CELTIC EVENSONG AND COMMUNION

at St. Stephen's Episcopal Church

Easter Day **3** March 31, 2024 at 5:30 p.m.

Welcome to St. Stephen's Episcopal Church. We welcome and include all people without exception and invite you to participate fully in worship and after the service to enjoy the community supper in the fellowship hall. Throughout this bulletin, helpful guidance is printed in italics. Nursery care is available (infant-4); speak with

a door greeter. Visitor Guides are found at entrances. When you want to be known here, place a Welcome card (in all pews, or submit online) in the basket by the baptismal font. The church is open for prayer from 7 a.m. to 6 p.m., Monday through Friday.

From 5:10, the church is ready for prayer and rest. Please observe silence inside the church and thank you for remembering to "silence" all devices.

Prelude Morning has broken arr. Larry Shackley

Please stand at the sound of the bell.

Easter Watch **Opening**

Joyce Rupp

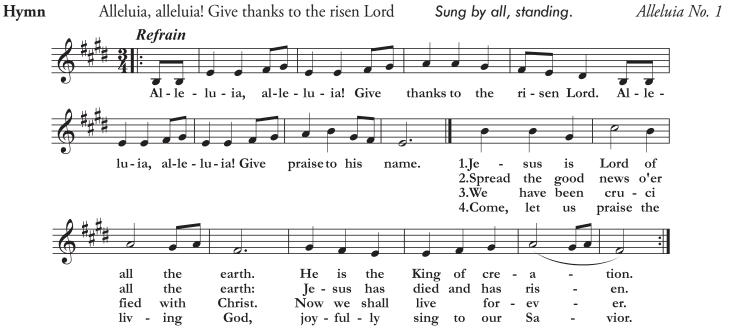
Look for light piercing the gloom. Receive little joys inside old troubles. Hold on to love in bleakest of times. Keep faith alive when filled with doubt. Accept help from whomever it comes. Pray in spite of strong resistance. Laugh amid the tattered tears.

Stand at Easter's emptied tomb. Remember what the message is. Shake off what holds you back. Cast your gaze inside your journey. Meet the Risen One on the road. Let renewed hope enter every step.

Watch how Love surprises you.

Observe the Freed One slipping Inside the story of your life.

Silence is held after the reading.



A Prayer for the Evening

Enduring presence, goal and guide, you go before and await our coming. Our thirst compels us beyond complaint to conversation, beyond rejection to relationship. Pour your love into our hearts that, refreshed and renewed, we may invite others to the living water found in Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen**.

The Reading Luke 24:13-49 Please sit.

Reader A Reading from the Gospel according to Luke.

Now on that same day, the first day of the week, two of the disciples were going to a village called Emmaus, about seven miles from Jerusalem, and talking with each other about all these things that had happened. While they were talking and discussing, Jesus himself came near and went with them, but their eyes were kept from recognizing him. And he said to them, "What are you discussing with each other while you walk along?" They stood still, looking sad. Then one of them, whose name was Cleopas, answered him, "Are you the only stranger in Jerusalem who does not know the things that have taken place there in these days?" He asked them, "What things?" They replied, "The things about Jesus of Nazareth, who was a prophet mighty in deed and word before God and all the people, and how our chief priests and leaders handed him over to be condemned to death and crucified him. But we had hoped that he was the one to redeem Israel. Yes, and besides all this, it is now the third day since these things took place. Moreover, some women of our group astounded us. They were at the tomb early this morning, and when they did not find his body there, they came back and told us that they had indeed seen a vision of angels who said that he was alive. Some of those who were with us went to the tomb and found it just as the women had said; but they did not see him." Then he said to them, "Oh, how foolish you are, and how slow of heart to believe all that the prophets have declared! Was it not necessary that the Messiah should suffer these things and then enter into his glory?" Then beginning with Moses and all the prophets, he interpreted to them the things about himself in all the scriptures.

As they came near the village to which they were going, he walked ahead as if he were going on. But they urged him strongly, saying, "Stay with us, because it is almost evening and the day is now nearly over." So he went in to stay with them. When he was at the table with them, he took bread, blessed and broke it, and gave it to them. Then their eyes were opened, and they recognized him; and he vanished from their sight. They said to each other, "Were not our hearts burning within us while he was talking to us on the road, while he was opening the scriptures to us?" That same hour they got up and returned to Jerusalem; and they found the eleven and their companions gathered together. They were saying, "The Lord has risen indeed, and he has appeared to Simon!" Then they told what had happened on the road, and how he had been made known to them in the breaking of the bread.

