

# WELCOME TO ST. STEPHEN'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH



## ST. STEPHEN'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH

## HOLY WEEK

*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 EASTER VIGIL

**Saturday, 4 April 5 PM**



**bringing Christ's Light back into the world**

**Prelude: "The flaming banners of our King advance, music Vexilla Regis  
prodeunt, plainsong 12 century**

# The Great Vigil of Easter

## The Lighting of the Paschal Candle

BCP 285

Dear friends in Christ: On this most holy night, in which our Lord Jesus passed over from death to life, the Church invites her members, dispersed throughout the world, to gather in vigil and prayer. For this is the Passover of the Lord, in which, by hearing his Word and celebrating his Sacraments, we share in his victory over death.

*The Celebrant may say the following prayer*

Let us pray.

O God, through your Son you have bestowed upon your people the brightness of your light: Sanctify this new fire, and grant that in this Paschal feast we may so burn with heavenly desires, that with pure minds we may attain to the festival of everlasting light; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

*The Paschal Candle is then lighted from the newly kindled fire, and the Deacon (the Celebrant if there is no deacon) bearing the Candle, leads the procession to the chancel, pausing three times and singing or saying*

Cantor                    The Light of Christ

People                    **Thanks be to God**

Cantor                    The Light of Christ

People                    **Thanks be to God**

Cantor                    The Light of Christ

People                    **Thanks be to God**

*The Paschal Candle is placed in its stand.*

*Then the Deacon, or other person appointed, standing near the Candle, sings or says the Exsultet, as follows...*

Then the Exsultet is Chanted

BCP 286

Rejoice now, heavenly hosts and choirs of angels,  
and let your trumpets shout Salvation  
for the victory of our mighty King.

Rejoice and sing now, all the round earth,  
bright with a glorious splendor,  
for darkness has been vanquished by our eternal King.

Rejoice and be glad now, Mother Church,  
and let your holy courts, in radiant light,  
resound with the praises of your people.

*Deacon:* The Lord be with you.

**People:** And also with you.

*Deacon:* Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**People:** It is right to give him thanks and praise.

*The Deacon or leader Continues:*

It is truly right and good, always and everywhere, with our whole heart and mind and voice, to praise you, the invisible, almighty, and eternal God, and your only-begotten Son, Jesus Christ our Lord; for he is the true Paschal Lamb, who at the feast of the Passover paid for us the debt of Adam's sin, and by his blood delivered your faithful people.

This is the night, when you brought our fathers, the children of Israel, out of bondage in Egypt, and led them through the Red Sea on dry land.

This is the night, when all who believe in Christ are delivered from the gloom of sin, and are restored to grace and holiness of life.

This is the night, when Christ broke the bonds of death and hell, and rose victorious from the grave.

Holy Father, accept our evening sacrifice, the offering of this candle in your honor. May it shine continually to drive away all darkness. May Christ, the Morning Star who knows no setting, find it ever burning--he who gives his light to all creation, and who lives and reigns for ever and ever. **Amen.**

## **The Liturgy of the Word**

BCP 288

The Readings

### **The Story of Creation**

Genesis 1:1-2:4a

In the beginning when God created the heavens and the earth, the earth was a formless void and darkness covered the face of the deep, while a wind from God swept over the face of the waters. Then God said, "Let there be light"; and there was light. And God saw that the light was good; and God separated the light from the darkness. God called the light Day, and the darkness he called Night. And there was evening and there was morning, the first day.

And God said, "Let there be a dome in the midst of the waters, and let it separate the waters from the waters." So God made the dome and separated the

waters that were under the dome from the waters that were above the dome. And it was so. God called the dome Sky. And there was evening and there was morning, the second day.

And God said, "Let the waters under the sky be gathered together into one place, and let the dry land appear." And it was so. God called the dry land Earth, and the waters that were gathered together he called Seas. And God saw that it was good. Then God said, "Let the earth put forth vegetation: plants yielding seed, and fruit trees of every kind on earth that bear fruit with the seed in it." And it was so. The earth brought forth vegetation: plants yielding seed of every kind, and trees of every kind bearing fruit with the seed in it. And God saw that it was good. And there was evening and there was morning, the third day.

