



St. Timothy's Episcopal Church, Wilson, NC

# The Third Sunday of Easter

Year B

## April 14, 2024

Celebrant and Preacher: The Rev. Paul H. Castelli, OCS

Organist: Kara Zaharin

Greeter: Pat Prouty (8:00) Catherine Walston (10:30); Billy Hemby, John Boddie Crudup Ushers: (10:30)

Lay Reader: Beth Sallenger (8:00); Brandon McLean (10:30)

Eucharistic Ministers: Beth Sallenger (8:00), Bobby Boykin (L), Sharyn Hardister (R) (10:30)

Acolytes: Naomi Byrum, Colin Stronach (10:30)

Altar Guild: Mary Long, Pat Prouty, Lauren Byrum, Bobbi Harris

Counters: Bob Putney, Donn Holt

*Let us remember that the nave is a place of prayer and worship. Please enter reverently, keeping conversation to a whisper and to a minimum as your brothers and sisters in Christ may be trying to pray in preparation for the Holy Eucharist. We hope you will stay and visit with each other after the service. Appropriate personal devotional prayers for Sundays, before and after worship, and before and after receiving Holy Communion can be found on Pages 833-835 of the Book of Common Prayer. In addition, there are appropriate Psalms that can be prayed in preparation for worship, such as Psalms 84, 85, 86, 116, and 130. The Psalter can be found from Pages 585-808 in the Book of Common Prayer.*

### HOLY EUCHARIST RITE I 8:00 AM

*The 10:30 AM Rite II service begins on Page 2 of this bulletin.*

#### Welcome & Announcements

*The people stand as they are able as the Sacred Ministers process in silence.*

Opening Acclamation	BCP p. 323
Collect for Purity	
Summary of the Law	BCP p. 324
Kyrie	
Gloria	
Collect of the Day	BCP p. 325
Readings & Psalm	See Pages 3-5 in this bulletin.
Sermon	
The Nicene Creed	BCP p. 327
Prayers of the People	BCP p. 328
<i>During the silence to follow each paragraph, the congregation adds prayers aloud or in their hearts.</i>	
Confession & Absolution	BCP p. 330
The Peace	BCP p. 332
Offertory	BCP p. 333
The Great Thanksgiving: Eucharistic Prayer I	
Lord's Prayer	BCP p. 336
The Fraction Anthems	BCP p. 337
The Prayer of Humble Access	

*We believe in the Real Presence of Christ in the Blessed Sacrament, the consecrated bread and wine. Communion in the Episcopal Church is open to all baptized Christians and they are invited at this time to the altar rail to receive Christ's Body and Blood. If you require a gluten-free wafer, please inform the Priest and one will be provided for you. Please let an usher know if you need Communion brought to your seat for any reason. If you wish to receive a blessing, please come forward and cross your arms over your chest to signify that to the Priest.*

Post-Communion Prayer	BCP p. 339
Blessing	
Dismissal	

HOLY EUCHARIST RITE II 10:30 AM

Prelude  
Welcome & Announcements

THE WORD OF GOD

Processional Hymn

*Come, ye faithful, raise the strain*

The Hymnal 1982 #199

Opening Acclamation

BCP 413

*The people standing, the Celebrant says*

*Celebrant* + Alleluia. Christ is risen.

*People* The Lord is risen indeed. Alleluia.

*The Celebrant prays the Collect for Purity*

BCP 355

Almighty God, to you all hearts are open, all desires known, and from you no secrets are hid: Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you, and worthily magnify your holy Name; through Christ our Lord. Amen.

*The Gloria is sung*

The Hymnal 1982 S-280

1. Glo - ry to God in the high - est, and  
 peace to his peo - ple on earth. 2. Lord God, heaven - ly  
 King, al - mighty God and Fa - ther, we wor - ship you, we  
 give you thanks, we praise you for your glo - ry. 3. Lord Je - sus  
 Christ, on - ly Son of the Fa - ther, Lord God, Lamb of God, 4. you  
 take a - way the sin of the world: have mer - cy  
 on us; 5. you are seat - ed at the right hand of the Fa - ther: re -

ceive our prayer. 6. For you a-lone are the Ho-ly One,  
 you a-lone are the Lord, 7. you a-lone are the Most  
 High, Je-sus Christ, with the Ho-ly Spi-rit, in the  
 glo-ry of God the Fa-ther. A-men.

*After the Gloria, the Celebrant faces the People and says,*

The Lord be with you.

*People* **And also with you.**

*Celebrant* Let us pray.