While they were talking about this, Jesus himself stood among them and said to them, "Peace be with you." They were startled and terrified, and thought that they were seeing a ghost. He said to them, "Why are you frightened, and why do doubts arise in your hearts? Look at my hands and my feet; see that it is I myself. Touch me and see; for a ghost does not have flesh and bones as you see that I have." And when he had said this, he showed them his hands and his feet. While in their joy they were disbelieving and still wondering, he said to them, "Have you anything here to eat?" They gave him a piece of broiled fish, and he took it and ate in their presence.

Then he said to them, "These are my words that I spoke to you while I was still with you-- that everything written about me in the law of Moses, the prophets, and the psalms must be fulfilled." Then he opened their minds to understand the scriptures, and he said to them, "Thus it is written, that the Messiah is to suffer and to rise from the dead on the third day, and that repentance and forgiveness of sins is to be proclaimed in his name to all nations, beginning from Jerusalem. You are witnesses of these things. And see, I am sending upon you what my Father promised; so stay here in the city until you have been clothed with power from on high."

Silence is held for one minute of reflection.

Reflection The Rev. John Jenkins

Silence is held for two minutes of reflection.

Music for Meditation arr. John Ferguson Easter Hymn

Prayers for Ourselves and Others Please stand.

Deacon Let us pray for the church and the world.

Leader Risen Lord, we pray that you will uphold all who are down,

Lord, have mercy. People

Upon the world's poor and unemployed, Leader

People Lord, have mercy.

Leader Upon the homeless and the refugee,

Lord, have mercy. People

Leader Upon the oppressed, the war torn, and all who suffer the violence of armed conflict, especially in

Eastern Europe and the Holy Land,

Christ, have mercy. People

Leader Upon the depressed and the despairing,

Christ, have mercy. People

Leader Upon the sinful and the sorrowful,

Christ, have mercy. People

Leader Upon the lonely and the unloved,

Lord, have mercy. People

Leader Upon all who seek your healing,

People Lord, have mercy.

Upon all of us here this evening, Leader

People Lord, have mercy.

Leader Keep watch, dear Lord,

with those who work, or watch, or weep this night, People

> and give your angels charge over those who sleep. Tend the sick, Lord Christ; give rest to the weary, bless the dying, soothe the suffering, pity the afflicted,

shield the joyous; and all for your love's sake. Amen.

Candle Lighting, Additional Prayers

Lighting candles is as potent a symbol of offering one's prayer to God as candlelight is of God's abiding presence. All may light a votive at any station, now and hereafter. This Church is open daily for prayer and rest, and a permanent votive station is located near the piano in the Chapel of the Holy Spirit.

Music for Meditation Give me Jesus arr. John Purifoy

Here comes the sun George Harrison, arr. Yo-Yo Ma

Hymn Adoramus te, Domine Jacques Berthier

Sung by all, standing. The refrain will be sung by the cantor, then repeated by all as the cantor sings the verses.



The Grace

Who will separate us from the love of Christ? Will hardship, or distress, or persecution, or famine, or nakedness, or peril, or sword? No, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him who loved us. For I am convinced that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor rulers, nor things present, nor things to come, nor powers, nor height, nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord. **Amen.** *Romans* 8:35, 37-39

The Peace

May Christ, the Good Shepherd, bind us with a bond of love that cannot be broken. The peace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you. **And also with you.**

All greet one another in the name of the Lord, saying "peace."

The Holy Communion

Welcome and Announcements

All comes from God, so from all God has given into our care, we offer gifts from our gratitude. Please place offerings (or scan QR) into the basket near the baptismal font or food pantry items into the baskets by the main entrance.



At the Offertory Easter Snow

Eucharistic Prayer

Aine Minogue

Please stand. Enriching Our Worship, Eucharistic Prayer 3

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 our thanks and praise.

Celebrant

All thanks and praise are yours at all times and in all places, our true and loving God; through Jesus Christ, your eternal Word, the Wisdom from on high by whom you created all things. You laid the foundations of the world and enclosed the sea when it burst out from the womb; you brought forth all creatures of the earth and gave breath to humankind. Wondrous are you, Holy One of Blessing, all you create is a sign of hope for our journey; and so as the morning stars sing your praises we join the heavenly beings and all creation as we shout with joy:

Sanctus







Celebrant

ΑII

Glory and honor are yours, Creator of all, your Word has never been silent; you called a people to yourself, as a light to the nations, you delivered them from bondage and led them to a land of promise. Of your grace, you gave Jesus to be human, to share our life, to proclaim the coming of your holy reign and give himself for us, a fragrant offering. Through Jesus Christ our Redeemer, you have freed us from sin, brought us into your life, reconciled us to you, and restored us to the glory you intend for us.