And God said, "Let there be lights in the dome of the sky to separate the day from the night; and let them be for signs and for seasons and for days and years, and let them be lights in the dome of the sky to give light upon the earth." And it was so. God made the two great lights--the greater light to rule the day and the lesser light to rule the night--and the stars. God set them in the dome of the sky to give light upon the earth, to rule over the day and over the night, and to separate the light from the darkness. And God saw that it was good. And there was evening and there was morning, the fourth day.

And God said, "Let the waters bring forth swarms of living creatures, and let birds fly above the earth across the dome of the sky." So God created the great sea monsters and every living creature that moves, of every kind, with which the waters swarm, and every winged bird of every kind. And God saw that it was good. God blessed them, saying, "Be fruitful and multiply and fill the waters in the seas, and let birds multiply on the earth." And there was evening and there was morning, the fifth day.

And God said, "Let the earth bring forth living creatures of every kind: cattle and creeping things and wild animals of the earth of every kind." And it was so. God made the wild animals of the earth of every kind, and the cattle of every kind, and everything that creeps upon the ground of every kind. And God saw that it was good. Then God said, "Let us make humankind in our image, according to our likeness; and let them have dominion over the fish of the sea, and over the birds of the air, and over the cattle, and over all the wild animals of the earth, and over every creeping thing that creeps upon the earth."

So God created humankind in his image, in the image of God he created them; male and female he created them. God blessed them, and God said to them, "Be fruitful and multiply, and fill the earth and subdue it; and have dominion over the fish of the sea and over the birds of the air and over every living thing that moves upon the earth." God said, "See, I have given you every plant yielding seed

that is upon the face of all the earth, and every tree with seed in its fruit; you shall have them for food. And to every beast of the earth, and to every bird of the air, and to everything that creeps on the earth, everything that has the breath of life, I have given every green plant for food." And it was so. God saw everything that he had made, and indeed, it was very good. And there was evening and there was morning, the sixth day.

Thus the heavens and the earth were finished, and all their multitude. And on the seventh day God finished the work that he had done, and he rested on the seventh day from all the work that he had done. So God blessed the seventh day and hallowed it, because on it God rested from all the work that he had done in creation. These are the generations of the heavens and the earth when they were created.

*Lector:* The Word of God

**People: Thanks be to God**

**Psalm 136:1-9, 23-26**

- |  |  |
|--|--|
| 1 Give thanks to the Lord, for he is good,<br>for his mercy endures for ever.                      | <b>* 8 The sun to rule the day, *</b><br><b>for his mercy endures for ever;</b>                |
| <b>2 Give thanks to the God of gods, *</b><br><b>for his mercy endures for ever.</b>               | 9 The moon and the stars to govern the<br>night, *   |
| 3 Give thanks to the Lord of Lords, *<br>for his mercy endures for ever.                           | for his mercy endures for ever.  |
| <b>4 Who only does great wonders, *</b><br><b>for his mercy endures for ever;</b>                  | <b>23 Who remembered us in our low<br/>estate, *</b><br><b>for his mercy endures for ever;</b> |
| 5 Who by wisdom made the heavens, *<br>for his mercy endures for ever;                             | 24 And delivered us from our enemies, *<br>for his mercy endures for ever;                     |
| <b>6 Who spread out the earth upon the<br/>waters, *</b><br><b>for his mercy endures for ever;</b> | <b>25 Who gives food to all creatures, *</b><br><b>for his mercy endures for ever.</b>         |
| 7 Who created great lights, *<br>for his mercy endures for ever;                                   | 26 Give thanks to the God of heaven, *<br>for his mercy endures for ever.                      |

Let us pray.*(Silence)*

O God, who wonderfully created, and yet more wonderfully restored, the dignity of human nature: Grant that we may share the divine life of him who humbled himself to share our humanity, your Son Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

## **Israel's deliverance at the Red Sea Exodus 14:10-31; 15:20-21**

As Pharaoh drew near, the Israelites looked back, and there were the Egyptians advancing on them. In great fear the Israelites cried out to the LORD. They said to Moses, "Was it because there were no graves in Egypt that you have taken us away to die in the wilderness? What have you done to us, bringing us out of Egypt? Is this not the very thing we told you in Egypt, 'Let us alone and let us serve the Egyptians'? For it would have been better for us to serve the Egyptians than to die in the wilderness." But Moses said to the people, "Do not be afraid, stand firm, and see the deliverance that the LORD will accomplish for you today; for the Egyptians whom you see today you shall never see again. The LORD will fight for you, and you have only to keep still."

