

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 increase.**

8 I lie down in peace; at once I fall asleep; **for only you, Lord, make me dwell in safety.**

THE GOSPEL

Luke 24:36b-48

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

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

Jesus himself stood among the disciples and said to them, "Peace be with you." They were startled and terrified, and thought that they were seeing a ghost. He said to them, "Why are you frightened, and why do doubts arise in your hearts? Look at my hands and my feet; see that it is I myself. Touch me and see; for a ghost does not have flesh and bones as you see that I have." And when he had said this, he showed them his hands and his feet. While in their joy they were disbelieving and still wondering, he said to them, "Have you anything here to eat?" They gave him a piece of broiled fish, and he took it and ate in their presence.

Then he said to them, "These are my words that I spoke to you while I was still with you—that everything written about me in the law of Moses, the prophets, and the psalms must be fulfilled." Then he opened their minds to understand the scriptures, and he said to them, "Thus it is written, that the Messiah is to suffer and to rise from the dead on the third day, and that repentance and forgiveness of sins is to be proclaimed in his name to all nations, beginning from Jerusalem. You are witnesses of these things.

Deacon The Gospel of the Lord.

People **Praise to you, Lord Christ.**

SERMON

"Dead Men Don't Eat Fish"

The Rev. Dr. Kate Heichler

PRAYER SONG

Alleluia, Alleluia

Hymnal 178

Alleluia, Alleluia, give thanks to the risen Lord, Alleluia, Alleluia, give praise to His Name.

Spread the good news o'er all the earth: Jesus has died and has risen. *Refrain*

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE *(Please stand or kneel.)*

Please respond to: Risen Lord Jesus with Hear our prayer.

Risen Lord Jesus, we give you thanks for new life, eternal life, which begins for us here and now in the season of Your Resurrection. We thank you for all gifts we name now, in silence or aloud ...

Risen Lord Jesus, **Hear our prayer.**

Risen Christ, we pray for Your Church, that all over the world we might bear your life to the world.

Bless our clergy leaders: our bishops, Mariann and Chilton; our clergy, Kate and Joan; and all believers.

Equip us to go and tell the Good News that you are risen from the dead.

Risen Lord Jesus, **Hear our prayer.**

Risen Lord, we pray for this world for which you lived and died and rose again, for your peace in all places torn by violence or terror or famine or disease or despair, especially places we name now...

Risen Lord Jesus, **Hear our prayer.**

We pray for our country and leaders, especially our president, Joe, and the leaders of our communities. Deliver us from complacency and show us where to participate in reconciliation and restoration.

Risen Lord Jesus, **Hear our prayer.**

Risen Jesus, your resurrection gives us confidence to pray for healing, as you remain active through your Spirit in the Church. In faith we invite your healing and wholeness for all those whom we know who are suffering in body, mind or spirit, especially those on our parish prayer list; and all others whom we name before you, in silence or aloud....

Risen Lord Jesus, **Hear our prayer.**

Risen Christ, we celebrate your victory over death itself, praying for those who have gone before us into eternal life, especially for... Even at the grave, we make our song: Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

Risen Lord Jesus, **Hear our prayer.**

THE PEACE (*Standing*)

Celebrant The peace of the Lord be always with you.

People **And also with you.**

The people exchange a sign of Christ's peace with their neighbors.

OFFERTORY HYMN

Now the green blade rises (*words on last page*)

Hymnal 204

You can make your offering online at <https://christchurchlaplata.org/donate/>

Or text "CCLAPLATA" to 73256, and follow the prompts.

THE HOLY MEAL

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

The people are invited to participate praying the words in bold type.

Celebrant The Lord be with you.

People **And also with you.**

Celebrant Lift up your hearts.

People **We lift them to the Lord.**

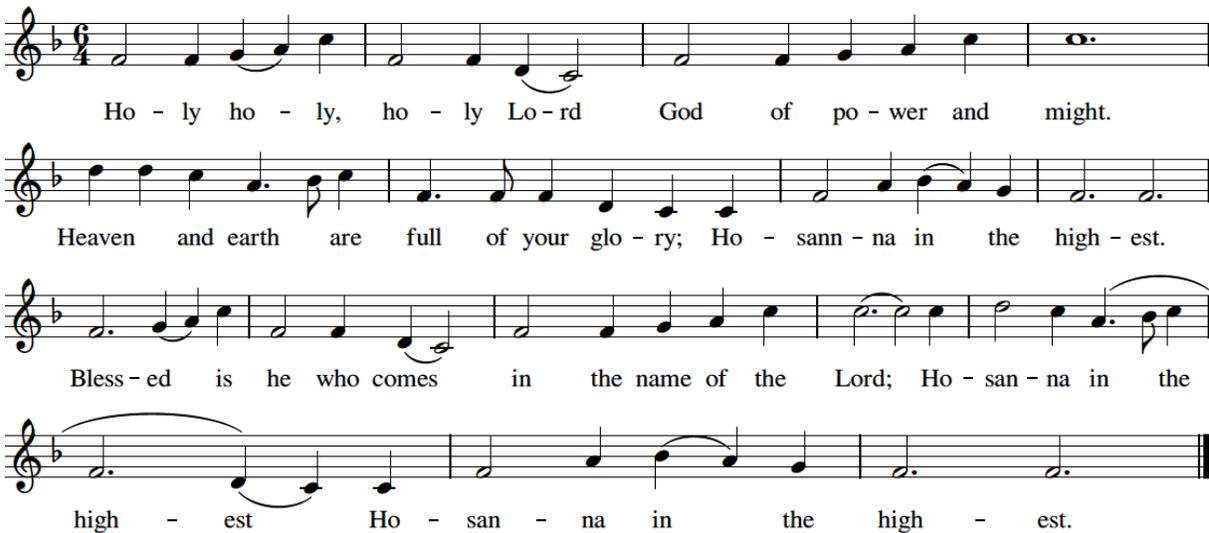
Celebrant Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People **It is right to give God thanks and praise.**

