

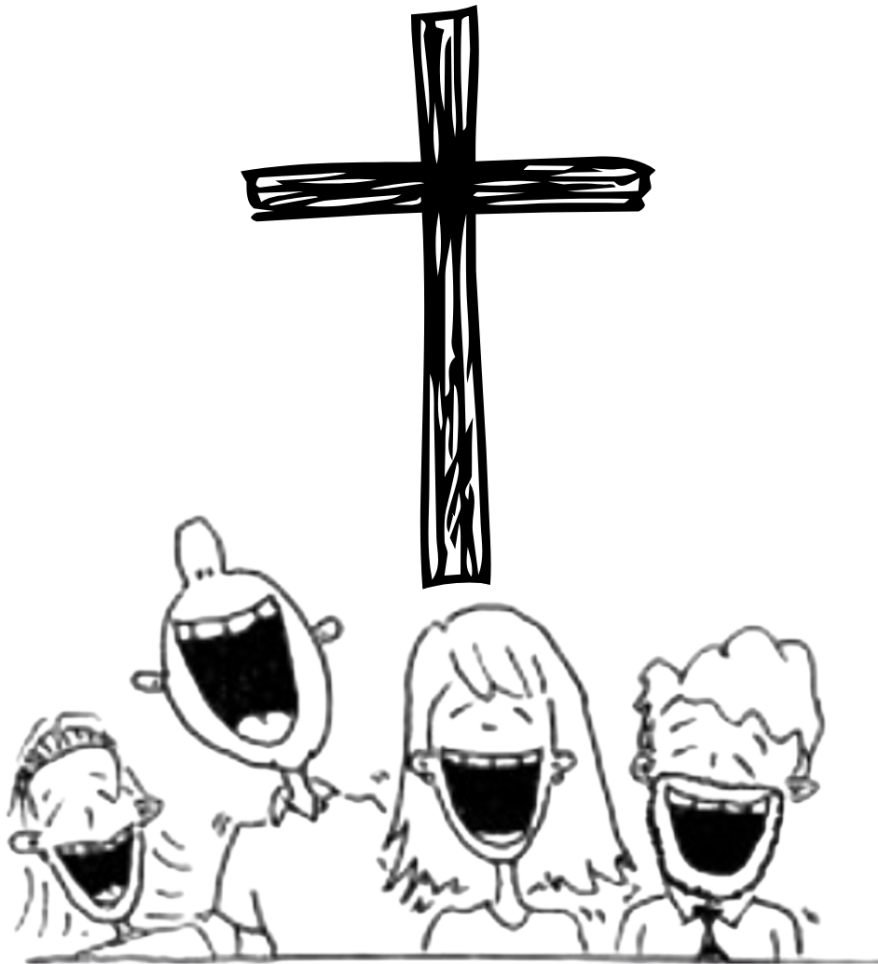
RESURRECTION

EPISCOPAL CHURCH

LARGO, FL

“To proclaim the Good News and heal the broken.”

THE SECOND SUNDAY OF
EASTER



APRIL 12, 2026 | YEAR A

Holy Humor Sunday: The Joy of Resurrection

The Sunday after Easter has long been celebrated in parts of the Christian tradition as *Holy Humor Sunday*, sometimes called *Bright Sunday* or *Risus Paschalis*—Latin for “the Easter laugh.”

This tradition dates back to the early Church, when believers understood the resurrection not only as a victory, but as God’s great and joyful surprise. In raising Jesus from the dead, God overturned the powers of sin, suffering, and death in a way no one expected. The cross, which appeared to be the end, became the very means of life. Death itself was, in a sense, “outwitted.”

Early Christians took this seriously and joyfully. In some communities, the week after Easter was marked by feasting, storytelling, and laughter. By the Middle Ages, clergy in parts of Europe would intentionally include humor in their Easter sermons, even telling jokes or lighthearted stories, to reflect the deep truth that death had been defeated. This practice became known as *Risus Paschalis*, the “Easter laugh.”

At its heart, Holy Humor Sunday isn’t about making light of suffering or turning worship into entertainment. Rather, it’s about proclaiming that in the resurrection, God has the final word... and that word is life. It’s a day to remember that fear, despair, and even death don’t have ultimate power.

As one of the early Church’s great preachers (, John Chrysostom, proclaimed in his Easter homily (and shared in the sermon this morning):

“O death, where is thy sting? O grave, where is thy victory?”

