishop, DeDe our Bishop, Philip our Rector, and all our laity. May the joy of the resurrection empower them.

*The people add their own prayers, silently or aloud.*

Let all creation give thanks to the Risen Lord. **Give thanks to the risen Lord.**

Creator of the universe, you made the world in beauty and restore all things in glory through the victory of Jesus Christ. We pray for those in poverty, sickness, and war. We pray for *n*.

*The people add their own prayers, silently or aloud.*

Let all creation give thanks to the risen Lord. **Give thanks to the risen Lord.**

Resurrecting God, you conquered death and opened the gates of everlasting life. We pray for those who have died, especially for *n*., and for those whose names have been forgotten. Raise us with Christ that we may proclaim healing and peace to all.

*The people add their own prayers, silently or aloud.*

Let all creation give thanks to the risen Lord. **Give thanks to the risen Lord.**

When our lives seem empty, we assume that Christ has been taken away. When our lives are painful, we assume that Christ has been taken away. And yet, Christ is risen.

*The people add their own prayers, silently or aloud.*

Let all creation give thanks to the risen Lord. **Give thanks to the risen Lord.**

*The Celebrant adds a concluding prayer.*

*The people are invited to stand*

## THE PEACE

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

*People*               **And also with you.**

# LITURGY OF THE TABLE

*The bread and wine for communion and the offering plates are brought forward at the beginning of the offertory.*

## OFFERTORY

*At the Offertory, we return thanks for God's blessings in our lives and invite you to place your contribution in the offering plate in the main aisle or give by texting 73256 entering **stpaulsy** (all lower case) and the amount you want to give.*

*Celebrant* All things come of Thee, O Lord.  
*People* **And of thine own have we given thee.**

*Please be seated.*

## ANTHEM

Gerald Near (b.1942)

*It was on Christmas Day, and all in the morning, our Savior was born, and our heavenly King: and was not this a joyful thing? And sweet Jesus they called him by name. It was on the twelfth day, and all in the morning, the wise men were led to our heavenly King: And was not this a joyful thing? And sweet Jesus they called him by name. It was on Candlemas Day, and all in the morning, they visited the temple with our heavenly king: and was not this a joyful thing? And sweet Jesus they called him by name. It was on Good Friday, and all in the morning, they crucified our Saviour and our heavenly King: And was not this a woeful thing? And sweet Jesus they called him by name. It was on Easter Day, and all in the morning, our Savior arose, our own heavenly king: the sun and the moon they did both rise with him, and sweet Jesus we'll call him by name.*

## THE GREAT THANKSGIVING, Eucharist Prayer C

*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 him thanks and praise.

*Celebrant* God of all power, Ruler of the Universe, you are worthy of glory and praise.  
*People* **Glorify you for ever and ever.**  
*Celebrant* At your command all things came to be: the vast expanse of interstellar space, galaxies, suns, the planets in their courses, and this fragile earth, our island home.  
*People* **By your will they were created and have their being.**  
*Celebrant* From the primal elements you brought forth the human race, and blessed us with memory, reason, and skill. You made us the rulers of creation. But we turned against you, and betrayed your trust; and we turned against one another.  
*People* **Have mercy, Lord, for we are sinners in your sight.**



*Celebrant* Again and again, you called us to return. Through prophets and sages you revealed your righteous Law. And in the fullness of time you sent your only Son, born of a woman, to fulfill your Law, to open for us the way of freedom and peace.

*People* **By his blood, he reconciled us. By his wounds, we are healed.**

*Celebrant* And therefore we praise you, joining with the heavenly chorus, with prophets, apostles, and martyrs, and with all those in every generation who have looked to you in hope, to proclaim with them your glory, in their unending hymn:

## SANCTUS AND BENEDICTUS

Hymnal S-114

From *Missa de Sancta Maria Magdalena*, Healey Willan (1880-1968)

*Celebrant* And so, Father, we who have been redeemed by him, and made a new people by water and the Spirit, now bring before you these gifts. Sanctify them by your Holy Spirit to be the Body and Blood of Jesus Christ our Lord.

On the night he was betrayed he took bread, said the blessing, broke the bread, and gave it to his friends, 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, gave thanks, 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."

Remembering now his work of redemption, and offering to you this sacrifice of thanksgiving,

*All* **We celebrate his death and resurrection, as we await the day of his coming.**

*Celebrant* Lord God of our Fathers and Mothers: God of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob; God of Sarah, Ruth and Mary, God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ: Open our eyes to see your hand at work in the world about us. Deliver us from the presumption of coming to this Table for solace only, and not for strength; for pardon only, and not for renewal. Let the grace of this Holy Communion make us one body, one spirit in Christ, that we may worthily serve the world in his name.

*All* **Risen Lord, be known to us in the breaking of the Bread.**

*Celebrant* Accept these prayers and praises, Father, through Jesus Christ our great High Priest, to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit, your Church gives honor, glory, and worship, from generation to generation.

