

*St. Michael the Archangel Episcopal Church*

*The Fourth Sunday of Easter  
Morning Prayer: Rite 2*

**OPENING SENTENCE**

Officiant Alleluia! Christ is risen.  
People **The Lord is risen indeed. Alleluia!**

On this day the Lord has acted; we will rejoice and be glad in it. *Psalm 118:24*

**OPENING HYMN (#708)**

Our opening hymn is #708. Please stand as we sing.

**THE INVITATORY AND PSALTER**

Officiant Lord open our lips.  
People **And our mouth shall proclaim your praise.**

**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. Amen. Alleluia!**

Join me in saying the Pascha Nostrum

**Alleluia.**

**Christ our Passover has been sacrificed for us; \*  
therefore let us keep the feast,  
Not with old leaven, the leaven of malice and evil, \*  
but with the unleavened bread of sincerity and truth. Alleluia.**

**Christ being raised from the dead will never die again; \*  
death no longer has dominion over him.**

**The death that he died, he died to sin, once for all; \*  
but the life he lives, he lives to God.**

**So also consider yourselves dead to sin, \*  
and alive to God in Jesus Christ our Lord. Alleluia.**

**Christ has been raised from the dead, \*  
the first fruits of those who have fallen asleep.**

**For since by a man came death, \*  
by a man has come also the resurrection of the dead.**

**For as in Adam all die, \*  
so in Christ shall all be made alive. Alleluia.**



then he knelt down and prayed. He turned to the body and said, "Tabitha, get up." Then she opened her eyes, and seeing Peter, she sat up. He gave her his hand and helped her up. Then calling the saints and widows, he showed her to be alive. This became known throughout Joppa, and many believed in the Lord. Meanwhile he stayed in Joppa for some time with a certain Simon, a tanner.

Reader        The Word of the Lord.  
People        **Thanks be to God.**

Join me in reading Canticle 19

### **Canticle 19: The Song of the Redeemed**

**O ruler of the universe, Lord God,  
great deeds are they that you have done, \*  
surpassing human understanding.  
Your ways are ways of righteousness and truth, \*  
O King of all the ages.**

**Who can fail to do you homage, Lord,  
and sing the praises of your Name? \*  
for you only are the Holy One.  
All nations will draw near and fall down before you, \*  
because your just and holy works have been revealed.**

**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. Amen.**

### **Gospel Hymn (#664)**

Our gospel hymn is #664. Please stand as we sing.

### **The Gospel Lesson: A Reading from the Gospel of John**

At that time the festival of the Dedication took place in Jerusalem. It was winter, and Jesus was walking in the temple, in the portico of Solomon. So the Jews gathered around him and said to him, "How long will you keep us in suspense? If you are the Messiah, tell us plainly." Jesus answered, "I have told you, and you do not believe. The works that I do in my Father's name testify to me; but you do not believe, because you do not belong to my sheep. My sheep hear my voice. I know them, and they follow me. I give them eternal life, and they will never perish. No one will snatch them out of my hand. What my Father has given me is greater than all else, and no one can snatch it out of the Father's hand. The Father and I are one."

Reader        The Word of the Lord.  
People        **Thanks be to God.**

## Sermon

Join me in the Apostles' Creed

### **The Apostles' Creed**

**I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.**

**I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.**

**He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit and born of the Virgin Mary.**

**He suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried.**

**He descended to the dead.**

**On the third day he rose again.**

**He ascended into heaven, and is seated at the right hand of the Father.**

**He will come again to judge the living and the dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Spirit,**

**the holy catholic Church, the communion of saints,**

**the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body,**

**and the life everlasting. Amen.**

### **Invitation to the Offering**

Officiant Lord God of the living and the dead, whose son opened for us the gates of heaven, accept our offering of money this day, and also the offering of our lives.

People **Help us to live simply, generously and courageously, that our lives may point to you.**

### **Offertory Anthem**

### **Presentation Hymn (#380 v. 3)**

## **THE PRAYERS**

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

Officiant The Lord be with you.

People **And also with you.**

Officiant Let us pray.

**Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your Name. Your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. And forgive us our sins, as we forgive those who sin against us. Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil. For yours is the kingdom, the power, and the glory, now and for ever. Amen.**

## The Suffrages

Versicle Show us your mercy, O Lord;  
Response **And grant us your salvation.**

Versicle Clothe your ministers with righteousness;  
Response **Let your people sing with joy.**

Versicle Give peace, O Lord, in all the world;  
Response **For only in you can we live in safety.**

Versicle Lord, keep this nation under your care;  
Response **And guide us in the way of justice and truth.**

Versicle Let your way be known upon earth;  
Response **Your saving health among all nations.**

Versicle Let not the needy, O Lord, be forgotten;  
Response **Nor the hope of the poor be taken away.**

Versicle Create in us clean hearts, O God;  
Response **And sustain us with your Holy Spirit.**

## The Collect of the Day

O God, whose Son Jesus is the good shepherd of your people: Grant that when we hear his voice we may know him who calls us each by name, and follow where he leads; who, with you and the Holy Spirit, lives and reigns, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

## The Prayers of the People

Celebrating the victory of love over death, we offer our prayers to God.

Good Shepherd, you set us in community, both in the church and in the world. Help us work for the unity of the church, that Christ's body may be one and for the peace of the world, that we may see the inbreaking of your heavenly realm.

God of Easter, **Hear our prayer.**

Good Shepherd, you promise to care for us. May this promise sink deep in our hearts, that we may continue to learn to trust you. God of Easter, **Hear our prayer.**

Good Shepherd, you promise to restore us. Open our eyes to the ways in which we are broken, that we may also see your healing. God of Easter, **Hear our prayer.**

Good Shepherd, you promise to go with us into our difficult times, into our impossible places. Open us to your presence, that we may have hope.

God of Easter, **Hear our prayer.**

Good Shepherd, you form us into a gathering which centers on you. Mold us more clearly into a community which has room for the world.

God of Easter, **Hear our prayer.**

Good Shepherd, your care embraces the fallen, the distraught, the abandoned, the isolated, the angry and the lost. We entrust to you those of whom we are aware who require healing, hope and safety. We pray especially for  
*[the special petitions of this congregation].*

God of Easter, **Hear our prayer.**

Good Shepherd, you bless us with more than we can ask or imagine. We give you thanks for

*[the special thanksgivings of this congregation].*

God of Easter, **Hear our prayer.**

All this we pray in the name of our risen and living Savior, Jesus the Christ. **Amen.**

Let us pray together this prayer of thanksgiving

**Almighty God, Father of all mercies, we your unworthy servants give you humble thanks for all your goodness and loving-kindness to us and to all whom you have made. We bless you for our creation, preservation, and all the blessings of this life; but above all for your immeasurable love in the redemption of the world by our Lord Jesus Christ; for the means of grace, and for the hope of glory. And, we pray, give us such an awareness of your mercies, that with truly thankful hearts we may show forth your praise, not only with our lips, but in our lives, by giving up ourselves to your service, and by walking before you in holiness and righteousness all our days; through Jesus Christ our Lord, to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit, be honor and glory throughout all ages. Amen.**

#### **Closing Hymn (#366 vv. 1-4)**

Our closing hymn is #366. Please stand as we sing verses 1-4.

Officiant Alleluia. Alleluia. Let us bless the Lord.

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

Glory to God whose power, working in us, can do infinitely more than we can ask or imagine: Glory to him from generation to generation in the Church, and in Christ Jesus for ever and ever. **Amen.**

*Ephesians 3:20,21*