On this day, we’re invited to embrace the deep joy of Easter: to smile, to laugh, and to celebrate the truth that Christ is risen, and that nothing, not even death, can overcome the life God has given.

Happy Holy Humor Sunday!

WELCOME

Thank you for being with us in worship today. However you found your way here, whether by holy habit, familiar path, curiosity, or something deeper, we're glad you came.

This community is held together not by perfect beliefs or getting everything right, but by the love of God we see in Jesus: a love that forgives, welcomes, and makes space for us just as we are. Whoever you are, however you identify, you belong here.

We grow closer to one another not by pretending, but by being real: by showing up, sharing life, and serving together in Largo and beyond.

If you're new or visiting, there are cards in the Narthex to help us get to know you a little better. You can drop one in the offering plate at the back or hand it to me on your way out.

And welcome again!

Sandy +

The Rev. Sandra K. Rogers, Vicar

Please enter the Sanctuary quietly and reverently and silence your phones.

Our worship begins when we walk in the door.

Altar flowers are given to the Glory of God.

Serving Today

Servers Rebecca Rogers
 Karl Cieslak

Lectors Gail Nichols
 Maria Fox
 Travis Parker

Supplemental Resources you may use today
Book of Common Prayer (BCP – Red Book) & **Hymnal** (Blue Book)
Congregational parts are in **bold**.

THE WORD OF GOD

THE PRELUDE

This Joyful Eastertide

Jan Bender

THE PROCESSIONAL

God Bless You Merry Sinner



God bless you mer - ry sin - ner, you're for - giv - en it is
In Jer - u - sal - em at Cal - v - ary that dis - mal Fri - day
So sing an al - le - lu - ia, for our Sav - ior's vic - to -



true. Re - mem - ber Christ your Sav - ior has lived and died for
morn, a - mid the pain and suffer - ing e - ter - nal life was
ry, and shout to all "Ho - san - na!" that we have been set



you, and lives a - gain as King of Kings, of saint and sin - ner, too.
born. It came with arms out - stretched to us, right through the cur - tain torn.
free from sin and death and dev - il's grip through - out e - ter - ni - ty.



Oh, — tid - ings of Eas - ter peace and joy, peace and



joy. Oh, — tid - ings of Eas - ter peace and joy.

THE OPENING ACCLAMATION

Celebrant Alleluia. Christ is risen.

People **The Lord is risen indeed. Alleluia.**

The Celebrant may say

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.**

SONG OF PRAISE

Gloria

Hymnal, S280

Glory to God in the highest, and peace to his people on earth.

Lord God, heavenly King, almighty God and Father, we worship you, we give you thanks, we praise you for your glory. Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father, Lord God, Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world: have mercy on us; you are seated at the right hand of the Father: receive our prayer. For you alone are the Holy One, you alone are the Lord, you alone are the Most High, Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit, in the glory of God the Father. Amen.

THE COLLECT OF THE DAY

Celebrant The Lord be with you.

