

St. Gregory's Episcopal Church
Third Sunday of Easter
April 14, 2024



PRELUDE.....Ann Klein, Music Director

THE REGINA COELI

During Eastertide, the Regina Coeli replaces the Angelus as the prayer rung on the church bells before worship. One set of nine rings accompanies the anthem, versicle, and response, and another set of nine the concluding Collect. You may pray it as the bell rings, or use the silence to prepare for worship in your own way.

The first three bells O Queen of heaven, be joyful, alleluia;
Because he who was born of your body, alleluia,

The second three bells Has arisen, as he promised, alleluia:
Pray for us to the Father, alleluia.

The third three bells V. Rejoice and be glad, O Virgin Mary, alleluia.
R. For the Lord is risen indeed, alleluia.

The nine bells O God, who by the resurrection of your Son Jesus Christ, vouchsafed to give gladness to the world: Grant, we beseech you, that, with the help of the Virgin Mary his Mother, we may obtain the joys of everlasting life, through the same Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

PROCESSIONAL HYMN

C B^b6 F C C

I am a child of God, I am a child
 am an end - - - less prayer, am a
 am an ang - - - ry voice, am com -
 am a cry for of peace, am com -
 am a song of joy, am the

6 B^b6 F C C B^b6

glimpse of God's new cre - a - tion. I am a child
 yearn - ing for con - temp - la - tion, I am an end - -
 pas - sion and con - stern - a - tion, I am an ang - -
 mit - ment and ded - i - ca - tion, I am a cry
 mo - ment of ju - bi - la - tion, I am a song

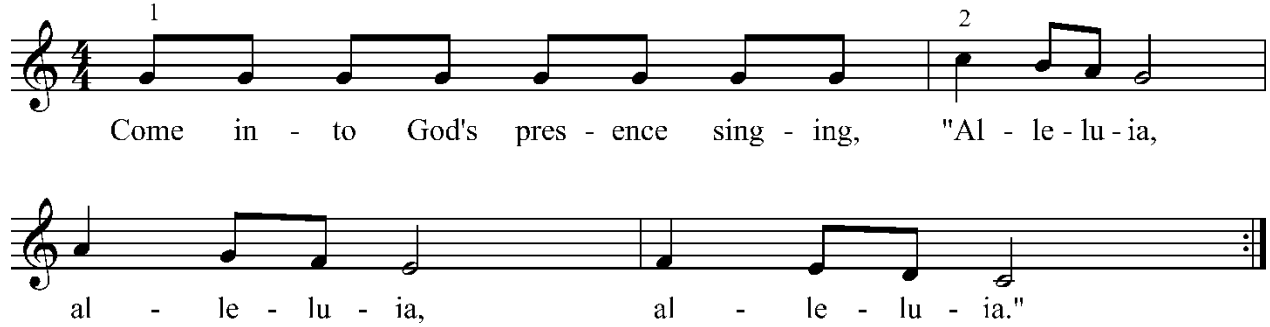
of less God, I am a child of God.
 less prayer, I am an end - - - less prayer.
 ry voice, I am an ang - - - ry voice.
 for peace, I am a cry for peace.
 of joy, I am a cry song of joy.

OPENING ACCLAMATION

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.**

SONG OF PRAISE



1
Come in - to God's pres - ence sing - ing, "Al - le - lu - ia,
2
al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia."

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THE COLLECT OF THE DAY

Celebrant The Lord be with you.
People **And also with you.**
Celebrant Let us pray.

O God, whose blessed Son made himself known to his disciples in the breaking of bread: Open the eyes of our faith, that we may behold him in all his redeeming work; who lives and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen.

THE FIRST READING

Acts 3:12-19

Peter addressed the people, "You Israelites, why do you wonder at this, or why do you stare at us, as though by our own power or piety we had made him walk? The God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob, the God of our ancestors has glorified his servant Jesus, whom you handed over and rejected in the presence of Pilate, though he had decided to release him. But you rejected the Holy and Righteous One and asked to have a murderer given to you, and you killed the Author of life, whom God raised from the dead. To this we are witnesses. And by faith in his name, his name itself has made this man strong, whom you see and know; and the faith that is through Jesus has given him this perfect health in the presence of all of you.

"And now, friends, I know that you acted in ignorance, as did also your rulers. In this way God fulfilled what he had foretold through all the prophets, that his Messiah would suffer. Repent therefore, and turn to God so that your sins may be wiped out."

Reader Hear what the Spirit is saying to God's people.
People **Thanks be to God.**

THE RESPONSE (*chanted in unison*)

Psalms 4

1 Answer me when I call, O God, defender of my | **cause**; *
you set me free when I am hard-pressed;
have mercy on me and hear my | **prayer**.