It is right, and a good and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth. 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, joining with Angels and Archangels and with the faithful of every generation, we lift our voices with all creation as we sing:

Holy, holy, holy (Sanctus)

Land of Rest



Ho - ly ho - ly, ho - ly Lo - rd God of po - wer and might.
Heaven and earth are full of your glo - ry; Ho - sann - na in the high - est.
Bless - ed is he who comes in the name of the Lord; Ho - san - na in the
high - est Ho - san - na in the high - est.

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 to remember 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 for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this to remember me.”

Therefore, according to his command, O Father,

We remember his death,

We proclaim his resurrection,

We await his coming in glory;

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 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.

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 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

Celebrant Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia! Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us.
People **Therefore let us keep the peace. Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!**

THE COMMUNION

Consecrated bread will be brought to all present in person; those worshipping at home are invited to partake of consecrated bread and wine at home tables.

COMMUNION MUSIC Was that you? vv 3,5. (*Words on last page*) Kate Heichler, 2011

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Almighty God, you are holy above all things in heaven and on earth, yet you have chosen to draw near to us, to give yourself to us in the mystery of the bread and wine, the body and blood of your most precious Son, our Lord, Jesus Christ. We thank you for the mystery of our redemption – for the tomb mysteriously empty, for your appearing to the disciples, unexpected, unrecognized, just as you appear to us in this food and drink.

You have strengthened us with heavenly food to do your work. Give us the courage to do as you command – to tell all we meet that Christ is alive! We pray in the name of the blessed Trinity, one God.
Amen

BLESSING

THE RECESSIONAL HYMN I come with joy, vv 1-3,5 Hymnal 304

DISMISSAL

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

POSTLUDE

THE PRAYERS

We Pray For: Those in need of healing – Alicia Cordelle, Steve Blamer, John MacCoy, Beverly Stone, Gary Murray, Susan White, Benji, Garner Burroughs, Andie Corby, Betty Bowling, Jane, Michelle, Duana Page.

Those Who Have Died:

Birthdays: Stewart Hobbs, 4/21; Vern Kordack, 4/22; Tim Pouring, 4/26

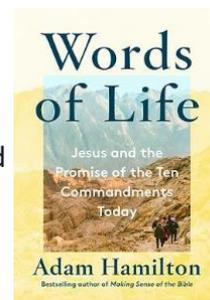
Anniversaries:

ANNOUNCEMENTS

BOOK STUDY AFTER EASTER: *Words of Life*, starting April 18

What if the Ten Commandments were not just a set of ancient rules, but a guide to experiencing the good life today?

Nearly everyone has heard of the Ten Commandments, the list of “thou-shalt-nots” found in the Bible. Jesus saw these commandments not as onerous burdens, but as guideposts to help us experience a good and beautiful life. These ten ancient “words” were given to us by a loving God who longed to set safe boundaries, create order out of chaos, help communities live peacefully, and protect us—often from ourselves. Barry Kercher will lead a study of this book in which bestselling author Adam Hamilton brings modern eyes to the most important set of ethics in history.



EASTER SPA FOR THE SPIRIT – Saturday, May 8, 9-12:30 online - Rev. Kate will lead a spring online retreat morning on Saturday, May 8, from 9-12:30. Like the natural world around us, we are in a season of emergence – from winter, from lock-down, from patterns that keep us bound. During this at-home retreat, we will explore where new life is emerging in us because Jesus emerged from death into life. Click [here](#) to register; link and info will be sent. *Download and share the flyer [here](#).*

PASTORAL CARE TRAINING - Do you feel called to bring God's love to people and situations full of pain? God may be inviting you to participate in our ministry of pastoral care. Deacon Joan will be offering a six-week course through our Diocesan School for Christian Faith and Leadership: Pastoral Care Training. Learn and practice basic and advanced skills of pastoral care from the Rev. Joan Crittenden. (Mondays at 6:30 - 8:00 p.m. EDT, beginning April 22; free) [Learn more and register](#).