Then the LORD said to Moses, "Why do you cry out to me? Tell the Israelites to go forward. But you lift up your staff, and stretch out your hand over the sea and divide it, that the Israelites may go into the sea on dry ground. Then I will harden the hearts of the Egyptians so that they will go in after them; and so I will gain glory for myself over Pharaoh and all his army, his chariots, and his chariot drivers. And the Egyptians shall know that I am the LORD, when I have gained glory for myself over Pharaoh, his chariots, and his chariot drivers."

The angel of God who was going before the Israelite army moved and went behind them; and the pillar of cloud moved from in front of them and took its place behind them. It came between the army of Egypt and the army of Israel. And so the cloud was there with the darkness, and it lit up the night; one did not come near the other all night.

Then Moses stretched out his hand over the sea. The LORD drove the sea back by a strong east wind all night, and turned the sea into dry land; and the waters were divided. The Israelites went into the sea on dry ground, the waters forming a wall for them on their right and on their left. The Egyptians pursued, and went into the sea after them, all of Pharaoh's horses, chariots, and chariot drivers. At the morning watch the LORD in the pillar of fire and cloud looked down upon the Egyptian army, and threw the Egyptian army into panic. He clogged their chariot wheels so that they turned with difficulty. The Egyptians said, "Let us flee from the Israelites, for the LORD is fighting for them against Egypt."

Then the LORD said to Moses, "Stretch out your hand over the sea, so that the water may come back upon the Egyptians, upon their chariots and chariot drivers." So Moses stretched out his hand over the sea, and at dawn the sea returned to its normal depth. As the Egyptians fled before it, the LORD tossed the Egyptians into the sea. The waters returned and covered the chariots and the chariot drivers,

the entire army of Pharaoh that had followed them into the sea; not one of them remained. But the Israelites walked on dry ground through the sea, the waters forming a wall for them on their right and on their left.

Thus the LORD saved Israel that day from the Egyptians; and Israel saw the Egyptians dead on the seashore. Israel saw the great work that the LORD did against the Egyptians. So the people feared the LORD and believed in the LORD and in his servant Moses.

Then the prophet Miriam, Aaron's sister, took a tambourine in her hand; and all the women went out after her with tambourines and with dancing. And Miriam sang to them: "Sing to the LORD, for he has triumphed gloriously; horse and rider he has thrown into the sea."

*Lector:* The Word of God

**People: Thanks be to God**

## **Canticle 8, The Song of Moses \* Exodus 15:1-6, 11-13, 17-18**

I will sing to the Lord, for he is lofty and uplifted; \*  
the horse and its rider has he hurled into the sea

**The Lord is my strength and my refuge; \*  
the Lord has become my Savior.**

This is my God and I will praise him, \*  
the God of my people and I will exalt him.

**The Lord is a mighty warrior; \*  
Yahweh is his Name.**

The chariots of Pharaoh and his army has he hurled into the sea; \*  
he finest of those who bear armor have been drowned in the Red Sea.

**The fathomless deep has overwhelmed them; \*  
they sank into the depths like a stone.**

Your right hand, O Lord, is glorious in might; \*  
your right hand, O Lord, has overthrown the enemy.

**Who can be compared with you, O Lord, among the gods? \*  
who is like you, glorious in holiness, awesome in renown, and worker  
of wonders?**

You stretched forth your right hand; \*  
the earth swallowed them up.

**With your constant love you led the people you redeemed; \*  
with your might you brought them in safety to your holy dwelling.**

You will bring them in and plant them \*  
on the mount of your possession,

**The resting-place you have made for yourself, O Lord, \*  
the sanctuary,**

O Lord, that your hand has established. The Lord shall reign \*  
for ever and for ever.

