



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

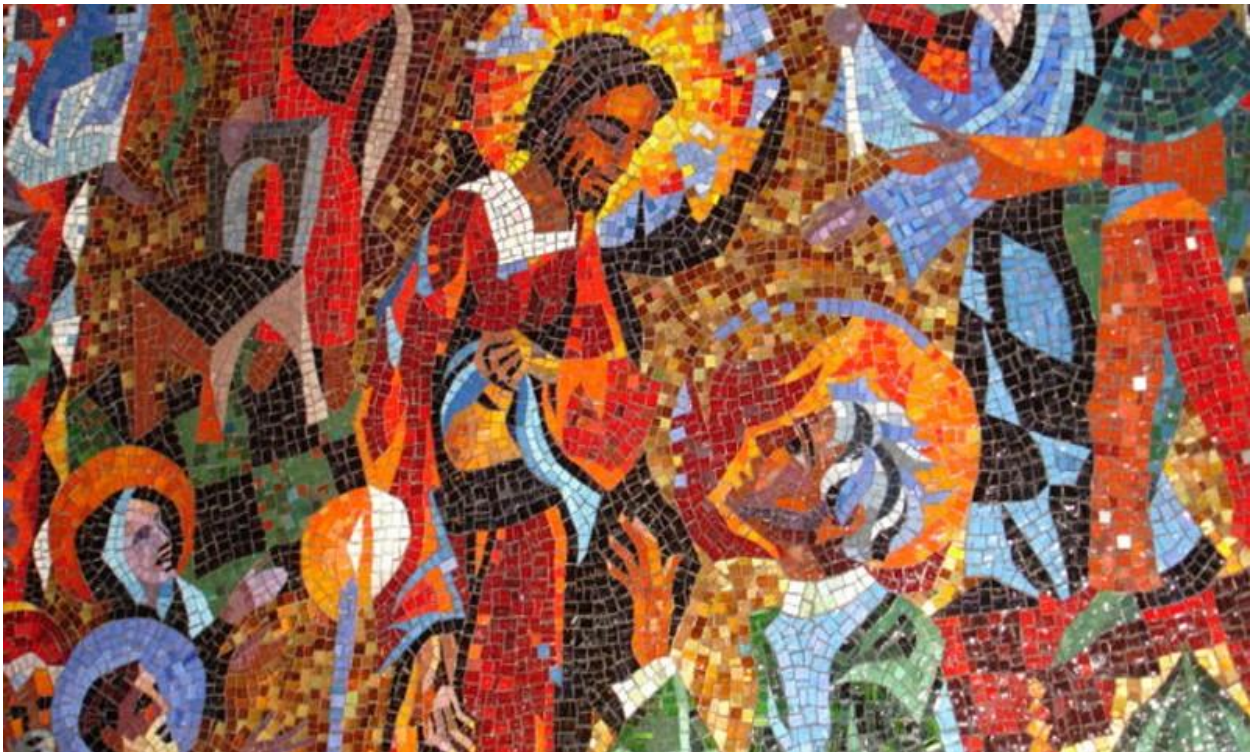
SECOND SUNDAY OF EASTER

Saturday, 6 April 5pm & Sunday, 7 April, 10 AM 2024

Prelude: "May Jesus Christ Be Praised", tune Laudes Domine by Barnby Arr and tune Bunesan, Trad. Gaelic, arr by Lenny Seidel

Welcome and Announcements

Rev Allison Cornell



Opening Song: *"Moring has broken"*,

#8

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-278

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

First Lesson: A Reading from the Book Acts (1:3-5,12-14):

Jesus presented himself to the disciples, living, after his suffering through many convincing proofs, by appearing to them forty days and speaking about the reign of God.

And staying with them, Jesus commanded them not to leave Jerusalem, rather to wait there for the promise of the Faithful One, "what you heard from me. For John baptized with water, but you will be baptized with the Holy Spirit not many days from this one."

Then they returned to Jerusalem from the mount called Olivet, which is near Jerusalem, a sabbath day's journey away. And when they entered the city, they went upstairs to the room where they were staying, Peter, and John, and James, and Andrew, Philip and Thomas, Bartholomew and Matthew, James son of Alphaeus, and Simon the Zealot, and Judas son of James. All these were persevering in prayer together with women, including Mary the mother of Jesus, as well as his sisters and brothers.

