

ST. STEPHEN'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH

Easter Sunday

March 31, 2024



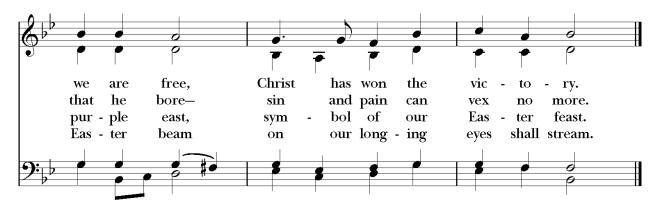
Ministers
Rector
Deacon
Senior Warden
Junior Warden
Minister of Music
Cantor
Administrative Assistant

The People of the Parish The Rev. Christy Laborda Harris The Rev. Kate Sefton Jean Farmer

> Miles McKenzie Kristina Ibarra Jun Kim

The Gathering of the Community





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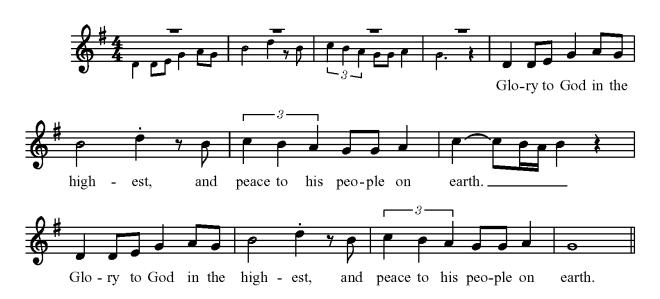
Words: Cecil Frances Alexander (1818-1895), alt. Music: Unser Herrscher, Joachim Neander (1650-1680)

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









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The Liturgy of the Word

THE COLLECT OF THE DAY

Presider The Lord be with you.

People And also with you.

Presider Let us pray.

Living Lord, whose love displaced the gravity of stone; you entrusted women, who loved beyond death, with news of resurrection: we praise you for the open gospel which ends where Easter faith begins; accept our fear, our disbelief and take us into this new world led by the risen Son; through Jesus Christ, the firstborn of the dead. **Amen.**

A READING FROM THE PROPHET ISAIAH (25:6-9)

please be seated

On this mountain the Lord of hosts will make for all peoples

a feast of rich food, a feast of well-aged wines,

of rich food filled with marrow, of well-aged wines strained clear.

And he will destroy on this mountain

the shroud that is cast over all peoples,

the sheet that is spread over all nations;

he will swallow up death forever.

Then the Lord God will wipe away the tears from all faces, and the disgrace of his people he will take away from all the earth, for the Lord has spoken.

It will be said on that day, Lo, this is our God; we have waited for him, so that he might save us. This is the Lord for whom we have waited; let us be glad and rejoice in his salvation.

Hear what the Spirit is saying to God's people.

People Thanks be to God.

PSALM 118:1-2, 14-24

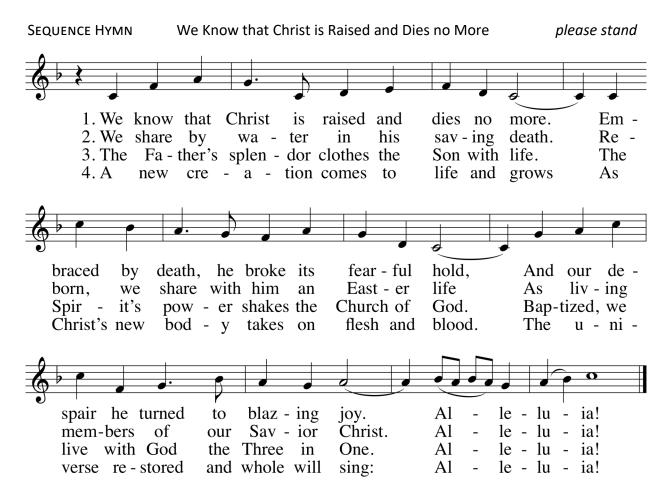
- 1 Give thanks to God who is good; * God's mercy endures for ever.
- 2 Let Israel now proclaim * "God's mercy endures for ever."
- 14 God is my strength and my song * and has become my salvation.
- 15 There is a sound of exultation and victory * in the tents of the righteous:
- "The right hand of the Most High has triumphed; * the right hand of the Most High is exalted; the right hand of the Most High has triumphed!"
- 17 I shall not die, but live * and declare the works of God.
- 18 God has punished me sorely, * but did not hand me over to death.
- 19 Open for me the gates of righteousness; * I will enter them; I will offer thanks to God.

- 20 "This is the gate of the Holy One; * those who are righteous may enter."
- 21 I will give thanks to you, for you answered me * and have become my salvation.
- The same stone which the builders rejected * has become the chief cornerstone.
- 23 This is God's doing, * and it is marvelous in our eyes.
- 24 On this day the Holy One has acted; * we will rejoice and be glad in it.

