



CELTIC EVENSONG AND COMMUNION

at St. Stephen's Episcopal Church

Easter Sunday

April 16, 2017, 5:30 p.m.

Welcome. In order to prepare for worship and allow for private prayer, we ask that silence be observed upon entering and that you turn off cell phones. We are aware that many people who attend this service come from other churches and faith traditions, and we are delighted to have many who consider St. Stephen's to be their second church home. The typical mixture of faith traditions represented at this service makes up a community we especially cherish. We are glad you are here.

Prelude Prelude on *Puer nobis nascitur*

Dale Wood

Please stand at the sound of the bell.

Opening "The Easter Challenge"

Joyce Rupp

Every year it happens:

earth shakes her sleepy head,
still a bit wintered and dull,
and feels new life stirring.

Every year cocoons give up their treasures,
fresh shoots push through brown leaves,
seemingly dead branches shine with green,
and singing birds find their way home.

Every year we hear the stories:
empty tomb, surprised griever,
runners with news and revelation,

unexpected encounters,
conversations on the road,
tales of nets filling with fish,
and breakfast on a seashore.

And every year
the dull and dead in us
meets our Easter challenge:
to be open to the unexpected,
to believe beyond our security,
to welcome God in every form,
and trust in our own greening.

Hymn 207 Jesus Christ is risen today

Sung by all.

Easter Hymn

1. Je - sus Christ is ris'n to - day, Al - le - lu - ia!
2. Hymns of praise then let us sing, Al - le - lu - ia!
3. But the pains which he en - dured, Al - le - lu - ia!
4. Sing we to our God a - bove, Al - le - lu - ia!

our - tri - um - phant ho - ly day, Al - le - lu - ia!
un - to Christ, our heav'n - ly King, Al - le - lu - ia!
our sal - va - tion have pro - cured, Al - le - lu - ia!
praise e - ter - nal as his love, Al - le - lu - ia!

who did once up - on the cross, Al - le - lu - ia!
who en - dured the cross and grave, Al - le - lu - ia!
now a - bove the sky he's King, Al - le - lu - ia!
praise him, all ye heav'n - ly host, Al - le - lu - ia!

suf - fer to re - deem our loss. Al - le - lu - ia!
sin - ners to re - deem and save. Al - le - lu - ia!
where the an - gels ev - er sing. Al - le - lu - ia!
Fa - ther, Son, and Ho - ly Ghost. Al - le - lu - ia!

A Prayer for the Evening

Eternal God, shed your light on us who watch for you, that our lips may praise you, our hearts bless you, and our lives glorify you, through Jesus Christ our Savior. **Amen.**

The Reading John 20:1-18

Please sit.

Reader A reading from the Gospel according to John.

Early on the first day of the week, while it was still dark, Mary Magdalene came to the tomb and saw that the stone had been removed from the tomb. So she ran and went to Simon Peter and the other disciple, the one whom Jesus loved, and said to them, "They have taken the Lord out of the tomb, and we do not know where they have laid him." Then Peter and the other disciple set out and went toward the tomb. The two were running together, but the other disciple outran Peter and reached the tomb first. He bent down to look in and saw the linen wrappings lying there, but he did not go in. Then Simon Peter came, following him, and went into the tomb. He saw the linen wrappings lying there, and the cloth that had been on Jesus' head, not lying with the linen wrappings but rolled up in a place by itself. Then the other disciple, who reached the tomb first, also went in, and he saw and believed; for as yet they did not understand the scripture, that he must rise from the dead. Then the disciples returned to their homes.

