

## Worship Notes for Easter Day

The long awaited Day of the Resurrection will come on Sunday morning! This is always a day of glorious celebration at Christ Church Cathedral, and I hope that everyone in the Cathedral Family is present and brings extended family and friends.

Our prelude music will begin 15 minutes prior to our 10:00 a.m. service. Cathedral Organist/Choirmaster Christopher Powell comments on the music for the day in his notes below. It ranges from the big, familiar, and much loved hymns of the festival day to traditional anthems and grand classical pieces.

The flowering of the Easter Cross will take place prior to the musical prelude. All members of the Cathedral Family, especially children, are invited to bring flowers to be incorporated into this Christ Church tradition. The cross will be raised above the chancel during our processional hymn beginning of a wonderful celebration of our Savior's being raised to new life.

Bishop Duncan will be at his Cathedral as our celebrant this Sunday, as Easter is one of the days designated for our chief pastor to preside from his cathedra and celebrate at the altar of the cathedral church. This is the most important day in the life of the Church, as it stands at the very heart of our faith and our resurrection life.

With the Bishop's permission, I will preach this Sunday. It is a great privilege to share the Good News of Christ's victory over death and sin on this holiest of days.

Our hospitality time will take place in the Garden *immediately* following our worship. I know that you will want to linger long enough to enjoy the sight of our children scrambling for candy-filled Easter eggs before moving on to an afternoon of Easter celebration with family and friends.

I pray that this Eastertide will be a joyous time for all of you, as you enjoy the beauty new life.

## Bible Challenge: Week Seven

This Easter Week in your Bible Challenge you will finish the book of Leviticus and begin the fourth book of the Torah, or Pentateuch, Numbers. Leviticus concludes with instructions for how the Israelites are to conduct their lives as the people of God. This includes directions for the Day of Atonement, and various purity laws ranging from sexual prohibitions to codes for physical appearance as well as ethics and justice. Respect for elders, as well as for resident aliens, is also emphasized. The ritual calendar is established, and the practice of sabbatical and jubilee years for the land and its people is explained. You will find here many familiar sayings and the explanation of principles that are familiar to you, as well as some that are not. The book of Numbers begins with the first census of the Israelites and the priestly Levites and with a plan for their life in the wilderness camp.

The psalms this week offer counsel for living a godly life in light of the brevity of our existence here on earth. “Trust in the Lord, and do good. [...] Commit your way to the Lord. [...] Do not fret.” Avoid anger.

Your reading in Mark’s gospel will take you through his account of the final days of Jesus’ earthly ministry, the time we have lived in our liturgical life during Holy Week. It begins with the Transfiguration and continues with Jesus’ repeated announcement of what will happen to him, and announcement always met with misunderstanding. His triumphal entry into Jerusalem, entering the temple and overturning the tables of the money changers, is followed here by the parable of the vineyard, teaching of paying taxes to the emperor, disputes with the Sadducees, and predictions of the destruction of the temple and Jerusalem. Finally, you will read of his anointing for burial and then of his condemnation and the denial by Peter.

All of your reading this week will take place in the light of Christ’s resurrection, and I pray that you will find joy in it.