



St. Stephen's Episcopal Church

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

THE FEAST OF DIETRICH BONHOEFFER

Wednesday 9 April 2025 9:30 AM



Dietrich Bonhoeffer From [Lessor Feasts & Fasts](#)
was born in Breslau,

Germany (now Wroclaw, Poland), on February 4, 1906. He studied theology at the universities of Berlin and Tübingen, and his doctoral thesis was published in 1930 as *Communio Sanctorum*. Still canonically too young to be ordained at the age of 24, he undertook postdoctoral study and teaching at Union Theological Seminary in New York City.

From the first days of the Nazi accession to power in 1933, Bonhoeffer was involved in protests against the regime. From 1933 to 1935 he was the pastor of two small congregations in London, but nonetheless was a leading spokesman for the Confessing Church, the center of Protestant resistance to the Nazis. In 1935, Bonhoeffer was appointed to organize and head a new seminary for the Confessing Church at Finkenwald. He described the community in his classic work *Life Together*. He later wrote *The Cost of Discipleship*, which quickly became a modern classic.

Bonhoeffer was acutely aware of the difficulties of

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Welcome and Announcements

Rev. Allison Cornell

Entrance Rites *(The people stand as they are able.)*

Salutation

Presider: Bless the Lord who forgiveth all our sins

People: **His mercy endureth forever**

Opening Acclamation:

Presider If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us; but if we confess our sins, God is faithful and just to forgive us our sins, and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

Confession:

Deacon: Let us humbly confess our sins unto Almighty God

All: Almighty and most merciful Father, we have erred and strayed from thy ways like lost sheep, we have followed too much the devices and desires of our own hearts, we have offended against thy holy laws, we have left undone those things which we ought to have done, and we have done those things which we ought not to have done.

But thou, O Lord, have mercy upon us, spare thou those who confess their faults, restore thou those who are penitent, according to thy promises declared unto mankind in Christ Jesus our Lord; and grant, O most Merciful Father, for his sake, that we may hereafter live a godly, righteous, and sober life, to the glory of thy holy Name. Amen.

Presider: The Almighty and merciful Lord grant you absolution and remission of all your sins, true repentance, amendment of life, and the grace and consolation of his Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

Kyrie Eleison / Lord, have mercy - Steve Merkel

Lord have mer - cy, Christ have mer - cy, Lord have mer - cy on me.

Lord have mer - cy, Christ have mer - cy, Lord have mer - cy on — me.

The Lessons – *(please be seated)*

Psalm for today: Psalm 119:81-88

- 81 My soul has longed for your salvation; *
I have put my hope in your word.
- 82 My eyes have failed from watching for your promise, *
and I say, "When will you comfort me?"
- 83 I have become like a leather flask in the smoke, *
but I have not forgotten your statutes.
- 84 How much longer must I wait? *
when will you give judgment against those who persecute me?
- 85 The proud have dug pits for me; *
they do not keep your law.
- 86 All your commandments are true; *
help me, for they persecute me with lies.
- 87 They had almost made an end of me on earth, *
but I have not forsaken your commandments.
- 88 In your loving-kindness, revive me, *
that I may keep the decrees of your mouth.

**All: Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit:
as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be for ever. Amen.**

First Lesson: A Reading from the Book of Judges 7:1–8a

Jerubbaal (that is, Gideon) and all the troops that were with him rose early and encamped beside the spring of Harod; and the camp of Midian was north of them, below the hill of Moreh, in the valley.

The Lord said to Gideon, "The troops with you are too many for me to give the Midianites into their hand. Israel would only take the credit away from me, saying, 'My own hand has delivered me.' Now therefore proclaim this in the hearing of the troops, 'Whoever is fearful and trembling, let him return home.'" Thus Gideon sifted them out; twenty-two thousand returned, and ten thousand remained.

