



# SAINT STEPHEN'S CHURCH

PROVIDENCE, RHODE ISLAND

THE THIRD SUNDAY OF EASTER

14 April 2024

SOLEMN MASS

*Communion Service in F*

Herbert Sumsion (1899–1995)

## THE OPENING RITE

*¶ Hymns can be found in the blue hymnals in front of you in the pew rack.*

VOLUNTARY

*Mors et Resurrectio*

Jean Langlais (1907–1991)

HYMN 212 *¶ Sung by all, standing.*

RICHMOND

VIDI AQUAM

MODE VIII

*¶ The congregation is sprinkled with holy water as a reminder of their baptism.*

**I** saw water, proceeding out of the temple, from the right side thereof, alleluia:  
and all they to who that water came were healed, and shall say, alleluia, alleluia.

*℣.* O Lord, show thy mercy upon us, alleluia.

*℟.* **And grant us thy salvation, alleluia.**

*℣.* O Lord, hear my prayer.

*℟.* **And let my cry come unto thee.**

*℣.* The Lord be with you.

*℟.* **And with thy spirit.**

Let us pray.

**G**raciously hear us, O Lord, Holy Father Almighty, Everlasting God: and may  
it please Thee to send thy holy Angel from heaven to guard and cherish, to  
protect and visit, and to defend all who dwell in this thy holy habitation. Through  
Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

INTROIT *Jubilate Deo*

TONE VII

**O** be joyful in God, all ye lands, alleluia; sing praises unto the honor of his  
Name, alleluia: make his praise to be exceeding glorious, alleluia, alleluia,

alleluia. *Ps.* Say unto God, O how wonderful art thou in thy works, O LORD: through the greatness of thy power. Glory be &c. O be joyful in God &c.

**KYRIE ELEISON** *¶ Sung by the choir.*

**K**yrie eleison.  
Christe eleison.  
Kyrie eleison.

*Lord, have mercy upon us.*  
*Christ, have mercy upon us.*  
*Lord, have mercy upon us.*

**GLORIA IN EXCELSIS** *¶ Sung by the choir.*

**G**lory be to God on high, and on earth peace, good will towards men. We praise thee, we bless thee, we worship thee, we glorify thee, we give thanks to thee for thy great glory, O Lord God, heavenly King, God the Father Almighty. O Lord, the only-begotten Son, Jesus Christ; O Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Father, that takest away the sins of the world, have mercy upon us. Thou that takest away the sins of the world, receive our prayer. Thou that sittest at the right hand of God the Father, have mercy upon us. For thou only art holy; thou only art the Lord; thou only, O Christ, with the Holy Ghost, art most high ✠ in the glory of God the Father. Amen.

**COLLECT OF THE DAY**

*Celebrant* The Lord be with you.

*People* **And with thy spirit.**

*Celebrant* Let us pray.

**O** God, whose blessed Son did manifest himself to his disciples in the breaking of bread: Open, we pray thee, the eyes of our faith, that we may behold him in all his redeeming work; through the same thy Son Jesus Christ our Lord, who liveth and reigneth with thee, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

**THE LITURGY OF THE WORD**

*¶ Please be seated.*

**THE FIRST LESSON**

*Acts 4:5–12*

**O**n the morning of the day after Peter and John healed the man lame from birth, the rulers and elders and scribes were gathered together in Jerusalem, with Annas the high priest and Ca'iaphas and John and Alexander, and all who were of the high-priestly family. And when they had set them in the midst, they inquired, "By what power or by what name did you do this?" Then Peter, filled with the Holy Spirit, said to them, "Rulers of the people and elders, if we are being examined today concerning a good deed done to a cripple, by what means this man has been healed, be it known to you all, and to all the people of Israel, that by

the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth, whom you crucified, whom God raised from the dead, by him this man is standing before you well. This is the stone which was rejected by you builders, but which has become the head of the corner. And there is salvation in no one else, for there is no other name under heaven given among men by which we must be saved.”

*Reader* The Word of the Lord.

