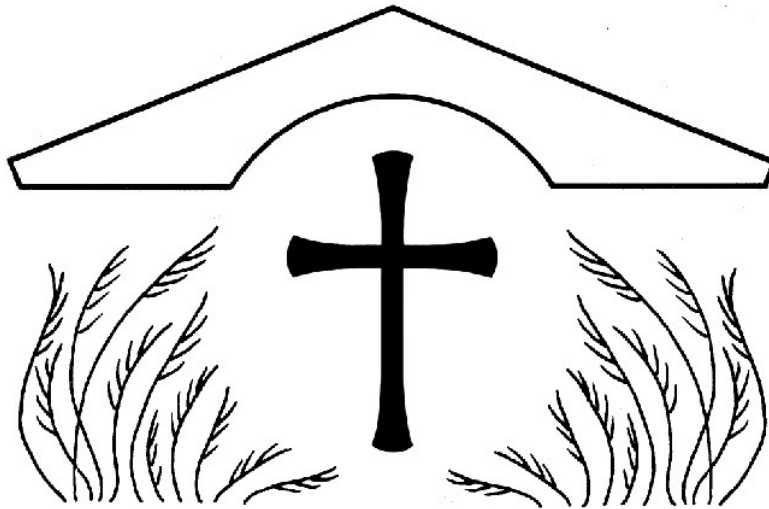


# ST. STEPHEN'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH

**Sixth Sunday of Easter**

May 5, 2024



Ministers

Rector

Deacon

Senior Warden

Junior Warden

Minister of Music

Cantor

Administrative Assistant

The People of the Parish

The Rev. Christy Laborda Harris

The Rev. Kate Sefton

Jean Farmer

Carole Ward

Miles McKenzie

Kristina Ibarra

Jun Kim

# The Gathering of the Community

PROCESSIONAL HYMN

204 Now the Green Blade Riseth

*please stand*

Presider Alleluia. Christ is risen.

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

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.**

## GLORIA



1. Glo - ry to God in the high - est, and  
peace to his peo - ple on earth. 2. Lord God, heaven - ly  
King, al - mighty 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.

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## The Liturgy of the Word

### THE COLLECT OF THE DAY

The Lord be with you.

**And also with you.**

Let us pray.

God of abiding love, you choose us as your servants and dare to call us friends: take our fragmented hearts, commanding them to love, making whole our joy, our life reborn in you; through Jesus Christ, who laid down his life for us. **Amen.**

While Peter was still speaking, the Holy Spirit fell upon all who heard the word. The circumcised believers who had come with Peter were astounded that the gift of the Holy Spirit had been poured out even on the Gentiles, for they heard them speaking in tongues and extolling God. Then Peter said, "Can anyone withhold the water for baptizing these people who have received the Holy Spirit just as we have?" So he ordered them to be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ. Then they invited him to stay for several days.

The word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

PSALM 98



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- 1 **Sing a new song to *God*, \*  
who has done marvelous *things*.**
- 2 **With your right hand, O *God*, and your holy *arm*, \*  
you have won for yourself the *victory*.**
- 3 **You have made known your *victory*; \*  
your righteousness have you openly shown in the sight of the *nations*.**
- 4 **You remember your mercy and faithfulness to the house of *Israel*, \*  
and all the ends of the earth have seen the victory of our *God*.**
- 5 **Shout with joy to *God*, all you *lands*; \*  
lift up your voice, rejoice, and *sing*.**
- 6 **Sing to *God* with the *harp*, \*  
with the harp and the voice of *song*.**

- 7 **With trumpets and the sound of the *horn*, \*  
shout with joy before our God who reigns in *majesty*.**
- 8 **Let the sea make a noise and all that is *in it*, \*  
the lands and those who dwell there-*in*.**
- 9 **Let the rivers clap their *hands*, \*  
and let the hills ring out with joy before God, who will come to judge the *earth*;**
- 10 **God shall judge the world in *righteousness* \*  
and the peoples with *equity*.**

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A READING FROM THE FIRST LETTER OF JOHN (5:1-6)

Everyone who believes that Jesus is the Christ has been born of God, and everyone who loves the parent loves the child. By this we know that we love the children of God, when we love God and obey his commandments. For the love of God is this, that we obey his commandments. And his commandments are not burdensome, for whatever is born of God conquers the world. And this is the victory that conquers the world, our faith. Who is it that conquers the world but the one who believes that Jesus is the Son of God?