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EVERYTHING THAT WAS BROKEN— Mary Oliver

Everything that was broken has forgotten its brokenness. I live now in a sky-house, through every window the sun. Also your presence. Our touching, our stories. Earthy and holy both. How can this be, but it is. Every day has something in it whose name is Forever.



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GOSPEL READING

Mark 16:1-8

Deacon

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

People

Glory to you, Lord Christ.

When the sabbath was over, Mary Magdalene, and Mary the mother of James, and Salome bought spices, so that they might go and anoint Jesus. And very early on the first day of the week, when the sun had risen, they went to the tomb. They had been saying to one another, "Who will roll away the stone for us from the entrance to the tomb?" When they looked up, they saw that the stone, which was very large, had already been rolled back. As they entered the tomb, they saw a young man, dressed in a white robe, sitting on the right side; and they

were alarmed. But he said to them, "Do not be alarmed; you are looking for Jesus of Nazareth, who was crucified. He has been raised; he is not here. Look, there is the place they laid him. But go, tell his disciples and Peter that he is going ahead of you to Galilee; there you will see him, just as he told you." So they went out and fled from the tomb, for terror and amazement had seized them; and they said nothing to anyone, for they were afraid.

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

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

We pray to Jesus who is present with us to eternity.

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. 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. 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.

THE 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 Lord be with you.

And also with you.

You are invited to pass the peace distanced and respectfully.

The Holy Communion

OFFERTORY ANTHEM Mother Hen please be seated

Lois C. Willand

OFFERTORY RESPONSE Sacred Creation please stand



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ENRICHING OUR WORSHIP 2

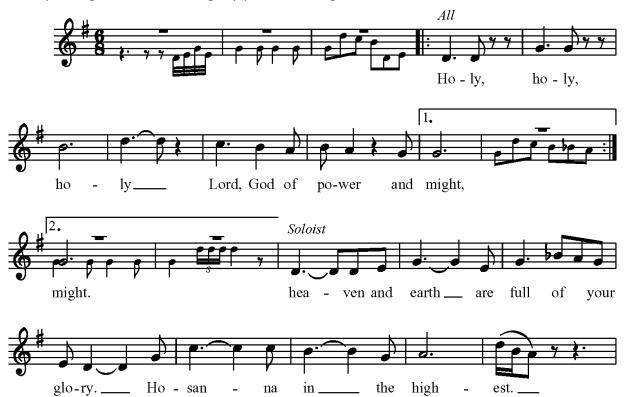
Presider The Lord be with you.
People And also with you.
Presider Lift up your hearts.

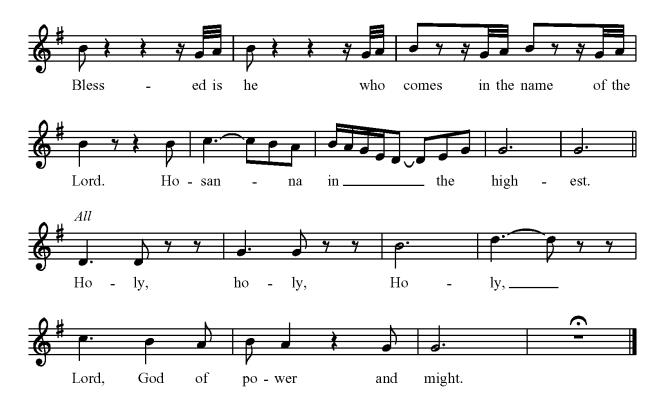
People We lift them to the Lord.

Presider Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
People It is right to give God thanks and praise.

We praise you and we bless you, holy and gracious God, source of life abundant. From before time you made ready the creation. Your Spirit moved over the deep and brought all things into being: sun, moon, and stars; earth, winds, and waters; and every living thing. You made us in your image, and taught us to walk in your ways. But we rebelled against you, and wandered far away; and yet, as a mother cares for her children, you would not forget us. Time and again you called us to live in the fullness of your love.

And so this day we join with Saints and Angels in the chorus of praise that rings through eternity, lifting our voices to magnify you as we sing,





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Glory and honor and praise to you, holy and living God. To deliver us from the power of sin and death and to reveal the riches of your grace, you looked with favor upon Mary, your willing servant, that she might conceive and bear a son, Jesus the holy child of God.

Living among us, Jesus loved us. He broke bread with outcasts and sinners, healed the sick, and proclaimed good news to the poor. He yearned to draw all the world to himself yet we were heedless of his call to walk in love. Then the time came for him to complete upon the cross the sacrifice of his life, and to be glorified by you.

On the night before he died for us, Jesus was at table with his friends. He took bread, gave thanks to you, broke it, and gave it to them, and said: "Take, eat: This is my Body, which is given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me."

