St. Stephen's Episcopal Church SIXTH SUNDAY OF EASTER



Saint Stephen's welcomes everyone who wishes to follow Christ, worship together, grow in faith and share God's love through service to others.



Saturday 13 May, 5pm & Sunday 14 May 10am

Prelude: "Give Thanks", by Henry Smith arr. Fred Bock

Announcements and Welcome Rev. Allison Cornell

Opening Hymn: "Praise to the Lord, the almighty", #390

Salutation

Presider: Alleluia! Christ is risen!

People: The Lord is risen, indeed! Alleluia!

Presider: 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 you Holy Name,

through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Gloria— H1982 #S-280

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:

Presider: The Lord be with you **People:** And also with you.

Presider: Let us pray

All: O God, you have prepared for those who love you such good things as surpass our understanding: Pour into our hearts such love towards you, that we, loving you in all things and above all things, may obtain your promises, which exceed all that we can desire; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. Amen.

The Liturgy of the Word: (Please be seated for the lessons)

First Lesson: A Reading from the Book of Acts (17:22-31):

Paul stood in front of the Areopagus and said, "Athenians, I see how extremely religious you are in every way. For as I went through the city and looked carefully at the objects of your worship, I found among them an altar with the inscription, 'To an unknown god.' What therefore you worship as unknown, this I proclaim to you. The God who made the world and everything in it, he who is Lord of heaven and earth, does not live in shrines made by human hands, nor is he served by human hands, as though he needed anything, since he himself gives to all mortals life and breath and all things. From one ancestor he made all nations to inhabit the whole earth, and he allotted the times of their existence and the boundaries of the places where they would live, so that they would search for God and perhaps grope for him and find him—though indeed he is not far from each one of us. For 'In him we live and move and have our being'; as even some of your own poets have said,

'For we too are his offspring.'

Since we are God's offspring, we ought not to think that the deity is like gold, or silver, or stone, an image formed by the art and imagination of mortals. While God has overlooked the times of human ignorance, now he commands all people everywhere to repent, because he has fixed a day on which he will have the world judged in righteousness by a man whom he has appointed, and of this he has given assurance to all by raising him from the dead."

Reader The Word of the Lord

People Thanks be to God

Psalm: 66:7-18 (*read in unison*)

- 7 Bless our God, you peoples; * make the voice of his praise to be heard:
- 8 Who holds our souls in life, * and will not allow our feet to slip.
- 9 For you, O God, have proved us; * you have tried us just as silver is tried.
- 10 You brought us into the snare; * you laid heavy burdens upon our backs.
- 11 You let enemies ride over our heads: we went through fire and water; * but you brought us out into a place of refreshment.
- 12 I will enter your house with burnt- 18 Blessed be God, who has not reofferings and will pay you my vows, which I promised with my lips and spoke with my mouth when I was in trouble.

- 13 I will offer you sacrifices of fat beasts with the smoke of rams; * I will give you oxen and goats.
- 14 Come and listen, all you who fear God, * and I will tell you what he has done for me.
- 15 I called out to him with my mouth, * and his praise was on my tongue.
- 16 If I had found evil in my heart, * the Lord would not have heard me;
- 17 But in truth God has heard me; * he has attended to the voice of my prayer.
- jected my prayer, * nor withheld his love from me.

The Second Lesson: A reading from 1 Peter (3:13-22)

Now who will harm you if you are eager to do what is good? But even if you do suffer for doing what is right, you are blessed. Do not fear what they fear, and do not be intimidated, but in your hearts sanctify Christ as Lord. Always be ready to make your defense to anyone who demands from you an accounting for the hope that is in you; yet do it with gentleness and reverence. Keep your conscience clear, so that, when you are maligned, those who abuse you for your good conduct in Christ may be put to shame. For it is better to suffer for doing good, if suffering should be God's will, than to suffer for doing evil. For Christ

also suffered for sins once for all, the righteous for the unrighteous, in order to bring you to God. He was put to death in the flesh, but made alive in the spirit, in which also he went and made a proclamation to the spirits in prison, who in former times did not obey, when God waited patiently in the days of Noah, during the building of the ark, in which a few, that is, eight persons, were saved through water. And baptism, which this prefigured, now saves you-- not as a removal of dirt from the body, but as an appeal to God for a good conscience, through the resurrection of Jesus Christ, who has gone into heaven and is at the right hand of God, with angels, authorities, and powers made subject to him.

Reader The Word of the Lord People Thanks be to God

Gospel Lesson: (*Please stand as you are able*)

Reader:

The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to John (14:15-21)

People: Glory to you, Lord Christ

Jesus said, "If you love me, you will keep my commandments. And I will ask the Father, and he will give you another Advocate, to be with you forever. This is the Spirit of truth, whom the world cannot receive, because it neither sees him nor knows him. You know him, because he abides with you, and he will be in you.