But Mary stood weeping outside the tomb. As she wept, she bent over to look into the tomb; and she saw two angels in white, sitting where the body of Jesus had been lying, one at the head and the other at the feet. They said to her, "Woman, why are you weeping?" She said to them, "They have taken away my Lord, and I do not know where they have laid him." When she had said this, she turned around and saw Jesus standing there, but she did not know that it was Jesus. Jesus said to her, "Woman, why are you weeping? Whom are you looking for?" Supposing him to be the gardener, she said to him, "Sir, if you have carried him away, tell me where you have laid him, and I will take him away." Jesus said to her, "Mary!" She turned and said to him in Hebrew, "Rabbouni!" (which means Teacher). Jesus said to her, "Do not hold on to me, because I have not yet ascended to the Father. But go to my brothers and say to them, 'I am ascending to my Father and your Father, to my God and your God.'" Mary Magdalene went and announced to the disciples, "I have seen the Lord"; and she told them that he had said these things to her.

Silence is observed after the reading.

Reflection Michael Sweeney

Two minutes of silence follow.

Music for Meditation Give Me Jesus

spiritual, arr. David Cherwien

Prayers for Ourselves and Others

Please stand.

Celebrant Let us pray for the church and the world.

Please remain standing. The Leader and the People pray responsively.

Leader In the work we do this day,

People **May the risen Christ teach us.**

Leader In the challenges we face this day,

People **May the risen Christ guide us.**

Leader Through the people we meet this day,

People **May the risen Christ renew us.**

Leader As we respond to the hungers and hurts of this world,

People **May the Spirit of the risen Christ strengthen us.**

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

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

Leader We remember all who have died, [especially _____].

During the silence, members of the congregation may pray for others.

Leader Give to the departed eternal rest;

People **And let light perpetual shine upon them.**

Leader Let us pray for our own needs and the needs of others.

The People may add their own petitions.

Celebrant Grant us, O God, so to die daily to sin, that we may evermore live with Christ in the joy of his resurrection. **Amen.**

Additional Prayers of Intercession and Thanksgiving *Please sit.*

During the instrumental music and hymn, and at any time thereafter, you are welcome to proceed to any of the stations of votive candles to light a candle as a symbol of your prayer.

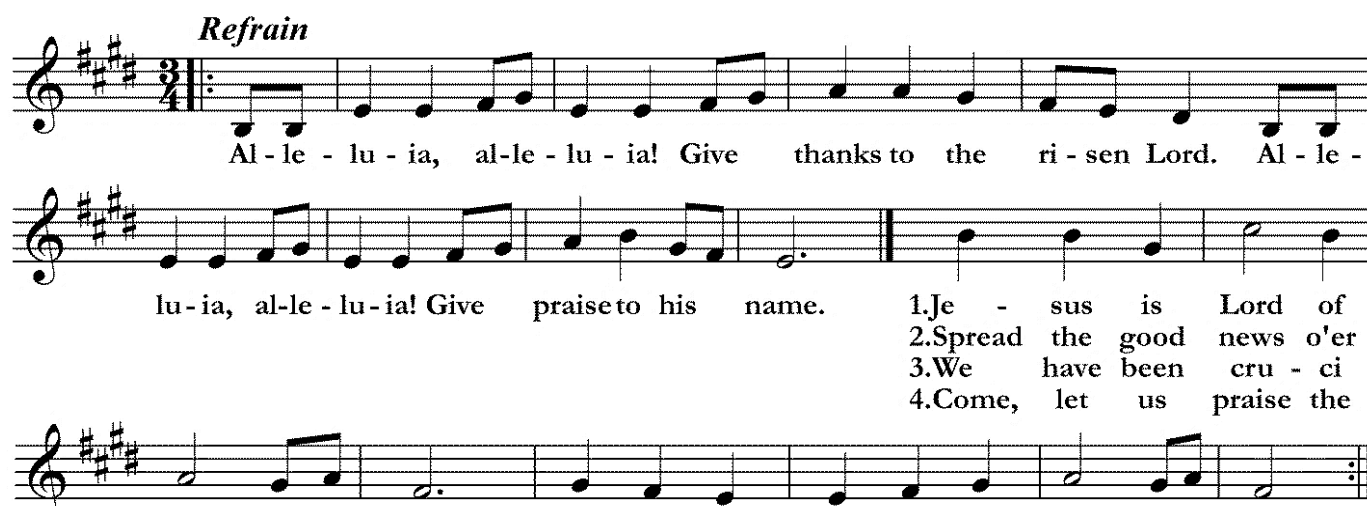
Music for Meditation *Beautiful Savior*
Banks and Braes

