



*"The Incredulity of St. Thomas" Michelangelo Merisi da Carravaggio, ca. 1600*

**APRIL 23, 2017**  
**WATTS STREET BAPTIST CHURCH**  
**DURHAM, NORTH CAROLINA**

**THE WORSHIP OF GOD**  
**APRIL 23, 2017**  
**THE SECOND SUNDAY OF EASTER**

**GATHERING**

Chimes

Welcome/Concerns and Celebrations

*Minister:* The Lord be with you.

*People:* And also with you.

Bringing in the Light and Prayer of Thanksgiving for the Light

Prelude: “O Sons and Daughters of the King” ..... Michael Burkhardt

**PRAISING GOD**

*Minister:* We celebrate good news:

*People:* Jesus Christ is risen!

*Minister:* God is our strength and our song;

*People:* God is our salvation!

\*Hymn 222: “Christ Is Risen! Shout Hosanna!” ..... W ZLOBIE LEZY

**PRAYING TOGETHER**

Morning Prayer:

*Minister:* God of Resurrection, when we lock ourselves away in the upper rooms of our lives,

*People:* Come to us with a word of peace, a word that sends us out of our hiding places with strength and power.

*Minister:* When believing does not come easily and we are more skeptical than faith-full,

*People:* Come to us with a word of assurance, a word that transforms our anxiety to comfort and turns our morning into joyful dance.

*Minister:* When tears cloud our eyes so that we cannot see signs of the Resurrection,

*People:* Come to us with a word of hope, a word that reminds us of the evidence of new life all around us—even within us.

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*\*If able, please stand.*

*No flash photography. Please silence electronic devices.*

## Silent Prayers

Assurance (*People sing*) ..... TALLIS' CANON  
May we, O God by grace believe and thus the risen Christ receive,  
Whose raw imprinted palms reached out and beckoned Thomas from his doubt.

## Pastoral Prayer

## TENDING TO THE WORD

Epistle: I Peter 1:3-9

*Minister:* The Word of God for the People of God.

*People:* Thanks be to God.

Gospel: John 20:19-31

*Minister:* The Word of God for the People of Christ.

*People:* May the Spirit grant us understanding.

Sermon: "Vital Signs: Doubt" – Dorisanne Cooper

## Silence

*The Resurrection is not a single event, but a loosening of God's power and light into the earth and history that continues to alter all things, infusing them with the grace and power of God's own holiness. It is as though a door was opened, and what poured out will never be stopped, and the door cannot be closed. — Megan McKenna*

Hymn 220: "O Sons and Daughters, Sing Your Praise" ..... O FILII ET FILIAE

## OFFERING OUR GIFTS

*Minister:* When our hopes lie buried, O God, your miracle occurs.

*People:* Risen Christ, turn our amazement into giving, our doubt to belief, and our surprise into ministry in your name. Amen.

## Receiving Gifts

Anthem: "O Sons and Daughters" ..... 15<sup>th</sup> Century French Melody  
arr. Alice Parker/Robert Shaw

- |   |  |   |  |
|---|--|---|--|
| 1 | O sons and daughters, let us sing!<br>The King of Heav'n, the glorious King,<br>O'er death today rose triumphing.<br>Alleluia! Alleluia! | 3 | "My pierced side, O Thomas see:<br>My hands, my feet, I show to thee;<br>Not faithless but believing be."<br>Alleluia! Alleluia!       |
| 2 | When Thomas first the tidings heard,<br>How they had seen the risen Lord,<br>He doubted the disciples' word.<br>Alleluia! Alleluia!      | 4 | No longer Thomas then denied,<br>He saw the feet, the hands, the side:<br>"Thou art my Lord and God," he cried.<br>Alleluia! Alleluia! |

\*Doxology .....LASST UNS ERFREUEN  
Christ is alive! Let Christians sing, Let Christendom with praises ring.  
Alleluia! Alleluia!  
Christ is alive! This be our song! To God all praises now belong.  
Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

\*Prayer of Dedication

## COMMITTING OUR LIVES IN FAITH

\*Invitation

\*Hymn 229: “That Easter Day with Joy Was Bright” .....PUER NOBIS NASCITUR  
Benediction

Carrying the Light into the World

Postlude: “Good Christian Friends, Rejoice and Sing” ..... Alfred Fedak

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It is the practice and policy of Watts Street Baptist Church  
to welcome and affirm all persons, regardless of race, class, origin,  
sexual orientation, or any other distinction.

We welcome as Members those who profess “Jesus is Lord.”  
We receive members through baptism or by transfer of letter from another congregation.  
We also welcome Friends who maintain membership elsewhere.

**CHURCH STAFF:** Sue Alexander, Assistant Secretary; Tom Bloom, Organist; Dorisanne Cooper, Senior Minister; Sherrill Figuera, Office Manager; Mary Elizabeth Hanchey, Interim Director of Children’s Music Ministries; Diane Eubanks Hill, Minister with Adults; Esther Soud Parker, Minister with Children and Their Families; Kelly Sasser, Minister with Youth and Their Families; Bobby Sturdivant, Custodian; Melody Zentner, Interim Director of Music Ministries

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