This is the one who came by water and blood, Jesus Christ, not with the water only but with the water and the blood. And the Spirit is the one that testifies, for the Spirit is the truth.

The word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

GOSPEL READING

John 15:9-17

*please stand*

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

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

Jesus said to his disciples, "As the Father has loved me, so I have loved you; abide in my love. If you keep my commandments, you will abide in my love, just as I have kept my Father's commandments and abide in his love. I have said these things to you so that my joy may be in you, and that your joy may be complete.

“This is my commandment, that you love one another as I have loved you. No one has greater love than this, to lay down one’s life for one’s friends. You are my friends if you do what I command you. I do not call you servants any longer, because the servant does not know what the master is doing; but I have called you friends, because I have made known to you everything that I have heard from my Father. You did not choose me but I chose you. And I appointed you to go and bear fruit, fruit that will last, so that the Father will give you whatever you ask him in my name. I am giving you these commands so that you may love one another.”

The Gospel of the Lord.

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

SERMON

The Rev. Christy Laborda Harris

*please be seated*

*A period of silent reflection follows the sermon*

HYMN

Behold, I Make All Things New

*please stand*

**Behold, behold,  
I make all things new, beginning with you  
And starting from today.**

**Behold, behold,  
I make all things new, my promise is true  
For I am Christ, the Way.**

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PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Jesus, light of the world,  
bring the light and peace of your gospel to the nations.

Jesus, Lord of life,  
**in your love, hear us.**

Jesus, bread of life,  
give food to the hungry  
and nourish us all with your word.  
Jesus, Lord of life,  
**in your love, hear us.**

Jesus, our way, our truth, our life,  
be with us and all who follow you in the way.  
Deepen our appreciation of your truth  
and fill us with your life.  
Jesus, Lord of life,  
**in your love, hear us.**

Jesus, Good Shepherd who gave your life for the sheep,  
recover the straggler,  
bind up the injured,  
strengthen the sick  
and lead the healthy and strong to new pastures.  
We pray for all in need of healing, especially...  
Jesus, Lord of life,  
**in your love, hear us.**

Jesus, the resurrection and the life,  
we give you thanks for all who have lived and believed in you.  
We especially remember those we now name...  
Raise us with them to eternal life.  
Jesus, Lord of life,  
**in your love, hear us,  
accept our prayers, and be with us always.  
Amen.**

#### CONFESSION

Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

**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.**

#### ABSOLUTION

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

#### PEACE

The risen Christ came and stood among his disciples and said, 'Peace be with you.' Then were they glad when they saw the Lord. Alleluia. The peace of the risen Christ be always with you. **And also with you. Alleluia.**

*You are invited to pass the peace  
distanced and respectfully.*



# The Holy Communion

OFFERTORY HYMN

Give Peace in Our Time, O Lord

*please be seated*

\*Refrain

Give peace in our time, O Lord, in our hearts, in our homes,  
in our land, in our world. Give peace in our time, O Lord.

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OFFERTORY RESPONSE

Celtic Alleluia

*please stand*

Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!  
Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!

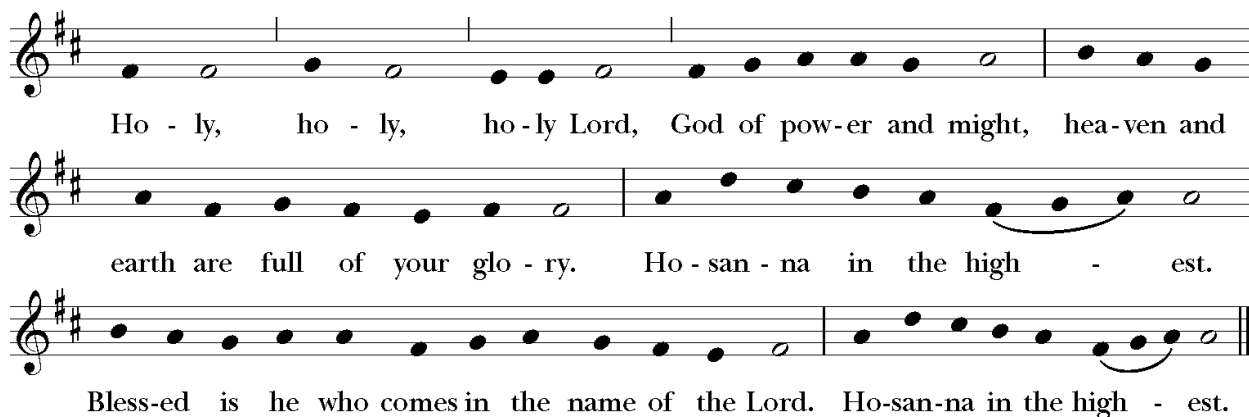
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EUCHARISTIC PRAYER D