*The Celebrant says the Collect of the Day.*

**BCP 214**

O God, whose blessed Son made himself known to his disciples in the breaking of bread: Open the eyes of our faith, that we may behold him in all his redeeming work; who lives and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

*The children are dismissed to children's church.*

**The First Lesson**

**Acts 3:12-19**

*Peter speaks directly to the people's complicity in the death of Jesus, and assures them that will know God's forgiveness if they repent.*

*Reader* A reading from the Acts of the Apostles.

Peter addressed the people, "You Israelites, why do you wonder at this, or why do you stare at us, as though by our own power or piety we had made him walk? The God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob, the God of our ancestors has glorified his servant Jesus, whom you handed over and rejected in the presence of Pilate, though he had decided to release him. But you rejected the Holy and Righteous One and asked to have a murderer given to you, and you killed the Author of life, whom God raised from the dead. To this we are witnesses. And by faith in his name, his name itself has made this man strong, whom you see and know; and the faith that is through Jesus has given him this perfect health in the presence of all of you.

"And now, friends, I know that you acted in ignorance, as did also your rulers. In this way God fulfilled what he had foretold through all the prophets, that his Messiah would suffer. Repent therefore, and turn to God so that your sins may be wiped out."

*Reader* The Word of the Lord.

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

## The Response: Psalm 4

*Cum invocarem*

BCP ...

8:00 – The Psalm is read responsively by whole verse.

10:30 – The Psalm is chanted in unison.



© 1956, Jerome Webster Meachen.

- <sup>1</sup> Answer me when I call, O God, defender of my **cause**; \*  
you set me free when I am hard-pressed;  
have mercy on me and hear my **prayer**.
- <sup>2</sup> "You mortals, how long will you dishonor my **glory**; \*  
how long will you worship dumb idols  
and run after false **gods**?"
- <sup>3</sup> Know that the LORD does wonders for the **faithful**; \*  
when I call upon the LORD, he will hear me.

- <sup>4</sup> Tremble, then, and do not **sin**; \*  
speak to your heart in silence upon your **bed**.
- <sup>5</sup> Offer the appointed **sacrifices** \*  
and put your trust in the **LORD**.
- <sup>6</sup> Many are saying, "Oh, that we might see better **times**!" \*  
Lift up the light of your countenance upon us, O **LORD**.
- <sup>7</sup> You have put gladness in my **heart**, \*  
more than when grain and wine and oil **increase**.
- <sup>8</sup> I lie down in peace; at once I fall **asleep**; \*  
for only you, LORD, make me dwell in **safety**.

## The Second Lesson

1 John 3:1-7

*The Lord Jesus came to take away sin, and he calls us to resist the sins that persist in our lives.*

*Reader* A reading from the First Epistle of St. John.

See what love the Father has given us, that we should be called children of God; and that is what we are. The reason the world does not know us is that it did not know him. Beloved, we are God's children now; what we will be has not yet been revealed. What we do know is this: when he is revealed, we will be like him, for we will see him as he is. And all who have this hope in him purify themselves, just as he is pure.

Everyone who commits sin is guilty of lawlessness; sin is lawlessness. You know that he was revealed to take away sins, and in him there is no sin. No one who abides in him sins; no one who sins has either seen him or known him. Little children, let no one deceive you. Everyone who does what is right is righteous, just as he is righteous.

*Reader* The Word of the Lord.

*People* Thanks be to God.

## \* Sequence Hymn

### CELTIC ALLELUIA

*Celtic Mass*

Fintan O'Carroll and Christopher Walker



Music © 1985, 1996, Fintan O'Carroll and Christopher Walker. Published by OCP. All rights reserved.

Then, all standing, the Deacon or a Priest reads the Gospel, first saying

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

+++ For some it is customary at this time to use our thumbs to trace three small crosses upon our foreheads, lips, and chests to signify keeping the Gospel in our minds, on our lips, and in our hearts.

People **Glory to you, Lord Christ.**

\* **The Gospel**

**Luke 24:36b-48**

*Jesus helps his disciples understand his resurrection, both by eating with them and tracing the Old Testament's prophecies about the Messiah.*

Jesus himself stood among the disciples and said to them, "Peace be with you." They were startled and terrified, and thought that they were seeing a ghost. He said to them, "Why are you frightened, and why do doubts arise in your hearts? Look at my hands and my feet; see that it is I myself. Touch me and see; for a ghost does not have flesh and bones as you see that I have." And when he had said this, he showed them his hands and his feet. While in their joy they were disbelieving and still wondering, he said to them, "Have you anything here to eat?" They gave him a piece of broiled fish, and he took it and ate in their presence.

