

# ST. MARGARET OF SCOTLAND ANGLICAN CHURCH

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*Sunday, April 4<sup>th</sup>, 2021*

|                              |                     |                |
|------------------------------|---------------------|----------------|
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| Flower Chancel               | Sharon Zacchigna    | (705) 252-0731 |
| Music Directors              | Gayle Haley         | (705) 728-3859 |
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| Audio/Visual                 | David Paradis       |                |

# EASTER SUNDAY SERVICE

April 4, 2021

11:00 a.m. Morning Prayer

## OPENING HYMN

Celebrant: Alleluia! Christ is risen.

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

Celebrant: Praise the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ.

**People: He gave us new life and hope by raising Jesus from the dead.**

Celebrant: Rejoice, then, even in your distress.

**People: We shall be counted worthy when Christ appears.**

Celebrant: God has claimed us as his own.

**People: He called us from our darkness into the light of his day.**

Celebrant: Alleluia! Christ is risen.

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

*Christ our Passover has been sacrificed for us; therefore let us keep the feast. 1 Corinthians 5.7–8*

## VENITE

### *Psalm 95.1–7*

Reader: Come, let us sing to the Lord;

**People: let us shout for joy to the rock of our salvation.**

Reader: Let us come before his presence with thanksgiving

**People: and raise a loud shout to him with psalms.**

Reader: For the Lord is a great God,

**People: and a great king above all gods.**

Reader: In his hand are the caverns of the earth,

**People: and the heights of the hills are his also.**

Reader: The sea is his for he made it,

**People: and his hands have moulded the dry land.**

Reader: Come, let us bow down, and bend the knee,

**People: and kneel before the Lord our maker.**

Reader: For he is our God and we are the people of his pasture and the sheep of his hand.

**People: Oh, that today you would hearken to his voice!**

## THE PSALMS

### Psalm 118:1-2, 14-24

O give thanks to the LORD, for he is good; his steadfast love endures forever!

Let Israel say, "His steadfast love endures forever."

The LORD is my strength and my might; he has become my salvation.

There are glad songs of victory in the tents of the righteous: "The right hand of the LORD does valiantly; the right hand of the LORD is exalted; the right hand of the LORD does valiantly."

I shall not die, but I shall live, and recount the deeds of the LORD.

The LORD has punished me severely, but he did not give me over to death.

Open to me the gates of righteousness, that I may enter through them and give thanks to the LORD.

This is the gate of the LORD; the righteous shall enter through it.

I thank you that you have answered me and have become my salvation.

The stone that the builders rejected has become the chief cornerstone.

This is the Lord's doing; it is marvelous in our eyes.

This is the day that the LORD has made; let us rejoice and be glad in it.

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.

**People:        Amen.**

## THE PROCLAMATION OF THE WORD

### The Readings

#### A READING FROM THE BOOK OF ISAIAH 25:6-9

On this mountain the LORD of hosts will make for all peoples a feast of rich food, a feast of well-aged wines, of rich food filled with marrow, of well-aged wines strained clear. And he will destroy on this mountain the shroud that is cast over all peoples, the sheet that is spread over all nations; he will swallow up death forever. Then the Lord GOD will wipe away the tears from all faces, and the disgrace of his people he will take away from all the earth, for the LORD has spoken. It will be said on that day, Lo, this is our God; we have waited for him, so that he might save us. This is the LORD for whom we have waited; let us be glad and rejoice in his salvation.

The word of the Lord.

**People:        Thanks be to God.**

## A READING FROM THE FIRST BOOK OF CORINTHIANS 15:1-11

Now 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.

The word of the Lord.

**People: Thanks be to God.**

## THE HOLY GOSPEL OF OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST ACCORDING TO JOHN (20:1-18)

**People: Glory to you, Lord Jesus 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. 8 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.

The Gospel of Christ.

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

## REFLECTION

**This is the day that the LORD has made**

Psalm 118:1-2, 14-24; Isaiah 25:6-9; Acts 10:34-43, John 20:1-18)

If the Psalm for this Easter morning looks familiar it is because we used it last Sunday for Palm Sunday. As I said last Sunday, the opening verse of Psalm 118 calls on us to “give thanks to the Lord”. Why? Because God is good and God’s “steadfast love endures forever.” The phrase “steadfast love” is a single word in Hebrew – *hesed* – which carries the idea God’s love is consistent, never failing and always present. This in essence becomes the repeated refrain of the Psalm and the central idea that gives the Psalm structure as each key player – Israel, priests and God-fearers – are invited into the act of worship or liturgy in the Psalm is imbedded. In the Hebrew tradition the Psalm is used as the final Psalm for a group of Psalms known as the Egyptian Hallel that runs from Psalm 113 and concludes with Psalm 118 that draws a set of themes together in a final act of praise by neatly stitched them with the central thread of *helel* – God’s steadfast love. But the final culmination of worship ends with Psalm 118:24 “This is the day that the LORD has made; let us rejoice and be glad in it.”

In the Easter reading of Psalm 118 vs. 17 then becomes a central point of focus around which the Psalm rotates or pivots, “I shall not die, but I shall live, and recount the deeds of the LORD.” It carries a weight to it that suggests that not only did God rescue me from those who would seek me harm, but that God brought me back from the very brink of death. It is not just an act of rescue, but a complete reversal of the normal course of human events.

Psalm 118 not only finds its place in the Christian liturgical year on Palm Sunday, but on Easter Sunday and every Sunday as a mini-Easter. The early church moved its worshipping life from Saturday to Sunday because it was the day of the Lord’s resurrection – the completion of the saving work of God. Salvation is incomplete with the Passion of Christ but is made complete with the resurrection. Salvation is incomplete with the resolve of sin but is made complete in the offer of new life.

