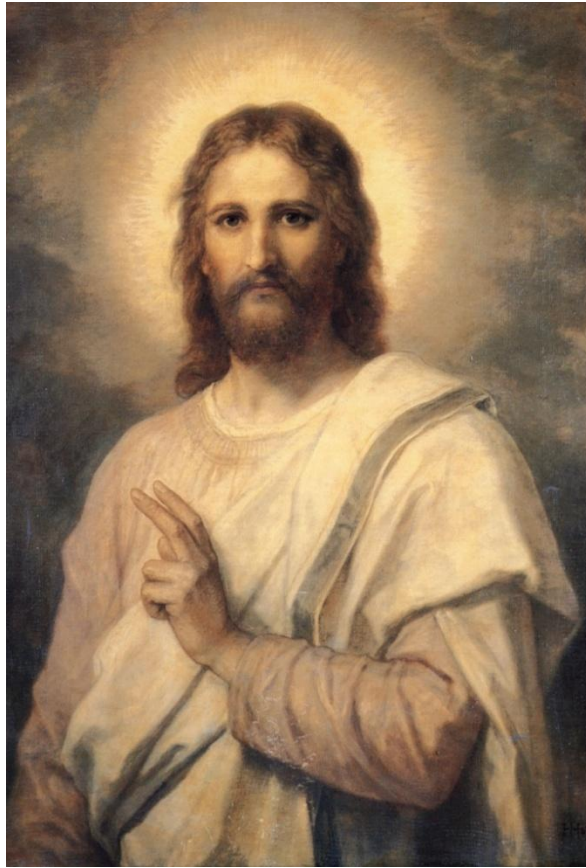


St. Stephen's Episcopal Church
Holy Eucharist Rite II



The Fifth Sunday of Easter
May 3, 2026 — 10:30 AM
Broadcast Live on Facebook

The Very Rev. Scott A. Garno, Rector
The Rev. Candace Palumbo, Deacon
Mr. Jim Fry, Music Minister

Opening Acclamation

Officiant Alleluia. Christ is risen.
People The Lord is risen indeed. Alleluia.

Collect for Purity

Officiant

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 your holy name: through Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Hymn of Praise

Hymnal 1982 #S280

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.

The Collect of the Day

Officiant The Lord be with you.
People **And also with you.**
Officiant Let us pray.

Almighty God, whom truly to know is everlasting life: Grant us so perfectly to know your Son Jesus Christ to be the way, the truth, and the life, that we may steadfastly follow his steps in the way that leads to eternal life; through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord, who lives and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

The Lessons

The First Lesson

Acts 7:55-60

Filled with the Holy Spirit, Stephen gazed into heaven and saw the glory of God and Jesus standing at the right hand of God. "Look," he said, "I see the heavens opened and the Son

of Man standing at the right hand of God!” But they covered their ears, and with a loud shout all rushed together against him. Then they dragged him out of the city and began to stone him; and the witnesses laid their coats at the feet of a young man named Saul. While they were stoning Stephen, he prayed, “Lord Jesus, receive my spirit.” Then he knelt down and cried out in a loud voice, “Lord, do not hold this sin against them.” When he had said this, he died.

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

Psalm 31:1-5, 15-16

¹In you, O LORD, have I taken refuge;
let me never be put to shame;
deliver me in your righteousness.

**²Incline your ear to me;
make haste to deliver me.**

³Be my strong rock, a castle to keep me safe,
for you are my crag and my stronghold;
for the sake of your Name, lead me and guide me.

**⁴Take me out of the net that they have secretly set for me,
for you are my tower of strength.**

⁵Into your hands I commend my spirit,
for you have redeemed me,
O LORD, O God of truth.

**¹⁵My times are in your hand;
rescue me from the hand of my enemies,
and from those who persecute me.**

¹⁶Make your face to shine upon your servant,
and in your loving-kindness save me.

The Second Lesson

1 Peter 2:2-10

Like newborn infants, long for the pure, spiritual milk, so that by it you may grow into salvation— if indeed you have tasted that the Lord is good.

Come to him, a living stone, though rejected by mortals yet chosen and precious in God’s sight, and like living stones, let yourselves be built into a spiritual house, to be a holy priesthood, to offer spiritual sacrifices acceptable to God through Jesus Christ. For it stands in scripture:

“See, I am laying in Zion a stone,
a cornerstone chosen and precious;
and whoever believes in him will not be put to shame.”