As supper was ending, Jesus took the cup of wine. Again he gave thanks to you, gave it to them, and said: "Drink this, all of you: This is my Blood of the new Covenant, which is poured

out for you and for all for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me."

Now gathered at your table, O God of all creation, and remembering Christ crucified and risen, who was and is and is to come, we offer to you our gifts of bread and wine, and ourselves, a living sacrifice.

Pour out your Spirit upon these gifts that they may be the Body and blood of Christ. Breathe your Spirit over the whole earth and make us your new creation, the Body of Christ given for the world you have made.

In the fullness of time bring us, with St. Stephen and all your saints, from every tribe and language and people and nation, to feast at the banquet prepared from the foundation of the world.

Through Christ and with Christ and in Christ, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, to you be honor, glory, and praise, 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;

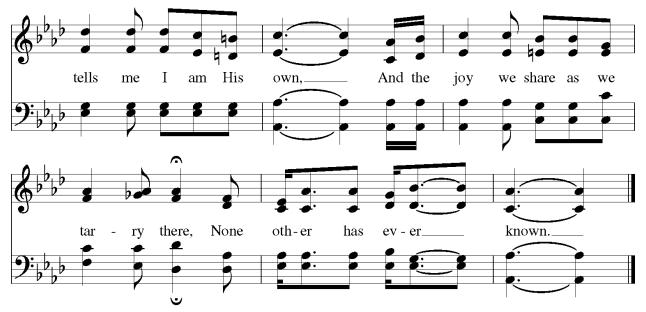
People Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia.

Presider Wherever you are on your journey of faith,

People You are welcome at this table.

All are welcome at the Lord's table. You are invited to come forward when the ushers indicate. 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.



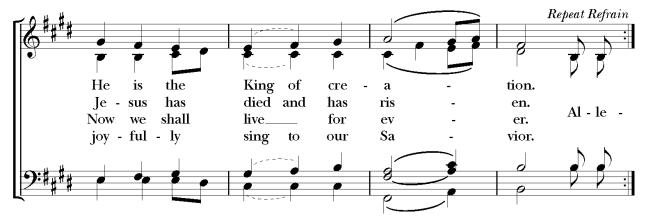


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SECOND COMMUNION HYMN

Alleluia, alleluia





The descant may be sung after stanzas 3 and 4.

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THIRD COMMUNION HYMN

Mourning into Dancing

Refrain:

You've turned my mourning into dancing again, You've lifted my sorrows! I can't stay silent, I must sing for Your joy has come!

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POST COMMUNION PRAYER

please stand

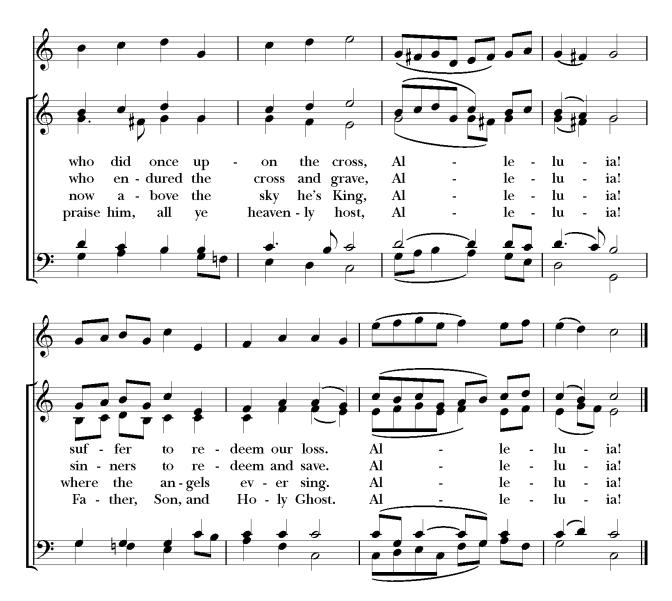
Loving God, we give you thanks for restoring us in your image and nourishing us with spiritual food in the Sacrament of Christ's Body and Blood. Now send us forth a people, forgiven, healed, renewed; that we may proclaim your love to the world and continue in the risen life of Christ our Savior. Amen

BLESSING

May Christ, who out of defeat brings new hope and a new future, fill you with his new life; and the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be amongst you, and remain with you always. **Amen.**

ANNOUNCEMENTS





Words: Latin, 14th cent.; tr. Lyra Davidica, 1708, alt. St. 4, Charles Wesley (1707-1788) Music: Easter Hymn, from Lyra Davidica, 1708; adapt. The Compleat Psalmodist, 1749, alt., desc. Hymns Ancient and Modern, Revised, 1950 Copyright © Hymns Ancient and Modern Limited. All rights reserved. Used with permission.

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DISMISSAL

He is not here. He is risen. With the power that raised Jesus from the dead at work within you, go in peace to love and serve the Lord. Alleluia, alleluia.

Thanks be to God. Alleluia, alleluia.