

**The Second Sunday of Easter**  
**11:00 a.m., Sunday, April 12, 2026**  
**The Episcopal Church of the Advent**  
**Kennett Square, Pennsylvania**



**Welcome to the Church of the Advent!** If you are a guest with us this morning, please know we are honored by your presence! We invite you to complete a guest card, which will allow us to remain in contact with you and provide you with additional information. You may place your completed card in the offering plate, or you may give it to our priest as you are leaving. On our website ([www.adventks.org](http://www.adventks.org)), you will find an up-to-date calendar of all church ministries and activities, and you may sign up to receive our weekly email. If you are interested in learning more about the Church of the Advent, the Episcopal Church, or the Christian faith, please contact our priest (Tim Johnson) at (610) 444-4624 or [rector@adventks.org](mailto:rector@adventks.org). **Again, welcome!**

**\*\*\*Next Sunday, April 19<sup>th</sup> – Annual Parish Meeting at 10:00 a.m. There will be no 11:00 a.m. service or Sunday school for adults, youth, or children.\*\*\***

**Elementary Sunday School** begins at 9:45 am, in the Children's Chapel.

**Jr/Sr High Sunday School** is on break this Sunday.

**Adult Formation** is on break this Sunday.

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**WE GATHER FOR WORSHIP**

**PRELUDE**                      *Wayfaring Stranger - Traditional*

**OPENING HYMN**              *Standing in the Need of Prayer*  
#177 in **Lift Every Voice and Sing** (black and red hymnal)

*Celebrant* Alleluia! Christ is risen!  
*People*      **The Lord is risen indeed! Alleluia!**

*Celebrant*

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.**

**GLORIA** #S-280 in the front of the **Hymnal 1982** (blue hymnal) Powell

*Celebrant* The Lord be with you.

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

*Celebrant & People*

**Almighty and everlasting God, who in the Paschal mystery established the new covenant of reconciliation: Grant that all who have been reborn into the fellowship of Christ's Body may show forth in their lives what they profess by their faith; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. Amen.**

## **WE HEAR GOD'S WORD**

### **THE FIRST LESSON: Acts 2:14a,22-32**

Peter, standing with the eleven, raised his voice and addressed the crowd, "You that are Israelites, listen to what I have to say: Jesus of Nazareth, a man attested to you by God with deeds of power, wonders, and signs that God did through him among you, as you yourselves know— this man, handed over to you according to the definite plan and foreknowledge of God, you crucified and killed by the hands of those outside the law. But God raised him up, having freed him from death, because it was impossible for him to be held in its power. For David says concerning him,

'I saw the Lord always before me,  
for he is at my right hand so that I will not be shaken;  
therefore my heart was glad, and my tongue rejoiced;  
moreover my flesh will live in hope.  
For you will not abandon my soul to Hades,  
or let your Holy One experience corruption.  
You have made known to me the ways of life;  
you will make me full of gladness with your presence.'

“Fellow Israelites, I may say to you confidently of our ancestor David that he both died and was buried, and his tomb is with us to this day. Since he was a prophet, he knew that God had sworn with an oath to him that he would put one of his descendants on his throne. Foreseeing this, David spoke of the resurrection of the Messiah, saying,

‘He was not abandoned to Hades,  
nor did his flesh experience corruption.’

This Jesus God raised up, and of that all of us are witnesses.”

*Lector*     The Word of the Lord.

*People*     **Thanks be to God.**

## **Psalm 16**

- 1 Protect me, O God, for I take refuge in you; \*  
I have said to the LORD, "You are my Lord, my good above all other."
- 2 All my delight is upon the godly that are in the land, \*  
upon those who are noble among the people.
- 3 But those who run after other gods \*  
shall have their troubles multiplied.
- 4 Their libations of blood I will not offer, \*  
nor take the names of their gods upon my lips.
- 5 O LORD, you are my portion and my cup; \*  
it is you who uphold my lot.
- 6 My boundaries enclose a pleasant land; \*  
indeed, I have a goodly heritage.
- 7 I will bless the LORD who gives me counsel; \*  
my heart teaches me, night after night.
- 8 I have set the LORD always before me; \*  
because he is at my right hand I shall not fall.
- 9 My heart, therefore, is glad, and my spirit rejoices; \*  
my body also shall rest in hope.
- 10 For you will not abandon me to the grave, \*  
nor let your holy one see the Pit.
- 11 You will show me the path of life; \*  
in your presence there is fullness of joy,  
and in your right hand are pleasures for evermore.

## THE SECOND LESSON: 1 Peter 1:3-9

Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ! By his great mercy he has given us a new birth into a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead, and into an inheritance that is imperishable, undefiled, and unfading, kept in heaven for you, who are being protected by the power of God through faith for a salvation ready to be revealed in the last time. In this you rejoice, even if now for a little while you have had to suffer various trials, so that the genuineness of your faith-- being more precious than gold that, though perishable, is tested by fire-- may be found to result in praise and glory and honor when Jesus Christ is revealed. Although you have not seen him, you love him; and even though you do not see him now, you believe in him and rejoice with an indescribable and glorious joy, for you are receiving the outcome of your faith, the salvation of your souls.

*Lector* The Word of the Lord.

