



# City Church

PHILADELPHIA

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Sunday May 7, 2017

Easter 4

1 Peter

“Suffering and Endurance”

## PREPARATION

Alleluia! Christ is risen.

*All* **He is risen indeed. Alleluia!**

Grace, mercy and peace  
from God our Father  
and the Lord Jesus Christ be with you all.

*All* **And also with you.**

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

*All* **The right hand of the Lord is exalted!**

## OPENING SONGS

*All People that on Earth Do Dwell* - Louis Bourgeois, William Kethe

All people that on earth do dwell,  
sing to the Lord with cheerful voice.  
Him serve with fear, his praise forth tell;  
come ye before him and rejoice.

The Lord, ye know, is God indeed;  
without our aid he did us make;  
we are his folk, he doth us feed,  
and for his sheep he doth us take.

O enter then his gates with praise;  
approach with joy his courts unto;  
praise, laud, and bless his name always,  
for it is seemly so to do.

For why? the Lord our God is good;  
his mercy is for ever sure;  
his truth at all times firmly stood,  
and shall from age to age endure.

## THE OPENING OF WORSHIP

Sing praises to the Lord, who dwells in Zion.

*All* **Declare his deeds among the peoples.**

For he is mindful of his people;  
**he does not forget the cry of the afflicted.**  
Be gracious to me, O Lord.

**See what I suffer from those who hate me;**  
you are the one who lifts me up from the gates of death,  
**that I may rejoice in your deliverance.**

The Lord has made himself known,  
he has executed judgment;  
**the wicked are ensnared in the work of their own hands.**  
For the needy shall not always be forgotten,  
**nor shall the hope of the poor perish for ever.**

*from Psalm 9*

## PRAYER OF ADORATION AND THANKSGIVING

## DOXOLOGY

All ye who are of tender heart,  
forgiving others take your part.  
Sing his praises, Alleluia!  
Ye, who long pain and sorrow bear,  
praise God and on him cast your care!  
O praise him! O praise him!  
Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

Let all things their creator bless,  
and worship him in humbleness,  
O praise him, Alleluia!  
Praise, praise the Father, praise the Son,  
and praise the Spirit three in one,  
O praise him! O praise him!

## CONFESSION OF SIN

*All* God our Father,  
we come to you in sorrow for our sins—  
for turning away from you  
and ignoring your will for our lives;  
for failing you by what we do, think, and say;  
for letting ourselves be drawn away from you  
by the temptations in the world around us.  
Forgive us, for the sake of your risen Son,  
and by your Spirit, lead us into his resurrection life.

## WORDS OF COMFORT AND ASSURANCE OF PARDON

God, the Father of mercies,  
has reconciled the world to himself  
through the death and resurrection of Jesus Christ,  
his Son,  
not counting our sins against us,  
but sending his Spirit  
to impart unto us his love:  
in him now receive pardon and peace.

*All* Amen.

## SONGS OF PRAISE AND THANKSGIVING

*Man of Sorrows* - Philip Bliss

Man of Sorrows! what a name  
for the Son of God, who came  
ruined sinners to reclaim.  
Hallelujah! What a savior!

Bearing shame and scoffing rude,  
in my place condemned he stood;  
sealed my pardon with his blood.  
Hallelujah! What a savior!

Guilty, vile, and helpless we;  
spotless lamb of God was he;  
“Full atonement!” can it be?  
Hallelujah! What a savior!

Lifted up was he to die;  
“It is finished!” was his cry;  
now in heaven exalted high.  
Hallelujah! What a savior!

When he comes, our glorious king,  
all his ransomed home to bring,  
then anew this song we’ll sing:  
Hallelujah! What a savior!

*Psalm 62* - Aaron Keyes, Stuart Townend

My soul finds rest in God alone, my rock and my salvation,  
a fortress strong against my foes, and I will not be shaken.  
Though lips may bless and hearts may curse,  
and lies like arrows pierce me,  
I'll fix my heart on righteousness,  
I'll look to him who hears me.

*O praise him, hallelujah, my delight and my reward;  
everlasting, never failing, my redeemer, my God.*

Find rest, my soul,  
in God alone amid the world's temptations;  
when evil seeks to take a hold, I'll cling to my salvation.  
Though riches come and riches go,  
don't set your heart upon them;  
the fields of hope in which I sow are harvested in heaven.

