

# St. Francis Episcopal Church

The Second Sunday of Easter

April 16, 2023 9:30 am

Welcome to St. Francis. Your presence among us deepens and enriches our worship, and for that we are grateful. In this service leaflet, the people's responses are in **bold**. The time prior to the service is set aside for prayerful waiting and reflection. Please be respectful in observing silence at this time. Please silence all electronic devices. If you are a guest this morning and would like to know more about St. Francis, please fill out a visitor card in the pew pocket and place it in the offering plate. The Rev. Toni Belhu would like to sit down with you for a visit. You may reach her at the church office at 828-287-3888 ext. 2 or her cell at 704-215-1882.

### THE PRELUDE

All stand, as able.



Words: Matthew Bridges (1800-1894). Music: *Diademata*, George Job Elvey (1816-1893); desc. Richard Proulx (b. 1937). Descant, Copyright © 1970, Augsburg Fortress. Used by permission.

### THE OPENING ACCLAMATION

Celebrant: Alleluia. Christ is risen.

People: The Lord is risen indeed. Alleluia.

### THE COLLECT OF PURITY

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.** 

# GLORIA IN EXCELSIS DEO (S-280)



#### THE COLLECT OF THE DAY

Celebrant: The Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

Celebrant: Let us pray.

Almighty and everlasting God, who in the Paschal mystery established the new covenant of reconciliation: Grant that all who have been reborn into the fellowship of Christ's Body may show forth in their lives what they profess by their faith; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.** 

All sit for the lessons

FIRST LESSON Acts 2:14a,22-32

A reading from the Acts of the Apostles.

Peter, standing with the eleven, raised his voice and addressed the crowd, "You that are Israelites, listen to what I have to say: Jesus of Nazareth, a man attested to you by God with deeds of power, wonders, and signs that God did through him among you, as you yourselves know—this man, handed over to you according to the definite plan and foreknowledge of God, you crucified and killed by the hands of those outside the law. But God raised him up, having freed him from death, because it was impossible for him to be held in its power. For David says concerning him, I saw the Lord always before me, for he is at my right hand so that I will not be shaken; therefore my heart was glad, and my tongue rejoiced; moreover my flesh will live in hope. For you will not abandon my soul to Hades, or let your Holy One experience corruption. You have made known to me the ways of life; you will make me full of gladness with your presence.' "Fellow Israelites, I may say to you confidently of our ancestor David that he both died and was buried, and his tomb is with us to this day. Since he was a prophet, he knew that God had sworn with an oath to him that he would put one of his descendants on his throne. Foreseeing this, David spoke of the resurrection of the Messiah, saying, 'He was not abandoned to Hades, nor did his flesh experience corruption.' This Jesus God raised up, and of that all of us are witnesses."

The Word of the Lord.

### People: Thanks be to God.

#### PSALM 16

1 Protect me, O God, for I take refuge in you; \*

I have said to the Lord, "You are my Lord, my good above all other."

2 All my delight is upon the godly that are in the land, \*

upon those who are noble among the people.

3 But those who run after other gods \*

shall have their troubles multiplied.

4 Their libations of blood I will not offer, \*

nor take the names of their gods upon my lips.

5 O Lord, you are my portion and my cup; \*

it is you who uphold my lot.

6 My boundaries enclose a pleasant land; \*

indeed, I have a goodly heritage.

7 I will bless the Lord who gives me counsel; \*

my heart teaches me, night after night.

8 I have set the Lord always before me; \*

because he is at my right hand I shall not fall.

9 My heart, therefore, is glad, and my spirit rejoices; \*

my body also shall rest in hope.

10 For you will not abandon me to the grave, \*

nor let your holy one see the Pit.

11 You will show me the path of life; \*

in your presence there is fullness of joy, and in your right hand are pleasures for evermore.

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit: \* as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be for ever. Amen.

SECOND LESSON 1 Peter 1:3-9

A reading from the First Letter of Peter.

Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ! By his great mercy he has given us a new birth into a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead, and into an inheritance that is imperishable, undefiled, and unfading, kept in heaven for you, who are being protected by the power of God through faith for a salvation ready to be revealed in the last time. In this you rejoice, even if now for a little while you have had to suffer various trials, so that the genuineness of your faith-- being more precious than gold that, though perishable, is tested by fire-may be found to result in praise and glory and honor when Jesus Christ is revealed. Although you have not seen him, you love him; and even though you do not see him now, you believe in him and rejoice with an indescribable and glorious joy, for you are receiving the outcome of your faith, the salvation of your souls.