Then the Lord said to Gideon, "The troops are still too many; take them down to the water and I will sift them out for you there. When I say, 'This one

shall go with you,' he shall go with you; and when I say, 'This one shall not go with you,' he shall not go." So he brought the troops down to the water; and the Lord said to Gideon, "All those who lap the water with their tongues, as a dog laps, you shall put to one side; all those who kneel down to drink, putting their hands to their mouths, you shall put to the other side." The number of those that lapped was three hundred; but all the rest of the troops knelt down to drink water. Then the Lord said to Gideon, "With the three hundred that lapped I will deliver you, and give the Midianites into your hand. Let all the others go to their homes." So he took the jars of the troops from their hands, and their trumpets; and he sent all the rest of Israel back to their own tents, but retained the three hundred.

Reader: *The word of the Lord.*

People: Thanks be to God.

Second Lesson:

A Reading from the Book of Romans 6:3-11

Do you not know that all of us who have been baptized into Christ Jesus were baptized into his death? Therefore we have been buried with him by baptism into death, so that, just as Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father, so we too might walk in newness of life. For if we have been united with him in a death like his, we will certainly be united with him in a resurrection like his. We know that our old self was crucified with him so that the body of sin might be destroyed, and we might no longer be enslaved to sin. For whoever has died is freed from sin. But if we have died with Christ, we believe that we will also live with him. We know that Christ, being raised from the dead, will never die again; death no longer has dominion over him. The death he died, he died to sin, once for all; but the life he lives, he lives to God. So you also must consider yourselves dead to sin and alive to God in Christ Jesus.

Reader: *The word of the Lord.*

People: Thanks be to God.

Gospel Reading: Matthew 13:47-52

Deacon: The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Luke

People: Glory be to thee, O Lord

Jesus said, "The kingdom of heaven is like a net that was thrown into the sea and caught fish of every kind; when it was full, they drew it ashore, sat down, and put the good into baskets but threw out the bad. So it will be at the

end of the age. The angels will come out and separate the evil from the righteous and throw them into the furnace of fire, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.

“Have you understood all this?” They answered, “Yes.” And he said to them, “Therefore every scribe who has been trained for the kingdom of heaven is like the master of a household who brings out of his treasure what is new and what is old.”

Deacon: The Gospel of the Lord

People: Praise be to thee, O Christ.

Sermon

The Apostles' Creed

All: I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth; I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord. He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit and born of the Virgin Mary.

He suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried. He descended to the dead. On the third day he rose again. He ascended into heaven, and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

Prayers of the People

Leader The Lord be with you.

People **And with thy spirit.**

Leader Let us pray.

V. O Lord, show thy mercy upon us;

R. **And grant us thy salvation.**

V. Endue thy ministers with righteousness;

R. **And make thy chosen people joyful.**

V. Give peace, O Lord, in all the world;
R. **For only in thee can we live in safety.**
V. Lord, keep this nation under thy care;
R. **And guide us in the way of justice and truth.**
V. Let thy way be known upon earth;
R. **Thy saving health among all nations.**
V. Let not the needy, O Lord, be forgotten;
R. **Nor the hope of the poor be taken away.**
V. Create in us clean hearts, O God;
R. **And sustain us with your Holy Spirit.**

Leader: In the Anglican Cycle of Prayer, we pray for *The Diocese of Maseno East – The Anglican Church of Kenya*

In the Diocesan cycle of prayer, we pray for *St. John's, in Bisbee.*

We pray for the first peoples of this land, especially the Apache and Tahona O'Odham peoples who called this area home.

People: Lord, be with them to bless and guide them.

Collect Of the Day

Presider: Let us pray

All: Embolden our lives, O Lord, and inspire our faiths, that we, following the example of your servant Dietrich Bonhoeffer, might embrace your call with undivided hearts; through Jesus Christ our Savior, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. Amen.

Exchange of the Peace

Presider May the peace of Christ be always with you

All **And also with you.**

The Ministers and People may greet one another in the name of the Lord.

Offertory

Presider: If you are offering your gift at the altar, and there remember that your brother has something against you, leave your gift there before the altar and go; first be reconciled to your brother, and then come and offer your gift.

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. ♪

Holy Communion

The Great Thanksgiving

Presider The Lord be with you.
People And with thy spirit
Presider Lift up your hearts.
People We lift them up unto the Lord.
Presider Let us give thanks unto our Lord our God.
People It is meet and right so to do.

