

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

# SEVENTH SUNDAY OF EASTER Saturday, 11 May 5pm & Sunday, 12 May, 10 AM 2024



Prelude: "Prayer", from Hansel and Gretel by E. Humperdinck, arr Martha Powell SetchelWelcome and AnnouncementsRev Allison Cornell

## Salutation

Presider: Alleluia! Christ is risen!

#### People: The Lord is risen, indeed! Alleluia!

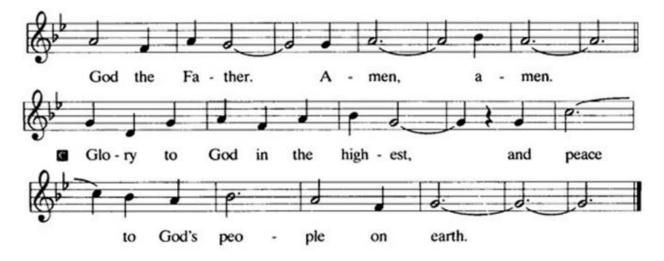
Presider: Almighty God, to you all hearts are open, all desires known, and from you no secrets are hid. Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit that we may perfectly love you, and worthily magnify you Holy Name, through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.** 

Gloria— "Glory to God"

607







The Collect of the Day:

Presider: The Lord be with you

People: And also with you.

Presider: Let us pray

All: O God, the King of glory, you have exalted your only Son Jesus Christ with great triumph to your kingdom in heaven: Do not leave us comfortless, but send us your Holy Spirit to strengthen us, and exalt us to that place where our Savior Christ has gone before; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, in glory everlasting. Amen.

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

#### First Lesson: A Reading from the Book Acts (1:1-11):

In the first writing, I worked on, Theophilus, everything Jesus did and taught from the beginning until the day he instructed the apostles whom he had chosen through the Holy Spirit and was taken up to heaven. Jesus presented himself to them, 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 God, "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."

When they [the disciples], came together, they asked Jesus, "Rabbi, is this the time when you will restore sovereignty to Israel?" He replied, "It is not for you to know the times or seasons that the Sovereign God has set through divine

authority. But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes upon you, and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, in all Judea and Samaria, and to the end of the earth."

And saying this, as they were watching Jesus was taken up, and a cloud took him out of their sight. While they were gazing up toward heaven as Jesus was going, suddenly two in white robes stood by them. They said, "Galileans, why are you standing looking up into heaven? This Jesus, who has been taken up from you into heaven, will come in the way as you saw him go into heaven.

Reader The Word of the Lord **People Thanks be to God** 

# The Psalm:

Psalm: 24 (read in unison)

- 1 To the CREATOR OF ALL belongs the earth and all that fills her, the world, and those who dwell in her.
- 2 For God upon the seas has founded her, and on the rivers has established her.
- 3 Who shall ascend the hill of the HOLY ONE ? And who shall stand in God's holy place ?
- 4 The woman or man who has clean hands and pure hearts, who does not lift up their [hands] to what is false, and do not swear deceitfully on their souls.
- 5 [Instead] they will lift up a blessing from the FAITHFUL GOD, and what is right from the God of their salvation.
- 6 Such is the generation of those who seek God, who seek the face of the God of Rebekah. Selah
- 7 Lift up your heads, you gates! and be lifted up, you everlasting doors! that the One of glory may come in.
- 8 Who is the One of glory? The FIRE OF SINAI, strong and mighty, the GOD WHO IS MAJESTY, mighty in battle.
- 9 Lift up your heads, you gates! and be lifted up, you everlasting doors! that the One of glory may come in.
- 10 Who is this One of glory? The COMMANDER of heaven's legions, God is the One of glory. Selah

#### Second Lesson: From the book of Revelation (3:20-22):

"Look! I stand at the door and knock. If you hear my voice and open the door, I will come in to you and dine with you, and you with me. To the one who conquers I will give a place with me on my throne, just as I myself conquered and sat down with my Abba on God's throne. Let anyone who has an ear listen to what the Spirit is saying to the churches."

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 Luke (24:46-53):

#### **People: Glory to you, Lord Christ**

Then Jesus said to them, "So it is written, the Messiah is to suffer and to rise from the dead the third day, and repentance and forgiveness of sins is to be preached in his name to all nations, beginning from Jerusalem. You are witnesses of these things. Now look! I am sending you the promise of my Abba. You all stay in the city until you have been clothed with power from on high." Then Jesus led them out as far as Bethany, and lifting his hands, he blessed them. While he was blessing them, Jesus retreated from them and was carried up into heaven. And they bowed down and worshiped him and returned to Jerusalem with great joy; 53 and they were in the temple everyday blessing God.

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: Gracious God, you have called us to abide in your life and to bear witness to Christ working in mysterious ways in our lives.

- People: Grant that the church may reveal your love though Jesus that we might live in him and bear much fruit of the spirit as a result.
- Leader: Light of the World, dominion belongs to you, for you rule over all the nations
- People: Raise up bold witnesses like those first disciples who testify to everyone about the good news which is completed in love so that peace may abound in our time.
- Leader: Attentive vine-grower, you tend the branches and fruit of your vine extending to the ends of the earth.
- People: Let your loving attention reach out to all people who live in suffering and threatening conditions, that they may be restored to wholeness and fruitfulness.
- Leader: Everyone who loves is born of God and knows God
- People: Inspire all in our community to seek to expand the fruits of compassion and care so that those in need shall eat and be satisfied and that all the ends of the earth shall recognize and turn to the Lord.

Leader: Gather into your abundant and eternal banquet all who have died,

People: May their hearts and souls be filled and live forever with you.

Leader: You have loved us first and called us to love our neighbors as ourselves. We lift up to you the following people:

In the Anglican Cycle of Prayer we pray for *The Anglican Church of Burundi*.

In the Diocesan Cycle of Prayer we pray for *St. George's, in Holbrook.* For the first peoples who live in our area of Arizona, especially the Tohono O'odham and Apache peoples, that we may live and minister together for our mutual benefit.

# People: Eternal and Loving God, accept the wishes of our hearts as we pray faithfully that God is love and God's perfect love casts out all fear.

Presider: You have planted us in the nurturing ground of your steadfast love, O God, and grafted us into the life of your resurrected son Jesus Christ our savior. Keep us evermore abiding within your spirit of love that we may bear the fruit of your reconciliation for all that is and is to come, through Jesus Christ we pray. **Amen.** 

## **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 "Now thank we all our God"

## #397

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

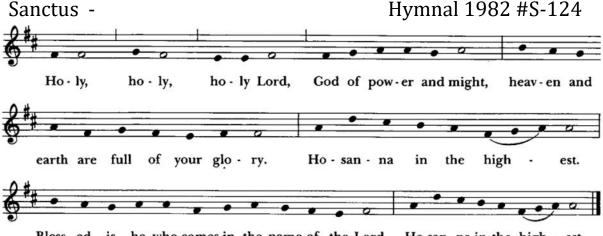
Presider	The Lord be with you.
People	And also with you.
Presider	Lift up your hearts.
People	We lift them to the Lord.
Presider	Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
People	It is right to give God thanks and praise.

#### 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:



Bless - ed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Ho-san - na in the high - est.

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 : G#830 Refrain Only



### **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: "I Received the Living God"

G#809

## 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 "God of Eve and God of Mary" {See Insert}

## 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: "Round of Alleluia"", by Doreen Oberg

Notice: All church activities may be internet streamed, video recorded, and photographed for church uses. Entry on to the church campus or in to any church building constitutes consent to be streamed, videotaped, or photographed for church purposes.