Nathan Howe
Scottish melody, arr. Larry Shackley

Hymn Alleluia, alleluia! *Sung by all, standing.*

Alleluia No. 1

Refrain



Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia! Give thanks to the ri - sen Lord. Al - le -
lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia! Give praise to his name.

1. Je - sus is Lord of
2. Spread the good news o'er
3. We have been cru - ci
4. Come, let us praise the

all the earth. He is the King of cre - a - tion.
all the earth: Je - sus has died and has ris - en.
fied with Christ. Now we shall live for - ev - er.
liv - ing God, joy - ful - ly sing to our Sa - vior.

The Grace See that ye be at peace among yourselves, and love one another. Follow the example of good men and women of old and God will comfort you and help you, both in this world and in the world which is to come. In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

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

The Ministers and People greet one another in the name of the Lord.

After exchanging the Peace, please be seated.

Welcome and Announcements

The Holy Communion

Alms basins are not passed through the congregation at this service.

For your offerings, alms basins are located at each entrance to the church.

At the Offertory *The Lord Bless You and Keep You*

John Rutter

Eucharistic Prayer *Please stand.*

Celebrant The Lord is with us.

People **God's Spirit is here.**

Celebrant Look with kindness, O God, on your people gathered here before you. Send forth the power of your Spirit so that these gifts may become for us the Body and Blood of your beloved Son, Jesus, the Christ, in whom we have become your own.

4

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. Blessed is he, O bless-ed is he who comes in the name of the
 Lord. Ho-san - na in the high - est. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

Celebrant Loving God, you are always thinking about your people. you never forget us. You sent your Son, Jesus, who gave his life for us and who came to forgive us and taught us to forgive each other.

On the very night he was betrayed, Jesus took bread and gave you thanks. He broke it and gave it to his disciples, saying,

All "Take, eat, this is my body which is given for you; do this in remembrance of me."

Celebrant In the same way, after supper he took the cup and gave you thanks. He gave it to them, saying,

All "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. Do this as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me."

Celebrant So we proclaim the mystery of faith:

All Christ has died.

Christ is risen.

Christ will come again.

Celebrant Almighty God, our Heavenly Father, in your tender mercy, send us the Spirit of the Lamb. **AMEN.**

The Lord's Prayer

Celebrant

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. For the king - dom, the power, and the glo - ry are yours,

now and for - ev - er. A - men.

The Breaking of the Bread

A period of silence is kept.

Fraction Anthem

St. Anne's Mass, James MacMillan



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, have mer-cy on
us. Lamb of God, you take a - way the sins of the world, grant us peace.

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 are welcome to receive the Sacrament. You may be seated until you come forward to receive. When you receive the consecrated bread, you consume it and then move to one of the cups of consecrated wine. The first cup you come to is for drinking, and the second and smaller cup next to it is only for those who choose to "intinct" or touch the tip of their bread to the wine. You may also choose to receive Communion in only one kind. Either the bread or the wine alone is a full Communion. We offer gluten-free wafers. If you would like a gluten-free wafer, please tell the minister.

Music during Communion

I Know that My Redeemer Liveth
Largo from Sonata in A
Let Us Break Bread

G. F. Handel
Arcangelo Corelli
spiritual, arr. Anne Krentz Organ

After Communion

Please stand or kneel.

Celebrant Let us pray.