*People* **Thanks be to God.**

**PSALM 98:1-5** *Cantate Domino*

J. Marcus Ritchie (1946-1989)

**O** sing unto the LORD a new song :  
for he hath done marvellous things.  
With his own right hand, and with his holy arm :  
hath he gotten himself the victory.  
The LORD declared his salvation :  
his righteousness hath he openly shewed in the sight of the heathen.  
He hath remembered his mercy and truth toward the house of Israel :  
and all the ends of the world have seen the salvation of our God.  
Shew yourselves joyful unto the LORD, all ye lands : sing, rejoice, and give thanks.

**THE EPISTLE**

*1 John 1:1-2:2*

**T**hat which was from the beginning, which we have heard, which we have seen with our eyes, which we have looked upon and touched with our hands, concerning the word of life -- the life was made manifest, and we saw it, and testify to it, and proclaim to you the eternal life which was with the Father and was made manifest to us -- that which we have seen and heard we proclaim also to you, so that you may have fellowship with us; and our fellowship is with the Father and with his Son Jesus Christ. And we are writing this that our joy may be complete. This is the message we have heard from him and proclaim to you, that God is light and in him is no darkness at all. If we say we have fellowship with him while we walk in darkness, we lie and do not live according to the truth; but if we walk in the light, as he is in the light, we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus his Son cleanses us from all sin. If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just, and will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness. If we say we have not sinned, we make him a liar, and his word is not in us. My little children, I am writing this to you so that you may not sin; but if any one does sin, we have an advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ the righteous; and he is the expiation for our sins, and not for ours only but also for the sins of the whole world.

*Subdeacon* The Word of the Lord.

*People* **Thanks be to God.**

*♩ Intoned by the cantor, then sung by all*



✠ The disciples knew the Lord Jesus: in the breaking of the bread.  
 ✠ **Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.**

**THE HOLY GOSPEL**

*Luke 24:36-48*

*Deacon* The Lord be with you.

*People* **And with thy spirit.**

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

*People* **Glory be to thee, O Lord.**

**W**hile the disciples were telling how they had seen Jesus risen from the dead, Jesus himself stood among them. But they were startled and frightened, and supposed that they saw a spirit. And he said to them, “Why are you troubled, and why do questionings rise in your hearts? See my hands and my feet, that it is I myself; handle me, and see; for a spirit has not flesh and bones as you see that I have.” And while they still disbelieved for joy, and wondered, he said to them, “Have you anything here to eat?” They gave him a piece of broiled fish, and he took it and ate before them. Then he said to them, “These are my words which I spoke to you, while I was still with you, that everything written about me in the law of Moses and the prophets and the psalms must be fulfilled.” Then he opened their minds to understand the scriptures, and said to them, “Thus it is written, that the Christ should suffer and on the third day rise from the dead, and that repentance and forgiveness of sins should be preached in his name to all nations, beginning from Jerusalem. You are witnesses of these things.”

*Deacon* The Gospel of the Lord.

*People* **Praise be to thee, O Christ.**

**SERMON**

*The Rev'd Fr. Benjamin Straley*

# THE NICENE CREED *g Sung by all, standing*

I be-lieve in one God, the Fa-ther Al-migh-ty, ma-ker of hea-ven and earth,  
and of all things vi - si-ble and in - vi - si-ble; And in One Lord Je - sus Christ,  
the on-ly-be-got-ten Son of God; be-got-ten of his Fa-ther be-fore all worlds, God of God,  
Light of Light, ver - y God of ver - y God, be - got - ten, not made,  
be - ing of one sub-stance with the Fa - ther; by whom all things were made;  
who for us men and for our sal - va - tion came down from hea - ven,  
*here genuflect or bow*  
and was in - car-nate by the Ho - ly Ghost of the Vir-gin Ma - ry, and was made man;  
*here rise*  
and was cru - ci - fi - ed al - so for us un - der Pon-tius Pi - late;  
he suf-fer-ed and was bur - i - ed; and the third day he rose a-gain ac-cord-ing to the Scrip-tures,  
and as-cend-ed in - to hea - ven, and sit-teth on the right hand of the Fa - ther;  
and he shall come a - gain with glo - ry, to judge both the quick and the dead;  
whose king-dom shall have no end. And I be-lieve in the Ho - ly Ghost the Lord,  
and Giv-er of Life, who pro-ceed-eth from the Fa-ther and the Son; who with the Fa-ther  
and the Son to-gether is wor-ship-ped and glo-ri - fi - ed; who spake by the Pro - phets.