**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**

Let us pray. *(Silence)*

O God, whose wonderful deeds of old shine forth even to our own day, you once delivered by the power of your mighty arm your chosen people from slavery under Pharaoh, to be a sign for us of the salvation of all nations by the water of Baptism: Grant that all the peoples of the earth may be numbered among the offspring of Abraham, and rejoice in the inheritance of Israel; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

## **The Valley of Dry Bones                      Ezekiel 37:1-14**

The hand of the Lord came upon me, and he brought me out by the spirit of the Lord and set me down in the middle of a valley; it was full of bones. He led me all around them; there were very many lying in the valley, and they were very dry. He said to me, "Mortal, can these bones live?" I answered, "O Lord God, you know." Then he said to me, "Prophecy to these bones, and say to them: O dry bones, hear the word of the Lord. Thus says the Lord God to these bones: I will cause breath to enter you, and you shall live. I will lay sinews on you, and will cause flesh to come upon you, and cover you with skin, and put breath in you, and you shall live; and you shall know that I am the Lord."

So I prophesied as I had been commanded; and as I prophesied, suddenly there was a noise, a rattling, and the bones came together, bone to its bone. I looked, and there were sinews on them, and flesh had come upon them, and skin had covered them; but there was no breath in them. Then he said to me, "Prophecy to the breath, prophecy, mortal, and say to the breath: Thus says the Lord God: Come from the four winds, O breath, and breathe upon these slain, that they may live." I prophesied as he commanded me, and the breath came into them, and they lived, and stood on their feet, a vast multitude.

Then he said to me, "Mortal, these bones are the whole house of Israel. They say, 'Our bones are dried up, and our hope is lost; we are cut off completely.' Therefore prophecy, and say to them, Thus says the Lord God: I am going to open your graves, and bring you up from your graves, O my people; and I will bring you back to the land of Israel. And you shall know that I am the Lord, when I open your graves, and bring you up from your graves, O my people. I will put my spirit within you, and you shall live, and I will place you on your own soil; then you shall know that I, the Lord, have spoken and will act," says the Lord.

## Psalm 143

- 1 Lord, hear my prayer, and in your faithfulness heed my supplications; \*  
answer me in your righteousness.
- 2 **Enter not into judgment with your servant, \***  
**for in your sight shall no one living be justified.**
- 3 For my enemy has sought my life; he has crushed me to the ground; \*  
he has made me live in dark places like those who are long dead.
- 4 **My spirit faints within me; \***  
**my heart within me is desolate.**
- 5 I remember the time past; I muse upon all your deeds; \*  
I consider the works of your hands.
- 6 **I spread out my hands to you; \***  
**my soul gasps to you like a thirsty land**
- 7 O Lord, make haste to answer me; my spirit fails me; do not hide \*  
your face from me or I shall be like those who go down to the Pit.
- 8 **Let me hear of your loving-kindness in the morning, for I put my trust in**  
**you; \* show me the road that I must walk, for I lift up my soul to you.**
- 9 Deliver me from my enemies, O Lord, \*  
for I flee to you for refuge.
- 10 **Teach me to do what pleases you, for you are my God; \***  
**let your good Spirit lead me on level ground.**
- 11 Revive me, O Lord, for your Name's sake; \*  
for your righteousness' sake, bring me out of trouble.
- 12 **Of your goodness, destroy my enemies and bring all my foes to naught, \***  
**for truly I am your servant.**

Let us pray. *(Silence)*

Almighty God, by the Passover of your Son you have brought us out of sin into righteousness and out of death into life: Grant to those who are sealed by your Holy Spirit the will and the power to proclaim you to all the world; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

### **After the Readings**

*The Celebrant may first address the people in these or similar words, all standing*

Through the Paschal mystery, dear friends, we are buried with Christ by Baptism into his death, and raised with him to newness of life. I call upon you, therefore, now that our Lenten observance is ended, to renew the solemn promises

and vows of Holy Baptism, by which we once renounced Satan and all his works, and promised to serve God faithfully in his holy Catholic Church.

## **The Renewal of Baptismal Vows**

BCP 292

*Celebrant:* Do you reaffirm your renunciation of evil and renew your commitment to Jesus Christ?

**People: I do.**

*Celebrant:* Do you believe in God the Father?

**People: I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth**

*Celebrant:* Do you believe in Jesus Christ, the Son of God?

**People: 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.**

*Celebrant:* Do you believe in God the Holy Spirit?