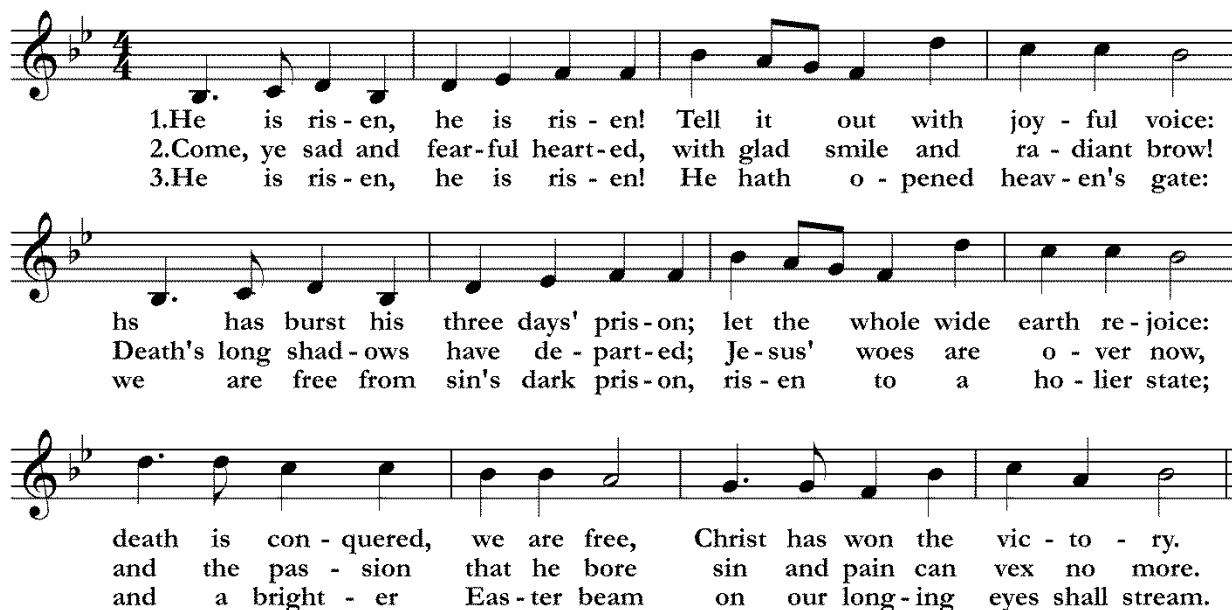
All Father of all,
we give you thanks and praise,
that when we were still far off
you met us in your Son and brought us home.
May we who share Christ's body
live his risen life;
we who drink his cup
bring life to others;
we whom the Spirit lights
give light to the world. Amen.

Blessing

Celebrant Let us take care as we move through God's creation, for it does not belong to us. And may we be gentle with ourselves and with one another, for we are all the dwelling place of the most High. And the blessing of God Almighty, Father, Son and Holy Spirit be among you and remain with you always. **Amen.**

Hymn

He is risen

*Sung by all, standing**Unser Herrscher*


1.He is ris - en, he is ris - en! Tell it out with joy - ful voice:
 2.Come, ye sad and fear-ful heart-ed, with glad smile and ra - diant brow!
 3.He is ris - en, he is ris - en! He hath o - pened heav - en's gate:

hs has burst his three days' pris-on; let the whole wide earth re - jice:
 Death's long shad - ows have de - part-ed; Je - sus' woes are o - ver now,
 we are free from sin's dark pris-on, ris - en to a ho - lier state;

death is con - quered, we are free, Christ has won the vic - to - ry.
 and the pas - sion that he bore sin and pain can vex no more.
 and a bright - er Eas - ter beam on our long - ing eyes shall stream.

The 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.

All Thanks be to God.

Please sit for the Music for Meditation.

Music for Meditation *Siciliana*

Georg Philipp Telemann

Postlude *Alleluia! Sing to Jesus**Hyfrydol*, arr. John Purifoy

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

Following the Service

Please join us for supper and fellowship following this service. We welcome donations to cover the expense of supper. Contribute as you are able. If you would like to know more about this church and how you might plug in, we would love to tell you. We're glad you're here.