And I be - lieve one ho - ly Cath - o - lic and A - pos - tol - ic Church;  
 I ac - know - ledge one Bap - tism for the re - mis - sion of sins;  
 and I look for the re - sur - rec - tion of the dead, and the life of the world to come.  
 A - men.

## PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

### *Deacon*

In joy and hope let us pray to the Lord.

That our risen Savior may fill us with the joy of his glorious and life-giving resurrection, we pray to the Lord.

**Lord, hear our prayer.**

That God may grant us humility to be subject to one another in Christian love, we pray to the Lord.

**Lord, hear our prayer.**

That by his power war and famine may cease through all the world, we pray to the Lord.

**Lord, hear our prayer.**

That he may reveal the light of his presence to the sick, the weak and the dying, to comfort and strengthen them, we pray to the Lord.

**Lord, hear our prayer.**

That, according to his promises, all who have died ✠ in the faith of the resurrection may be raised on the last day, we pray to the Lord.

**Lord, hear our prayer.**

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

**Lord, hear our prayer.**

### *Celebrant*

**O** God, the living God, who has given unto us a living hope by the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead: Grant that we, being risen with him, may seek the things which are above, and be made partakers of the life eternal; through the same Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

## THE PEACE

*Celebrant* The Peace of the Lord be always with you.

*People* **And with thy spirit.**

*¶ Announcements may be made. The people are seated for the Offertory.*

## THE LITURGY OF THE EUCHARIST

OFFERTORY ANTIPHON *Lauda, anima mea*

TONE II

**P**raise the LORD, O my soul; while I live will I praise the LORD: yea, as long as I have any being, I will sing praises unto my God, alleluia.

*¶ At the Offertory, we gratefully offer back to God a portion of what God has given us, symbolically in the bread and wine, and in the money we give. To make an electronic gift today, please either visit [sstephens.org/donate](https://sstephens.org/donate) or scan the QR code with your smart phone's camera.*



AT THE OFFERTORY

Orlando Gibbons (1583–1625)

**I**f ye be risen again with Christ, seek those things which are above, where Christ sitteth on the right hand of God. Set your affection on heavenly things, and not on earthly things. For ye are dead, and your life is hid with Christ in God. Whensoever Christ, which is our life, shall show himself, then shall we also appear with him in glory.

*¶ All stand for the hymn as the offering is brought forward and the gifts, altar, & people are censed.*

HYMN 208 *¶ Sung by all*

VICTORY

ORATE, FRATRES

*Celebrant* Pray, brothers and sisters, that this my sacrifice and yours may be acceptable to God the Father Almighty.

*People* **May the Lord receive this sacrifice at thy hands, to the praise and glory of his Name, both to our benefit and that of all his holy Church.**

SURSUM CORDA

*Celebrant* The Lord be with you.

*People* **And with thy spirit.**

*Celebrant* Lift up your hearts.

*People* **We lift them up unto the Lord.**

*Celebrant* Let us give thanks unto our Lord God.

*People* **It is meet and right so to do.**

**I**t is very meet, right, and our bounden duty, to glorify thee, O Father, and to give thanks unto thee, for thou alone art God, living and true, dwelling in light inaccessible from before all time and for ever. Fountain of life and Source of all goodness, thou hast made all things and didst fill them with thy blessing, creating them to rejoice in the splendor of thy radiance. Countless throngs of angels stand before thee to serve thee night and day; and, beholding the glory of thy presence, they offer thee unceasing praise. Joining with them, and giving voice to every creature under heaven, we praise thee, and glorify thy Name, saying,

#### SANCTUS ET BENEDICTUS

**H**oly, holy, holy, Lord God of Hosts: Heaven and earth are full of thy Glory. Glory be to thee, O Lord Most High. Blessed ✠ is he that cometh in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.