- 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.  
People **It is right to give God thanks and praise.**

It is truly right to glorify you, Father, and to give you thanks; for you alone are God, living and true, dwelling in light inaccessible from before time and for ever. Fountain of life and source of all goodness, you made all things and fill them with your blessing; you created them to rejoice in the splendor of your radiance.

Countless throngs of angels stand before you to serve you night and day; and, beholding the glory of your presence, they offer you unceasing praise. Joining with them, and giving voice to every creature under heaven, we acclaim you, and glorify your Name, as we sing,



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.

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We acclaim you, holy Lord, glorious in power. Your mighty works reveal your wisdom and love. You formed us in your own image, giving the whole world into our care, so that, in obedience to you, our Creator, we might rule and serve all your creatures. When our disobedience took us far from you, you did not abandon us to the power of death. In your mercy you came to our help, so that in seeking you we might find you. Again and again you called us into covenant with you, and through the prophets you taught us to hope for salvation.

Father, you loved the world so much that in the fullness of time you sent your only Son to be our Savior. Incarnate by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, he lived as one of us, yet without sin. To the poor he proclaimed the good news of salvation; to prisoners, freedom; to the sorrowful, joy. To fulfill your purpose he gave himself up to death; and, rising from the grave, destroyed death, and made the whole creation new.

And, that we might live no longer for ourselves, but for him who died and rose for us, he sent the Holy Spirit, his own first gift for those who believe, to complete his work in the world, and to bring to fulfillment the sanctification of all.

When the hour had come for him to be glorified by you, his heavenly Father, having loved his own who were in the world, he loved them to the end; at supper with them he 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."

Father, we now celebrate this memorial of our redemption. Recalling Christ's death and his descent among the dead, proclaiming his resurrection and ascension to your right hand, awaiting his coming in glory; and offering to you, from the gifts you have given us, this bread and this cup, we praise you and we bless you.

**We praise you, we bless you,  
we give thanks to you,  
and we pray to you, Lord our God.**

Lord, we pray that in your goodness and mercy your Holy Spirit may descend upon us, and upon these gifts, sanctifying them and showing them to be holy gifts for your holy people, the bread of life and the cup of salvation, the Body and Blood of your Son Jesus Christ.

Grant that all who share this bread and cup may become one body and one spirit, a living sacrifice in Christ, to the praise of your Name.

Remember, Lord, your one holy catholic and apostolic Church, redeemed by the blood of your Christ. Reveal its unity, guard its faith, and preserve it in peace.

And grant that we may find our inheritance with the Blessed Virgin Mary, with patriarchs and matriarchs, prophets, apostles, and martyrs, St. Stephen and all the saints who have found favor with you in ages past. We praise you in union with them and give you glory through your Son Jesus Christ our Lord.

Through Christ, and with Christ, and in Christ, all honor and glory are yours, Almighty God and Father, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

As our Savior Christ has taught us, we now pray,

**Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your Name, your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us. Save us from the time of trial, and deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours, now and for ever. Amen.**

#### BREAKING OF THE BREAD

Presider Alleluia. Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us;

People **Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia.**

Presider Wherever you are on your journey of faith,

People **You are welcome at this table.**

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, with thanksgiving.