Presider

It is very meet, right, and our bounden duty, that we should at all times, and in all places, give thanks unto thee, O Lord, holy Father, almighty, everlasting God.

All: Through Jesus Christ our Lord; who was in every way tempted as we are, yet did not sin; by whose grace we are able to triumph over every evil, and to live no longer unto ourselves, but unto him who died for us and rose again.

Therefore with Angels and Archangels, and with all the company of heaven, we laud and magnify thy glorious Name; evermore praising thee, and saying,

Presider and People: **Holy, holy, holy, Lord God of Hosts:**

Heaven and Earth are full of thy glory

Glory be to thee, O Lord Most High

Blessed is he that cometh in the name of the Lord

Hosanna in the highest

All glory be to thee, Almighty God, our heavenly Father, for that thou, of thy tender mercy, didst give thine only Son Jesus Christ to suffer death upon the

cross for our redemption; who made thereby his one oblation of himself once offered, a full, perfect, and sufficient sacrifice, oblation, and satisfaction, for the sins of the whole world; and did institute, and in his holy Gospel did command us to continue, a perpetual memory of that his precious death and sacrifice, until his coming again.

For in the night in which he was betrayed, he took bread; and when he had given thanks to thee, he broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying:

"Take, eat, this is my Body, which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me."

Likewise, after supper, he took the cup; and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, saying:

"Drink this all of you; for this is my Blood of the New Covenant, which is shed for you, and for many, for the remission of sins. Do this, as oft as ye shall drink it, in remembrance of me."

Wherefore, O Lord and heavenly Father, we, thy humble people, do celebrate and make, with these thy holy gifts, which we now offer unto thee, the memorial thy Son hath commanded us to make;

All: Having in remembrance his blessed passion and precious death, his mighty resurrection and glorious ascension; and looking for his coming again with power and great glory.

And we most humbly beseech thee, O merciful Father, to hear us; and with thy Word and Holy Spirit, to bless and sanctify (+) these gifts of bread and wine; that they may be unto us the Body and Blood of thy dearly-beloved Son Jesus Christ.

All: And we earnestly desire thy fatherly goodness to accept this our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving; whereby we offer and present unto thee, O Lord, our selves, our souls and bodies.

Grant, we beseech thee that all who partake of this Holy Communion may worthily received the most precious body and Blood of thy Son Jesus Christ, and be filled with thy grace and heavenly benediction (+); and also that we and all thy whole church may be made one body with him, that he may dwell in us, and we in him; through the same Jesus Christ our Lord;

By whom, and with whom, and in whom, in the unity of the Holy Ghost, all honor and glory be unto thee, O Father Almighty, world without end. **AMEN.**

And now, as our Savior Christ hath taught us, we are bold to say,

**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 in silence)

Fraction Anthem Hymnal 1982 #S-163

♪ **Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world, have mercy on us**
♪ **Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world, have mercy on us**
♪ **Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world, grant us peace.**

Invitation to Communion:

Presider: The Gifts of God for the People of God: Take them in remembrance
that Christ died for you, and feed on him in your hearts by faith, and with
thanksgiving.

*Everyone is invited and welcome to receive communion in this church. We offer gluten free bread
and real wine. You may receive one or both as partaking in full communion. If you prefer to
intinct/dip your bread into the wine to consume, please go to the left side of the altar. If you prefer
to eat the bread and then sip from the cup, please go to the right side of the altar. If you are not
ready to receive communion, you may go to either side and cross your arms over your chest for a
blessing instead.*

Prayers for:

Birthdays, Anniversaries, Healing, Travelers and Gratitudes

Post Communion Prayer

Presider: Let us pray:

All: Grant, O Lord God, to all who have been baptized into the death and
resurrection of thy Son Jesus Christ, that, as we have put away the old life
of sin, so we may be renewed in the spirit of our minds, and live in
righteousness and true holiness; through the same Jesus Christ our Lord,
who liveth and reigneth with thee, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one
God, now and for ever. Amen.

Benediction:

Presider: The peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, keep your hearts and minds in the knowledge and love of God, and of his Son Jesus Christ our Lord; and the blessing of God Almighty: the Father, the Son, and the Holy Ghost, be among you, and remain with you always. **Amen.**

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 in the name of Christ

People Thanks be to God.