*All* **Amen.**

## THE LORD'S PRAYER

*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 THE BREAD

*The breaking of the bread may be seen as the culminating activity of our worship. It is the ritual action symbolizing the activity whereby God emptied Godself of divine power for purpose of reconciling Godself with us. We have no words to accurately describe this divine activity, thus a period of 10-15 seconds of silence is kept following the breaking of the bread and before the singing of the Fraction Anthem.*

## FRACTION ANTHEM

Hymnal S-154

From *New Plainsong*; (b.1950)

*The people are invited to be seated.*

*You are invited to consume the consecrated bread immediately after you receive it. If you choose to receive the wine, drink directly from the cup. We are not dipping the bread into the wine at this time. Our understanding is that the sacrament of communion is complete if the bread or wine is received; it is not necessary to receive both.*

<sup>s</sup> *During the distribution of communion, Prayers for Healing and Wholeness may be offered at the Peace Altar.*

## ANTHEMS AT COMMUNION

*Set me as a seal*

Sergei Rachmaninoff (1873-1943)  
*Transcribed by Russell Shelley*

*I sat down under his shadow*

Edward C. Bairstow

**HYMN AT COMMUNION** • 306 “Come risen Lord, and deign to be our guest”

*Sursum Corda*

*The People are invited to stand.*

## POST-COMMUNION PRAYER

*Officiant*

Let us pray.

*All*

**God of abundance, you have fed us with the bread of life and cup of salvation; you have united us with Christ and one another; and you have made us one with all your people in heaven and on earth. Now send us forth in the power of your Spirit, that we may proclaim your redeeming love to the world and continue for ever in the risen life of Christ our Savior. Amen.**

## BLESSING

**HYMN 296** • “We know that Christ is raised and dies no more”

*Engelberg*

## DISMISSAL

*People:*

**Thanks be to God.**

**ORGAN VOLUNTARY** • Trumpet Voluntary in D Major

John Stanley (1712-1786)

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*Prayers of the People were written by St. Paul’s prayer leaders.*

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***Please Keep These People in Your Prayers:***

Destany W., Fred K., Daniela B., Anne D., and Kira D.

We remember those who have died in recent days.

*Our thanks today for the...*

**Altar Guild:** Julia Fine

**Lay Readers:** Joe Moorman

**Ushers:** Ieva and Jim Doyle

**Flower Guild:** Harriet Averill, Liz Belden-Handler, Tim Cassavaw, Betsy Elkins, Marion Greenhalgh, Jim Potts & Sandy Wiley

*Musicians*

MicKenna Keller, oboe; Jessica King, bassoon; José Suarez, trumpet  
The Donald J. Grout Memorial Harpsichord, built by William Dowd, Boston 1988  
*The musicians are provided courtesy of the Friends of Music.*

**Giving Made Easy**

Scan this QR code with your phone's camera to donate to St. Paul's Episcopal Church.



**You're Invited**

**New Member's Class**

What: A series of three 60-minute sessions  
Where: In the Brewster Room  
When: Sundays at 11:30 a.m.  
Who: Everyone is invited

**Dates: April 27, May 4 and May 11**



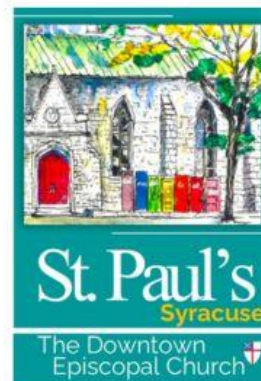
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Syracuse, NY 13202

315 474-6053



[www.stpaulsyr.org](http://www.stpaulsyr.org)



# Easter Flower Memorials



In loving memory of Philip & Elizabeth Chase,  
Charles & Laura Estabrook,  
Morris & Mary Chase and Hilda Broad  
Given by Sarah Chase

In loving memory of Clara & Nathaniel Abbott, and Virginia & William Elkins  
Given by Betsy Elkins

In loving memory of Neva S. Pilgrim, Jason D. Pilgrim  
Given by Richard Pilgrim

In honor of John Woodman  
Given by Jane Woodman

In loving memory of Nancy Bronder  
Given by Fr. Philip

In loving memory of Kahie Doctor  
Given by Laverne Doctor

In honor of Michael F. Fallon  
Given by Lynn Fallon

In loving memory of Andrew Besemer  
Given by Tim Cassavaw

In loving memory of Members of the Robert Mouncey Families  
Given by Doug & The Reverend Perry Mouncey

In thanksgiving for my family and friends  
Given by Debbie Bogan

in loving memory of my parents, Sarah Beadle Wolff and Frederick A. Wolff  
Given by Cathy Wolff

In memory of David & Dena Palsma, Alfred & Doris Steenhoek, David Steenhoek and Leland Palsma  
Given by Nolan & Phyllis Palsma

In loving memory of Charles Goetz  
Given by Ellie Major

To the Glory of God  
Given by Ieva & Jim Doyle

In loving memory of Elisabeth H. Barker & E. Tefft Barker, Mildred T. & Frederick W. Barker,  
Edith P & A. Ford Hinrichs  
Given by Elisabeth A. Barker and Family

In loving memory of Nancy, Bernadine and Leon Pickard  
In honor of my wife, Mary Pickard  
Given by Barry Pickard

In loving memory of Dr. & Mrs. Ralph F. Spencer, Ralph F. Spencer, Jr., Mr. & Mrs. Newton S.  
Wiley, Sr. and Frank L. Wiley  
Given by Sandra & Newton Wiley



**In Loving Memory**