"I will not leave you orphaned; I am coming to you. In a little while the world will no longer see me, but you will see me; because I live, you also will live. On that day you will know that I am in my Father, and you in me, and I in you. They who have my commandments and keep them are those who love me; and those who love me will be loved by my Father, and I will love them and reveal myself to them."

Reader The Gospel of the Lord People Praise to you, Lord Christ

HOMILY

Nicene Creed: Traditional Version (Said aloud by all, in unison)

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.

Prayers of the People

Leader: Christ our life, You are alive - in the beauty of the earth:

People: in the rhythm of the seasons, in the mystery of time and space, Alleluia

Leader: Christ our life, You are alive - in the tenderness of touch

People: in the heartbeat of intimacy, in the insights of solitude, Alleluia

Leader: Christ our life, You are alive - in the creative possibility

People: of the hardest conversation, of the dreariest task, of the most threatening event, Alleluia

Leader: Christ our life, You are alive - to offer re-creation

People: to every unhealed hurt, to every deadened place, to every damaged Heart, Alleluia.

Leader: Christ our life, You are alive – to give us encouragement

People: to face our fears, to wrestle with our doubts, to overcome our disappointments, Alleluia.

Leader: You set before us a great choice, death in our souls without you or Life

abundantly and eternally with you.

People: Therefore, we choose life.

Leader: The dance of resurrection soars and surges through the whole creation, **People: This is your grace through which we live. So let us live fully and thankfully. Alleluia.**

Exchange of the Peace

Presider May the peace of Christ be always with you

All And also with you.

(The Ministers and People exchange socially distant signs of peace (peace sign, namaste, virtual hug)

The Offertory:

Presider Walk in love as Christ loved us and gave himself as an offering and sacrifice to God.

The Offertory Hymn: "I sing a maid"

G#777

Doxology #380 vs. 3

All:
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.

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The Holy Communion

The Great Thanksgiving

Presider The Lord be with you.

People And also with you.

Presider *Lift up your hearts.*

People We lift them to the Lord.

Presider Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People It is right to give God thanks and praise.

Presider:

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 Pascal 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:

Sanctus -

Hymnal 1982 #S-129

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.

Presider 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.

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.

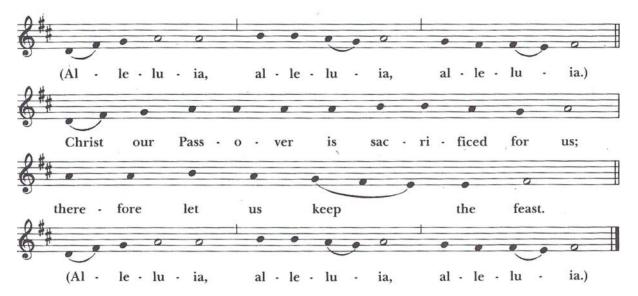
All this we ask through your Son Jesus Christ: By him, and with him, and in him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit all honor and glory is yours, Almighty Father, now and forever. **AMEN.**

Presider: As our Savior Christ has taught us, we are bold to pray,

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 (Presider breaks the consecrated bread) Fraction Anthem: Hymnal 1982 #S-154



Invitation to Communion:

Presider: The gifts of God for the people of God. Take them in remembrance that Christ died and rose again for you and feed on him in your hearts by faith and with thanksgiving.

(All are invited and welcome to come forward and receive communion in this church. We have two different ways to receive communion. First way = go to the right of the altar, receive the bread, eat the bread, then take a sip of wine from the cup. Second way = go to the left of the altar, receive the bread, dip the bread in the wine in the cup and then eat the bread. If you are not ready to receive the bread and wine, you may come forward and cross your arms over your chest to receive a blessing instead. Bread is gluten free).

Communion Hymn: "O Mary of Promise"

G#781

Birthdays, Anniversaries, Healing, Travel, Gratitude

Post Communion Prayer (The people stand as they are able.)

Presider; Let us pray.

All: Almighty and ever-living 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.

Blessing

Presider: 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, in the name of the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. Amen.

Closing Hymn: "Joyful, joyful we adore thee" #376

Dismissal

Deacon: People of St. Stephen's, what does God call us to do?

People: We are called to love and serve.

Deacon: Let us go forth into the world, rejoicing in God's Spirit.

Alleluia! Alleluia!

People: Thanks be to God. Alleluia, (Alleluia!)

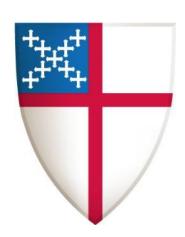
Postlude: "Let The Heaven's Be Glad", by Lani Smith



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Welcome Visitor!!!

Please leave your name and contact info below. If you'd like to speak with someone, please check here

Or you can also use the QRC here to fill this out online.



Info Update	Giving Envelope	es Mail News Letter 🗖
Name	(Mid.)	(Last)
Hm:	Cell	
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City, St., Zip:		