



CELTIC EVENSONG AND COMMUNION

at St. Stephen's Episcopal Church

The Fourth Sunday of Easter ☩ April 21, 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 Cherry blossom

Robin Spielberg

Please stand at the sound of the bell.

Opening "Mysteries, Yes"

Mary Oliver

Truly, we live with mysteries too marvelous
to be understood.

How grass can be nourishing in the
mouths of the lambs.

How rivers and stones are forever
in allegiance with gravity
while we ourselves dream of rising.

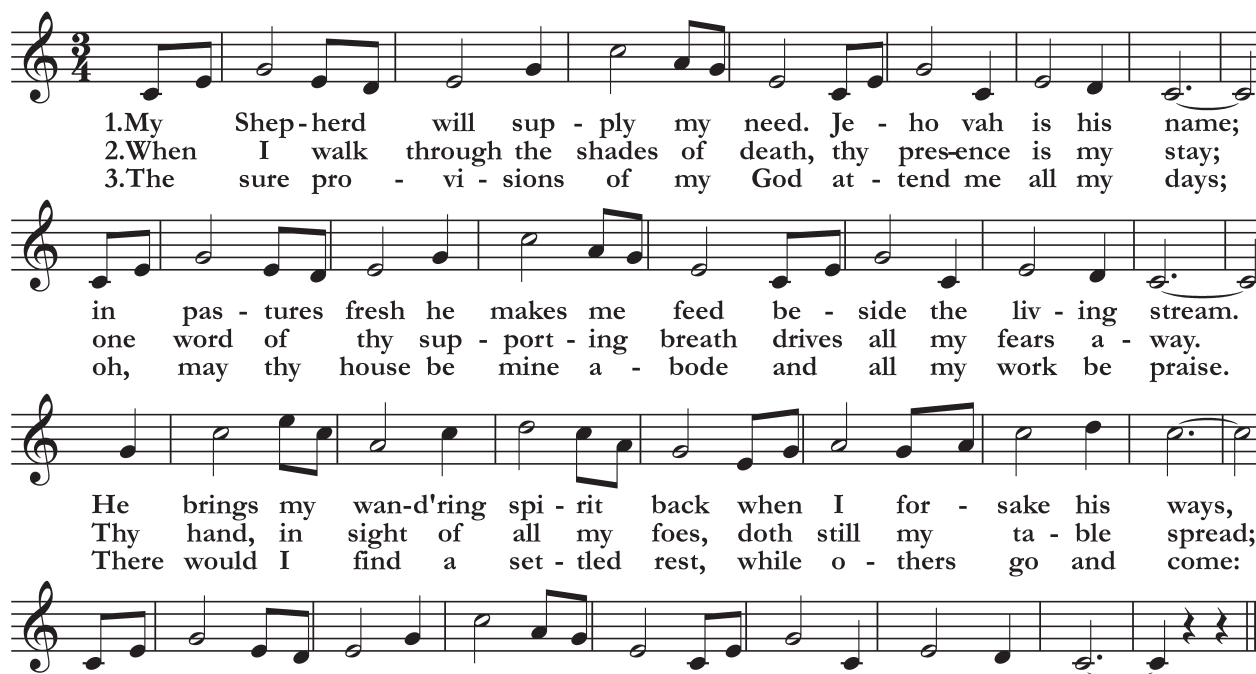
How two hands touch and the bonds
will never be broken.

How people come, from delight or the
scars of damage,
to the comfort of a poem.

Let me keep my distance, always, from those
who think they have the answers.

Let me keep company always with those who say
"Look!" and laugh in astonishment,
and bow their heads.

Silence is held after the reading.

HymnMy Shepherd will supply my need *Sung by all, standing.**Resignation*


1. My Shep-herd will sup- ply my need. Je- ho vah is his name;
 2. When I walk through the shades of death, thy pres-ence is my stay;
 3. The sure pro- vi- sions of my God at- tend me all my days;

in pas- tures fresh he makes me feed be- side the liv- ing stream.
 one word of thy sup- port- ing breath drives all my fears a- way.
 oh, may thy house be mine a- bode and all my work be praise.

He brings my wan-d'ring spi- rit back when I for- sake his ways,
 Thy hand, in sight of all my foes, doth still my ta- ble spread;
 There would I find a set- tled rest, while o- thers go and come:

and leads me, for his mer- cy's sake, in paths of truth and grace.
 my cup with blessings o- ver- flows, thy oil a- noints my head.
 no more a strang-er or a guest, but like a child at home.

A Prayer for the Evening

God be in my head, and in my understanding;

God be in my eyes, and in my looking;

God be in my mouth, and in my speaking;

God be in my heart, and in my thinking;

God be at my end, and at my departing. **Amen.****The Reading** John 10:11-18 *Please sit.**Reader* A Reading from the Gospel according to John.