We thank you that on the night before he died for us Jesus took bread, and when he had given thanks to you, he broke it, gave it to his friends and said:

"Take and eat. This is my own body given for you. Do this to remember me."

After supper Jesus took the cup of wine, said the blessing, gave it to his friends and said: Celebrant ΑII

"This is my life-blood given for you. Do this to remember me."

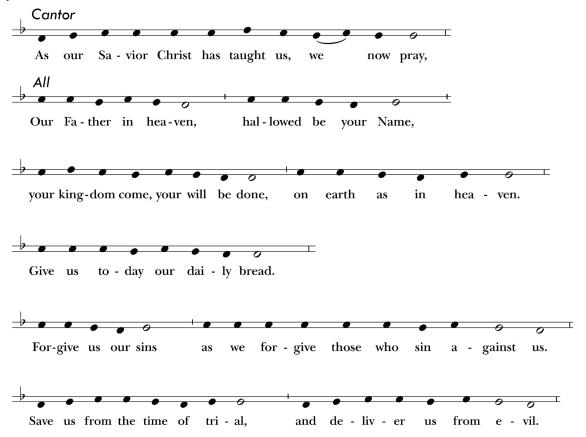
Celebrant And so, remembering all that was done for us: the cross, the tomb, the resurrection and ascension, longing for Christ's coming in glory, and presenting to you these gifts your earth has formed and human hands have made, we acclaim you, O Christ:

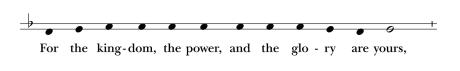
All Dying, you destroyed our death. Rising, you restored our life. Christ Jesus, come in glory!

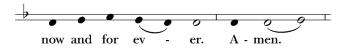
Celebrant Send your Holy Spirit upon us and upon these gifts of bread and wine that they may be to us the Body and Blood of your Christ. Grant that we, burning with your Spirit's power, may be a people of hope, justice and love. Giver of Life, draw us together in the Body of Christ, and in the fullness of time gather us with all your people into the joy of our true eternal home. Through Christ and with Christ and in Christ, by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, we worship you our God and Creator in voices of unending praise.

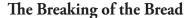
ΑII Blessed are you now and for ever. AMEN.

The Lord's Prayer



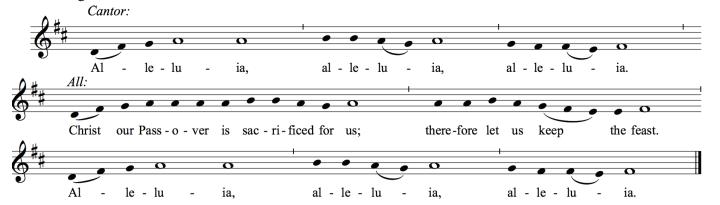






Silence is held.

David Hurd



The Invitation

Celebrant

This is the table, not of the Church, but of the Lord. It is made ready for those who love him and for those who want to love him more. So, come, you who have much faith and you who have little, you who have been here often and you who have not been here long, you who have tried to follow and you who have failed. Come, because it is the Lord who invites you. It is his will that those who want him should meet him here.

At the Communion of the People

All who seek God's presence through Communion or God's blessing are welcome to come forward. Extend your hands, one upon another, to receive a bread wafer (request gluten-free) or, to receive God's blessing instead, cross your arms over your chest in an "X". Wine for sipping is offered next to the bread or dip the edge of your wafer in the small cup by the pillars. Healing prayer and anointing are offered to all at the side chapels from the beginning of Communion through the end of the service.

Music for Communion

My love is like a red, red rose Morning has broken Now the green blade riseth April trad. Scottish, arr. Ēriks Ešenvalds arr. John Purifoy arr. Simon Lindley Ola Gjeilo

After Communion

Please stand.

Celebrant Let us pray.

All Lord Jesus Christ,

you have put your life into our hands; now we put our lives into yours.

Take us, renew us and remake us.

What we have been is past; what we shall be, through you, still awaits us.

Lead us on.

Take us with you. Amen.

The Blessing E. Carson Brisson

Celebrant

May joy and nothing less find you on the way.