**People: 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.**

*Celebrant:* Will you continue in the apostles' teaching and fellowship, in the breaking of bread, and in the prayers?

**People: I will, with God's help.**

*Celebrant:* Will you persevere in resisting evil, and, whenever you fall into sin, repent and return to the Lord?

**People: I will, with God's help.**

*Celebrant:* Will you proclaim by word and example the Good News of God in Christ?

**People: I will, with God's help.**

*Celebrant:* Will you seek and serve Christ in all persons, loving your neighbor as your self?

**People: I will, with God's help.**

*Celebrant:* Will you strive for justice and peace among all people, and respect the dignity of every human being?

**People: I will, with God's help.**

*The Celebrant concludes the Renewal of Vows as follows*

May Almighty God, the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has given us a new birth by water and the Holy Spirit, and bestowed upon us the forgiveness of sins, keep us in eternal life by his grace, in Christ Jesus our Lord. *Amen.*

## At the Eucharist

BCP 294

*The candles at the Altar may now be lighted from the Paschal Candle. One of the following Canticles is then sung. Immediately before the Canticle the Celebrant may say to the people*

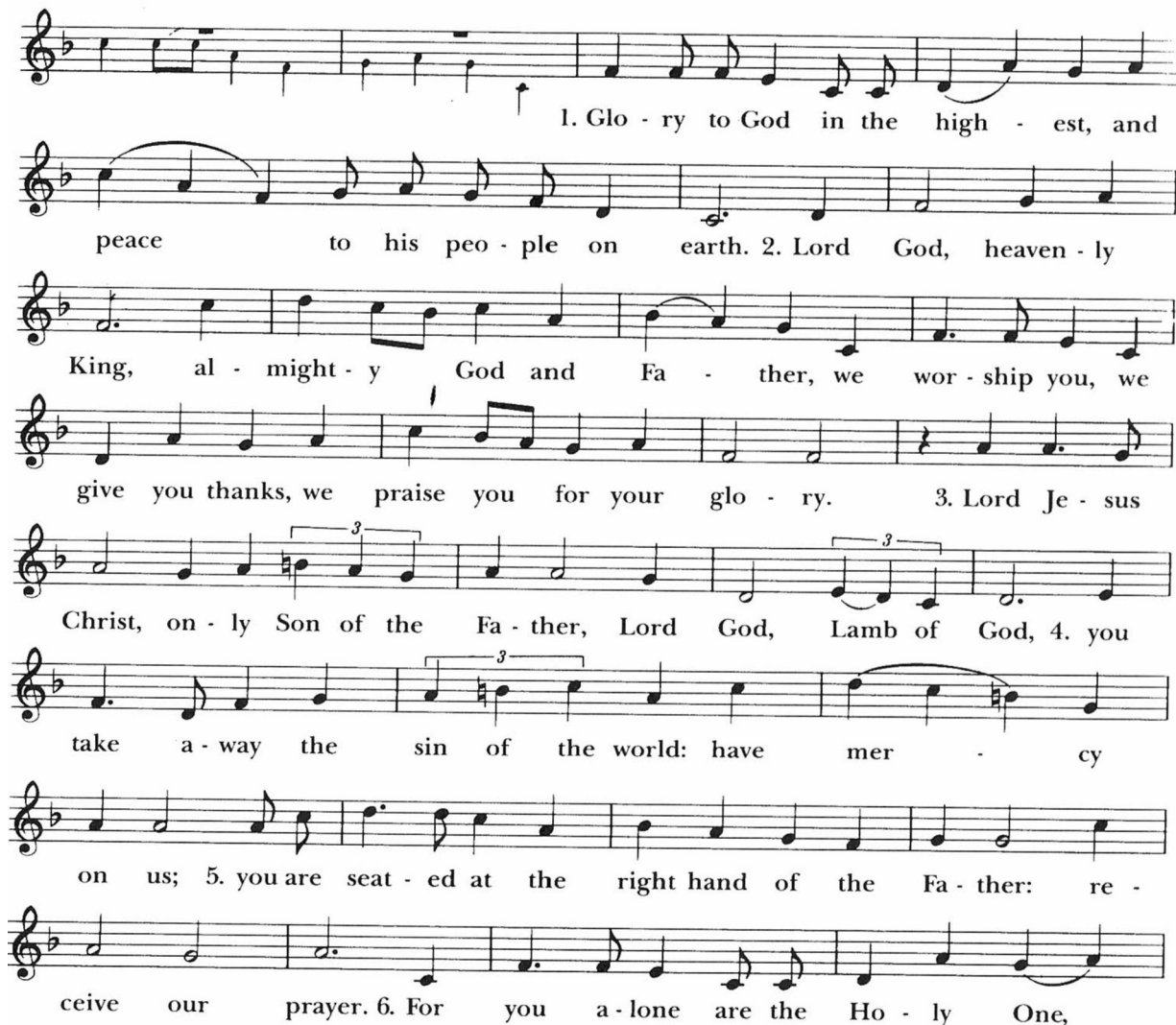
Celebrant: Alleluia. Christ is risen.