To you then who believe, he is precious; but for those who do not believe,

“The stone that the builders rejected
has become the very head of the corner”,

and

“A stone that makes them stumble,
and a rock that makes them fall.”

They stumble because they disobey the word, as they were destined to do.

But you are a chosen race, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, God’s own people, in order
that you may proclaim the mighty acts of him who called you out of darkness into his
marvelous light.

Once you were not a people,
but now you are God’s people;
once you had not received mercy,
but now you have received mercy.

Reader The Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

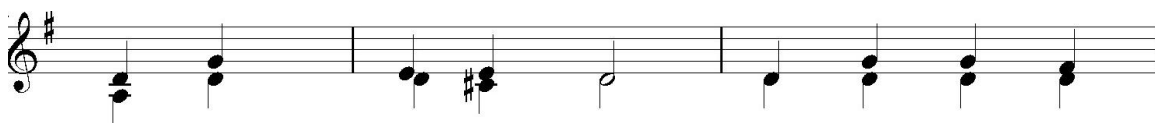
Gospel Hymn

“Hearken to the Anthem Glorious” vs. 1-2

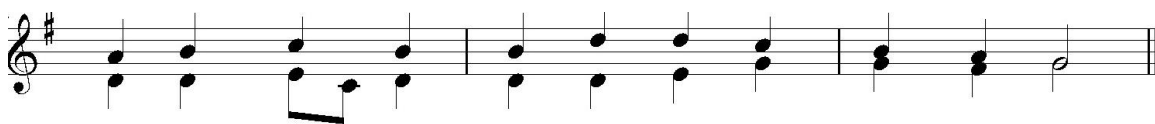
Hymnal 1982 #241



1 Hear - en to the an - them glo - rious of the
2 Liv - ing, they pro - claimed sal - va - tion, heaven - en -



mar - tyrs robed in white; they, like Christ, in
dowed with grace and power; and they died in



death vic - tor - ious dwell for ev - er in the light.
im - i - ta - tion of their Sa - vior's fi - nal hour.

The Holy Gospel

John 14:1-14

Deacon The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to John.

People **Glory to you, Lord Christ.**

Jesus said, "Do not let your hearts be troubled. Believe in God, believe also in me. In my Father's house there are many dwelling places. If it were not so, would I have told you that I go to prepare a place for you? And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again and will take you to myself, so that where I am, there you may be also. And you know the way to the place where I am going." Thomas said to him, "Lord, we do not know where you are going. How can we know the way?" Jesus said to him, "I am the way, and the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me. If you know me, you will know my Father also. From now on you do know him and have seen him."

Philip said to him, "Lord, show us the Father, and we will be satisfied." Jesus said to him, "Have I been with you all this time, Philip, and you still do not know me? Whoever has seen me has seen the Father. How can you say, 'Show us the Father'? Do you not believe that I am in the Father and the Father is in me? The words that I say to you I do not speak on my own; but the Father who dwells in me does his works. Believe me that I am in the Father and the Father is in me; but if you do not, then believe me because of the works themselves. Very truly, I tell you, the one who believes in me will also do the works that I do and, in fact, will do greater works than these, because I am going to the Father. I will do whatever you ask in my name, so that the Father may be glorified in the Son. If in my name you ask me for anything, I will do it."

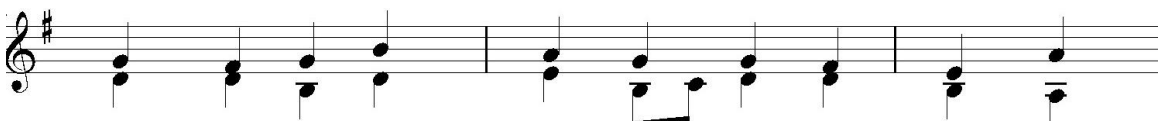
Deacon The Gospel of the Lord.