May you be blessed and a blessing.

And may light guide you, and countless others, all the way home.

And the blessing of God Almighty, Father, Son and Holy Spirit

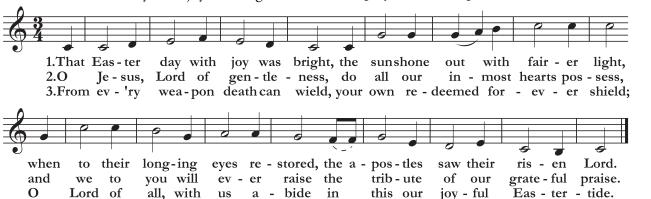
be among you and remain with you always. Amen.

Hymn

That Easter day with joy was bright

Sung by all, standing.

Puer nobis nascitur



Dismissal

Deacon

Go out into the world in peace, have courage, hold on to what is good, return no one evil for evil, strengthen the faint-hearted, support the weak, help the suffering, honor everyone, love and serve God, rejoicing in the power of the Spirit.

People

Thanks be to God.

Please sit for the Music for Meditation.

Music for Meditation

May the Long Time Sun

Snatam Kaur

Postlude That Easter day with joy was bright

arr. Anne Krentz Organ

Please feel free to depart in silence during the Postlude, as you wish.

Participants

Celebrant: The Rev. Cate Anthony; **Deacon and Reflector:** The Rev. John Jenkins; **Subdeacon**: Pam Redd; **Chalice Bearers**: Susan Bell, Charlie Caldwell, Scott Finn, Kim Spensieri; **Musicians**: Kelsey Snyder, *cantor*; Alyssa Evans, *violin*; Peter Greydanus, *cello*; Christine Ertell, *flute*; Brent te Velde, *piano*

The Chapel of the Holy Spirit

The flowers and plants in the Chapel of the Holy Spirit, recalling the Garden of Gethsemane, are given to the glory of God and in loving memory of Ruth and Joe McCoy by their daughter, Carol McCoy.

The parish prayer list is available at Information Central and in the narthex (church vestibule).

Prayers and blessings adapted from the following sources: The Northumbria Community, Celtic Daily Prayer: Prayers and Readings from the Northumbria Community, Harper Collins, 2002; Intercessions for the Christian People, The Liturgical Press, ©1990; A New Zealand Prayer Book, Harper Collins, 1997; Philip Newell, Celtic Benediction: Morning and Night Prayer, William B. Eardmans Publishing Company, 2000; Iona Community, Iona Community Worship Book. Glasgow: Wild Goose, 1991; Wild Goose Worship Group, A Wee Worship Book, Glasgow: Wild Goose, 1999. Rite Planning, ©2021, by Church Publishing Incorporated, all rights reserved, used by permission. All copyrighted music by permission, under OneLicense #A710911. Opening: "Easter Watch" by Joyce Rupp, from *My Soul Feels Lean: Poems of Loss and Restoration*, Sorin Books, Notre Dame, IN, 2013. Reprinted by permission.

Easter Memorials

Flowers are given to the glory of God and in memory of

Elsie F. and C. Willard Alley Steven Mackie Andersen The Rev. David Anderson Mr. and Mrs. Howard Anderson

John Anderson Cora Mae Armistead

Mr. and Mrs. Charles E. Ayers, Sr.

Lawrence Baldwin Katherine Wade Ball Bruner Barksdale

Reba and Hurst Basil

Mr. and Mrs. Brantley F. Barr

John H. Beebe, Jr. Lile T. and Thomas G. Bell Howard Bryan Bonham, Jr. Mr. and Mrs. Seth Borum Mr. and Mrs. William H. Borum

Linda Hart Bouquet Olivia and John Bright Clayton Douglass Bruni Frank Douglass Bruni

Mr. and Mrs. H.G. Buchanan, Jr. Mr. and Mrs. John Paul Bullock

W. Douglas Carleton

Cora Louise and George Cary

Kathie Catlin

Mary Elizabeth and John Chenault

Eugene Chiodo Roseann Chiodo

John Wortham Christian III

Adele Whiteside and Rutledge Carter Clement

Nathaniel Elliott Clement Samuel Averett Clement, Jr. The Rev. Dr. Edward Allen Coffey

Frederick M. Crim, Sr. Lara Teague Curry Marie Stallings Curtis

Mr. and Mrs. Robert Harris Daniel

David Watson Daniel La Marion Daring David L. Davis, Sr. David V. Davis Eleanor E. Davis Peter Nils Davis

Sara Frances and Sam Derieux Mary Southgate Hearon Dickson

Alma Baker Downes Vachel Augustine Downes Elizabeth Holley Downes Bruce Holley Downes William Harvey Downes Vachel Augustine Downes, Jr.

