



**Sunday, April 5, 2026**

## Welcome & Opening Declaration

### **Easter Responsive**

*Leader:* O give thanks to the Lord, for he is good!

*People:* **His steadfast love endures forever!**

*Leader:* This is the day the Lord has made!

*People:* **Let us rejoice and be glad in it!**

*Leader:* He is not here — he has been raised!

*People:* **Alleluia! Christ is risen!**

*Leader:* He is risen, indeed!

## SCRIPTURE

### **Jeremiah 31:1-6**

New Revised Standard Version Updated Edition

**1** At that time, says the LORD, I will be the God of all the families of Israel, and they shall be my people. **2** Thus says the LORD: The people who survived the sword found grace in the wilderness; when Israel sought for rest, **3** the LORD appeared to him from far away. I have loved you with an everlasting love; therefore I have continued my faithfulness to you. **4** Again I will build you, and you shall be built, O virgin Israel! Again you shall adorn yourself with your tambourines and go forth in the dance of the merrymakers. **5** Again you shall plant vineyards on the mountains of Samaria; the planters shall plant and shall enjoy the fruit. **6** For there shall be a day when sentinels will call in the hill country of Ephraim: "Come, let us go up to Zion, to the LORD our God."

## **Psalm 118:1-2; 14-24**

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1 O give thanks to the Lord, for he is good; his steadfast love endures forever! 2 Let Israel say, "His steadfast love endures forever."

14 The Lord is my strength and my might; he has become my salvation. 15 There are glad songs of victory in the tents of the righteous: "The right hand of the Lord does valiantly; 16 the right hand of the Lord is exalted; the right hand of the Lord does valiantly." 17 I shall not die, but I shall live and recount the deeds of the Lord. 18 The Lord has punished me severely, but he did not give me over to death. 19 Open to me the gates of righteousness, that I may enter through them and give thanks to the Lord. 20 This is the gate of the Lord;

the righteous shall enter through it.

21 I thank you that you have answered me and have become my salvation. 22 The stone that the builders rejected has become the chief cornerstone. 23 This is the Lord's doing; it is marvelous in our eyes. 24 This is the day that the Lord has made; let us rejoice and be glad in it.

## **Colossians 3:1-4**

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1 So if you have been raised with Christ, seek the things that are above, where Christ is, seated at the right hand of God. 2 Set your minds on the things that are above, not on the things that are on earth, 3 for you have died, and your life is hidden with Christ in God. 4 When Christ who is your life is revealed, then you also will be revealed with him in glory.

### **Leader: The Word of the LORD**

All: Thanks be to God

## SING TOGETHER

### Doxology

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;  
Praise Him, all creatures here below;  
Praise Him above, ye heav'nly host;  
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost!

# Blessing of the Children

## SCRIPTURE

### Matthew 28:1-10

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**1** After the Sabbath, as the first day of the week was dawning, Mary Magdalene and the other Mary went to see the tomb. **2** 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. **3** His appearance was like lightning and his clothing white as snow. **4** For fear of him the guards shook and became like dead men. **5** But the angel said to the women, "Do not be afraid, for I know that you are looking for Jesus who was crucified. **6** He is not here, for he has been raised, as he said. Come, see the place where he lay. **7** 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." **8** So they left the tomb quickly with fear and great joy and ran to tell his disciples. **9** Suddenly Jesus met them and said, "Greetings!" And they came to him, took hold of his feet, and worshiped him. **10** Then Jesus said to them, "Do not be afraid; go and tell my brothers and sisters to go to Galilee; there they will see me."

#### Leader: The Word of the LORD

All: Thanks be to God

## HOMILY

## TIME OF RESPONSE

## APOSTLES' CREED

**We believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.  
We believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.  
He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit and born of the Virgin Mary.  
He 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, and is seated at the right hand of the Father.  
He will come again to judge the living and the dead.  
We 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**

## THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

*Officiant:* The Lord be with you.

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

Almighty God, you are the God of resurrection life, who on the first day of New Creation rolled back the stone and conquered death: As we have gathered in awe and great joy, like those first women at the empty tomb, open our hearts to hear the angel's word — *he is not here, for he has been raised* — and send us quickly from this place to tell all that we have seen and heard, that all may know you are good and your love for us endures. Through Jesus Christ, our risen Lord, who always goes ahead of us, now and forever. **Amen.**

Almighty Son, Risen and ever-present God, who did not appear to solitary souls but to women walking together toward the tomb, who sent them not alone but to brothers and sisters: Bind us to one another in this resurrection life, that we may proclaim it together, plant vineyards side by side, and go up to Zion with one voice — singing that you are good, that your steadfast love endures, and that no grave could hold you. Make us a people who embrace one another, bearing the news that changes everything. Through Jesus Christ, who calls us siblings and goes before us, now and forever. **Amen.**

Almighty Spirit, who hovered over chaos at the first creation and rolled back the stone at the second: We confess that we live in a world that knows the tomb well — its silence and its sealed darkness. Come now into every place of grief that refuses to be comforted, to every exile that has gone on too long, and to every community fractured and scattered like disciples fleeing into the night. Breathe into our dry bones your resurrection breath, that what is broken may be held, and what is hidden may be revealed; Raise us — and with us, raise the world — from what death has stolen from us, until all creation joins the dance and sings at last that you are *good*, that your steadfast love endures forever, and that the grave is empty. Through Jesus Christ, in whom all things are being made new, now and forever. **Amen.**

*Officiant:* Let us pray together as Jesus taught us:

## The Lord's Prayer

**Our Father, who is in heaven, hallowed be your Name, your kingdom come, your 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 yours is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, for ever and ever.  
Amen**

## The Lord's Table

The Lord be with you.

**And also with you**

Lift up your hearts.

**We lift them to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

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

All honor and praise be yours always and everywhere, mighty creator, ever-living God, through Jesus Christ your only Son our Lord: for at this time we celebrate your glory made present in our midst. In the water made wine the new creation was revealed at the wedding feast. Poverty was turned to riches,

sorrow into joy. Therefore with all the angels of heaven we lift our voices to proclaim the glory of your name and sing our joyful hymn of praise:

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

You are indeed Holy, O Lord, the fount of all holiness. Make holy, therefore, these gifts, we pray, by sending down your Spirit on these gifts of bread and wine, that they may be for us the body and blood of your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord; who, at supper with his disciples, took bread, gave you thanks, broke the bread, and gave it to them, saying, "Take, eat: this is my body which is given for you; do this in remembrance of me."

After supper he took the cup. Again he gave you thanks, and gave it to his disciples, saying, "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. Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me."

In sharing this meal together, we share in the mystery of our faith...  
**Christ has died; Christ is risen; Christ will come again.**

Christ our Passover has been sacrificed for us.  
**Therefore, let us keep the feast.**

SING TOGETHER

BENEDICTION

THANK YOU FOR JOINING THE TABLE PHILADELPHIA  
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