

GRACE

CHURCH ON-THE-HILL

ORDER OF SERVICE

EASTER

PRELUDE *Incantation for a Holy Day*

JEAN LANGLAIS

ORGANIST: Thomas Fitches ODT; DDiv. (honoris causa)

GREETING

Alleluia! Christ is risen
The Lord is risen indeed, Alleluia!
May his grace and peace be with you.
May he fill our hearts with joy.

HYMN 203

EASTER HYMN

Jesus Christ is risen today, alleluia!
our triumphant holy day, alleluia!
who did once, upon the cross, alleluia!
suffer to redeem our loss. Alleluia!

Hymns of praise then let us sing, alleluia!
unto Christ our heavenly King, alleluia!
who endured the cross and grave, alleluia!
sinners to redeem and save. Alleluia!

But the pains which he endured, alleluia!
our salvation have procured; alleluia!
now above the sky he's king, alleluia!
where the angels ever sing. Alleluia!

COLLECT FOR PURITY

Almighty God, to you all hearts are open, all desires known, and from you no secrets are hidden. 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

GENERAL CONFSSION AND ABSOLUTION

Priest: Christ our Passover Lamb has been offered for us, therefore we celebrate this Paschal festival.

Let us in penitence and faith confess our sins against God and our neighbour.

THE CONFESSION

Like Mary at the empty tomb, we fail to grasp the wonder of your presence: Lord, have mercy.
Like the disciples behind locked doors, we are afraid to be recognized as your followers: Christ, have mercy.

Like Thomas in the upper room, we are slow to believe: Lord, have mercy.

THE ABSOLUTION

May the God of power and love forgive you and free you from all your sins, heal and strengthen you by the Spirit, and raise you to newness of life in Christ. Amen.”

Canticle: 365 *Glory to God on high*

DARWALL

Glory to God on high,
and peace to all on earth.
We worship you, we give you thanks,
Our heavenly King
We give you praise
Almighty God and Father blessed
In glory bright

Our Savior, Jesus Christ,
The Father's only Son,
The sacrificial Lamb,
Who save the world from sin,
Have mercy Lord.
Beside the Father's hand enthroned,
Now hear our prayer.

You only are the Lord.
You only are most high.
Lord Jesus Christ.
And now you reign
With Father and with Spirit one
In glorious light.

COLLECT OF THE DAY

Lord of life and power, through the mighty resurrection of your Son, you have overcome the old order of in and death and have made all things new in him. May we, being dead to sin and alive to you in Jesus Christ, reign with him in glory, who with you and the Holy Spirit is alive, one God, now and for ever.

LITURGY OF THE WORD:

LESSON: *Acts 10.34-43*

READ BY LAURIE MELBOURNE

Then Peter began to speak to them: 'I truly understand that God shows no partiality, but in every nation anyone who fears him and does what is right is acceptable to him. You know the message he sent to the people of Israel, preaching peace by Jesus Christ—he is Lord of all. That message spread throughout Judea, beginning in Galilee after the baptism that John announced: how God anointed Jesus of Nazareth with the Holy Spirit and with power; how he went about doing good and healing all who were oppressed by the devil, for God was with him. We are witnesses to all that he did both in Judea and in Jerusalem. They put him to death by hanging him on a tree; but God raised him on the third day and allowed him to appear, not to all the people but to us who were chosen by God as witnesses, and who ate and drank with him after he rose from the dead. He commanded us to preach to the people and to testify that he is the one ordained by God as judge of the living and the dead. All the prophets testify about him that everyone who believes in him receives forgiveness of sins through his name.'

PSALM 118:14-24

The Lord is my strength and my might;
he has become my salvation.

There are glad songs of victory in the tents of the righteous:

'The right hand of the Lord does valiantly;
the right hand of the Lord is exalted;
the right hand of the Lord does valiantly.'

I shall not die, but I shall live,
and recount the deeds of the Lord.

The Lord has punished me severely,
but he did not give me over to death.

Open to me the gates of righteousness,
that I may enter through them
and give thanks to the Lord.

This is the gate of the Lord;
the righteous shall enter through it.

I thank you that you have answered me
and have become my salvation.

The stone that the builders rejected
has become the chief cornerstone.

This is the Lord's doing;
it is marvelous in our eyes.
This is the day that the Lord has made;
let us rejoice and be glad in it.

EPISTLE: *Colossians 3.1-4*

READ BY LAURIC ALBAN BAKOMITO

So if you have been raised with Christ, seek the things that are above, where Christ is, seated at the right hand of God. Set your minds on things that are above, not on things that are on earth, for you have died, and your life is hidden with Christ in God. When Christ who is your life is revealed, then you also will be revealed with him in glory.

SUNG 'ALLELUIA AND VERSE'

SUNG BY SARAH HICKS

GOSPEL *Matthew 28.1-10* READ BY JENNIFER MCGILL, WILLIAM CANU, AND NICOLAS CANU

After the sabbath, as the first day of the week was dawning, Mary Magdalene and the other Mary went to see the tomb. And suddenly there was a great earthquake; for an angel of the Lord, descending from heaven, came and rolled back the stone and sat on it. His appearance was like lightning, and his clothing white as snow. For fear of him the guards shook and became like dead men. But the angel said to the women, 'Do not be afraid; I know that you are looking for Jesus who was crucified. He is not here; for he has been raised, as he said. Come, see the place where he lay. Then go quickly and tell his disciples, "He has been raised from the dead, and indeed he is going ahead of you to Galilee; there you will see him." This is my message for you.' So they left the tomb quickly with fear and great joy, and ran to tell his disciples. Suddenly Jesus met them and said, 'Greetings!' And they came to him, took hold of his feet, and worshipped him. Then Jesus said to them, 'Do not be afraid; go and tell my brothers to go to Galilee; there they will see me.'

Canticle: 'Te Deum laudamus'

HERBERT HOWELLS
CHOIR OF GRACE CHURCH ON-THE-HILL

HOMILY

REV. CANON PETER WALKER

HYMN 220

ALL SAINTS

Christ is risen, Christ is risen,
tell it out with joyful voice;
Christ has burst his three days' prison:
let the whole wide earth rejoice!
Death is conquered, we are free,
Christ has won the victory.

Come, ye sad and fearful-hearted,
with glad smile and radiant brow;
Lent's long shadows have departed,
all his woes are over now,
and the Passion that he bore;
sin and pain can vex no more.

Christ is risen, Christ is risen;
he hath opened heaven's gate:
we are free from sin's dark prison,
risen to a holier state;
and a brighter Easter beam
on our longing eyes shall stream.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

LED BY MARIA LING

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. 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 PEACE

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Final Hymn 216 *Ye choirs of new Jerusalem*

ST FULBERT

Ye choirs of new Jerusalem,
your sweetest notes employ,
the paschal victory to hymn
in strains of holy joy.

For Judah's Lion bursts his chains,
crushing the serpent's head;
and cries aloud through death's domains
to wake the imprisoned dead.

Devouring depths of hell their prey
at his command restore;
his ransomed hosts pursue their way
where Jesus goes before.