People **And also with you.**

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.**

THE FIRST LESSON

ACTS 2:14A, 2-32

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

Conserua me, Domine

- 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 EPISTLE

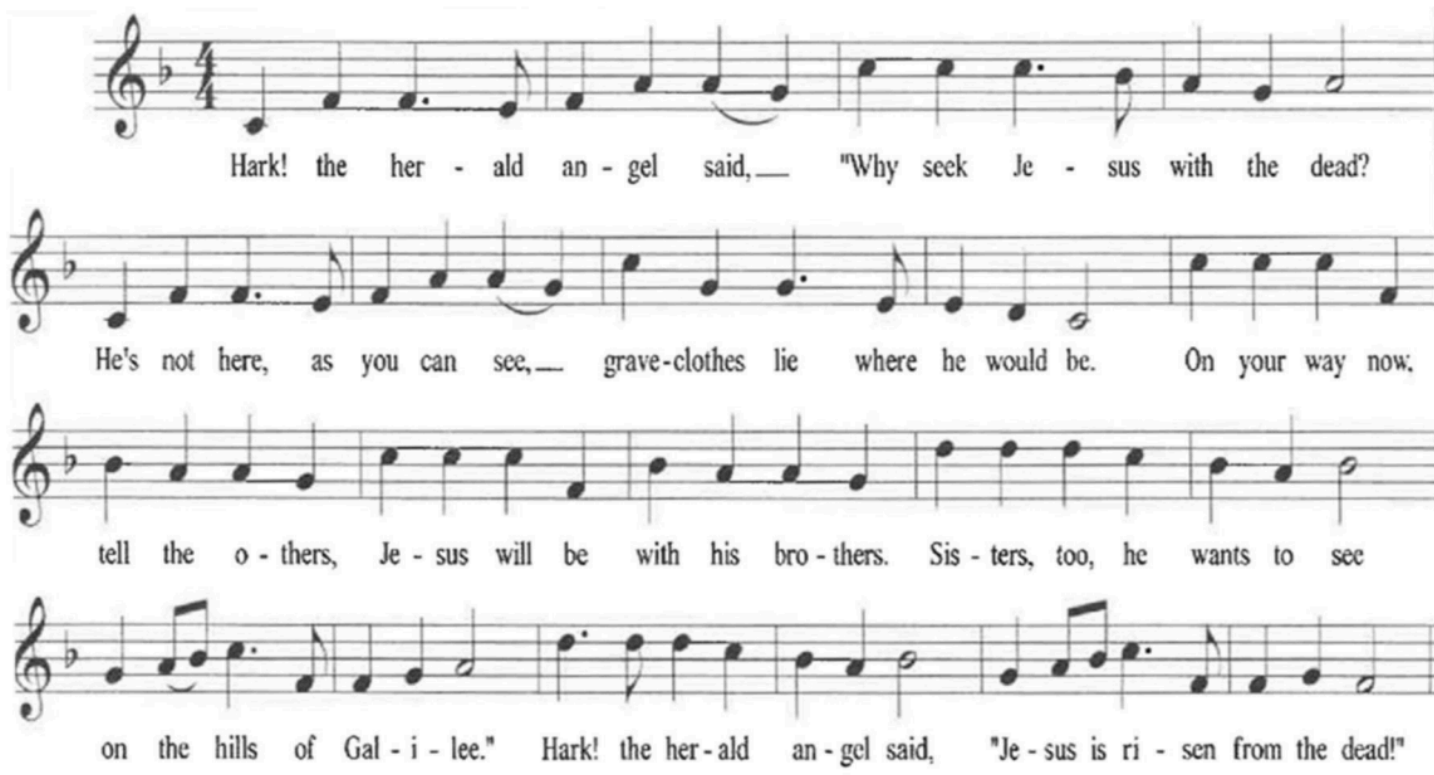
1 PETER 1:3-9

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.**

THE SEQUENCE HYMN

Hark! the Herald Angel Said



Hark! the her - ald an - gel said, — "Why seek Je - sus with the dead?
He's not here, as you can see, — grave-clothes lie where he would be. On your way now,
tell the o - thers, Je - sus will be with his bro - thers. Sis - ters, too, he wants to see
on the hills of Gal - i - lee." Hark! the her - ald an - gel said, "Je - sus is ri - sen from the dead!"

THE GOSPEL

JOHN 20:19-31

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

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

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

THE SERMON

The Rev. Sandra Rogers

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.

THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Celebrant In this Eastertide we celebrate and proclaim the signs of Jesus, that all might believe that he is the Christ, the Son of God, and that believing they may have life in his name. Therefore, that everyone may experience the new life in Christ in the midst of the old life of sin and doubt, let us pray for all God's people, and for all people everywhere according to their needs, saying: Lord, have mercy.

Lector That amid all the doubts which threaten to destroy the community of faith, Christ's peace may be shared and experienced for the strengthening of belief, let us pray to the Lord.

People **Lord have mercy.**

Lector That all who have come to new birth in holy baptism and all who have received the forgiveness of sins in absolution may live in peace with each other, let us pray to the Lord.

People **Lord have mercy.**

Lector That the sick, the infirm, and the disturbed might experience the healing power of the Spirit of the risen Christ, let us pray to the Lord.

People **Lord have mercy.**

Lector That we commend to your gracious care all members of the armed forces at home and abroad who put their lives in harm's way for us; let us pray to the Lord.

People **Lord have mercy.**

Lector For those in discernment of your call. We pray they, especially our Postulant, Rebecca, be so filled by the Holy Spirit, and minister with joy and steadfast devotion; let us pray to the Lord.

People **Lord have mercy.**

Lector That all who have died in the faith may serve as examples to us who continue in our pilgrimage on earth, let us pray to the Lord.