SHARING OUR LIFE-SKILLS WITH YOUTH IN FOSTER CARE - The Charles County Dept of Social Services has invited us to create a program to build relationships and share life-skills with some of the most vulnerable adolescents in our community - teens in foster care and soon to age out. These young people need to know how to manage money, find and keep jobs and housing, eat economically and healthily, dress appropriately - skills that many of our kids learn naturally in our families. We can be extended family to these youths so they can emerge from the foster system productive, functional, grounded young adults - a win for the larger community as well as for the kids. Please let Rev. Kate know if you'd like to be a part of this as we build it - it will likely involve a monthly get-together, online at first. We will have an organizational meeting the week of April 25th.

TUTORING PROGRAM – We now have some children from the Charles County Public Schools seeking tutors – please volunteer a little time each week to work with a child in need. Tutoring will be done by Zoom, with support from our team. Please contact Deacon Joan if you’d like to learn more, or click [here](#) to register.

ONLINE GIVING - You can text a donation - text "CCLAPLATA" to 73256, and follow the prompts. You can give to Open Plate or toward your pledge. A 2.6% fee is charged for credit or debit cards - you'll have the option to include that in your gift or not. Standard text message rates do apply. You can also give online - go to www.christchurchlaplata.org and scroll down to the "Donate" link.

GIVING FUND – Please consider making a dedicated donation to the Giving Fund, from which Rev. Kate can offer help. You can write a check or give online at the donate page on our website, www.christchurchlaplata.org, or text “CCLAPLATA” to 73256, and follow the prompts, designating Giving Fund. You now have the option to make pledge offerings or donations online, or by text.

HYMNS

Opening Hymn – The day of resurrection

Hymnal 210

1 The day of resurrection! Earth, tell it out abroad;
the Passover of gladness, the Passover of God.
From death to life eternal,
From earth unto the sky,
Our Christ hath brought us over
With hymns of victory.

3 Now let the heavens be joyful, let earth her song begin,
the round world keep high triumph,
and all that is therein;
Let all things seen and unseen
their notes in gladness blend,
For Christ the Lord hath risen, our joy that hath no end

Offertory Hymn – Now the green blade rises

Hymnal 204

1 Now the green blade rises, from the buried grain,
Wheat that in dark earth many days has lain;
Love lives again, that with the dead has been:
Love is come again like wheat that springeth green.
2 In the grave they laid Him, Love who had been slain,
Thinking that He never would awake again,
Laid in the earth like grain that sleeps unseen:
Love is come again like wheat that springeth green.

3 Forth He came at Easter, like the risen grain,
Jesus who for three days in the grave had lain;
Quick from the dead the risen One is seen:
Love is come again like wheat that springeth green.
4 When our hearts are wintry, grieving, or in pain,
Thy touch can call us back to life again,
Fields of our hearts that dead and bare have been:
Love is come again like wheat that springeth green

Communion - Was that you?

3 Met a stranger last night, just outside of town
He didn't seem to understand why we were so cast down
But he sure did know where God had been, and he stayed with us to eat;
When he broke the bread and blessed it, the picture came complete:
Was that you coming close when I didn't have a prayer?
Was that you giving me hope when it was getting hard to care?
Was that you forgiving more than I could ever understand?
Don't know why it always takes a while for me to open up my eyes and see:
That was you, walking next to me.

5 So where did you last see him, where he wasn't supposed to be?
He told us he'd be with the poor, the lost, the last, the least ...
He said that we would know him in Word and bread and wine;
He promised to be with us, now – and to the end of time.
Is that you announcing peace to me when storms rage in my head?
Is that you releasing power in me, the power that raised the dead?
Is that you, loving me more than I could ever understand?
Don't know why it always takes a while for me to open up my eyes and see:
That it's you, always next to me. Jesus, you, right here, next to me.

Closing Hymn – I come with joy

Hymnal 304

1 I come with joy to meet my Lord,
Forgiven, loved, and free
In awe and wonder to recall,
His life laid down for me.
3 As Christ breaks bread, and bids us share
Each proud division ends.
The love that made us, makes us one,
And strangers now are friends.

2 I come with Christians far and near
To find, as all are fed,
The new community of love
In Christ's communion bread.
5 Together met, together bound,
We'll go our different ways
And as his people in the world,
We'll live and speak his praise.

Offertory Hymn – Open the eyes of my heart

Open the eyes of my heart, Lord, Open the eyes of my heart; I want to see You; I want to see You.

Repeat

To see You high and lifted up, shining in the light of Your glory;

Pour out Your power and love as we sing holy, holy, holy

Repeat verse and refrain

Bridge

Holy, holy, holy; We cry holy, holy, holy

You are holy, holy, holy; I want to see you