The Word of the Lord

People: Thanks be to God.



Words: Christian Furchtegott Gellert (1715-1769); tr. Frances Elizabeth Cox (1812-1897), alt. Music: St. Albinus, Henry John Gauntlett (1805-1876).

THE GOSPEL John 20:19-31

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

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

When it was evening on that day, the first day of the week, and the doors of the house where the disciples had met were locked for fear of the Jews, Jesus came and stood among them and said, "Peace be with you." After he said this, he showed them his hands and his side. Then the disciples rejoiced when they saw the Lord. Jesus said to them again, "Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, so I send you." When he had said this, he breathed on them and said to them, "Receive the Holy Spirit. If you forgive the sins of any, they are forgiven them; if you retain the sins of any, they are retained." But Thomas (who was called the Twin), one of the twelve, was not with them when Jesus came. So the other disciples told him, "We have seen the Lord." But he said to them, "Unless I see the mark of the nails in his hands, and put my finger in the mark of the nails and my hand in his side, I will not believe." A week later his disciples were again in the house, and Thomas was with them. Although the doors were shut, Jesus came and stood among them and said, "Peace be with you." Then he said to Thomas, "Put your finger here and see my hands. Reach out your hand and put it in my side. Do not doubt but believe." Thomas answered him, "My Lord and my God!" Jesus said to him, "Have you believed because you have seen me? Blessed are those who have not seen and yet

have come to believe." Now Jesus did many other signs in the presence of his disciples, which are not written in this book. But these are written so that you may come to believe that Jesus is the Messiah, the Son of God, and that through believing you may have life in his name.

The Gospel of the Lord.

People: Praise to you, Lord Christ.

THE HOMILY Silence may be kept after the homily.

The Rev. Toni Belhu

All stand, as able
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:
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 FORM VI

The Leader and People pray responsively

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, José our Bishop, for Toni our Rector, and for all bishops and other ministers:

For all who serve God in his Church.

For the special needs and concerns of this congregation. Today we pray especially for Josephine, Larry, Catherine, James, John, Ruth, Beverly, Jesse, Bobby, Helen, Lucinda, Bobby, Debbie, Wesley, Chris, June, Rob, Nancy, Malisha, Becky, Bob, Laura, Larry, Sid, Emmie Jane, Christy, Lyn, Timothy, Brad, Melanie, David, Melanye, Sandra, Lois, Keith, Kaylie, Charles, Emily, Brenda, Jenn, Max, Chuck, Toby, Nicky, Emma, Brent, and all those on our long-term prayer list. Are there others? (Please add the names of others either silently or aloud)

In thanksgiving we pray for those celebrating birthdays and anniversaries in the coming week, especially **Rob Bole (21).** 

We pray for all the men and women of our armed forces at home and abroad especially those on our military prayer list, saying together, Ben, Jeremiah, Daniel, David, Jason, Christopher, Daniel, Adam, Scotty, Jeremy, Nicholas, Nathan, Peter, Joseph, Luke, Tony, Christian, Brendan, Will, Tom, Christopher. We pray also for their families, friends, and neighbors who await their safe return.

We pray for our sister church St. Gabriel's. In the Diocesan Cycle of Prayer, we pray for our Bishop, Canon, and those with them traveling in the Holy Land. In the Anglican Cycle of Prayer, we pray for The Anglican Church of Tanzania.

We pray for our missionaries and their work in the world, for Russ and Heidi Smith in Chile, John and Zsófi Wilson in Hungary, and Daniel & Rachel Aytes in Thailand.

We pray for St. Francis Day School, and for its students and teachers and their families, that they may grow in stature and wisdom, and in the knowledge and love of your grace and truth.

Hear us, Lord;

For your mercy is great.

We thank you, Lord, for all the blessings of this life. *Silence* 

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

Lord, let your loving-kindness be upon them;

Who put their trust in you.

The Celebrant concludes with a collect.

THE PEACE

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

People: And also with you.

The ministers and people greet each other in the name of the Lord.

ALL ARE WELCOME AT THE TABLE OF THE LORD.

# THE HOLY COMMUNION

#### THE OFFERTORY SENTENCE

Walk in love, as Christ loved us and gave himself for us, an offering and sacrifice to God.