People **Lord have mercy.**

Celebrant Lord, we believe. Help our unbelief, and hear us for the sake of the one who died for our sins and rose again for our justification, even Jesus Christ, the first and the last, the living one, in who name we pray. **Amen.**

CONFESSION OF SIN AND ABSOLUTION

A moment of silence is observed so we may make our own silent confession before God.

Celebrant Let us pray for the forgiveness of our sins.

Most merciful God, we confess that we have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done, and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We are truly sorry and we humbly repent. For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ, have mercy on us and forgive us; that we may delight in your will, and walk in your ways, to the glory of your Name. Amen.

Celebrant Almighty God have mercy on you, forgive you all your sins through our Lord Jesus Christ, strengthen you in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep you in eternal life. **Amen.**

THE PEACE

Celebrant The peace of the Lord be always with you

People **And also with you.**

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

THE HOLY COMMUNION

OFFERTORY ANTHEM

Choral

F. Peeters

At the Offertory, we pause to remember that everything we have is a gift from God and we respond with grateful hearts. You're invited to share in supporting Resurrection's ministry of love and service in the world. You may give by scanning the QR code, visiting reslargo.org/give, or placing a gift of cash or check (payable to Resurrection) in the offering plate.



However you give, thank you for being part of what God is doing here.

THE DOXOLOGY

Hymnal, 380 vs3

**Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;
praise him, all creatures here below;
praise him above, ye heavenly host:
praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.**

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

Eucharistic Prayer A

BCP, 361

The People remain standing.

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.**

Celebrant It is right, and a good and 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 our Lord; 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 for ever sing this hymn to proclaim the glory of your Name:

SANCTUS

WLP, 858



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord God of pow - er and might,
Heav'n and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho - san - na in the high - est.
Bless - ed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Ho -
san - na in the high - est, Ho - san - na in the high - est.

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:

Celebrant and People

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 is yours, Almighty Father, now and for ever.

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

THE LORD'S PRAYER

Our Father, who art in heaven,	as we forgive those who trespass against
hallowed be thy Name, thy kingdom	us.
come,	And lead us not into temptation,
thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven.	but deliver us from evil.
Give us this day our daily bread.	For thine is the kingdom, and the
And forgive us our trespasses,	power, and the glory, for ever and
	ever. Amen

THE BREAKING OF THE BREAD

The Celebrant breaks the consecrated Bread.

A period of silence is kept.

THE FRACTION ANTHEM

Hymnal, S155

Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia,

lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia. Christ our Pass - o - ver is

sac - ri - ficed for us; there - fore let us keep the feast.

Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

All baptized persons are invited to receive Holy Communion. Come forward and stand or kneel at the rail. You may sip from the cup or have the Eucharistic Minister intinct the host for you. Those desiring a blessing may also come forward with arms crossed. If you are unable to come forward, please notify an usher. Gluten-free wafers are available upon request.

COMMUNION HYMN

Alleluia! Give thanks to the risen Lord

Hymnal, 178

THE POST COMMUNION PRAYER

Celebrant and People

Almighty and everliving God, we thank you for feeding us with the spiritual food of the most precious Body and Blood of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ; and for assuring us in these holy mysteries that we are living members of the Body of your Son, and heirs of your eternal kingdom.

And now, Father, send us out to do the work you have given us to do, to love and serve you as faithful witnesses of Christ our Lord. To him, to you, and to the Holy Spirit, be honor and glory, now and for ever. **Amen.**

THE BLESSING

Celebrant

The God of peace, who brought again from the dead our Lord Jesus Christ, the great Shepherd of the sheep, through the blood of the everlasting covenant, make you perfect in every good work to do his will, working in you that which is well-pleasing in his sight; and the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be among you, and remain with you always. **Amen.**

CLOSING HYMN

Go tell it on the mountain

Go tell it on the moun - tain, o - ver the hills and ev - ery - where Go tell it on the

moun - tain that Je - sus is a - live. 1. While sold - iers watched the grave - site that qui - et Sun - day
2. The wo - men found no bo - dy their spic - es to an -
3. Go from — where He is - n't to where He said He'd

dawn — there came a big com - mo - tion and then the storm was gone. —
iont; — in - stead they found an an - gel, God's mess - age to ap - point. —
be. — An Eas - ter - time re - un - ion: the hills of Gal - i - lee. —

THE DISMISSAL

Celebrant Go in laughter; go in grace. Keep the Lord in your heart and a smile on your face. Alleluia. Alleluia.