*All are welcome at the Lord's table. You are invited to come forward when the ushers indicate and stand or kneel at the communion rail. Please extend your hands together to receive the bread. Our bread is gluten free. To receive the chalice, please help guide it to your lips. We are no longer intincting (dipping the bread). If you do not wish to receive the chalice, cross your arms and the chalice bearer will still say the words but not expect you to sip. If you prefer not to receive either bread or wine and would like a blessing, please cross your arms across your chest.*

#### COMMUNION HYMN

#### The Will of Your Love

The will of your love, the will of your love be  
Tu vo - lun - tad, tu com - pa - sión

done — on — earth — as it is in heav - en.  
*se - a en la tie - rra co - mo en el cie - lo.*

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COMMUNION HYMN

Will You Come and Follow Me

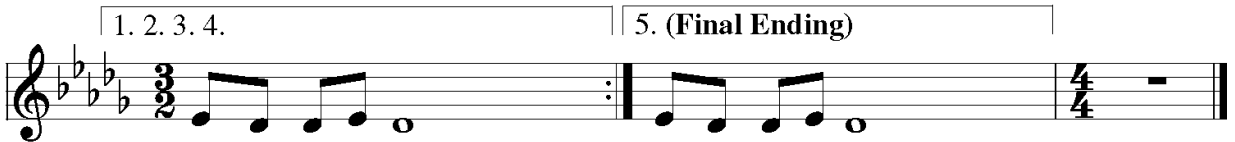
1. Will you come and fol - low me if
2. Will you leave your self be - hind if
3. Will you let the blind - ed see if
4. Will you love the "You" you hide if
5. Christ, your sum-mons ech - oes true when

I but call your name? Will you go where you don't know and  
 I but call your name? Will you care for cruel and kind and  
 I but call your name? Will you set the pris - 'ner free and  
 I but call your name? Will you quell the fear in - side and  
 you but call my name. Let me turn and fol - low you and

nev - er be the same? Will you let my love be shown? Will you  
 nev - er be the same? Will you risk the hos - tile stare should your  
 nev - er be the same? Will you kiss the lep - er clean, and do  
 nev - er be the same? Will you use the faith you've found to re -  
 nev - er be the same. In your com - pa - ny I'll go where your



let my Name be known? Will you let my life be grown in  
life at - tract or scare? Will you let me an - swer prayer in  
such as this un - seen? And ad - mit to what I mean in  
shape the world a - round through my sight and touch and sound in  
love and foot - steps show, thus I'll move and live and grow in



you and you in me?  
you and you in me?  
you and you in me?  
you and you in me?

5. you and you in me.

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## POST COMMUNION PRAYER

*please stand*

**Risen Christ,  
whom we have seen with our eyes  
and touched with our hands;  
the word of life  
in whom our joy is complete:  
send us out  
to declare your truth,  
your unshakable faith  
in the world you love. Amen.**

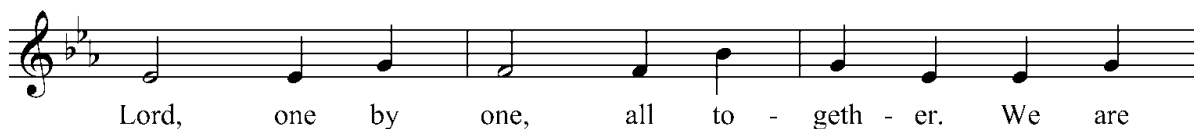
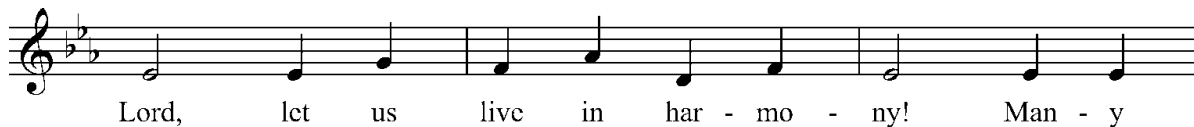
## BLESSING

The God of peace, who brought again from the dead our Lord Jesus Christ, the great Shepherd of the sheep, empower you and fill you with joy; and the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit be among you and remain with you always. **Amen.**

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

## RECESSIONAL HYMN

## We Are All Children of the Lord

*please stand*

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DISMISSAL

With the risen life of Christ within you, go in the peace of Christ. Alleluia, alleluia.

People **Thanks be to God. Alleluia, alleluia.**