This sets a pattern throughout Christian theology and practice. Forgiveness is incomplete with the pardon of wrong but is made complete in reconciliation. Which is why the confession is not just about the wrong I do, but also about the right I fail to do. Healing is incomplete in dealing with an ailment but made complete when it is wholistic. A sacrament is incomplete when it is about holiness but is made complete when it is imbedded in love/compassion/grace. Just as Christian ethics are incomplete when moral choices are about holiness but are made complete when they are about love. Each of these are signs of the resurrection – the idea that the Passion of Christ only truly makes sense on Easter Sunday.

That sense of completion in the resurrection is why Paul, in 1 Corinthians 15, “If Christ has not been raised, your faith is futile and you are still in your sins. Then those also who have died in Christ have perished. If for this life only we have hoped in Christ, we are of all people most to be pitied.” It is why the early church used the term “sleep” for death because it was seen as a transition between one stage of our resurrected life that led into the next.

As we celebrate this Easter morning, my hope and prayer is that we can say “This is the day the Lord has made”, because we recognise that God is at work in our lives offering us a renewed hope, a renewed faith and a renewed life. As we have journeyed through holy week and – like our baptism – passed from death into new life with Christ, may we reaffirm our faith as a resurrected people.

People: **Amen**

**HYMN**

## AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

### The Nicene Creed

Celebrant: Let us confess our faith, as we say,

**People: 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.**

**I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father.**

**With the Father and the Son he is worshipped 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.**

## INTERCESSIONS AND THANKSGIVINGS

### 15 Easter

(In joy and hope let us pray to the source of all life, saying, "Hear us, Lord of glory!")

Celebrant: That our risen Saviour may fill us with the joy of his holy and life-giving resurrection, let us pray to the Lord.

**People: Hear us, Lord of glory!**

Celebrant: That isolated and persecuted churches may find fresh strength in the Easter gospel, let us pray to the Lord.

**People: Hear us, Lord of glory!**

Celebrant: That he may grant us humility to be subject to one another in Christian love, let us pray to the Lord.

**People: Hear us, Lord of glory!**

Celebrant: That he may provide for those who lack food, work, or shelter, let us pray to the Lord.

**People: Hear us, Lord of glory!**

Celebrant: That by his power wars and famine may cease through all the earth, let us pray to the Lord.

**People: Hear us, Lord of glory!**

Celebrant: That he may reveal the light of his presence to the sick, the weak, and the dying, that they may be comforted and strengthened, let us pray to the Lord.

**People: Hear us, Lord of glory!**

Celebrant: That he may send the fire of the Holy Spirit upon his people, that we may bear faithful witness to his resurrection, let us pray to the Lord.

**People: Hear us, Lord of glory!**

### **The Collect**

Lord of life and power, through the mighty resurrection of your Son, you have overcome the old order of sin and death and have made all things new in him. May we, being dead to sin and alive to you in Jesus Christ, reign with him in glory, who with you and the Holy Spirit is alive, one God, now and for ever.

**People: Amen.**

### **The Lord's Prayer**

Celebrant: And now, as our Saviour Christ has taught us, we are bold to say,

**People: 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, the power, and the glory, for ever and ever. Amen.**

### **DISMISSAL**

Celebrant: Let us bless the Lord.

**People: Thanks be to God.**

### **NOTICES**

### **BLESSING:**

Celebrant: The Lord bless us and keep us. The Lord make his face shine on us and be gracious to us. The Lord look upon us with favour and grant us peace.

**People: Amen.**

### **Closing Hymn**

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**Assisting Rev. Simon today:**

Celebrant/Preacher: The Rev. Simon Bell  
Readers: Beth Steffler, Laura Johnston  
Video: Simon Bell/David Paradis

**This morning in our worship we remember in our prayers those of our family and friends who have immediate needs and concerns:**

Amy Pauley & Family; Wendy; Adara; All our St. Margaret Families during this Holy Week; Jean Glionna; Sarah & Dee; Kaus; Brenda Jessem; Shirley; Bobby Paradis & Family; Margaret & David Paradis; Marg Thomas & Family; Lyon's Family; Jodine; Lynda Raye; Frank Kilravey; Rhonda; Sherrie O.; Jane Tutty; Edison's Family & his Teacher who has Covid; Bill and Ann Canning; Tanya North; Brenda & Brian; Derek; Theresa & Pete; Jaxon Croft; Ron & Jane Lewis; Michelle & Ian Sinclair; Sean; Kevin H.; Sophia L; Amanda Stewart; Kathryn;

**The names below are people in need of ongoing prayers for various reasons so we ask you to please continue to pray for them and their continuing need of God's healing touch and grace:**

Marilyn Foley; Kadeem Broomes; Diane M.; Bill Snow; Deborah Hall; Owen; Mark & Winnie; Staff and Residence at Roberta Place; Brian W.; Cecilia Mowat; Jen Galicinski; Sheri Scott; Arlene; Joan Gough; Lorraine W; Stephanie; Fr. Murray; Marg Abbott; Livia & Neil Purcell; Jordan; Margie Mills; Eunice Merrett; Jean Wallace; Nancy Dodds; Lee & Jeannie Martin; Bill & Cathy Gray; Wendy Goodyer; Michelle & Ian Sinclair; Donna Wilson; Garn Mennell; Margaret & Gordon Kennedy; Paul & Rose McIntyre; Jim Tomkins; Do Saunders; Jefferson Jr.; June Osolin; Martin & Stephen Bertelsen; Tanya Wade-Vargas.

**In the Anglican Cycle of Prayer we pray for:**

The peace of Jerusalem.

**In the Toronto Diocesan Cycle of Prayer we pray for:**

Holy Week.