- 2 “You mortals, how long will you dishonor my glory; *
 how long will you worship dumb idols
 and run after false | **gods?**”
- 3 Know that the Lord does wonders for the | **faithful;** *
 when I call upon the Lord, he will | **hear me.**
- 4 Tremble, then, and do not | **sin;** *
 speak to your heart in silence upon your | **bed.**
- 5 Offer the appointed sacri**fices** *
 and put your trust in the | **Lord.**
- 6 Many are saying, “Oh, that we might see better | **times!**” *
 Lift up the light of your countenance upon us, O | **Lord.**
- 7 You have put gladness in my | **heart,** *
 more than when grain and wine and oil in|**crease.**
- 8 I lie down in peace; at once I fall a|**sleep;** *
 for only you, Lord, make me dwell in | **safety.**

THE EPISTLE

1 John 3:1-7

See what love the Father has given us, that we should be called children of God; and that is what we are. The reason the world does not know us is that it did not know him. Beloved, we are God's children now; what we will be has not yet been revealed. What we do know is this: when he is revealed, we will be like him, for we will see him as he is. And all who have this hope in him purify themselves, just as he is pure.

Everyone who commits sin is guilty of lawlessness; sin is lawlessness. You know that he was revealed to take away sins, and in him there is no sin. No one who abides in him sins; no one who sins has either seen him or known him. Little children, let no one deceive you. Everyone who does what is right is righteous, just as he is righteous.

Reader Hear what the Spirit is saying to God's people.
People **Thanks be to God.**

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

The Leader and People pray responsively

Holy One, 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.

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.

CONFESSION OF SIN

The Celebrant says

Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

Silence

Minister and 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 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 Christ be always with you.
People **And also with you.**

The people greet one another with a sign of Christ's peace. Parish announcements may be made.

OFFERTORY ANTHEM *(sung by choir)*

DOXOLOGY *(sung in unison)*

Praise God from whom all blessings flow; praise God all creatures here below;
praise God, the Trinity of love, before, beneath, around, above.
A - men.

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

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 God thanks and praise.**

It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Almighty God, Creator of heaven and earth, through Jesus Christ our Lord; who on the first day of the week overcame death and the grave, and by his glorious resurrection opened to us the way of everlasting life. Therefore we praise you, joining our voices with Angels and Archangels and all company of heaven, who forever sing this hymn to proclaim the glory of your Name:

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of power and
might, hea - ven 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.

Music: Robert Powell (b. 1932). Setting: Copyright © Church Publishing Inc.

The Celebrant continues the Eucharistic Prayer.

Therefore, according to his command, O Holy One,

Celebrant and People

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

The Celebrant continues the Eucharistic Prayer.

All this we ask through your Son Jesus Christ: 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,

**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 brief silence follows. All then joining in singing

Al - le - lu - ia, al - le -
lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia. Christ our Pass - o - ver is
sac - ri - ficed for us; There - fore let us keep the feast.
Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

If you are unable to physically participate in Communion, you may offer a Prayer of Spiritual Communion during this time.

A Prayer of Spiritual Communion

In union, O Lord, with the faithful at every altar of your Church where the Holy Eucharist is now being celebrated, I desire to offer you praise and thanksgiving. I present to you my soul and body with the earnest wish that I may always be united to you, and, since I cannot now receive you sacramentally, I beseech you to come spiritually into my heart. I unite myself with you and embrace you with all the love of my soul. Let nothing ever separate you from me. May I live in you, and may you live in me, both in this life and in the life to come. Amen.

POST-COMMUNION PRAYER

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

RECESSIONAL HYMN (*see following page*)



Unison

1 God, who stretched the span - gled hea - vens in - fi - nite in
 *2 Proud - ly rise our mod - ern ci - ties, state - ly build - ings,
 3 We have ven - tured worlds un - dreamed of since the child - hood
 4 As each far ho - ri - zon beck - ons, may it chal - lenge



time and place, flung the suns in burn - ing ra - diance
 row on row; yet their win - dows, blank, un - feel - ing,
 of our race; known the ec - sta - sy of wing - ing
 us a - new, chil - dren of cre - a - tive pur - pose,



through the si - lent fields of space: we, your chil - dren
 stare on can - yoned streets be - low, where the lone - ly
 through un - trav - eled realms of space; probed the se - crets
 serv - ing o - thers, hon - oring you. May our dreams prove



in your like - ness, share in - ven - tive powers with you;
 drift un - no - ticed in the ci - ty's ebb and flow,
 of the at - om, yield - ing un - im - ag - ined power,
 rich with prom - ise, each en - deav - or well be - gun:



Great Cre - a - tor, still cre - at - ing,
 lost to pur - pose and to mean - ing,
 fac - ing us with life's de - struc - tion
 Great Cre - a - tor, give us guid - ance



show us what we yet may do.
 scarce - ly car - ing where they go.
 or our most tri - um - phant hour.
 till our goals and yours are one.

Celebrant Alleluia, alleluia! Let us go forth in the Name of Christ.
People Thanks be to God. Alleluia, alleluia!