

THE SEASON OF EASTER WITH ST. MARTIN'S
THE FOURTH SUNDAY OF EASTER
MAY 3, 2020

Welcome to this virtual gathering of the people of St. Martin's. During this time of global health pandemic, we seek to look out for and to care for one another, most especially by staying home. The time before our liturgy begins is a good time to check-in with one another. Once the service begins all participants will be muted except those speaking to lead us. You are invited to sing along with the hymns and join in speaking the responses just as we would if we were actually together. If anyone is in pastoral need during this time, do not hesitate to write: rectorstmartinsnj@gmail.com or call Fr. Mulder at: 908-672-8695.

The Opening Acclamation of Easter

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

Hymn of Praise, Hymn 665, *All my hope on God is founded* -Michael
(sung by the choir of St. Mary's Cathedral, Edinburgh)

The Collect of the Day

Officiant The Lord be with you.
People And also with you.
Officiant 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.

A Reading from the Acts of the Apostles (2:42-47)

They devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching and fellowship, to the breaking of bread and the prayers. Awe came upon everyone, because many wonders and signs were being done by the apostles. All who believed were together and had all things in common; they would sell their possessions and goods and distribute the proceeds to all, as any had need. Day by day, as they spent much time together in the temple, they broke bread at home and ate their food with glad and generous hearts, praising God and having the goodwill of all the people. And day by day the Lord added to their number those who were being saved.

Reader Hear what the Spirit is saying.
People Thanks be to God!

Anthem Strengthen ye the weak hands -Sir William Harris

(sung by the Choir of Westminster Abbey, London)

*The Lord hath created medicines out of the earth;
and he that is wise will not abhor them.
And he hath giv'n men skill, that he might be honour'd in his marvelous works.
My son, in thy sickness leave off from sin, and order thy hands aright,
and cleanse thy heart from all wickedness.*

*Strengthen ye the weak hands, and confirm the feeble knees.
Say to them that are of a fearful heart, Be strong, fear not: behold your God
will come; he will come and save you.
Then shall the eyes of the blind be open'd, and the ears of the deaf shall be unstopp'd.
Then shall the lame man leap as an hart, and the tongue of the dumb shall
sing: for in the wilderness shall waters break out, and streams in the desert.
The wilderness and the solitary place shall be glad for them; and the desert
shall rejoice, and blossom as the rose.
It shall blossom abundantly, and rejoice with joy and singing: the glory of
Lebanon shall be giv'n unto it, the excellency of Carmel and
Sharon, they shall see the glory of the Lord, and the excellency of our God.*

*O Saviour of the world, who by thy Cross and precious Blood hast redeem'd us,
Save us, save us and help us, we humbly beseech thee, O Lord.*

*(Words from Ecclesiasticus 38, vv 4, 6, 9, 10 and Isaiah 35, vv 1 – 6 and the Book
of Common Prayer)*

The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to John (20:19-31)

People Glory to you, Lord Christ.

Jesus said, "Very truly, I tell you, anyone who does not enter the sheepfold by the gate but climbs in by another way is a thief and a bandit. The one who enters by the gate is the shepherd of the sheep. The gatekeeper opens the gate for him, and the sheep hear his voice. He calls his own sheep by name and leads them out. When he has brought out all his own, he goes ahead of them, and the sheep follow him because they know his voice. They will not follow a stranger, but they will run from him because they do not know the voice of strangers." Jesus used this figure of speech with them, but they did not understand what he was saying to them. So again Jesus said to them, "Very truly, I tell you, I am the gate for the sheep. All who came before me are thieves and bandits; but the sheep did not listen to them. I am the gate. Whoever enters by me will be saved, and will come in and go out and find pasture. The thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy. I came that they may have life, and have it abundantly."

Officiant *The Gospel of the Lord.*
People *Praise to you, Lord Christ!*

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 the 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 *(adapted from A Wee Worship Book, of the Iona community)*

Heaven is here, and earth, and the space is thin between them.
Distance may divide, but Christ's promise unites those bounded by time,

those blessed by eternity.
Let heaven be glad;
Let the whole earth cry glory.

Heaven is here, and earth, and the Church above and below is one.
Peter is here, and Paul, Martha and all the Marys,
Columba and Francis, Theresa and Martin Luther King;
The saints from far back and those who left us not long ago.
Only sight prevents us from seeing them, one with us on the other side.
Let heaven be glad.
Let the whole earth cry glory.

Heaven is. Here, and earth, and the God who made them is present.
The Lamb, glorious on the throne, sits beside us;
The Spirit of God, the Dove, makes her resting place among us.
God inhales the breath of our prayers and spreads a table for our satisfaction.
Let heaven be glad.
Let the whole earth cry glory.