I'll set my gaze on God alone, and trust in him completely;  
with every day pour out my soul,  
and he will prove his mercy.  
Though life is but a fleeting breath,  
a sigh too brief to measure,  
my king has crushed the curse of death, and I am his forever.

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## **PASSING OF THE PEACE**

The peace of the risen Christ be with you always.

*All* **And also with you.**

Let us offer one another a sign of peace.

*Children attending kindergarten and younger are invited to go to their classes at this time. Children in 1st and 2nd grades are invited to Children's Church and will return during the Offering.*

## **THE WORD OF GOD**

*New Testament reading:* 1 Peter 2:19-25

<sup>19</sup>For it is a credit to you if, being aware of God, you endure pain while suffering unjustly. <sup>20</sup>If you endure when you are beaten for doing wrong, what credit is that? But if you endure when you do right and suffer for it, you have God's approval. <sup>21</sup>For to this you have been called, because Christ also suffered for you, leaving you an example, so that you should follow in his steps. <sup>22</sup>"He committed no sin, and no deceit was found in his mouth." <sup>23</sup>When he was abused, he did not return abuse; when he suffered, he did not threaten; but he entrusted himself to the one who judges justly. <sup>24</sup>He himself bore our sins in his body on the cross, so that, free from sins, we might live for righteousness; by his wounds you have been healed. <sup>25</sup>For you were going astray like sheep, but now you have returned to the shepherd and guardian of your souls.

This is the Word of the Lord.

*All* **Thanks be to God.**

*Gospel reading:* John 10:1-10

Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ  
according to John.

*All* **Glory to you, O Lord.**

<sup>1</sup>"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. <sup>2</sup>The one who enters by the gate is the shepherd of the

Continued on back...

sheep. <sup>3</sup>The gatekeeper opens the gate for him, and the sheep hear his voice. He calls his own sheep by name and leads them out. <sup>4</sup>When he has brought out all his own, he goes ahead of them, and the sheep follow him because they know his voice. <sup>5</sup>They will not follow a stranger, but they will run from him because they do not know the voice of strangers.” <sup>6</sup>Jesus used this figure of speech with them, but they did not understand what he was saying to them.

<sup>7</sup>So again Jesus said to them, “Very truly, I tell you, I am the gate for the sheep. <sup>8</sup>All who came before me are thieves and bandits; but the sheep did not listen to them. <sup>9</sup>I am the gate. Whoever enters by me will be saved, and will come in and go out and find pasture. <sup>10</sup>The thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy. I came that they may have life, and have it abundantly.

<sup>11</sup>I am the good shepherd. The good shepherd lays down his life for the sheep. <sup>12</sup>The hired hand, who is not the shepherd and does not own the sheep, sees the wolf coming and leaves the sheep and runs away—and the wolf snatches them and scatters them. <sup>13</sup>The hired hand runs away because a hired hand does not care for the sheep. <sup>14</sup>I am the good shepherd. I know my own and my own know me, <sup>15</sup>just as the Father knows me and I know the Father. And I lay down my life for the sheep. <sup>16</sup>I have other sheep that do not belong to this fold. I must bring them also, and they will listen to my voice. So there will be one flock, one shepherd.”

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

*All* Praise to you, O Christ.

## SERMON

“Suffering and Endurance” – Mr. John Cunningham

## OFFERING AND PRESENTATION OF GIFTS

*The offertory is an opportunity to participate in the ministry of City Church. Online giving is available at [citychurchphilly.com/give](http://citychurchphilly.com/give). If you're visiting, we are so glad you are worshipping with us, but please do not feel obligated to give.*

## CREED

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

I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord,  
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,  
born of the Virgin Mary,  
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,  
he is seated at the right hand of the Father,  
and he will come 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.

## PRAYERS

*Members of the congregation lead us in prayer.*

Christ our Messiah,  
we confess that you are the good shepherd  
who lays down his life for his sheep:  
may you who bore our sins in your body on the cross  
tend and guard our souls as pilgrims in this world.  
For this, O Lord, we pray:

**All Lord, hear our prayer.**

Christ our King,  
you bear a name above every name,  
sustaining our world by your word:  
establish your reign of justice  
and peace over all the earth,  
that grace and truth may transform peoples,  
leaders, and nations.  
For this, O Lord, we pray:

**All Lord, hear our prayer.**

Spirit of wisdom and life,  
at times you lead us into the wilderness, into suffering,  
into times of trial by sickness, hunger,  
oppression, and death:  
grant relief to the poor and unemployed,  
freedom to the persecuted,  
health to the sick,  
and comfort to all who suffer in mind or body.  
For this, O Lord, we pray:

**All Lord, hear our prayer.**

And for what else should we pray?