Carl A. Dull, Jr.

The Rev. D. Donald Dunn III Mr. and Mrs. Warren Dunston Richard C. Edmunds, Jr. Mr. and Mrs. Bernard Franko

Patrick Franko

The Rev. Dr. Reginald Horace Fuller

Isma M. Gathright Carroll C. Gathright, Jr. The Rev. Dr. Patricia Geerdes

Emily Wood Gill Fleming W. Gill Katherine B. Gill Sam and Nancy Gillespie Mr. and Mrs. George Gilliam

Robert A. Grant The Rev. John E. Hedrick Florence G. Hedrick Jacqueline and Jack Herod Lelia Holtzman Holloway

Alice Holsinger Virginia Henry Holt Mary and Shelton Horsley Mary Nicholas Humphries Zaida and M.K. Humphries, Jr.

Vickey Ellen Hunt Anne Taylor Jeffreys Helen and Tommy Johns Ola Epperson Johns Virginia Johnson Hooks K. Johnston Charles Southall Jones Bill Kastelberg Tom and Alice Kidd Jamie Knight

Judith Youngblood Lane William Edward Lester, Jr. Mr. and Mrs. James A. Lewis Bill, Rowena and Tom Longan

John A. MacKinnon

The Rev. Dr. McAlister Crutchfield Marshall

Doris A. Marshall

Mr. and Mrs. Alexander Hamilton Mason Dr. and Mrs. James Dunn Mason, Jr. Mr. and Mrs. James Dunn Mason, Sr.

Timothy C. McCoy, Sr. Gary L. McDowell Dinah Dunston McElfresh Jeffrey Forbes Meadows Joan and Henry Mielke Christine Ulmer Moore Elizabeth Campbell Myers

Dorothy Nelson Jane Downes Nelson Thomas Edmund Nelson Mr. and Mrs. James H. Newell Annie Davenport Newsom John Frankyn Newsom, Jr. Mr. and Mrs. John M. Oslak

Marianne E. Owens E. Holcombe Palmer

Mr. and Mrs. Thomas Pinckney Carter and Tom Pollard Martha Munson Pollard Robert N. Pollard, Jr. Robert N. Pollard III Michael D. Pratt Malcolm Matheson Randolph Mr. and Mrs. Fairfax Randolph Mr. and Mrs. William A. Raney

Brenda Patram Reid Joanne McElman Reiners Catherine Cummings Rennolds Ann Macon and Hill Carter Riddle

Ronald V. Row

Elizabeth and Tommy Russell

Brandon Scholder

Mr. and Mrs. Robert Schumacher Lola S. and Wilson E.D. Shepherd

Nellie Wingo Short Samuel P. Simpson IV Samuel P. Simpson V Harvey Skinner Barbara Skinner

Emily Carter and Percy Smith

Bill Spell

William Astor Stanley

Mr. and Mrs. Samuel C. Stephenson

Ruth and Alonzo Tapager Olivia Susie Taylor Eric Caldwell Todd Seldon Tompkins

Mr. and Mrs. William F. Tompkins

Tonya Tremblay Nancy and Bill Tucker Anne Bell Turnbull Ellen and Walton Turnbull Mary Christine Ulmer Mary Ann Ulmer

Jack Lankford Ulmer, M.D. Seaborn McDonald Wade Oliver Nathaniel Wade Katherine Rogers Wade

Holly Walsh

Elizabeth and William Washburn

Carroll Edward Waters Gloria Holloway Waters Dr. and Mrs. Joseph Way Hugh and Lucy West Donald T. White

Lois and John David White and Family Emory and Carrington Williams

Mary and Otto Williams
Otto Williams, Jr.
Bunnie and Leslie Willis
Nora and Nils Wilson
Dixie B. Wimberley

Matthew Vernon Wimberley Randy V. Wimberley

Carolyn Jones Winn Mary Anderson Winn Sydnor Anderson Winn E. Randolph Wootton, Jr.

Margaret & E. Randolph Wootton, Sr. & family

And in thanksgiving for:

Megan Michelle Coffey, Clark Edward Hodge, Elliott David Hodge, James McDowell Hodge

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