



The Season of Easter
The Holy Eucharist: Rite Two
8:45 am

Opening Song Hear All Creation

Opening Acclamation

Alleluia. Christ is risen.

The Lord is risen indeed. Alleluia.

The Collect of the Day

Almighty God, whom truly to know is everlasting life: Grant us so perfectly to know your Son Jesus Christ to be the way, the truth, and the life, that we may steadfastly follow his steps in the way that leads to eternal life; through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord, who lives and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

The Lessons

The First Reading — Acts 11:1-18

Now the apostles and the believers who were in Judea heard that the Gentiles had also accepted the word of God. So when Peter went up to Jerusalem, the circumcised believers criticized him, saying, "Why did you go to uncircumcised men and eat with them?" Then Peter began to explain it to them, step by step, saying, "I was in the city of Joppa praying, and in a trance I saw a vision. There was something like a large sheet coming down from heaven, being lowered by its four corners; and it came close to me. As I looked at it closely I saw four-footed animals, beasts of prey, reptiles, and birds of the air. I also heard a voice saying to me, 'Get up, Peter; kill and eat.' But I replied, 'By no means, Lord; for nothing profane or unclean has ever entered my mouth.' But a second time the voice answered from heaven, 'What God has made clean, you must not call profane.' This happened three times; then everything was pulled up again to heaven. At that very moment three men, sent to me from Caesarea, arrived at the house where we were. The Spirit told me to go with them and not to make a distinction between them and us. These six brothers also accompanied me, and we entered the man's house. He told us how he had seen the angel standing in his house and saying, 'Send to Joppa and bring Simon, who is called Peter; he will give you a message by which you and your entire household will be saved.' And as I began to speak, the Holy Spirit fell upon them just as it had upon us at the beginning. And I remembered the word of the Lord, how he had said, 'John baptized with water, but you will be baptized with the Holy Spirit.' If then God gave them the same gift that he gave us when we believed in the Lord Jesus Christ, who was I that I could hinder God?" When they heard this, they were silenced. And they praised God, saying, "Then God has given even to the Gentiles the repentance that leads to life." The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

Psalm 148

1 Hallelujah! Praise the Lord from the heavens; * praise him in the heights.

2 Praise him, all you angels of his; * praise him, all his host.

3 Praise him, sun and moon; * praise him, all you shining stars.

4 Praise him, heaven of heavens, * and you waters above the heavens.

5 Let them praise the Name of the Lord; * for he commanded, and they were created.

6 He made them stand fast for ever and ever; * he gave them a law which shall not pass away.

7 Praise the Lord from the earth, * you sea-monsters and all deeps;

8 Fire and hail, snow and fog, * tempestuous wind, doing his will;

9 Mountains and all hills, * fruit trees and all cedars;

10 Wild beasts and all cattle, * creeping things and winged birds;

11 Kings of the earth and all peoples, * princes and all rulers of the world;

12 Young men and maidens, * old and young together.

13 Let them praise the Name of the Lord, * for his Name only is exalted, his splendor is over earth and heaven.

14 He has raised up strength for his people and praise for all his loyal servants, * the children of Israel, a people who are near him. Hallelujah!

The Second Reading — Revelation 21:1-6

I saw a new heaven and a new earth; for the first heaven and the first earth had passed away, and the sea was no more. And I saw the holy city, the new Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God, prepared as a bride adorned for her husband. And I heard a loud voice from the throne saying, "See, the home of God is among mortals. He will dwell with them as their God; they will be his peoples, and God himself will be with them; he will wipe every tear from their eyes. Death will be no more; mourning and crying and pain will be no more, for the first things have passed away." And the one who was seated on the throne said, "See, I am making all things new." Also he said, "Write this, for these words are trustworthy and true." Then he said to me, "It is done! I am the Alpha and the Omega, the beginning and the end. To the thirsty I will give water as a gift from the spring of the water of life." The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

Gospel Song Seek Ye First

The Gospel — John 13:31-35

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

Glory to you, Lord Christ.

At the last supper, when Judas had gone out, Jesus said, "Now the Son of Man has been glorified, and God has been glorified in him. If God has been glorified in him, God will also glorify him in himself and will glorify him at once. Little children, I am with you only a little longer. You will look for me; and as I said to the Jews so now I say to you, 'Where I am going, you cannot come.' I give you a new commandment, that you love one another. Just as I have

loved you, you also should love one another. By this everyone will know that you are my disciples, if you have love for one another.” The Gospel of the Lord. **Praise to you, Lord Christ.**

Children’s Sermon

Homily

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 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

Father, 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.

Almighty and eternal God, ruler of all things in heaven and earth: Mercifully accept the prayers of your people, and strengthen us to do your will; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

The Peace

Community Announcements

Offertory Song Oceans

The Holy Communion

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 indeed right, our duty and our joy, at all times and in all places to give you thanks and praise, holy Father, heavenly King, almighty and eternal God, through Jesus Christ our Lord. And now we give you thanks because in his victory over the grave a new age has dawned, the long reign of sin is ended, a broken world is being renewed and humanity is once again made whole.