Jesus said, "I am the good shepherd. The good shepherd lays down his life for the sheep. The hired hand, who is not the shepherd and does not own the sheep, sees the wolf coming and leaves the sheep and runs away—and the wolf snatches them and scatters them. The hired hand runs away because a hired hand does not care for the sheep. I am the good shepherd. I know my own and my own know me, just as the Father knows me and I know the Father. And I lay down my life for the sheep. I have other sheep that do not belong to this fold. I must bring them also, and they will listen to my voice. So there will be one flock, one shepherd. For this reason the Father loves me, because I lay down my life in order to take it up again. No one takes it from me, but I lay it down of my own accord. I have power to lay it down, and I have power to take it up again. I have received this command from my Father."

*Silence is held for one minute of reflection.***Reflection** Dave Davis*Silence is held for two minutes of reflection.***Music for Meditation***Sé an Tiarna m'aoire* (The Lord is my shepherd)

Fiontán O'Cearbhaill

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.

People **Lord, have mercy.**

Leader Upon the world's poor and unemployed, the homeless and the refugee,

People **Lord, have mercy.**

Leader Upon the oppressed, the war torn, and all who suffer the violence of armed conflict, especially in Eastern Europe and the Holy Land.

People **Christ, have mercy.**

Leader Upon the depressed and the despairing, the lonely and the unloved,

People **Christ, have mercy.**

Leader Upon the sinful and the sorrowful, and all who mourn losses,

People **Christ, have mercy.**

Leader Upon all who seek your healing,

People **Lord, have mercy.**

Leader Upon all who have died, [especially _____].

People **Lord, have mercy.**

Leader Upon all of us here this evening, and all who give thanks for the blessings of this life, [especially _____].

People **Lord, have mercy.**

Leader Keep watch, dear Lord,

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

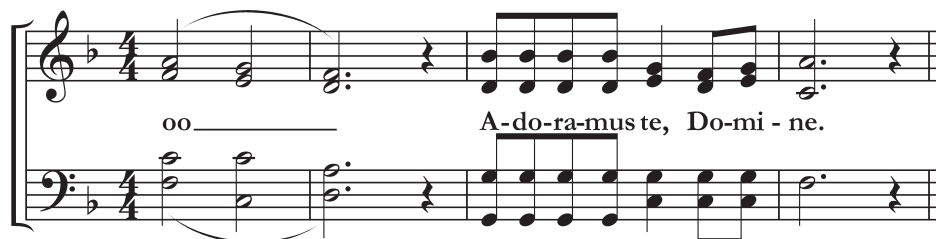
Candle Lighting, Additional Prayers

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 My Shepherd will supply my need American folk hymn, arr. Deborah Govenor
The Lord's my Shepherd (*Brother James' Air*) trad. Scottish, arr. Larry Shackley

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 Love your enemies, and do good, expecting nothing in return. Be merciful, just as God is merciful. Do not judge, and you will not be judged; do not condemn, and you will not be condemned. Forgive, and you will be forgiven. **Amen.** *-Luke 6:35-38a*

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 The Lord's my Shepherd (*Brother James' Air*)

trad. Scottish, arr. Joseph Martin

The Great Thanksgiving

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

Sung by all.

Land of Rest

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

Celebrant 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:

All **“Take and eat. This is my own body given for you. Do this to remember me.”**

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

All **“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:

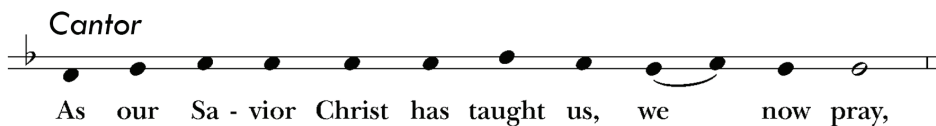
All **Dying, you destroyed our death. Rising, you restored our life. Christ Jesus, come in glory!**

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.