#### EUCHARISTIC PRAYER *g All kneel.*

**W**E ACCLAIM THEE, HOLY LORD, glorious in power, whose mighty works reveal thy wisdom and love. Thou hast formed us in thine own image, giving the whole world into our care, that in obedience unto thee, our Maker, we might rule and serve all thy creatures. When our disobedience took us far from thee, thou didst not abandon us to the power of death, but in thy mercy thou didst come to our help, that in seeking thee we might find thee. Again and again thou didst call us into covenant with thee, and through the prophets thou didst teach us to hope for salvation.

Thou didst so love the world, O Father, that in the fullness of time thou didst send thine only-begotten Son to be our Savior. Incarnate by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, he lived as one of us, yet without sin. To the poor he proclaimed the good news of salvation; to prisoners, freedom; to the sorrowful, joy. That thy purpose might be fulfilled, he gave himself up unto death; and rising from the grave he destroyed death and made the whole creation new.

And, that we might live no longer unto ourselves, but unto him who died for us and rose again, he sent the Holy Spirit, his own first gift for those who believe, to complete his work in the world, bringing to fulfillment the sanctification of all.

When the hour had come for him to be glorified by thee, his heavenly Father, having loved his own who were in the world, he loved them to the end: At supper with them he took bread, and when he had given thanks unto thee, he brake it, and gave it to his disciples, saying, "Take, eat,

THIS IS MY BODY,  
WHICH IS GIVEN FOR YOU.  
Do this for the remembrance of me."





Likewise, after supper he took the cup; and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, saying, Drink ye all of this:

FOR THIS IS MY BLOOD OF THE NEW COVENANT, WHICH IS SHED  
FOR YOU AND FOR MANY FOR THE REMISSION OF SINS.

Do this, as oft as ye shall drink it, for the remembrance of me.



And now, O Father, we celebrate this memorial of our redemption. Recalling Christ's death and his descent among the dead, proclaiming his resurrection and ascension to thy right hand, awaiting his coming in glory, and offering unto thee, from the gifts which thou hast given us, this bread and this cup, we praise thee and we bless thee.

*Celebrant and People*

**We praise thee, we bless thee  
we give thanks to thee,  
and we pray to thee, Lord our God.**

We beseech thee, O Lord, that in thy goodness and mercy thy Holy Spirit may descend upon us and upon these gifts, sanctifying them and revealing them as holy gifts for thy holy people, the bread of life and the cup of salvation, the Body and Blood of thy Son Jesus Christ our Lord.

Grant that all who share this bread and this cup may become one body and one spirit, a living sacrifice in Christ, to the praise of thy Name. Remember, O Lord, thy one holy catholic and apostolic Church, redeemed by the Blood of thy Christ. Reveal her unity, guard her faith, and preserve her in peace. And grant that we may find our inheritance with the ever-blessed Virgin Mary, with patriarchs, prophets, apostles, and martyrs, with blessed Stephen our patron, and with all the saints who have found favor with thee in ages past. We praise thee in union with them and give thee glory through thy Son Jesus Christ our Lord.

Through Christ and with Christ and in Christ all honor and glory be unto thee, Almighty God and Father, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, world without end.  
**AMEN.**

## THE LORD'S PRAYER

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



Our Fa-ther, who art in hea - ven, hal - low - ed be thy Name,  
thy king - dom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in hea - ven.  
Give us this day our dai - ly bread. And for - give us our tres - pas - ses,  
as we for - give those who tres - pass a - gainst us. And lead us not in - to  
temp - ta - tion, but de - liv - er us from e - vil. For thine is the king - dom,  
and the power, and the glo - ry, for ev - er and ev - er. A - men.