People: **The Lord is risen indeed. Alleluia.**

## The Canticles

### Gloria in excelsis

S#280



1. Glo - ry to God in the high - est, and  
peace to his peo - ple on earth. 2. Lord God, heaven - ly  
King, al - might - y God and Fa - ther, we wor - ship you, we  
give you thanks, we praise you for your glo - ry. 3. Lord Je - sus  
Christ, on - ly Son of the Fa - ther, Lord God, Lamb of God, 4. you  
take a - way the sin of the world: have mer - cy  
on us; 5. you are seat - ed at the right hand of the Fa - ther: re -  
ceive our prayer. 6. For you a - lone are the Ho - ly One,

you a - lone are the Lord, 7. you a - lone are the Most  
High, Je - sus Christ, with the Ho - ly Spi - rit, in the  
glo - ry of God the Fa - ther. A - men.

## **Te Deum laudamus**

We praise thee, O God; we acknowledge thee to be the Lord.  
 All the earth doth worship thee, the Father everlasting.  
 To thee all angels cry aloud, the heavens and all the powers therein.  
 To thee cherubin and seraphin continually do cry,  
 Holy, Holy, Holy, Lord God of Sabaoth;  
 Heaven and earth are full of the majesty of thy glory.  
 The glorious company of the apostles praise thee.  
 The goodly fellowship of the prophets praise thee.  
 The noble army of martyrs praise thee.  
 The holy Church throughout all the world doth acknowledge thee:  
 the Father of an infinite majesty;  
 thine honourable, true and only Son;  
 Also, the Holy Ghost the Comforter.

Thou art the King of glory, O Christ.  
 Thou art the everlasting Son of the Father.  
 When thou tookest upon thee to deliver man,  
 thou didst not abhor the Virgin's womb.  
 When thou hadst overcome the sharpness of death,  
 thou didst open the kingdom of heaven to all believers.  
 Thou sittest at the right hand of God, in the glory of the Father.  
 We believe that thou shalt come to be our judge.  
 We therefore pray thee, help thy servants,  
 whom thou hast redeemed with thy precious blood.  
 Make them to be numbered with thy saints in glory everlasting.

O Lord, save thy people and bless thine heritage.  
Govern them and lift them up for ever.  
Day by day we magnify thee;  
and we worship thy name, ever world without end.  
Vouchsafe, O Lord, to keep us this day without sin.  
O Lord, have mercy upon us, have mercy upon us.  
O Lord, let thy mercy lighten upon us, as our trust is in thee.  
O Lord, in thee have I trusted; let me never be confounded.

## **Pascha nostrum**

Alleluia.

Christ our Passover has been sacrificed for us; \*  
therefore let us keep the feast,  
Not with the old leaven, the leaven of malice and evil, \*  
but with the unleavened bread of sincerity and truth. Alleluia.  
Christ being raised from the dead will never die again; \*  
death no longer has dominion over him.  
The death that he dies, he dies to sin, once for all; \*  
but the life he lives, he lives to God.  
So also consider yourselves dead to sin, \*  
and alive to God in Jesus Christ our Lord. Alleluia.  
Christ has been raised from the dead, \*  
the first fruits of those who have fallen asleep.  
For since by a man came death, \*  
by a man has come also the resurrection of the dead.  
For as in Adam all die, \*  
so also in Christ shall all be made alive. Alleluia.