All **Blessed are you now and for ever. AMEN.**

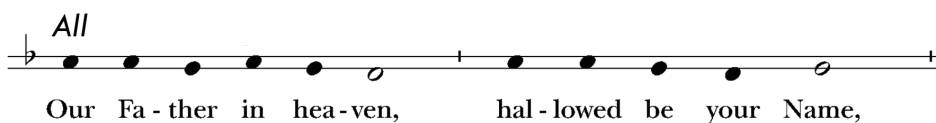
The Lord’s Prayer

Cantor

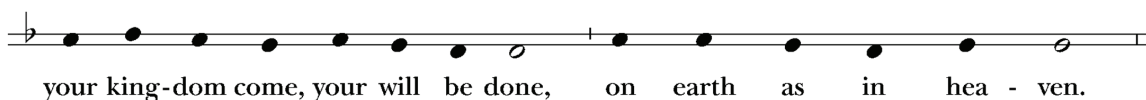


As our Sa - vior Christ has taught us, we now pray,

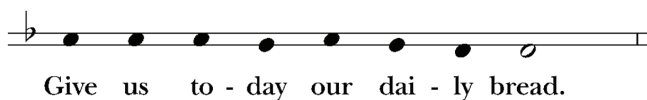
All



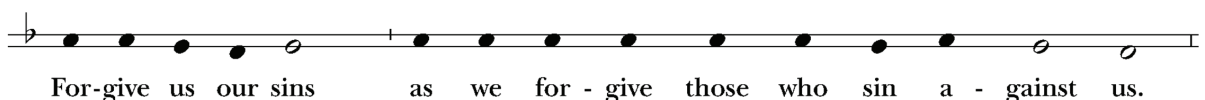
Our Fa - ther in hea - ven, hal - lowed be your Name,



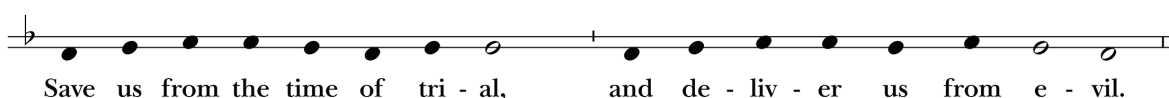
your king - dom come, your will be done, on earth as in hea - ven.



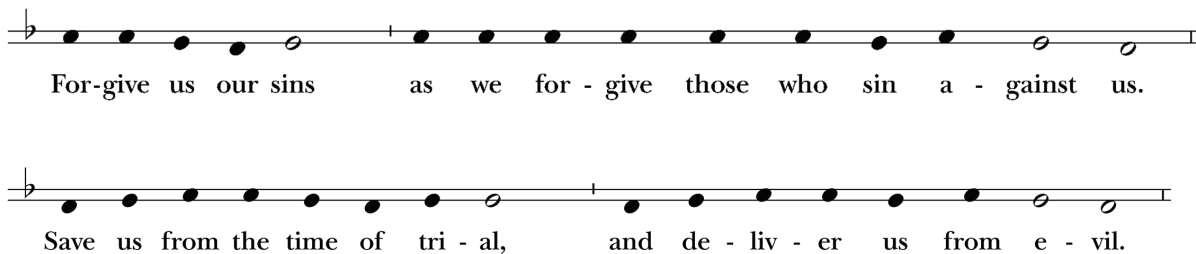
Give us to - day our dai - ly bread.



For - give us our sins as we for - give those who sin a - gainst us.



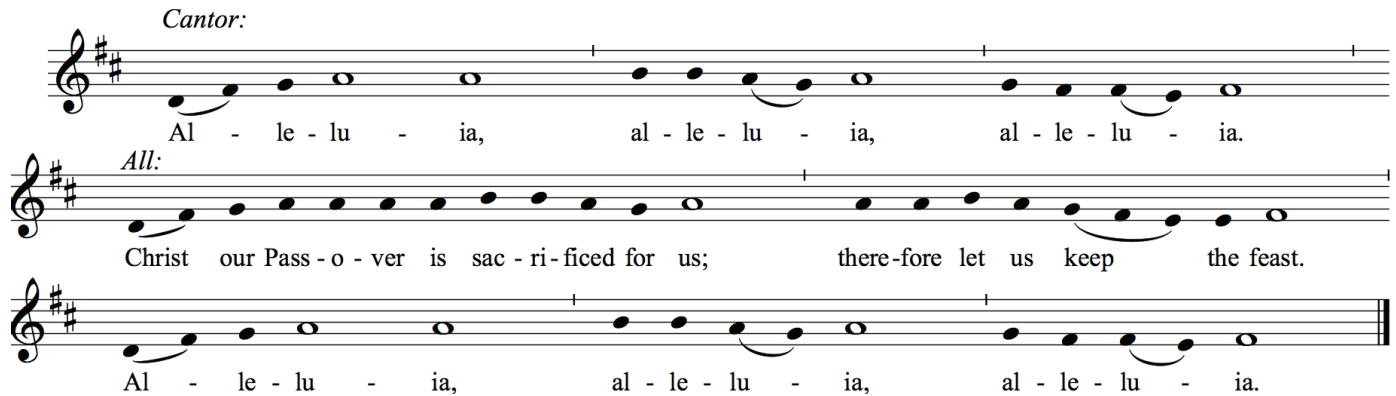
Save us from the time of tri - al, and de - liv - er us from e - vil.



The Breaking of the Bread

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. More information is found at the end of this bulletin.

