

*EASTER SUNDAY*

*APRIL 5, 2026*

*8:00 AM & 10:00 AM*



CHURCH OF THE ADVENT EPISCOPAL  
SUN CITY WEST, AZ

## FESTIVAL EUCHARIST OF EASTER

Whoever you are and wherever you are on your journey of faith, you are welcome.  
Come, you who seek God and even if you do not seek God, because God seeks you.  
Come, because Jesus invites you. It is his will that all should meet him here.

Prelude

**Opening Hymn** H 207

Celebrant Alleluia! Christ is risen.

**All 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 thought of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love, and worthily magnify your holy Name; through Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

**Hymn** H 205

Good Christians all, rejoice and sing!  
Now is the triumph of our King!  
To all the world glad news we bring;  
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

Celebrant The Lord be with you.

People And also with you.

Celebrant Let us pray.

Almighty God, who through your only-begotten Son Jesus Christ overcame death and opened to us the gate of everlasting life: Grant that we, who celebrate with joy the day of the Lord's resurrection, may be raised from the death of sin by your life-giving Spirit; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. *Amen.*

### THE PROCLAMATION OF THE WORD

**THE FIRST LESSON** Acts 10:34-43

Peter began to speak to Cornelius and the other Gentiles: "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."

Reader           The Word of the Lord.

**People           Thanks be to God.**

**Psalm 118:1-2, 14-24** (8:00 AM unison; 10:00 AM, sung)

- <sup>1</sup> Give thanks to the Lord, for he is good; \*  
his mercy endures for ever.
- <sup>2</sup> Let Israel now proclaim, \*  
"His mercy endures for ever."
- <sup>14</sup> The Lord is my strength and my song, \*  
and he has become my salvation.
- <sup>15</sup> There is a sound of exultation and victory \*  
in the tents of the righteous:
- <sup>16</sup> "The right hand of the Lord has triumphed! \*  
the right hand of the Lord is exalted!  
the right hand of the Lord has triumphed!"
- <sup>17</sup> I shall not die, but live, \*  
and declare the works of the Lord.
- <sup>18</sup> The Lord has punished me sorely, \*  
but he did not hand me over to death.
- <sup>19</sup> Open for me the gates of righteousness; \*  
I will enter them;  
I will offer thanks to the Lord.
- <sup>20</sup> "This is the gate of the Lord; \*  
he who is righteous may enter."
- <sup>21</sup> I will give thanks to you, for you answered me \*  
and have become my salvation.
- <sup>22</sup> The same stone which the builders rejected \*  
has become the chief cornerstone.
- <sup>23</sup> This is the Lord's doing, \*  
and it is marvelous in our eyes.
- <sup>24</sup> On this day the Lord has acted; \*  
we will rejoice and be glad in it.

**THE SECOND LESSON**           Colossians 3:1-4

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.

Reader           The Word of the Lord.

**People           Thanks be to God.**

**Hymn                                   H 208**

Reader            The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew  
**All**                    **Glory to you, Lord Jesus Christ**

**THE HOLY GOSPEL**    Matthew 28:1-10

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 worshiped him. Then Jesus said to them, "Do not be afraid; go and tell my brothers to go to Galilee; there they will see me."

Reader            The Gospel of Christ  
**All**                    **Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ**

Sermon            The Rev. Dr. Beverley Rader

**THE RENEWAL OF OUR BAPTISMAL COVENANT**

Priest            Dear friends, on this Easter Sunday, let us renew the promises we made in baptism, when we rejected Satan and all his works, and promised to serve God faithfully in his holy Catholic Church. Therefore I ask:

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

Priest            Do you believe in Jesus Christ, the Son of God?  
**All**                    **I believe in Jesus Christ, God's 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.**

Priest Do you believe in God the Holy Spirit?

**All 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.**

Priest Will you continue in the apostles' teaching and fellowship, in the breaking of the bread, and in the prayers?

**All I will, with God's help.**

Priest Will you persevere in resisting evil and, whenever you fall into sin, repent and return to the Lord?

**All I will, with God's help.**

Priest Will you proclaim by word and example the good news of God in Christ?

**All I will, with God's help.**

Priest Will you seek and serve Christ in all persons, loving your neighbor as yourself?

**All I will, with God's help.**

Priest Will you strive for justice and peace among all people, and respect the dignity of every human being?