People **Praise to you, Lord Christ.**

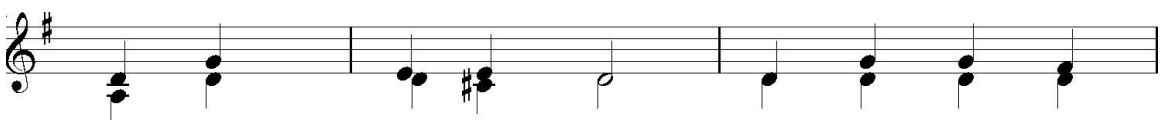
Gospel Hymn

"Hearken to the Anthem Glorious" vs. 3-4

Hymnal 1982 #241



3 Christ, for cru - el trai - tors plead - ing, tri - umphed
4 Take from him what ye will give him, of his



in his part - ing breath o'er all mir - a -
full - ness grace for grace; strive to think him,

**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 Form II

Leader: I ask your prayers for God's people throughout the world; for our Bishop Jeremiah; for this gathering; and for all ministers and people. Pray for the Church.

Silence

Leader: I ask your prayers for peace; for goodwill among nations; and for the well-being of all people. Pray for justice and peace.

Silence

Leader: I ask your prayers for the poor, the sick, the hungry, the oppressed, and those in prison, especially all those in need throughout the world, those affected by Food Insecurity, our AA Groups, the students and teachers of St. Stephen's PreK Academy, the Loaves and Fishes Outreach Ministries, the students and leaders in Intervarsity Christian Fellowship, our sister church, St. Andre in Flandre, Haiti, and Fr. Deravil, his family, Deacon Simile and his family, for the formation of a new government and all the people of Haiti, the Malchow and Bianchine families, Ronan and Matthew, Sue, Anne, Elizabeth, Sue, Sharon, Lynda, Nancy, Julia, Melissa, Kathleen, Scott, Claudia, Mayande, Kylaya, Rev. Susan, Marnie and her son, Rodney, Sarah, Gene, Faye, Kevin, the Colwell family, Ty, Tony, Lynn, Peter, Cyndy, Scott, and Johanna. Pray for those in any need or trouble.

Silence

Leader: I ask your prayers for all who seek God, or a deeper knowledge of him. Pray that they may find and be found by him.

Silence

Leader: I ask your prayers for the departed, especially Maureen McCarthy, Malcolm Carlton, and Reverend Walter Perkins. Pray for those who have died.

Silence

Leader: Praise God for those in every generation in whom Christ has been honored; especially St. Stephen, whom we remember today. Pray that we may have grace to glorify Christ in our own day.

Silence

The Celebrant adds a concluding Collect

Parish Prayer for Mission

Heavenly Father, we ask you to help us fulfill our mission, to worship you in a loving community, to support people on their Christian Journey, and to empower disciples for service, so that we can bring Jesus to each other and to the world. Amen.

The Confession of Sin

The Officiant says

Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

Officiant and People

Most merciful God, we confess that we have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done, and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We are truly sorry and we humbly repent. For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ, have mercy on us and forgive us; that we may delight in your will, and walk in your ways, to the glory of your Name. Amen.

The Officiant says

Almighty God have mercy on you, forgive you all your sins through our Lord Jesus Christ, strength you in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep you in eternal life.

The Peace

Celebrant The peace of the Lord be always with you.
People **And also with you.**

Announcements

The Holy Communion

Celebrant

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

Offertory

“Come Thou Fount of Every Blessing”

Choir Anthem

The 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.**

As a sign of our thanksgiving the Celebrant and people pray responsively

The Great Thanksgiving — Eucharistic Prayer A

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.**

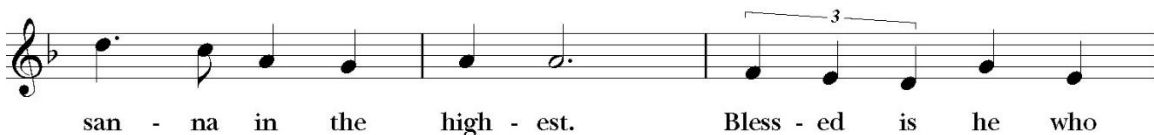
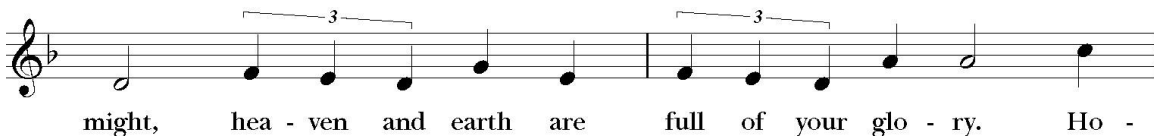
Then, facing the Holy Table, the Celebrant proceeds