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

THE POSTLUDE

Christ Lay in the Bonds of Death, BWV 525

J. S. Bach

ANNOUNCEMENTS

DISCERNMENT PROCESS

Please hold Rebecca Rogers and her family in your prayers as she continues her discernment for Holy Orders.

BIBLE STUDY

Wednesdays at 11am. We're discussing what it means to live a resurrection life.

REEL FAITH: FILM & DISCUSSION

Wednesdays at 6pm. Come for the formation, stay for the fellowship! Bring a snack to share!

CATECHESIS

Sundays at 11:30am in the Vicar's office. We'll go through the history of the Episcopal Church/Anglican Communion, the Sacraments, Creeds, and life in our faith. This course will go through May 10th when the Right Rev. Douglas Scharf makes his visitation and will be offering the Rite of Baptism, Confirmation, Reception, and Reaffirmation.

WATER AND THE WORD

May 1-2 at DaySpring Episcopal Conference Center. What does it mean to live to the measure of the full stature of Christ? Bishop Doug Scharf and many more will lead this two-day conference focused on growing your knowledge, mission, and love of God. During Water and the Word, we will deepen our ideas of growing and maturing in our Christian beliefs and embrace being fully alive in Christ. Discover your leadership path. Re-imagine how your church can serve its community. Magnify your mission where faith and family intersect. Register at www.waterandtheword.org

BASEBALL WITH THE BISHOP

After a year away, Baseball with the Bishop is back at Tropicana Field, and we're ready to fill the stands with the people of the Diocese of Southwest Florida! Join us Friday, August 28, as the Tampa Bay Rays take on the San Diego Padres at 7:10 p.m. Gates open at 5:40 p.m., giving plenty of time to gather, connect, and cheer together before the first pitch. Scan the QR code to purchase tickets!



Ways to support the mission and ministry of Resurrection

Our 2025 pledges totaled \$64,200 and, because of the incredible faith and generosity of this Body of Christ, we closed the year in excess of \$4,000! Praise God!

If you would like to offer a gift in another way, please let us know.

- Online

Support Resurrection's Ministry: Visit reslargo.org/give.

- Altar Flowers

There are two flower vases and donations are a minimum of \$50 per vase. Please call or email the church office to arrange.

Birthdays and Anniversaries

Many happy returns on the day of your birth. May seasons of joy be given. May God, in His mercy, prepare you on Earth for a beautiful birthday in heaven.

Many happy returns for the day that you wed. May seasons of joy be given. May God, in His mercy, prepare you on Earth for a life full of love in heaven.

Parish Prayer List

Members, Family and Friends - Bob, Angela Berry, Amara Brandel, The Brooks family, Cherri, Christopher Lewis, Hannah, Sharon Martin, Drew Baker, Joy, Andrea, Nancy, Marija, Peggy Logsdon Carry, Vernon Foret, Nichole Gildner, Jeffrey Meyers, Cheri Russell, Walid Tohme, William (Belo) Noble

Active Military - Jeremiah Gill, Evan Chandler, Benjamin Kennedy

Diocesan Cycle of Prayer - Church of the Ascension, Clearwater; Church of the Good Samaritan, Clearwater; Holy Trinity, Clearwater; St. John's, Clearwater; Church of the Good Shepherd, Dunedin; St. Martin's, Hudson, and Calvary, Indian Rocks Beach.

Anglican Cycle of Prayer - La Iglesia Anglicana de Mexico

WORSHIP

Sunday	10:00am	Holy Eucharist Rite II
Wednesday	12:05pm	Holy Eucharist & Unction

CLERGY AND STAFF

The Right Rev. Douglas F. Scharf	Bishop of the Diocese of Southwest Florida
The Rev. Sandra K. Rogers	Vicar
Rebecca Rogers	Postulant
Wayne Dieterich	Interim Minister of Music
Jimi Doolan	Sexton

RESURRECTION BISHOP'S COMMITTEE

Class of 2027	Class of 2028	Class of 2029
Nancy Campbell	Bruce Barnett	Pam Calabrese, <i>Jr. Warden</i>
	Bob Thacker, <i>Sr. Warden</i>	Camille Gentry
		Jenny Lewis
Rick Schock, <i>Treasurer</i>		Gail Gregorio

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