All stand, as able



Words: Cyril A. Alington (1872-1955), alt. St. 5, Norman Mealy (1923-1987). Copyright © 1958, renewal 1986, by Hope Publishing company, Carol Stream, IL 60188. All Rights Reserved. Used by permission. St.5, Copyright © 1971 by Walton Music Corporation. Used by permission. Music: *Gelobt sei Gott*, Melchior Vulpius (1560?-1616).

All stand, as able, as the offering is presented, singing together the Doxology. THE DOXOLOGY

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; praise him, all creatures here below; praise him above, ye heavenly host: praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

### THE GREAT THANKSGIVING - Prayer C

The people remain standing.

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.

Then, facing the Holy Table, the Celebrant proceeds

God of all power, Ruler of the Universe, you are worthy of glory and praise.

### Glory to you for ever and ever.

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.

## By your will they were created and have their being.

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.

## Have mercy, Lord, for we are sinners in your sight.

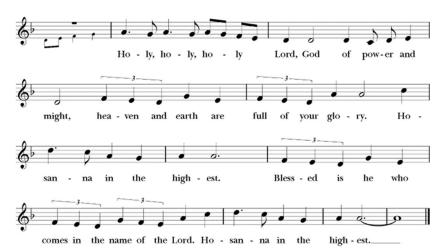
Again and again, you called us to return. Through prophets and sages you revealed your righteous Law. And in the fullness of time you sent your only Son, born of a woman, to fulfill your Law, to open for us the way of freedom and peace.

### By his blood, he reconciled us.

### By his wounds, we are healed.

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 (S-129) Celebrant and People



### The Celebrant continues

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

Lord God of our Fathers; God of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob; 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.

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

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. **AMEN.** 

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

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.

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

People: Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia.

### **AGNUS DEI**

O Lamb of God, that takes away the sins of the world, have mercy upon us.

O Lamb of God, that takes away the sins of the world,

# have mercy upon us.

O Lamb of God, that takes away the sins of the world, grant us thy peace.

ADMINISTRATION OF THE SACRAMENT

### **COMMUNUION HYMN**

Alleluia, Alleluia, give thanks to the risen Lord

Hymnal p.178



The descant may be sung after stanzas 3 and 4.

Words: Donald Fishel (b. 1950) Music: Alleluia No.1, Donald Fishel (b. 1950) Words, Music (melody): Copyright ©1973, The Word of God. arr. Betty Pulkingham (b. 1928), Charles Mallory (b. 1950) and George Mims (b. 1938) Copyright ©1979, Celebration. All rights reserved. Used with permission.



Words: C. Austin Miles (1868-1946). Music: C. Austin Miles.

### THE POSTCOMMUNION PRAYER

After Communion, the Celebrant says

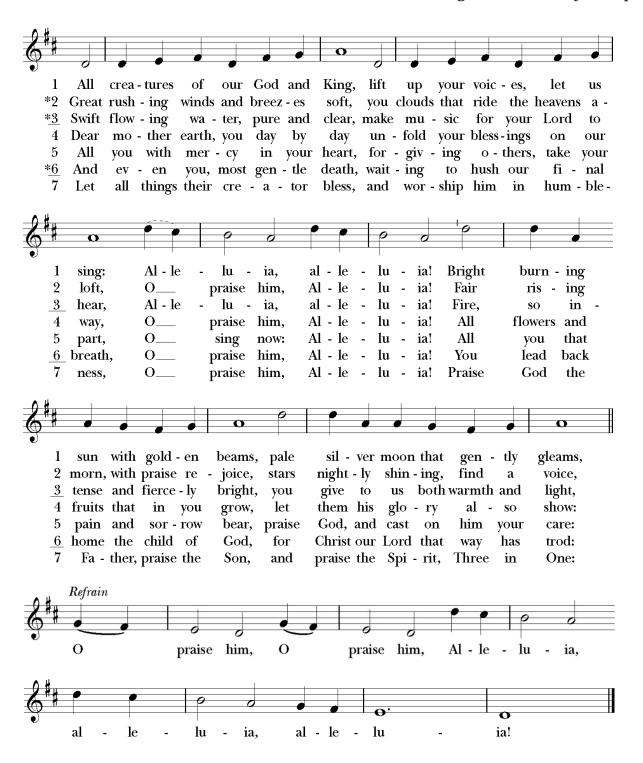
Let us pray.

Celebrant and People

Almighty and everliving God,
we thank you for feeding us with the spiritual food
of the most precious Body and Blood
of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ;
and for assuring us in these holy mysteries
that we are living members of the Body of your Son,
and heirs of your eternal kingdom.
And now, Father, send us out
to do the work you have given us to do,
to love and serve you
as faithful witnesses of Christ our Lord.
To him, to you, and to the Holy Spirit,
be honor and glory, now and for ever. Amen.