Lord, we pray for your world and all we hold dear.
Grant healing to the sick, courage to the fearful, vision to our leaders
and compassion by all, for all and to all.
We offer prayers of gratitude and debt to all who serve others during this time.
Grant them energy, health and resolve for their ministry among us.
And for your Church, may the day come soon when we can feast again at your Table.
Until that great day, keep us steadfast in care for one another, regular in prayer and
faithful in worship, in fellowship with our ancestors from the book of Acts.

Hear us now as we pray as Jesus taught his disciples, saying:

*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.
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 the kingdom, the power and the glory are yours,
now and for ever. Amen.*

The Peace

Officiant The peace of the risen Christ be always with you.
People And also with you.

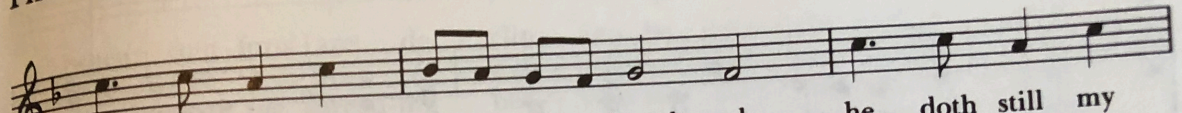
Hymn *In the Lord* (*The Taizé Community*)

*In the Lord, I'll be ever thankful, in the Lord I will rejoice.
Look to God, do not be afraid,
lift up your voices,
the Lord is near.*

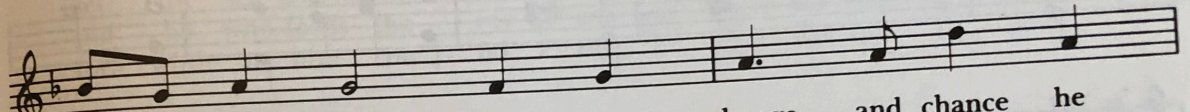
Blessing and Dismissal

Officiant *Go into this new week to share the joy and power of Easter. Alleluia.*
People *Thanks be to God. Alleluia! Alleluia!*

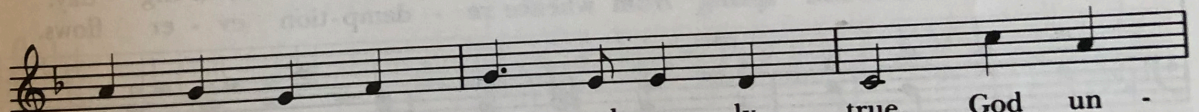
The Christian Life



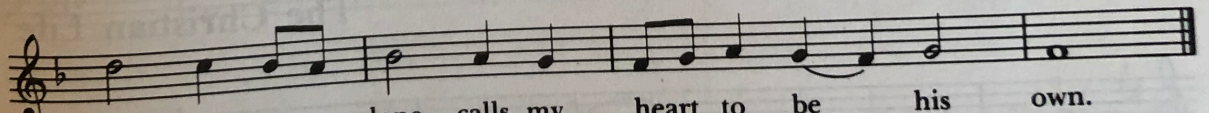
1 All my hope on God is found - ed; he doth still my
 2 Mor - tal pride and earth - ly glo - ry, sword and crown be -
 3 God's great good - ness e'er en - dur - eth, deep his wis - dom
 * 4 Dai - ly doth the al - might - y Giv - er boun - teous gifts on
 5 Still from earth to God e - ter - nal sac - ri - fice of



1 trust re - new, me through change and chance he
 2 tray our trust; though with care and toil we
 3 pass - ing thought: splen - dor, light, and life at -
 4 us be - stow; his de - sire our soul de -
 5 praise be done, high a - bove all prais - es



1 guid - eth, on - ly good and on - ly true. God un -
 2 build them, tower and tem - ple fall to dust. But God's
 3 tend him, beau - ty spring - eth out of nought. Ev - er -
 4 light - eth, plea - sure leads us where we go. Love doth
 5 prais - ing for the gift of Christ, his Son. Christ doth



1 known, he a - lone calls my heart to be his own.
 2 power, hour by hour, is my tem - ple and my tower.
 3 more from his store new-born worlds rise and a - dore.
 4 stand at his hand; joy doth wait on his com - mand.
 5 call one and all: ye who fol - low shall not fall.

Words: Robert Seymour Bridges (1844-1930), alt., after Joachim Neander (1650-1680)
 Music: Michael, Herbert Howells (1892-1983)