**All I will, with God's help.**

Celebrant Grant, O lord, that all who are baptized into the death of Jesus Christ your Son may live in the power of his resurrection and look for him to come again in glory; who lives and reigns now and forever. **Amen.**

### THE EASTER PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

O Christ, by your resurrection you destroyed sin and death: help us to live holy and wholesome lives according to your will. Lord of glory,  
**Hear our prayer.**

O Christ, by your resurrection you opened the gates of heaven to all people: renew your Church throughout the world and guide all Christians to glorify your Name. Lord of glory,  
**Hear our prayer.**

O Christ, by your resurrection you bring about a new creation where love overcomes hate, suspicions disappear and divisions are healed: guide the leaders of the nations to bring about that kingdom where there is no war or strife but peace and justice for all people. Lord of glory,  
**Hear our prayer.**

O Christ, by your resurrection you redeemed us from the ravages of chaos and disorder: grant us wisdom so to use the resources of nature, that no one may suffer from our

abuse of the planet, and that generations to come may continue to praise you for your bounty. Lord of glory,

**Hear our prayer.**

O Christ, by your resurrection despair has given way to hope and faith has overcome fear: comfort those who mourn, strengthen those who suffer, and heal the sick in body, mind and spirit. Lord of glory,

**Hear our prayer.**

O Christ, by your resurrection you wipe away all tears from our eyes and bring us into the joy of your presence: welcome into paradise all who have died in the faith of your Church and those whose faith is known to you alone. Lord of glory,

**Hear our prayer.**

Celebrant God of grace, we no longer look for Jesus among the dead, for he is alive and is become the Lord of life. Increase our hearts and minds with the risen life we share with Christ and help us to grow as your people toward the fullness of eternal life with you; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Celebrant The peace of the Lord be always with you.

**All And also with you**

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

## **THE SERVICE OF THE TABLE**

OFFERTORY SENTENCE (Said by the Celebrant)

Let us with gladness present the offerings and oblations of our life and labor to the Lord.

OFFERORY MUSIC

*The people stand as able while the offerings of bread, wine, and money are presented and placed on the Altar.*

THE PRESENTATION OF THE GIFTS

(8 AM) All things come of thee, O Lord,  
And of thine own have we given thee.

(10 AM) Let there be peace on earth, and let it begin with me;  
Let there be peace on earth, the peace that was meant to be.  
With God as our Father, brothers all are we.  
Let us walk with each other in perfect harmony.  
Let peace begin with me; let this be the moment now.  
With every step I take, let this be my solemn vow;  
To take each moment and live each moment in peace eternally.  
Let there be peace on earth, and let it begin with me.

**Eucharistic Prayer A**

*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 God thanks and praise.

*The Celebrant proceeds:*

It is a right and a good and a 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; 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 forever sing this hymn to proclaim the glory of your Name:

8:00 AM 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.

10:00 AM Holy, holy, holy Lord, S 130  
God of power and might,  
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.

*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:

**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 are yours, Almighty Father, now and forever. Amen.

*Celebrant*      And now, as our Savior Christ has taught us, we are bold to say,  
**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 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 BREAKING OF THE BREAD

8:00 AM      Alleluia. Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us;  
                     **Therefore let us keep the feast, Alleluia.**

10:00 AM      S 158 (*sung*)

O Lamb of God, that takest away the sins of the world, have mercy upon us.  
O Lamb of God, that takest away the sins of the world, have mercy upon us.  
O Lamb of God, that takest away the sins of the world, grant us thy peace.

*Celebrant* The gifts of God for the people of God. Take them in remembrance that Christ died for you, and feed on him, by faith, with thanksgiving.

### COMMUNION OF THE PEOPLE

*All are welcome to the Lord's Table to receive the bread and wine of Christ's Body and Blood. The wine will be offered by intinction, which means that you may dip the wafer into the small cup offered by the Lay Assistant. If you do not wish to receive the wine, just receive the wafer and return to your seat. The Church teaches that you receive the full Christ in either the bread or wine. There is no requirement to receive both. Gluten-free wafers are available upon request.*

*You are invited to bring your prayer needs to the back of the church after communion.  
Our prayer partners are available to pray with you.*

### Communion Hymns

H 178 & H 182

### Post Communion Prayer

*(Said by all.)*

Eternal God, heavenly Father, you have graciously accepted us as living members of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ, and you have fed us with spiritual food in the Sacrament of his Body and Blood. Send us now into the world in peace, and grant us strength and courage to love and serve you with gladness and singleness of heart; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

### THE EASTER BLESSING

God the Father, who raised Jesus Christ from the dead, continually show you his loving kindness. **Amen**

God the Son, victor over sin and death, grant you a share in the joy of his resurrection. **Amen**

God the Holy Spirit, giver of light and peace, renew your hearts in his love. **Amen**

The blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit, be upon you and remain with you always. **Amen**

### Hymn

H 199

Minister Let us go forth into the world, rejoicing in the power of the Spirit.  
Alleluia, alleluia.

Dismissal Response: **Thanks be to God. Alleluia, alleluia!**

Postlude