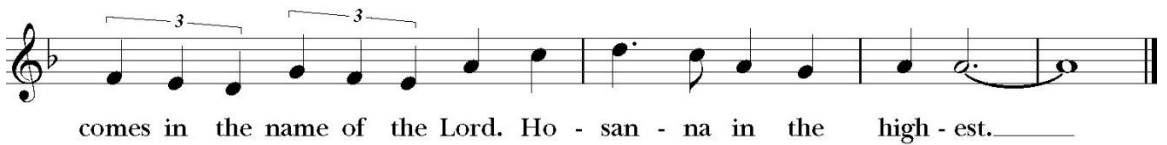
It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth, through Jesus Christ our Lord. But chiefly we are bound to praise you for the glorious resurrection of your Son Jesus Christ our Lord; for he is the true Paschal Lamb, 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:

Sanctus

Hymnal 1982 #S129





Then the Celebrant 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:

Celebrant and People

Christ has died.

Christ is risen.

Christ will come again.

The Celebrant continues

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.

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

People and Celebrant

**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

The Celebrant breaks the consecrated Bread.

A period of silence is kept.

Celebrant Alleluia. Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us;
People **Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia.**

The Prayer of Humble Access

People and Celebrant

We do not presume to come this thy Table, O merciful Lord, trusting in our own righteousness, but in thy manifold and great mercies. We are not worthy so much as to gather up the crumbs under thy Table. But thou are the same Lord whose property is always to have mercy. Grant us therefore, gracious Lord, so to eat the flesh of thy dear Son Jesus Christ, and to drink his blood, that we may evermore dwell in him, and he in us. Amen.

Celebrant

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.

The Ministration of Communion

Every member of the congregation is welcomed and encouraged to approach the Lord's Table. Baptized persons are welcome to receive Holy Communion. Those among us who are not baptized are welcome to receive a blessing.

Prayer for Spiritual Communion

For those unable to worship in person with us today, we include this prayer

In Union, O Lord, with the faithful at every altar of your Church, where the Holy Eucharist is now being celebrated, I desire to offer you praise and thanksgiving. I present to you my soul and my body with the earnest desire that I may continually be united to you. And since I cannot now receive you with my own faith community, I beseech you to come spiritually into my heart. Strengthen me with your grace, Lord Jesus, and let me never be separated from you. May I live in you, and you in me, in this life and in the life to come. Amen. *(Spiritual Communion Prayer adapted from the Armed Forces Prayer Book, 1951)*

The Post Communion Prayer

Celebrant and People

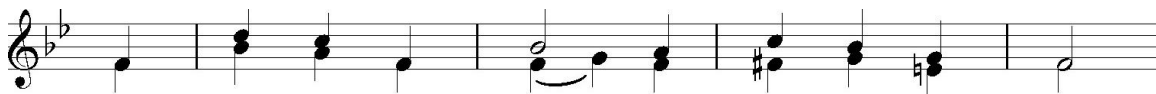
Eternal God, heavenly Father, you have graciously accepted us as living members of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ, and you have fed us with spiritual food in the Sacrament of his Body and Blood. Send us now into the world in peace, and grant us strength and courage to love and serve you with gladness and singleness of heart; through Christ our Lord. Amen.

The Blessing

Recessional Hymn "O Praise ye the Lord! Praise Him in the Height" *Hymnal 1982 #205*



1 O praise ye the Lord! Praise him in the height;
 2 O praise ye the Lord! Praise him up - on earth,
 *3 O praise ye the Lord! All things that give sound;
 4 O praise ye the Lord! Thanks - giv - ing and song



re - joice in his word, ye an - gels of light;
 in tune - ful ac - cord, all ye of new birth;
 each ju - bi - lant chord re - ech - o a - round;
 to him be out - poured all a - ges a - long!



ye hea - vens, a - dore him by whom ye were made,
 praise him who hath brought you his grace from a - bove,
 loud or - gans, his glo - ry forth tell in deep tone,
 For love in cre - a - tion, for hea - ven re - stored,



and wor - ship be - fore him, in bright - ness ar - rayed.
 praise him who hath taught you to sing of his love.
 and sweet harp, the sto - ry of what he hath done.
 for grace of sal - va - tion, O praise ye the Lord!

The Dismissal

The people are dismissed with these, or similar words

Deacon Let us go forth into the world, rejoicing in the power of the Spirit. Alleluia!
Alleluia!

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

Postlude