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and the Holy Spirit  
as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever.  
Amen. Alleluia.

*Celebrant:* The Lord be with you.

*People*        **And also with you.**

*Celebrant:* Let us pray.

**Almighty God, who for our redemption gave your only-begotten Son to the death of the cross, and by his glorious resurrection delivered us from the power of our enemy: Grant us so to die daily to sin, that we may evermore live with him in the joy of his resurrection; through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen.**

## **The New Testament From of 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.

*Lector:* The Word of God

**People: Thanks be to God**

### **Psalm 114**

1 Hallelujah! When Israel came out of Egypt, \*

**the house of Jacob from a people of strange speech,**

2 Judah became God's sanctuary \*

**and Israel his dominion.**

3 The sea beheld it and fled; \*

**Jordan turned and went back.**

4 The mountains skipped like rams, \*

**and the little hills like young sheep.**

5 What ailed you, O sea, that you fled? \*

**O Jordan, that you turned back?**

6 You mountains, that you skipped like rams? \*

**you little hills like young sheep?**

7 Tremble, O earth, at the presence of the Lord, \*

**at the presence of the God of Jacob,**

8 Who turned the hard rock into a pool of water \*

**and flint-stone into a flowing spring.**

## Gradual Hymn "The Strife is O'er"

#208

*Deacon:* The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew.  
*People:* Glory to you, Lord Christ.

### The Gospel

After the Sabbath, as the first day of the week was dawning, Mary Magdalene and the other Mary went to see the tomb. And suddenly there was a great earthquake; for an angel of the Lord, descending from heaven, came and rolled back the stone and sat on it. His appearance was like lightning, and his clothing white as snow. For fear of him the guards shook and became like dead men. But the angel said to the women, "Do not be afraid; I know that you are looking for Jesus who was crucified. He is not here; for he has been raised, as he said. Come, see the place where he lay. Then go quickly and tell his disciples, 'He has been raised from the dead, and indeed he is going ahead of you to Galilee; there you will see him.' This is my message for you." So they left the tomb quickly with fear and great joy, and ran to tell his disciples. Suddenly Jesus met them and said, "Greetings!" And they came to him, took hold of his feet, and worshiped him. Then Jesus said to them, "Do not be afraid; go and tell my brothers to go to Galilee; there they will see me."

*Deacon:* The Gospel of the Lord                      *People:* **Praise to you, Lord Christ.**

### The Sermon

#### **The Prayers of the People    Form III** (*either stand or kneel*) **BCP 387**

Father, we pray for your holy Catholic Church;

**That we all may be one.**

Grant that every member of the Church may truly and humbly serve you;

**That your Name may be glorified by all people.**

We pray for all bishops, priests, and deacons;

**That they may be faithful ministers of your Word and Sacraments.**

We pray for all who govern and hold authority in the nations of the world;

**That there may be justice and peace on the earth.**

Give us grace to do your will in all that we undertake;

**That our works may find favor in your sight.**

Have compassion on those who suffer from any grief or trouble;

**That they may be delivered from their distress.**

Give to the departed eternal rest.

**Let light perpetual shine upon them.**

We praise you for your saints who have entered into joy;

**May we also come to share in your heavenly kingdom.**

Let us pray for our own needs and those of others.

We also pray for the first peoples of this land, especially the Apache and Tohono O'odom peoples who call this area their home.

**Lord, bless and keep them.**

May we continue to support one another in love and empathy.

**And Lord, we ask your blessing and favor upon them, in your Holy Name.**

**Amen.**

*The Celebrant adds a concluding Collect.*

*Deacon* Let us now pray for Our Congregation.

O compassionate Jesus, may the light of your love shine in our hearts each day. Teach us to care for one another. Teach us to be patient with one another. Teach us to forgive and to seek forgiveness and teach us to hold to what is good. May we always be a good example of the family of God. May we always echo your love, healing and hope. Be with us as we come and go, so that our hearts may always be centered on you. In Christ's holy name we pray. **Amen.**

*The Celebrant adds a concluding Collect*

**The Peace**

**Announcements & reminders**

**Offertory Hymn "Here I am Lord"**

**G#671**

**Presentation of Alms: Doxology**

**♪ 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 Great Thanksgiving**

***Eucharistic Prayer B***

**BCP 367**

Celebrant The Lord be with you.