### THE BLESSING

The blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit be among you and remain with you always.



The refrain may be sung antiphonally, by phrase; all join in the final Alleluia.

Words: Francis of Assisi (1182-1226); tr. William H. Draper (1855-1933), alt. Copyright ©1985 by G. Schrimer, used by arrangement of G. Schrimer, Inc. Music: Lasst uns erfreuen, melody from Auserlesene Catholische Geistliche Kirchengeseng, 1623; adapt. and harm. Ralph Vaughan Williams (1872-1958) Copyright © by permission of Oxford University Press. All rights reserved. Used with permission.

#### THE DISMISSAL

Celebrant: Let us go forth in the name of Christ. Alleluia, Alleluia.

People: Thanks be to God. Alleluia, Alleluia.

LONG TERM PRAYER LIST:, Addison, Zoey, Courtney, Tom, Harper, Emmanuel, Kimberly, Diana, Michael, Tony, Becca, Brian, Jane, Christine, Sally, Paige, Alan, Pam, Ricky, Beverly, Lee, Mike, the Snelgrove family, Danielle, the Taft family, Dickinson, Jane, Anna, Linda, Roy, Janice, Jenny, Sarah, Amanda, Michael, Bud, Danny, Rob, Gordon, Daniel, Cullin, June, Billy, Donovan, Maddox, Sutton, Megan, Hunter, Phyllis, Jane, Annie, Bob, David, Doug, Rob, Stewart, Marsha, Avis, Max, Donald, Amy, Dewey, the Wilkerson family, Ryan, Kristy, the Dale family, Anthony, the Simpson family, Jim, the Allen family, Lisa, Bill, Grace, Paula, Bobbie, Glena, Elizabeth, David, Sandy, Sean, Jane, Judy, Tabitha, Elaine, Gennine, Dickinson, Skip, Ernest, Ginger, Mel, Jimmy, Rick, David, Ella Mae, Gregory, Rett, Kristy, Peggy, Dee, Nelson, Julia, Hartford, Nell, Billy, Rita, Janet, Seth, Peggy, Ron, Norris, Mary, Brandy, Lizzie, Sally, Sharon, Ellen, Chuck, Taby, Shirley, Kylie, TJ, Jenny, June, Kevin, Karsen, Sequoia, Millie, Charles, Sherrill, Dori, Elizabeth, Presley Joe, Elizabeth, the Bridges family, Randy, Jeanine, Nancy, Shannon, Robyn, Nicholas, Ellen, Charles, Barbara, Bob, Peggy, Bob, Mike, Chris, Logan, Gavin, Gage, Persphone, Nicky, Corwin, Beth, Junie, Hobby, Molly, Trevor, Wendy, Joshua, Nelson, Dee, Janet, Hartford, Thomas, Shelby, Burtches, Beverly, Shirley, the Peters family, Barbara, Edward, Shirley, Colin, Jane, Bobby, Lois, Paula, Mytheina, Zareeha, ZaNae.

### **Worship Leaders** 9:30

Usher – Bud Quinley Greeter - Paula Hammond 1st Lesson - Robin DeLorenzo 2<sup>nd</sup> Lesson - Richard Williams Chalicist - Nancy Bole Acolyte - Anthony Guarriello Vestry Lock Up - Bob Blanton Camera - Steve Ross Children's Church - Linda Tribou & Stephanie Williams

### Worship Leaders for next Sunday 9:30 am

Usher - Steve Ross Greeter - Margie Roberts 1st Lesson - Linda Jeanne Harrill 2<sup>nd</sup> Lesson – Gordan Scott Chalicist - Richard Williams Acolyte - Stella Turner Vestry Lock Up - Rebecca Melton Camera - Linc McDaniel Children's Church - Linda Tribou & Judi Gustafson

### Saint Francis Episcopal Church

408 North Main Street Rutherfordton, NC 28139 828-287-3888

Rector: The Rev. Toni Belhu

Email: rector@stfrancisrutherfordton.org-

Cell Phone: 704-215-1882

Parish Administrator: Kathryn McGowan

administrator@stfrancisruther fordton.org

Organist: Steven Noll Sexton: Debbie Hamrick

www.stfrancisrutherfordton.org

www.facebook.com/stfrancisrutherfordton