Then he said to them, "These are my words that I spoke to you while I was still with you—that everything written about me in the law of Moses, the prophets, and the psalms must be fulfilled." Then he opened their minds to understand the scriptures, and he said to them, "Thus it is written, that the Messiah is to suffer and to rise from the dead on the third day, and that repentance and forgiveness of sins is to be proclaimed in his name to all nations, beginning from Jerusalem. You are witnesses of these things.

*After the Gospel, the Reader says*

The Gospel of the Lord.

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

**The Sermon**

**The Rev. Paul H. Castelli, OCS**

\* **Nicene Creed**

**BCP 358**

*Please stand as you are able*

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 Form VI

BCP 392

*Reader* In peace, we pray to you, Lord God.

*Silence is kept for a moment.*

*Reader* For all people in their daily life and work;

*People* **For our families, friends, and neighbors, and for those who are alone.**

*Reader* For this community, the nation, and the world;

*People* **For all who work for justice, freedom, and peace.**

*Reader* For the just and proper use of your creation;

*People* **For the victims of hunger, fear, injustice, and oppression.**

*Reader* For all who are in danger, sorrow, or any kind of trouble;

*People* **For those who minister to the sick, the friendless, and the needy.**

*Reader* For the peace and unity of the Church of God;

*People* **For all who proclaim the Gospel, and all who seek the Truth.**

*Reader* For Michael our Presiding Bishop, Sam and Jennifer, our Bishops; Paul, our Priest, and for all bishops and other ministers;

*People* **For all who serve God in his Church.**

*Reader* For the special needs and concerns of this congregation, and especially those on our parish prayer list: Rudy Knight, Sharon Wethington, Vernon Hodges, Harvey Ruffin, Kim Perry, Jean Bisette, Paige Quinn Barnhill, Hope Currie, Ezra Currie, George A. Ruff, Suzanne Fleming, Joanna Powell, Joe Noulles, Jim Powers, Kreshaun Brewington, David Ballard, Phyllis Connor, Dwight Batts, Tyler Turner, Harrison Barnett, Stephanie Moore, Allison Parker, James Batts, Jimmy Thompson, Charlotte Bridgers, Linda Sheen, Henry Coleman, Lee Wilhelm, Bill Robinette, Betty Jean Gauss, Anna Jane Ruffin, Kayla Thomas, Kris Hing, Jean Webb, Lenore Smith, Nathan Toms, Harris Holland, Russ Bass, Beth Fogleman, Jane Lyon, Carter Grine, Jim Thomas, Joseph, Cheryl Stepp, Denny Lucas, Lynn Kyle, Bailey Blount, Debbie Castelli, Nancy Taylor, Kristie Bailey, peace for the people of Israel, Palestine, Ukraine, Russia, Ethiopia, and all refugees fleeing nations mired in military conflict; the people of Syria, Turkey, Canada, Maui, and all peoples recovering from natural disasters; those affected by Covid-19; and those affected by the lack of respect for the dignity of every person.

*Silence. The People may add their own petitions.*

*Reader* Hear us, Lord;

*People* **For your mercy is great.**

*Reader* We thank you, Lord, for all the blessings of this life. We give thanks to you and pray for those who are celebrating birthdays this week: Carol Putney, Cameron Homes, Polly Jenkins, Pat Prouty, Mike Reason.

*Silence. The People may add their own thanksgivings.*

*Reader* We will exalt you, O God our King;

*People* **And praise your Name for ever and ever.**

*Reader* We pray for all who have †died, especially, Diane Aubrey Rees in whose memory the altar flowers were given, that they may have a place in your eternal kingdom.

*Silence. The People may add their own petitions.*

*Reader* Lord, let your loving-kindness be upon them;

*People* **Who put their trust in you.**

*The Celebrant concludes with a suitable Collect to which the People respond, Amen.*

Eternal God, who led your ancient people into freedom by a pillar of cloud by day and a pillar of fire by night: Grant that we who walk in the light of your presence may rejoice in the liberty of the children of God; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

### **Confession of Sin**

*The Celebrant says the following sentence of Scripture and bids the faithful to Confession.*

Since we have a great high priest who has passed through the heavens, Jesus, the Son of God, let us with confidence draw near the throne of grace, that we may receive mercy and find grace to help in time of need.