People **And also with you.**

Celebrant Lift up your hearts.

People **We lift them to the Lord.**

Celebrant Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People **It is right to give him thanks and praise.**

*Then, facing the Holy Table, the Celebrant proceeds*

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 Paschal 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 for ever sing this hymn to proclaim the glory of your Name:

*Celebrant and People*

## Sanctus S#124

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow - er and might, hea - ven and  
earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho - san - na in the high - est.  
Bless - ed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

*The people stand or kneel. Then the Celebrant continues*

We give thanks to you, O God, for the goodness and love which you have made known to us in creation; in the calling of Israel to be your people; in your Word spoken through the prophets; and above all in the Word made flesh, Jesus, your Son. For in these last days you sent him to be incarnate from the Virgin Mary, to be the Savior and Redeemer of the world. In him, you have delivered us from evil, and made us worthy to stand before you. In him, you have brought us out of error into truth, out of sin into righteousness, out of death into life.

*At the following words concerning the bread, the Celebrant is to hold it, or to lay a hand upon it; and at the words concerning the cup, to hold or place a hand upon the cup and any other vessel containing wine to be consecrated.*



sins of the world: have mer - cy on us. Lamb of God, you

take a - way the sins of the world: have mer - cy on us.

Lamb of God, you take a - way the sins of the world: grant ús peace.

*Facing the people, the Celebrant says the following Invitation the celebrant continues:*

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, with thanksgiving.

### **Communion Hymn “I Am the Bread of Life”**

**#335**

#### **Post-Communion Prayer**

**Almighty and everliving 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.**

#### **Benediction:**

*Presider:* May 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: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit be among you and remain with you now and always. **Amen**

#### **Recessional: Hymn “Jesus Christ is Risen Today” #207**

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

**People: We are called to Love and Serve**

Deacon: Go in peace to love and serve the Lord. Alleluia,. Alleluia!

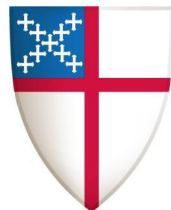
People **Thanks be to God.** Alleluia. Alleluia. Alleluia!

**Postlude: “Rutters Amen”**

*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.*



2750 Cardinal Dr. Sierra Vista, AZ 85635  
<https://ststephensaz.org>  
520-458-4432



## ST. STEPHEN'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH

### Interim Vicar:

Fr. JJ Bernal

[RevJJ@ststephensaz.org](mailto:RevJJ@ststephensaz.org)

Off: 520-458-4432

Cell : 915/777-6225

### Parish Administrator

Mark Sowards

[Mark.sowards@ststephensaz.org](mailto:Mark.sowards@ststephensaz.org) [doreenoberg@hotmail.com](mailto:doreenoberg@hotmail.com)

Off. Phone 520-458-4432

Cell: 408-892-1062

Office Fax: 520-458-8237

### Deacons:

Dorothy Gutwein

[dottie85635@gmail.com](mailto:dottie85635@gmail.com)

Sherry Simon

[sherrytsimon@gmail.com](mailto:sherrytsimon@gmail.com)

### Church Accompanist :

Doreen Oberg

[doreenoberg@hotmail.com](mailto:doreenoberg@hotmail.com)

### Vestry Staff

#### Senior Warden:

Nancy Rea

[nancyr.realtor@yahoo.com](mailto:nancyr.realtor@yahoo.com)

#### Clerk of the Vestry:

Nicholas Sowards

[Nicholas@sowards.net](mailto:Nicholas@sowards.net)

### Property Management team:

Pete Criscuolo

[petesacct2014@gmail.com](mailto:petesacct2014@gmail.com)

& Timothy Holsonback

[holsonback@cox.net](mailto:holsonback@cox.net)

#### Treasurer:

Anne Roth (303/917-8151)

[avd.roth@comcast.net](mailto:avd.roth@comcast.net)

## 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 \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_ Anv. Date \_\_\_\_\_

Adrs: \_\_\_\_\_ BrthDate \_\_\_\_\_

City, St., Zip: \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_