

The Fourth Sunday of Pascha

The Introit *Jubilate Deo, Ps. 66:1/Ps. 2 [4, 5, 7, 12, 18]*

TONE VII



Antiphon: Be joyful in God, all you lands; alleluia *
sing the glory of his Name; alleluia
sing the glory of his praise. Alleluia, alleluia!

Psalm. Say to God, "How awesome are your deeds! *
because of your great strength
your enemies cringe before you.

[Come now and see the works of God, *
how wonderful he is in his doing toward all people.

He turned the sea into dry land, ↓
so that they went through the water on foot, *
and there we rejoiced in him.

Bless our God, you peoples; *
make the voice of his praise to be heard;

I will enter your house with burnt-offerings ↓
and will pay you my vows, *
which I promised with my lips
and spoke with my mouth when I was in trouble.

Blessed be God, who has not rejected my prayer, *
nor withheld his love from me.]

Gloria Patri. Glo-ry to the Father, and to the Son, ↓
and to the Holy Spirit, *

As it was in the beginning, is now and ever,
for all ages of ages. Amen **Antiphon:**

The Gloria or This is The Feast

The Collect:

Almighty God, who gives the light of truth to those who go astray so they may return to the way of righteousness: grant to all who believe in your Christ, the grace to reject whatever is opposed to his teaching and to strive toward all that commends it; through Jesus Christ your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, God, for all ages of ages. *Amen*

The First Reading: Acts 12:1-17

Brethren: About that time King Herod laid violent hands upon some who belonged to the church. He had James, the brother of John, killed with the sword. After he saw that it pleased the Jews, he proceeded to arrest Peter also. (This was during the festival of Unleavened Bread.) When he had seized him, he put him in prison and handed him over to four squads of soldiers to guard him, intending to bring him out to the people after the Passover. While Peter was kept in prison, the church prayed fervently to God for him. The very night before Herod was going to bring him out, Peter, bound with two chains, was sleeping between two soldiers, while guards in front of the door were keeping watch over the prison. Suddenly an angel of the Lord appeared and a light shone in the cell. He tapped Peter on the side and woke him, saying, "Get up quickly." And the chains fell off his wrists. The angel said to him, "Fasten your belt and put on your sandals." He did so. Then he said to him, "Wrap your cloak around you and follow me." Peter went out and followed him; he did not realize that what was happening with the angel's help was real; he thought he was seeing a vision. After they had passed the first and the second guard, they

came before the iron gate leading into the city. It opened for them of its own accord, and they went outside and walked along a lane, when suddenly the angel left him. Then Peter came to himself and said, "Now I am sure that the Lord has sent his angel and rescued me from the hands of Herod and from all that the Jewish people were expecting." As soon as he realized this, he went to the house of Mary, the mother of John whose other name was Mark, where many had gathered and were praying. When he knocked at the outer gate, a maid named Rhoda came to answer. On recognizing Peter's voice, she was so overjoyed that, instead of opening the gate, she ran in and announced that Peter was standing at the gate. They said to her, "You are out of your mind!" But she insisted that it was so. They said, "It is his angel." Meanwhile Peter continued knocking; and when they opened the gate, they saw him and were amazed. He motioned to them with his hand to be silent, and described for them how the Lord had brought him out of the prison. And he added, "Tell this to James and to the believers." Then he left and went to another place.

The First Alleluia **Redemptionem misit Dominus, Psalm 111:9**

ALLELUIA TONE I



Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia!

TONE IX: LAUDATE



The Lord sent redemption to his people; *
 holy and awesome is his Name.



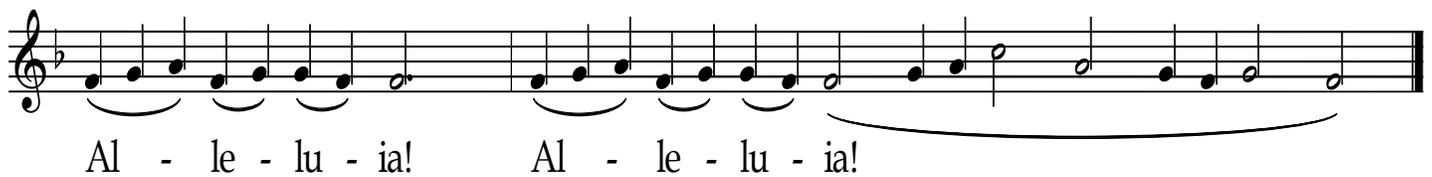
Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia!