*Members of the congregation may add their own intercessions at this time, ending with,*

For this, O Lord, we pray:

**All Lord, hear our prayer.**

Now gathering our prayers into one, let us pray boldly  
as our Savior has taught us:

**All 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 debts, as we forgive our debtors.  
And lead us not into temptation,  
but deliver us from evil.  
For thine is the kingdom and the power  
and the glory forever and ever.  
Amen.**

## COMMUNION

The Lord be with you.

**All And also with you.**

Lift up your hearts.

**All We lift them to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**All It is right to give thanks and praise.**

## THE EUCHARISTIC PRAYER

### *Sanctus*

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

*The minister concludes the Eucharistic Prayer and speaks the Words of Institution.*

## MEMORIAL ACCLAMATION

Let us proclaim the mystery of faith:

**All Christ has died:**

**Christ is risen:**

**Christ will come again.**

Alleluia! Christ our Passover has been sacrificed for us.

**All Therefore, let us keep the feast. Alleluia!**

*We use wine in Communion. Non-alcoholic white grape juice and gluten-free rice cakes are also available if preferred. Please recycle your Communion cup as you leave worship.*

## COMMUNION SONG

*I Know that My Redeemer Lives* – Samuel Medley, Vito Aiuto

I know that my redeemer lives;  
what comfort this sweet sentence gives!  
He lives, he lives, who once was dead;  
he lives, my ever living head.

He lives to bless me with his love,  
he lives to plead for me above.  
He lives my hungry soul to feed,  
he lives to help in time of need.

He lives triumphant from the grave,  
he lives eternally to save,  
he lives all glorious in the sky,  
he lives exalted there on high.

He lives to grant me rich supply,  
he lives to guide me with his eye,  
he lives to comfort me when faint,  
he lives to hear my soul's complaint.

He lives to silence all my fears,  
he lives to wipe away my tears,  
he lives to calm my troubled heart,  
he lives all blessings to impart.

He lives, my kind, wise, heavenly friend,  
he lives and loves me to the end;  
he lives, and while he lives, I'll sing;  
he lives, my prophet, priest, and king.

He lives and grants me daily breath;  
he lives, and I shall conquer death:  
he lives my mansion to prepare;  
he lives to bring me safely there.

He lives, all glory to his name!  
He lives, my Jesus, still the same.  
Oh, the sweet joy this sentence gives:  
I know that my redeemer lives!

## PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

*All* Blessed are you, Lord God of all creation.  
In your loving care  
you spread before us the table of life  
and give us the cup of salvation to drink.  
Keep us always  
in the fold of our Savior and Shepherd,  
your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.  
Amen.

## BLESSING AND SENDING

*His Love Can Never Fail* - E.S.Hall, Chris Miner

I do not ask to see the way my feet will have to tread,  
but only that my soul may feed upon the living bread.  
'Tis better far that I should walk by faith close to his side;  
I may not know the way I go, but O, I know my guide.

*His love can never fail, his love can never fail;  
my soul is satisfied to know his love can never fail.  
My soul is satisfied to know his love can never fail.*

And if my feet would go astray, they cannot, for I know  
that Jesus guides my falt'ring steps as joyfully I go.  
And though I may not see his face, my faith is strong and clear  
that, in each hour of sore distress, my savior will be near.

I will not fear, though darkness come abroad o'er all the land,  
if I may only feel the touch of his own loving hand.  
And though I tremble when I think how weak I am, and frail,  
my soul is satisfied to know his love can never fail.

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## BENEDICTION

Alleluia! Christ is risen.

*All* He is risen indeed. Alleluia!

## DISMISSAL

Let us go forth to serve the world  
as those who love our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.

*All* Thanks be to God. Alleluia, alleluia!

### West Philly

Stacy Bartholomew: liturgist  
Tuck Bartholomew: celebrant

Bethany Brooks: piano, voice  
Matt Goldsborough: bass  
Lee Jeon: violin, voice

### Fairmont

Katie Davis: liturgist  
Chris Currie: celebrant

Bethany Brooks: piano, voice  
Mike Chen: guitar, voice  
Matt Goldsborough: bass  
Rob Wildes: drums

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community life and church events.

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