Therefore we praise you, joining with angels and archangels and all the company of heaven who forever sing this hymn to proclaim the glory of your name:

**Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might, heav'n and earth are full of your glory.
Hosanna in the highest. Blessed, blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna, Hosanna, Hosanna in the highest.**

Lord God, you are the most holy one, enthroned in splendor and light, yet in the coming of your Son Jesus Christ you reveal the power of your love made perfect in our human weakness.

Embracing our humanity, Jesus showed us the way of salvation; loving us to the end, he gave himself to death for us; dying for his own, he set us free from the bonds of sin, that we might rise and reign with him in glory.

On the night he gave himself up for us all he took bread and gave you thanks; he broke it and gave it to his disciples, saying: Take, eat; this is my body which is given for you; do this in remembrance of me.

In the same way, after supper he took the cup and gave you thanks; and he gave it to them, saying: 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.

Therefore let us say together: **we proclaim the death that he suffered on the cross; we celebrate his resurrection, his bursting from the tomb; we rejoice that he reigns at your right hand on high; and we long for his coming in glory.**

As we recall the one, perfect sacrifice of our redemption, Father, by your Holy Spirit let these gifts of your creation be to us the body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ; form us into the likeness of Christ and make us a perfect offering in your sight. By Christ, and with Christ and in Christ, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, all honor and glory is yours, now and forever. **Amen.**

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

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.

Breaking of the Bread

Alleluia! Christ our passover is sacrificed for us! **Therefore, let us keep the feast! Alleluia!**

The Gifts of God for the People of God. Take them in remembrance that Christ died for you, and feed on him in your hearts by faith, with thanksgiving.

Communion Song Remembrance

Prayer after Communion

Eternal God, heavenly Father, you have graciously accepted us as living members of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ, and you have fed us with spiritual food in the Sacrament of his Body and Blood. Send us now into the world in peace, and grant us strength and courage to love and serve you with gladness and singleness of heart; through Christ our Lord. Amen.

Easter Blessing

May God the Father,
by whose love Christ was raised from the dead,
open to you who believe the gates of everlasting life.

May God the Son,
who in bursting from the grave has won a glorious victory,
give you joy as you share the Easter faith.

May God the Holy Spirit,
who filled the disciples with the life of the risen Lord,
empower you and fill you with Christ's peace.

And may the blessing of God Almighty, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit
be with you now and remain with you always. **Amen.**

Closing Song You Are Worthy of My Praise

Dismissal

Let us go forth into the world, rejoicing in the power of the Spirit. Alleluia, alleluia.

Thanks be to God. Alleluia! Alleluia!

See next page for announcements.

Weekly Announcements

HONORING OUR GRADUATING HS SENIORS

We'd like to honor our seniors on **Sunday, May 22** at the **8:45am service**. If you are or have (a) graduating senior(s), please send us a **photo with their name, school, and plans for next year** to office@stmarkssouthborough.org **by Friday, May 13**. We'll include them in the weekly email and announcement sheet.

PARISH PICNIC ON PENTECOST SUNDAY, JUNE 5!

Come to the St. Mark's Church Picnic on **Sunday, June 5, after the 10 am service** (only one service on June 5). Come for food, fellowship and fun! We provide the burgers, hotdogs, buns, paper and plastic items. Bring a side dish. If your last name begins with: **A-I: Salad; J-N: Appetizers/Finger Foods; O-Z: Dessert, Drinks**

TWO YOUTH MISSION TRIP CHAPERONES NEEDED

We are seeking **one female** and **one male** adult chaperone to join our team for this summer's youth mission trip to Niagara Falls, **July 3-8**. Please contact Melissa LaBelle, tobeslabelle@mac.com, if you are willing/able to serve in this important role with our youth.

M & M CANDY FUNDRAISER

We hope that you enjoyed your mini M & M candies as an Easter treat. We would be so grateful to receive back any plastic candy tubes with a cash or check donation inside toward the expenses of the summer youth mission trip to Niagara Falls, NY. You can drop your donation off at the church office during office hours or put your candy tube donation in the offering plate at church services. Thanks for supporting our efforts to serve God and our neighbors!

MAY OPEN PLATE PARTNER

Our **Open Plate partner for May is Habitat for Humanity MetroWest/Greater Worcester**. "Through shelter, we empower." For more information, visit <https://www.habitatmwgw.org/>.

St. Mark's Episcopal Church: 27 Main Street, Southborough, MA 01772

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Clergy and Staff: The Rev. Philip N. LaBelle, Rector; James Wallace, Organist and Choirmaster; Ropi Junior, Praise Worship Leader; Melissa LaBelle, Youth Director; Christiann Kelley, Director of Christian Education; Jane Lesniewski and Meridith St. George, Assistant Directors of Christian Education; Anne Miller, Parish Manager; Noah LaBelle, Sexton

Vestry: John Cook; Bob Foster; Owen Hart; Dean Lamsa; Elise Morgan; Liz Murray; Erin Overstreet; Anna Pelliccio; Brenda Quinn, Jr. Warden; Kristin Romine, Clerk; Matt Spencer, Treasurer; Patrick Taylor; and Mark Weiler, Sr. Warden