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

*(Please stand for the sequence hymn and the reading of the Gospel.)*

### SEQUENCE HYMN

*Be Thou My Vision*

#488 in the **Hymnal 1982** (blue hymnal)

*Celebrant* The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ, according to John.

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

### GOSPEL: John 20: 19-31

When it was evening on that day, the first day of the week, and the doors of the house where the disciples had met were locked for fear of the Jews, Jesus came and stood among them and said, "Peace be with you." After he said this, he showed them his hands and his side. Then the disciples rejoiced when they saw the Lord. Jesus said to them again, "Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, so I send you." When he had said this, he breathed on them and said to them, "Receive the Holy Spirit. If you forgive the sins of any, they are forgiven them; if you retain the sins of any, they are retained."

But Thomas (who was called the Twin), one of the twelve, was not with them when Jesus came. So the other disciples told him, "We have seen the Lord." But he said to them, "Unless I see the mark of the nails in his hands, and put my finger in the mark of the nails and my hand in his side, I will not believe."

A week later his disciples were again in the house, and Thomas was with them. Although the doors were shut, Jesus came and stood among them and said, "Peace be with you." Then he said to Thomas, "Put your finger here and see my hands. Reach out your hand and put it in my side. Do not doubt but believe." Thomas answered him, "My Lord and my God!" Jesus said to him, "Have you believed because you have seen me? Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have come to believe."

Now Jesus did many other signs in the presence of his disciples, which are not written in this book. But these are written so that you may come to believe that Jesus is the Messiah, the Son of God, and that through believing you may have life in his name.

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

**SEQUENCE HYMN** *Be Thou My Vision*  
#488 in the **Hymnal 1982** (blue hymnal)

**HOMILY**

## **WE RESPOND TO GOD'S WORD**

**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.**

### **PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE**

*(Please kneel or be seated for the prayers of the people.)*

### **THE PEACE**

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

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

### **WE CELEBRATE HOLY COMMUNION**

#### **THE OFFERTORY**

*Shall We Gather at the River*

Traditional

### **PRESENTATION OF THE GIFTS**

*(Please stand as you are able. Sung to hymn tune #400 in the Hymnal 1982 –  
the blue hymnal.)*

**Praise God from whom all blessings flow.  
Praise Him all creatures here below. Alleluia! Alleluia!  
Praise Him above ye heavenly host.  
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Alleluia! Alleluia!  
Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!**

*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.**

It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere...  
...singing this hymn to proclaim the glory of your Name:

**Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might.  
 Heaven and earth are full, full of your glory.  
 Hosanna in the highest. Hosanna in the highest.  
 Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.  
 Hosanna in the highest. Hosanna in the highest.**

*(You may remain standing, kneel, or sit for the remainder of the prayer.)*

We give thanks to you, O God, for the goodness and love...  
 ...Therefore according to his command, O Father:

**We remember his death; we proclaim his resurrection;  
 we await his coming in glory.**

And we offer our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving...  
 ...all honor and glory is your, Almighty Father, now and for ever. **Amen**

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

<b>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,</b>	<b>as we forgive those who          trespass against us.          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.</b>
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*Celebrant* Alleluia! Christ our passover is sacrificed for us!  
*People* Therefore, let us keep the feast! Alleluia!

**COMMUNION HYMN**

*Taste and See*

#154 in **Lift Up Your Voice and Sing** (black and red hymnal)

**POST COMMUNION PRAYER**

*Celebrant* Let us pray

**Almighty and everlasting God, who in the Paschal mystery  
 established the new covenant of reconciliation: Grant that all who  
 have been reborn into the fellowship of Christ's Body may show  
 forth in their lives what they profess by their faith; through Jesus  
 Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,  
 one God, for ever and ever. Amen.**

## WE RETURN TO THE WORLD

### THE EASTER BLESSING

#### CLOSING HYMN

*Soon and Very Soon*

#14 in **Lift Up Your Voice and Sing** (black and red hymnal)

*Celebrant* Let us go forth into the world, rejoicing in the power of the Spirit.  
Alleluia! Alleluia!

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

#### ORGAN POSTLUDE

*This Little Light of Mine*

Traditional

*The Altar Flowers are sponsored today by Lisa Forsyth  
in loving memory of Alma and James Forsyth.*

*The Sanctuary Candle is sponsored this week by Doranne Easler  
in memory of her husband, Bud Easler.*

#### WORSHIP SUPPORT

*Lector:* Diane Chun      *Sub Deacon:* Pete Peterson

*Eucharistic Minister:* Barbara Thornton

*Director of Music:* Wilson G. Somers

#### ***Suggested Spiritual Practice for the Easter Season: Read the Book of Acts***

Easter is more than just a day; it is an entire season. It is one of the two festival seasons of the church year, with the Christmas Season being the other. The Easter Season is celebrated for fifty days, beginning on Easter Sunday and concluding with Pentecost Sunday. During the Easter Season, in worship services where all the appointed Bible readings are typically read (Old Testament, Psalm, New Testament, and Gospel), the Old Testament reading is typically replaced with a reading from the Book of Acts. The Book of Acts (a.k.a. The Acts of the Apostles) was written by the same author as Luke's Gospel, and it picks up where Luke's Gospel ends. The Book of Acts tells the story of the earliest Christians immediately following the death, resurrection, and ascension of Jesus. I encourage you to spend some time in this Easter Season reading through the Book of Acts.

Happy Easter! Rev. Tim