*Hebrews 4:14, 16*

Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

*Silence is kept.*

*Minister and People*

**Most merciful God,**

**we confess that we have sinned against you**

**in thought, word, and deed,**

**by what we have done,**

**and by what we have left undone.**

**We have not loved you with our whole heart;**

**we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves.**

**We are truly sorry and we humbly repent.**

**For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ,**

**have mercy on us and forgive us;**

**that we may delight in your will,**

**and walk in your ways,**

**to the glory of your Name. Amen.**

*The Bishop, when present, or the Priest, stands and says*

Almighty God have mercy on you, † forgive you all your sins through our Lord Jesus Christ, strengthen you in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep you in eternal life. **Amen.**

### \* **The Peace**

**BCP 360**

*All stand. The Celebrant says to the people*

The peace of the Lord be always with you.

*People* **And also with you.**

*Then the Ministers and People may greet one another in the name of the Lord.*

## **THE HOLY COMMUNION**

### **Offertory Sentence**

*The Offertory begins with the following words. The people are seated while the altar is prepared.*

Walk in love, as Christ loved us and gave himself for us, an offering and sacrifice to God.

*Ephesians 5:2*

\* **The Doxology**

*Praise God from whom all blessings flow*

The Hymnal 1982 #380 v. 3

Praise God from whom all blessings flow  
 Praise Him all creatures here below  
 Praise Him above ye heavenly hosts  
 Praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost

*Celebrant* All things come of Thee, O Lord;  
*People* **And of Thine own have we given Thee.**

\* **Eucharistic Prayer A**

BCP 361

*The people remain standing. The Celebrant, whether bishop or priest, faces them and sings or says*

*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 him thanks and praise.

*Then, facing the Holy Table, the Celebrant proceeds*

It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth. But chiefly are we bound to praise you for the glorious resurrection of your Son Jesus Christ our Lord; for he is the true Paschal Lamb, who was sacrificed for us, and has taken away the sin of the world. By his death he has destroyed death, and by his rising to life again he has won for us everlasting life. Therefore we praise you, joining our voices with Angels and Archangels and with all the company of heaven, who for ever sing this hymn to proclaim the glory of your Name:

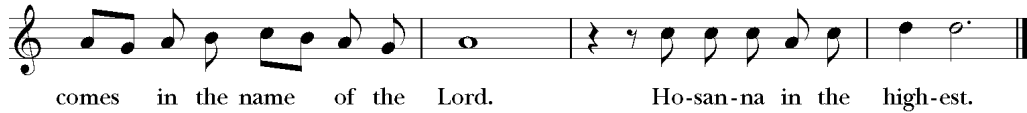
**The Sanctus and Benedictus**

*Holy, holy, holy Lord*

The Hymnal 1982 S-128

Ho - ly, ho - ly,  
 ho - ly Lord, God of power and might,  
 heaven and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho-san-na in the  
 high - est. Bless - ed is he who





*The people stand or kneel.*

*Then the Celebrant continues*

Holy and gracious Father: In your infinite love you made us for yourself, and, when we had fallen into sin and become subject to evil and death, you, in your mercy, sent Jesus Christ, your only and eternal Son, to share our human nature, to live and die as one of us, to reconcile us to you, the God and Father of all.

He stretched out his arms upon the cross, and offered himself, in obedience to your will, a perfect sacrifice for the whole world.

On the night he was handed over to suffering and death, our Lord Jesus Christ took bread; and when he had given thanks to you, he broke it, and gave it to his disciples, and said, "Take, eat: This is my Body, which is given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me."+

After supper he took the cup of wine; and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, and said, "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 we proclaim the mystery of faith:

*Celebrant and People*

**Christ has died.**

**Christ is risen.**

**Christ will come again.**

*The Celebrant continues*

We celebrate the memorial of our redemption, O Father, in this sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving. Recalling his death, resurrection, and ascension, we offer you these gifts.

Sanctify them by your Holy Spirit to be for your people the Body and Blood of your Son, the holy food and drink of new and unending life in him. +Sanctify us also that we may faithfully receive this holy Sacrament, and serve you in unity, constancy, and peace; and at the last day bring us with all your saints into the joy of your eternal kingdom.

All this we ask through your Son Jesus Christ: By him, and with him, and in him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit all honor and glory is yours, Almighty Father, now and for ever.+



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

**The Lord's Prayer**

**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.**

BCP 364

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.

**The Fraction**

BCP 36?