Reader The Word of the Lord

People Thanks be to God

The Psalm:

Psalm: 41:1-4, 12-13 (read in unison)

- 1 Happy is the woman who has understanding of the poor;
the FAITHFUL ONE delivers her in a day bringing evil.**
- 2 The SHELTERING GOD protects her and keeps her alive;
she is called happy in the land.
You will not hand her over to the desire of her enemies.**
- 3 The COMPASSIONATE GOD sustains her on her sickbed;
her every bedridden infirmity, you shall heal.**
- 4 Now I, I said, "MERCIFUL GOD, be gracious to me;
heal my soul, for I have sinned against you."**
- 12 Yet even me, because of my integrity, you have upheld me,
and set me in your presence forever.**
- 13 Blessed be the FIRE OF SINAI, the God of Israel,
from everlasting to everlasting.
Amen and Amen.**

Second Lesson: From the Epistle to the Romans (7:1-12):

Look, do you not know sisters and brothers—it is to those who know the law that I speak—that the law is binding on a woman or man only while that person lives? Therefore a married woman, while the husband lives, is bound by law; but if the husband dies, she is released from the law concerning the husband. So then, if the husband is alive, she would be called an adulteress if she became another man's. But if the husband dies, she is free from that law, and she is not an adulteress if she becomes another man's.

Just so, my friends, you have died to the law through the body of Christ, so that you all may belong to another, to the one who from the dead has been raised in order that we may bear fruit for God. While we were in the flesh, our sinful passions as a result of the law were at work in our members to bear fruit for death. But now we are released from the law, dead to that which held us, so that we are slaves in the newness of the spirit, not under the old letter.

What then should we say? That the law is sin? By no means! Yet, if it were not for the law, I would not have known sin. I would not have known what it is to covet if the law had not said, "You shall not covet." Yet seizing an opportunity in the commandment, sin produced in me all kinds of covetousness. Apart from the law sin is dead. Now, I was at one time alive apart from the law, but when the commandment came, sin revived and I died. And the commandment that was to be life was found to be death to me. For sin, seizing an opportunity in the commandment, deceived me and through it killed me. So the law is holy, and the commandment is holy and just and good.

Reader: The Word of the Lord

People: Thanks be to God

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

Deacon:

The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to John (20:19-31):

People: Glory to you, Lord Christ

When it was evening on that day, the first of the week, and the doors of the house where the disciples were closed for fear of the Judeans, Jesus came and stood in their midst and said to them, "Peace be with you all". And having said this, Jesus showed them his hands and his side, and then the disciples rejoiced when they saw the Messiah. Jesus said to them again, "Peace be with you all, just as the Living God has sent me, so I send you all " When Jesus 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, one of the twelve who was called Didymus (the Twin) was not with them when Jesus came. So the other disciples told him, "We have seen the Messiah." 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." And within eight days his disciples were again in the house, and Thomas was with them. Jesus came, though the doors were shut, and stood among them and said, "Peace be with you all." Then he said to Thomas, "Put your finger here and look at my hands. Bring your hand and put it in my side and do not doubt, rather believe." Thomas answered him, saying, "My Savior and my God!" Jesus said to him, "Was it because you have seen me that you believed? Blessed are those who have not seen and yet believe."

Now Jesus did many other signs in the presence of his disciples, which are not written in this book. But these are written that you may come to believe Jesus is the Messiah, the Son of God, and that through believing you may have life in his name.

Deacon: 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 .*

People And also with you

The Offertory:

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

Offertory Song “*That Easter Day With Joy was Bright*” #193

Doxology #380 vs. 3

**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 Holy Communion - *The Great Thanksgiving BCP Rite 2A*

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-128

**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.

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 for ever. **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

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

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, we invite you to come forward and cross your arms over your chest to receive a blessing instead. Bread is gluten free).

Communion Hymn: *“O love how deep how broad how high”* #448

Prayers for:

Birthdays, Anniversaries, Healing Prayers, Travelers, and 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.**

Recessional Hymn *"We walk by faith and not by sight"* #209

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!

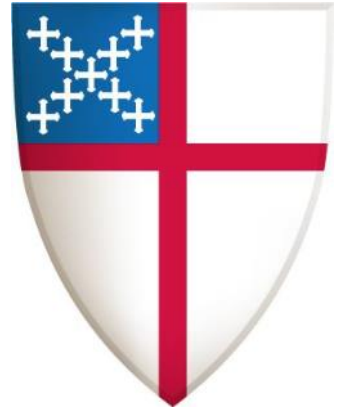
People: Thanks be to God. Alleluia, Alleluia, (Alleluia!)

Postlude: *"Let The Heavens Be Glad"*, Lani Smith

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Please leave voicemail message

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 Envelopes Mail News Letter

Name _____
— (first) (Mid.) (Last)

Hm: _____ Cell _____
Anv. Date _____

Email: _____ BrthDate _____

Adrs: _____

City, St., Zip: _____, _____, _____