Continued from front:

life in community, and the easy disillusionment that could come when the experience did not live up to the imagined idea. Yet he also wrote eloquently of the gift and privilege of Christian community. “It is not simply to be taken for granted that the Christian has the privilege of living among other Christians. Jesus Christ lived in the midst of his enemies. At the end all of his disciples deserted him. On the Cross he was utterly alone, surrounded by evildoers and mockers. For this cause he had come, to bring peace to the enemies of God. So the Christian, too, belongs not in the seclusion of a cloistered life but in the thick of foes. There is his commission, his work . . . So between the death of Christ and the Last Day it is only by a gracious anticipation of the last things that Christians are privileged to live in visible fellowship with other Christians.”

Bonhoeffer became increasingly involved in the political struggle after 1939, when he was introduced to a group seeking Hitler’s overthrow. Bonhoeffer considered refuge in the United States, but he returned to Germany where he was able to continue his resistance.

Bonhoeffer was arrested April 5, 1943, and imprisoned in Berlin. After an attempt on Hitler’s life failed on July 20, 1944, documents were discovered linking Bonhoeffer to the conspiracy. He was taken to Buchenwald concentration camp, then to Schoenberg Prison. On Sunday, April 8, 1945, just as he concluded a service in a school building in Schoenberg, two men came in with the chilling summons, “Prisoner Bonhoeffer . . . come with us.” He said to another prisoner, “This is the end. For me, the beginning of life.” Bonhoeffer was hanged the next day, April 9, at Flossenburg Prison.

There is in Bonhoeffer’s life a remarkable unity of faith, prayer, writing, and action. The pacifist theologian came to accept the guilt of plotting the death of Hitler, because he was convinced that not to do so would be a greater evil. Discipleship was to be had only at great cost.

Dietrich Bonhoeffer (German: [ˈdiːtʁɪç ˈbɔnhøːfɐ]^[1]; 4 February 1906 – 9 April 1945) was a German [Lutheran](#) pastor, [neo-orthodox](#) theologian and anti-[Nazi](#) dissident who was a key founding member of the [Confessing Church](#). His writings on Christianity's role in the secular world have become widely influential; his 1937 book [The Cost of Discipleship](#) is described as a modern classic.^[1] Apart from his theological writings, Bonhoeffer was known for his staunch resistance to the Nazi dictatorship, including vocal opposition to [Adolf Hitler](#)'s euthanasia program and genocidal [persecution of Jews](#).^[2] He was arrested in April 1943 by the [Gestapo](#) and imprisoned at [Tegel Prison](#) for 1+1/2 years. Later, he was transferred to [Flossenbürg concentration camp](#).

Bonhoeffer was accused of being associated with the [20 July plot](#) to assassinate Hitler and was tried along with other accused plotters, including former members of the [Abwehr](#) (the German Military Intelligence Office). He was hanged on 9 April 1945 during the collapse of the Nazi regime.

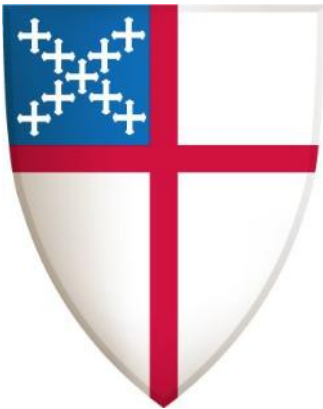
Childhood and family

Bonhoeffer was born on 4 February 1906 in [Breslau](#), Germany (now Poland), into a large family.^[3] Dietrich had a twin sister, [Sabine Bonhoeffer Leibholz](#): he and Sabine were the sixth and seventh children out of eight.^[4] His father was [Karl Bonhoeffer](#), a psychiatrist and neurologist, noted for his criticism of [Sigmund Freud](#);^[5] his mother Paula Bonhoeffer was a

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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.



<input type="checkbox"/> Info Update	Giving Envelopes	<input type="checkbox"/> Mail News Letter	<input type="checkbox"/>
Name _____ (first) _____ (Mid.) _____ (Last)			
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