Participants

Reflector/Deacon: Michael Sweeney; **Celebrant:** Penny A. Nash; **Subdeacon:** Lee Williams; **Reader:** Anne Gordon Curran; **Intercessor:** Joan Putney; **Chalicers:** Ally Fisher, Dan Fisher, James Forsythe, Kim Gottwald, Jonathan Mosher, Susan Wilkes; **Musicians:** Jennifer Piazza-Pick, *cantor*; Alana Carithers, *violin*; Michael Simpson, *piano*; **Setup/Greeter Team:** Allen Davis, Sarah Moyar-Thacker, Ashley Murtha, Joan Putney, Synthia Waymack

The Vigil Candle

The Vigil Candle in Palmer Hall Chapel is given to the Glory of God and in memory of Jeffrey Forbes Meadows.

The Parish Prayer List

Burns Ackerly, Jennifer Andrews and family, Robert Baker, Madeline Barker, Ann Barlow, Quinn Batdorff, Mary Beatty, Lynn Berkness, Joe, Zachary and Hannah Bevis, Henry E. Blagden, Sanford Boisseau, Amy Boles, Liz Brengel, Joe Broadhurst, Rod Brown, Suzanne Brown Charles and Cammy Bryan, Joannie Burgoyne, Trish Campbell, Beverly Chinnis, Dasani Clements, Grace Coleman, Stephanie Coleman, Berkeley Cone, Matthew Costello and Ida Costello, Floyd Cotton, Tom Coulbourn, Beth Davis, Gordon Davis, Alex Del Bueno, Kathy Deloyht, Leslie Douthat, Stan Evans and family, Alana Fernandez, Lang Gibson, Julia Gudell, the Haas Family, Will Hamilton, Br. Christopher Hamlett, O.P., Dot Harshbarger, *Amelia Haw*, Lolly Hetherington, *Maggie Hilliard*, Chris Hines, Jim Hoffman, Steven Holton, Louis Hopkins, Hill Hopper, Jennifer Hulsey and her family, Lisa Hummel, Pim Jager, Tom Janney, Mary Jones, Jessica Joseph, Linda Kelly, Bryan Kessler, Dustin Kloss, Carolyn Lindell, Drayton MacInnis Linen, Stephen Spencer Linen, Ruth and Lou Lipira, Carol Jane Locher, Jan Locher, Mary Longstaff, Sara Mackey, Camille McMurray, Kathleen McSweeney, Jennifer Michlow-Judd, Lelia Moran, the Sam and Erin Mosley family, Ray Moss, Daisy Olivia Nye, Pam O'Berry, Kate Keith Pearsall, Rob Pearsall, Al Pierce, Wilde Poole and family, Patsy Porter, Dan Prince, Richard Pugh, Carter Reid, Panny Rhodes, Marjorie Ritter, Lily Robertson, Paula Romanau, Paul Roper, Caroline Rose, Lori Rowland, Jean Royalty, Kevin Royalty Mac Ruffin, Scarlett Sams, Tommy Scales, Heather Schroeder, Suzi Schumacher, T. Logan Scott, Chris and Meghan Sheraden, John and Mary Slocum, Bradford Smith, Brooke Spotswood, Diane Murdock Smith, Jeff Stover, John Stowe, J.E.B. Stuart IV, Gerald Sutzer, Eleson Tanton, Yvonne Travis, Stukie Valentine, Rosalie Vaughan, Jeanie Verther, Peter Von Szilassy, Hannah Davis Wade and Thomas Wade, Catherine Curran Walters, Mitzi Welton, Robin Williams, William Wilson, Eunice Wyatt, Alex, Alice, Beverly, Ellie, Kenny, Tonya, Winifred. **For those expecting a child:** Blair and Will Bigelow, Lindsey and Marshall Bigelow, Maggie and Matt Nick, Catherine and Andrew Yoho. **For the blessings of this life,** especially for the birth of *Katherine Hamilton Ayers* to Erin and Alexander Ayers. **For those who have died,** *Louise Lewis Toms*. **For our mission partners in Azua,** Padre Manuel Estevez and the congregations of Reconciliación and San Jorge. **For our missionaries** Heidi Schmidt and Monica Vega serving in Argentina. **In the Anglican Cycle of Prayer** we give thanks for *the Resurrection of our Lord*. **For the women, men, and staff of the City Jail. For racial reconciliation and healing. For peace and reconciliation** in Egypt, Iraq, Israel/Palestine, South Sudan, Syria, and Ukraine. **For those serving overseas in the military or diplomatic service:** PFC Talbott Holloway, LCpl Henry M. Matthews III, PVT Zane Patrick, Lt. David Gant Shuford, Jr., 1ST LT Russell Timmons.