The Celebrant breaks the bread †. There is a period of silence, then,

*This setting is not used in Lent.*

Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.  
 Christ our Pass - o - ver is sac - ri - ficed for us;  
 there - fore let us keep the feast.  
 Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

**The Agnus Dei**

Lamb of God

The Hymnal 1982 S-165

Je - sus, Lamb of God: Have mer - cy  
 on us. Je - sus, bear - er of our sins: Have mer - cy  
 on us. Je - sus, re - deem - er of the world: Give us your peace.

Facing the people, the Celebrant says the following Invitation

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.

**Hymns at Communion**

Shepherd of souls, refresh and bless  
 Blessed Jesus, at thy word  
 O sons and daughters, let us sing

The Hymnal 1982 #343  
 The Hymnal 1982 #440  
 The Hymnal 1982 #203

We believe in the Real Presence of Christ in the Blessed Sacrament, the consecrated bread and wine. Communion in the Episcopal Church is open to all baptized Christians and they are invited at this time to the altar rail to receive Christ's Body and Blood. If you require a gluten-free wafer, please inform the Priest and one will be provided for you. If you wish to receive a blessing, please come forward and cross your arms over your chest to signify that to the Priest. Prayers are offered in the Baptistry Chapel at the back of the church.

## Post Communion Prayer

BCP 366

*After Communion, the Celebrant says*

Let us pray.

*Celebrant and People*

**Almighty and everliving God,**  
we thank you for feeding us with the spiritual food  
of the most precious Body and Blood  
of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ;  
and for assuring us in these holy mysteries  
that we are living members of the Body of your Son,  
and heirs of your eternal kingdom.  
And now, Father, send us out  
to do the work you have given us to do,  
to love and serve you  
as faithful witnesses of Christ our Lord.  
To him, to you, and to the Holy Spirit,  
be honor and glory, now and for ever. Amen.

*Lay Eucharistic Visitors are sent forth by all, saying:* We send you forth bearing these holy gifts, that those to whom you go may share with us one bread and one cup, the communion of Christ's body and blood.

## Blessing

*The priest blesses the people, saying*

The peace of God, which passes all understanding, keep your hearts and minds in the knowledge and love of God, and of his Son Jesus Christ our Lord; and the blessing of God Almighty, + the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be among you, and remain with you always. Amen.

## \* Dismissal

*Celebrant* Let us go forth in the name of Christ. Alleluia. Alleluia.

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

## \* Recessional Hymn

*Sing, ye faithful, sing with gladness*

The Hymnal 1982 #492

Postlude



The Altar flowers are given in loving memory of

Diane Aubrey Rees

And in honor of

Thelma Jean Duvall

By

Carl and Melissa Rees



#### VESTRY 2024

Class of 2024: Evelyn Baskervill, Ginger Gliarmis, Donn Holt, Catherine Walston

Class of 2025: Ann Barnes, Melba Martin, Bob Putney, Melissa Rees

Class of 2026: Linda Connor, Parker Garrett, Lee Stephenson, Sammy Gilmore

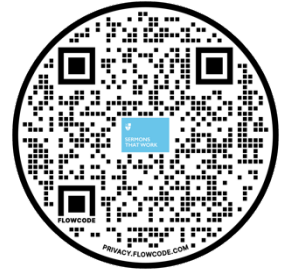
Welcome to St. Timothy's Episcopal Church! We are a welcoming, inclusive, and affirming church guided by scripture, tradition, and reason. We invite you to experience a relationship with Jesus, empowered by the Holy Spirit, by participating in the liturgy, engaging with the scriptures, and abiding in this Christian community of faith. In baptism, we covenant with God and each other striving for justice and peace, seeking Christ in all persons, loving our neighbors as ourselves, and respecting the dignity of every human being. We believe God loves you, just as you are, and so do we! So, whoever you are and wherever you are in your spiritual journey, you will be welcomed, loved, and affirmed at St. Timothy's. Everybody needs a place. We invite you to make this place yours!



## BULLETIN INSERTS

### April 14, 2024 – Easter 3 (B) Week 3: Reflections on the Resurrection

*During the Easter season, Sermons That Work is pleased to present reflections from some of the newest bishops of The Episcopal Church on the resurrection of our Lord. Check back each week for a brief exploration of how Jesus Christ's rising from the grave changes everything. To listen to this reflection, scan the QR code on this page and subscribe to the Sermons That Work podcast.*



When I was a child, our family often went on summer trips across the country. On one of those trips, we signed up for a guided tour of a deep cavern in Arkansas. There were about a dozen in our group. We followed lit pathways to the deepest place in this large cave, and the guide had us all sit down on benches. Then, she turned out all the lights. We sat in utter and complete darkness, several hundred feet underground, for maybe one minute. Then, she lit a single match, and every eye was instantly focused on the glow of that flame.