Epistle: 1 Peter 2:11-19

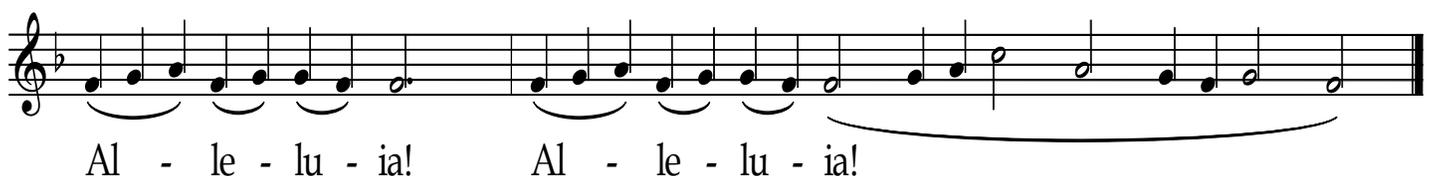
Beloved, I urge you as aliens and exiles to abstain from the desires of the flesh that wage war against the soul. Conduct yourselves honorably among the Gentiles, so that, though they malign you as evildoers, they may see your honorable deeds and glorify God when he comes to judge. For the LORD's sake accept the authority of every human institution, whether of the emperor as supreme, or of governors, as sent by him to punish those who do wrong and to praise those who do right. For it is God's will that by doing right you should silence the ignorance of the foolish. As servants of God, live as free people, yet do not use your freedom as a pretext for evil. Honor everyone. Love the family of believers. Fear God. Honor the emperor. Slaves, accept the authority of your masters with all deference, not only those who are kind and gentle but also those who are harsh. For it is a credit to you if, being aware of God, you endure pain while suffering unjustly.

The Second Alleluia *Oportebat pati Christum, Luke 24:46*

ALLELUIA I



TONE IX LAUDATE



The Gospel: **John 16:16-22**

At that time Jesus said: "A little while, and you will no longer see me, and again a little while, and you will see me." Then some of his disciples said to one another, "What does he mean by saying to us, 'A little while, and you will no longer see me, and again a little while, and you will see me'; and 'Because I am going to the Father'?" They said, "What does he mean by this 'a little while'? We do not know what he is talking about." Jesus knew that they wanted to ask him, so he said to them, "Are you discussing among yourselves what I meant when I said, 'A little while, and you will no longer see me, and again a little while, and you will see me'? Very truly, I tell you, you will weep and mourn, but the world will rejoice; you will have pain, but your pain will turn into joy. When a woman is in labor, she has pain, because her hour has come. But when her child is born, she no longer remembers the anguish because of the joy of having brought a human being into the world. So you have pain now; but I will see you again, and your hearts will rejoice, and no one will take your joy from you.

The Nicene Creed

Offertory **Lauda, anima mea, Psalm 145: 1,9**



STONE VII

Al-le-luia! Praise the LORD, O my soul! *

I will praise the LORD as long as I live;

I will sing praises to my God while I have my being.

The LORD shall reign for ever, *

your God, O Zion, throughout all generations. Alleluia

The Prayer over the gifts:

O Lord, may these holy mysteries help us to lay aside all earthly cares and to learn to love things heavenly; through Jesus Christ your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, God, for all ages of ages. *Amen*

The Preface of Pascha

It is truly right and just, our joy and helpful to salvation, that we, always and everywhere give thanks to you, O Lord, holy Father. Almighty and eternal God:

But especially in this season 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.

And therefore with the angels and archangels, with thrones and dominions, and with all the array of the heavenly choirs, we sing this hymn to your glory, evermore acclaiming:

The Fourth Sunday of Pascha before the Pax Domini

Priest: May Almighty God, Who of His own free goodness and mercy has created you, and through the Resurrection of His only-begotten Son has given you the hope that you too shall rise again, bestow His blessing upon you.

People: Amen.

Priest: May He, Who raised from the dead our Saviour Christ, cause you to rise again from the sepulcher of sin and human infirmity.

People: Amen.

Priest: That you may live in eternal happiness with Him Whom you truly believe to have risen from the dead.

People: Amen

Priest: May the Lord God Almighty, Whose glorious Kingdom endures for ever, be pleased to bestow these blessings upon you; and...

Priest: The ✠ Peace of The Lord be always with you.

People: And with your spirit.

The Communion *Modicum, et non videbitis me, John 16:16*

STONE VIII



A little while, and you will no longer see me, ↓
and again a little while, and you will see me.*
because I go to the Father. Alleluia, Alleluia

The Postcommunion Collect:

O Lord our God, may these Holy Mysteries which we have received be life-creating for our souls and a help for our bodies; through Jesus Christ your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, God, for all ages of ages. *Amen*

The Solemn Blessing

The Deacon: Bow down (your head) before the Lord.

The Priest continues with hands outstretched over the people:

May Almighty God, who has redeemed us and made us his children through the resurrection of his Son our Lord, bestow upon you the riches of his blessing. *Amen.*

May God, who through the water of baptism has raised us from sin into newness of life, make you holy and worthy to be united with Christ for ever. *Amen.*

May God, who has brought us out of bondage to sin into true and lasting freedom in the Redeemer, bring you to your eternal inheritance. *Amen*

And the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, ✠the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be upon you and remain with you for ever. *Amen.*