Music for Communion *Primavera* (Spring)
St. Columba
Sandpainting No. 5: Turquoise

Ludovico Einaudi
trad. Irish, arr. Penny Rodriguez
Connor Chee

After Communion

Please stand.

Celebrant Let us pray.
God of glory,
you nourish us with bread from heaven.
Fill us with your Holy Spirit
that through us the light of your glory
may shine in all the world.
We ask this in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

The Blessing

Celebrant

May you recognize in your life the presence,
power, and light of your soul.
May you realize that you are never alone,
that you have a special destiny here,
that behind the façade of your life
there is something beautiful and eternal happening.
And may you learn to see yourself
with the same delight,
pride, and expectation
with which God sees you in every moment.

And the blessing of God Almighty, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit,
be among you and remain with you always. **Amen.**

Hymn

The Lord's my shepherd

Sung by all, standing.

Brother James' Air



1.The Lord's my Shep - herd, I'll not want. He makes me down to lie
2.My soul he doth re - store a - gain, and me to walk doth make
3.Yea, though I walk through death's dark vale, yet will I fear no ill;
4.My ta - ble thou hast fur - nish - ed in pres - ence of my foes;
5.Good - ness and mer - cy all my days will sure - ly fol - low me;

in pas - tures green; he lead - eth me the qui - et wa - ters by.
with - in the paths of bless - ed - ness e'en for his own name's sake,
for thou art with me, and thy rod and staff me com - fort still;
my head with oil thou dost a - noint, and my cup o - ver - flows.
and in God's house for ev - er - more my dwell - ing place shall be;

He lead - eth me, he lead - eth me the qui - et wa - ters by.
with - in the paths of bless - ed - ness e'en for his own name's sake.
for thou art with me, and thy rod and staff me com - fort still.
My head with oil thou dost a - noint, and my cup o - ver - flows.
and in God's house for - ev - er - more my dwell - ing place shall be.

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.

Music for Meditation *An t'Aiséirí* (The Resurrection)

trad. Irish/ Seán Óg Ó Tuama

Postlude

Scenes from Dinétab: Sheep

Connor Chee

Please feel free to depart during or after the Postlude, holding silence.



Participants

Celebrant: The Rev. Bill Sachs; **Deacon:** The Rev. John Jenkins; **Reflector:** Dave Davis; **Subdeacon:** Susan Wilkes; **Reader/Intercessor:** Gayle Royals; **Chalice Bearers:** Tony Anthony, Gibboney Huske, Chip Jamerson, Kim Spensieri; **Musicians:** Abby Outlaw, *cantor*; Ellie Swanson, *flute*; Diana Chou, *piano*

The Ministry of Healing Prayer at St. Stephen's Church

TO PRESENT YOURSELF FOR HEALING PRAYER OR ANOINTING: Healing ministers are located in both side chapels from the time people receive communion until after the service concludes. Go to either side chapel either after receiving communion or a blessing, or at any time following irrespective of what else is happening in the service. Because these ministries will continue through the end of the service, please respect those in prayer by exiting in silence from any of the rear doors. Whether or not you participate in these ministries tonight, you may contribute to the work of healing prayer by offering your personal prayers for yourself and that all who worship here may experience the healing love of God in their lives and bear that love into the world for its healing.

HEALING PRAYER: If you wish to sit for a moment with a healing prayer minister, it is helpful if you share your name and the concern for which you ask God's healing. The minister will lay hands on your shoulders, join with you in silently opening ourselves to God, and offering your prayer concern to the healing One who is with us always. This is not a ministry of magical incantations. It is simply about fellow pilgrims opening ourselves more completely to God's presence and healing love.

ANOINTING: If you wish to receive anointing with healing oil, approach the anointer with you palms open and extended. She or he will mark your hand with the sign of the cross and offer a simple prayer for your healing.

Healing ministries of prayer and anointing have practiced by Christians from the very beginning. God's grace is freely given to all people for the healing of spirit, mind, and body, and these practices provide ways for us to present ourselves just as we are with open hands and open hearts. We do not believe in magical incantations. Instead, these sacramental acts are simply about fellow pilgrims opening ourselves more completely to the healing love of God.

The Parish Prayer List

Copies of the parish prayer list are available in the narthex (church vestibule) and at Information Central (just outside the church office).

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 Publications, © 2017; Wild Goose Worship Group, *Big Book of Liturgies*, Glasgow: Wild Goose Publications, © 2023. Rite Planning, © 2021, by Church Publishing Incorporated, all rights reserved, used by permission. All copyrighted music by permission, under OneLicense #A710911. Opening: "Mysteries, Yes" by Mary Oliver, from *Evidence: Poems* (Boston: Beacon Press, 2009). Reprinted by permission.

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