The first service of Easter – The Great Vigil – begins with the rubric: In the darkness, fire is kindled. At some moment between sundown on Saturday and sunrise on Sunday, God raised the lifeless body of Jesus from death to life in the tomb. On Saturday night or early Sunday morning, churches around the world annually symbolize and celebrate this joyful moment of Jesus' resurrection by lighting a fire in the dark. The fire is blessed, the Paschal Candle is lit, and then the joyful light is shared as candles held by every person in the congregation are lit from it.

It is truly a joyful light that is shared. The resurrection of Jesus means that God's love for us cannot be contained – even by death or a dark tomb. Sin and death do not have the last word over humanity. God does. And, as the Prayer of Humble Access reminds us, God's property is always to have mercy. With the resurrection of Jesus, death is conquered. Jesus is raised and we who follow him are raised to new and eternal life with him.

This eternal life that is offered to us does not begin when our mortal bodies die. It begins now. The power of Christ's resurrection is available to you and to me now. We no longer must live with old fears, old shames, old mistakes, old brokenness, and old patterns that made us less than God intends for us. Our old lives can give way to God's way of love. In our baptisms, we were buried with Christ in his death and raised to new life with him. We are new creations. Our old shames, old mistakes, old sins, are forgiven, buried, and healed. A new way of life, following our resurrected Lord, is ours right now.

When a match was lit in that dark cavern, every eye turned, every head turned, and almost everyone reoriented their bodies to face that new light. May we so live in the power of Christ's resurrection that our hearts, minds, and bodies are reoriented to God's way of love. May we join our resurrected Lord in the work of making all things new.



***The Rt. Rev. Dr. David G. Read** serves as bishop of the Episcopal Diocese of West Texas, the sixteenth bishop to serve in West Texas (the eleventh diocesan). He has jurisdiction over 87 congregations within the diocese, including parishes, missions, and church plants ranging in size from 40 members to 2,000 members.*

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

### Opportunities for Prayer and Worship This Week

04/17-feria: Holy Eucharist and Healing, Noon, (Chapel)

Please join us each week for Bible Study on Wednesday evenings. We are currently studying the Gospel readings from each Sunday's readings. Dinner is provided and starts at 5:15pm with Bible study following at 6:00pm. Childcare is provided.

Our monthly Parish Breakfast is at 9:00am today.

You can pick up the Green Ministry Bags today. This month's ministry is the Flynn Christian Fellowship Home. A list of their needs is provided in each bag.

We finished off our RIP Medical Debt campaign with a total of \$21,194.90 which abolishes the medical debt for the Rocky Mount convocation. Any additional funds received will go to Johnston County.

### St. Timothy's Kentucky Derby Garden Party

St. Timothy's first ever Kentucky Derby Garden Party is Saturday, May 4, 2024, at 4:00 PM, at the Eagle Farm Clubhouse. The Derby will start around 6:35 PM. In between, we will do what a family does; eat, drink, "horsing around" having fun and playing games like cornhole, croquet, horseshoes, etc.

There are two things the Kentucky Derby is known for, HATS and mint julips, and yes, we will have both! Please wear your garden party finest! Also, we *encourage everyone to be creative and make your own hat*. Buy a basic hat or use an existing hat and have fun embellishing and decorating it however you like. OR you can buy and wear the finest hat you can find. This is about fun and fabulousness! There will be a hat contest in several categories yet to be decided and there will be prizes too!

We will serve finger foods: pimento cheese, chicken salad, and cucumber sandwiches, cheese straws, deviled eggs, vegetable tray, mini desserts, tea, lemonade, and water. We will also have the ingredients for that other Kentucky Derby staple ... mint julips. However, you need to bring your own alcohol.

If you, or you and another member, would like to go in together and volunteer to bring one of the food items, please call the church office, or let Pam Armstrong, Catherine Walston, or Thomas Farmer know what you will bring.

We believe this will be a fun event for everyone. If you know someone who is looking for a church home, please invite them. This will be a great way to introduce them to St. Timothy's! We hope to see you there!

Sunday, May 12<sup>th</sup> is Youth Sunday. Please start considering how you can be a part of this special day. We will need youth to serve in all roles in both the 8:00am and 10:30am services. These include greeters, ushers, readers, eucharistic ministers (must be 16) and the sermon. Please let Father Paul or Pastor Jen know how you would like to serve.