Names in italics were added to the prayer list this week.

In order to keep our prayer list up-to-date and to facilitate the intentionality and mindfulness with which we pray, we print the names on the prayer list for three months or less. If you would like for someone to remain on the prayer list for more (or less) than the three-month period, please call the office or email Gene LeCouteur at glecouteur@ststephensRVA.org.

Prayers and blessings adapted from the following sources: The Northumbria Community, *Celtic Daily Prayer: Prayers and Readings from the Northumbria Community*, Harper Collins, 2002; *Interventions 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. | *The Rite Stuff*, ©1998, by Church Publishing Incorporated, all rights reserved, used by permission. All copyrighted music by permission, under OneLicense #A710911. Opening: Excerpted from *Out of the Ordinary: Prayers, Poems, and Reflections for Every Season* by Joyce Rupp, OSM. Copyright ©2000 by Ave Maria Press, Inc. Used with permission of the publisher. www.avemariapress.com. Prayers of the People adapted from *Daily Prayers for all Seasons*, Church Publishing, New York, 2014

The Ministry of Healing Prayer at St. Stephen's

Jesus was known for many things in the first century. He was considered a social prophet and a rabbi. He was known as a teacher of wisdom and the leader of a new movement. And he was known far and wide as a healer. As one New Testament scholar has pointed out, “More healing stories are told about Jesus than about any other figure in the Jewish tradition.” (Borg, *The Heart of Christianity*) Jesus also sent his disciples out to heal others, and he promised that they would do greater things than he had done. The ministry of healing prayer has been a part of the Christian experience from the very beginning.

As a part of our Sunday evening service, we offer the ministry of healing prayer for any who desire it. Healing prayer ministers are available during the administration of Holy Communion. If you would like to receive healing prayer and the laying on of hands, either for yourself or for someone you love, we invite you to do so after you have received Communion. If the healing prayer ministers are praying for someone already, we invite you to take a seat in a chair nearby, and present yourself to the healing prayer minister when there is a space available.

It is often helpful if you tell the healing prayer minister your name and the concern for which you are asking prayer. If you prefer not to do this, that is fine—everyone’s situation is different. Although there is usually a brief spoken prayer at the beginning and at the end, the healing prayer minister will lay hands on you and join with you in silently opening ourselves and presenting the concern to God. This is not a ministry of magical incantations. Instead, this healing prayer ministry is simply about fellow pilgrims opening ourselves more completely to the healing love of God. Although God is always with every one of us, there are times in all of our lives when we need help in becoming more fully present to God. Much as a group of friends once brought a paralytic to Jesus so that Jesus might heal him, so we sometimes benefit from the loving care of others who bring us more fully into the presence of God.

On some evenings, there might be people waiting for healing prayer when we reach the conclusion of the service. When it is time for all to say the prayer after Communion, we’ll pause in our prayers for healing. When the service continues, we will continue to offer the ministry of healing prayer, so please exit quietly.

Whether or not you choose to present yourself for healing prayer on any given night, we always welcome your personal prayers, that our Sunday evening gatherings may be filled with compassion, and that everyone who worships here may know the healing love of God in their lives.