## THE BREAKING OF BREAD

*Celebrant* Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us:

*People* Therefore let us keep the feast.

## PRAYER OF HUMBLE ACCESS

We do not presume **to come to this thy Table, O merciful Lord, trusting in our own righteousness, but in thy manifold and great mercies. We are not worthy so much as to gather up the crumbs under thy Table. But thou art the same Lord whose property is always to have mercy. Grant us therefore, gracious Lord, so to eat the Flesh of thy dear Son Jesus Christ, and to drink his Blood, that our sinful bodies may be made clean by his Body, and our souls washed through his most precious Blood, and that we may evermore dwell in him, and he in us. Amen.**

## THE INVITATION: ECCE AGNUS DEI

*Celebrant* Behold ✠ the Lamb of God; behold him that taketh away the sins of the world.

*People* Lord, I am not worthy that thou shouldst come under my roof: but speak the word only, and my soul shall be healed.

## THE ADMINISTRATION OF HOLY COMMUNION

*Please come forward to the altar rail and then return to your pew via the passageway on the right. If you are unable to come forward, communion can be brought to you in your pew. All baptized Christians are welcome to receive the Eucharist at the Lord's Table. Gluten-free wafers are available. If you are not receiving, you are invited to come forward for a blessing (indicated by crossing your arms over your chest). If you have not been baptized and find yourself drawn to Jesus Christ and life in him, please let one of our clergy know. We would be honored to have a conversation with you about baptism or answer any other questions. Baptism and life in the Body of Christ is open to all.*

### AGNUS DEI *¶ Sung by the choir.*

O Lamb of God, that takest away the sins of the world, have mercy upon us.  
O Lamb of God, that takest away the sins of the world, have mercy upon us.  
O Lamb of God, that takest away the sins of the world, grant us thy peace.

### COMMUNION ANTIPHON *Cantate Domino*

TONE I

O sing unto the Lord, alleluia: sing unto the Lord, and praise his Name; be telling of his salvation from day to day, alleluia, alleluia.

### HYMN 190 *¶ Sung by all.*

FISK OF GLOUCESTER

## THE CLOSING RITE

### POST-COMMUNION PRAYER *¶ All kneel.*

*Celebrant* Let us pray.

Almighty and everliving God, we most heartily thank thee for that thou dost feed us, in these holy mysteries, with the spiritual food of the most precious Body and Blood of thy Son our Savior Jesus Christ; and dost assure us thereby of thy favor and goodness towards us; and that we are very members incorporate in the mystical body of thy Son, the blessed company of all faithful people; and are also heirs, through hope, of thy everlasting kingdom. And we humbly beseech thee, O heavenly Father, so to assist us with thy grace, that we may continue in that holy fellowship, and do all such good works as thou hast prepared for us to walk in; through Jesus Christ our Lord, to whom with thee and the Holy Ghost, be all honor and glory, world without end. Amen.

## THE BLESSING

*Celebrant* The Lord be with you.

*People* **And with thy Spirit.**

**T**he God of peace, who brought again from the dead our Lord Jesus Christ, the great Shepherd of the sheep, through the blood of the everlasting covenant, make you perfect in every good work to do his will, working in you that which is well-pleasing in his sight; and the blessing of God Almighty, ✠ the Father, the Son, and the Holy Ghost, be amongst you and remain with you always. **Amen.**

## DISMISSAL *¶ All stand.*

*Deacon*

Let us go forth in the Name of Christ, alleluia, alleluia.

*People*



## REGINA CÆLI



✠ Rejoice and be glad, O Virgin Mary, alleluia.

✠ **For the Lord is risen indeed, alleluia.**

Let us pray.

**O** God, who, by the resurrection of thy Son Jesus Christ didst vouchsafe to give gladness unto the world: Grant, we beseech thee, that we, being holpen by the Virgin Mary, his Mother, may attain unto the joys of everlasting life. Through the same Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

VOLUNTARY

*Hymne d'Action de grâce 'Te Deum'*

Jean Langlais