



The Fifth Sunday of Easter

Sunday, May 3, 2026 at 9:00 and 11:15 a.m.

Holy Eucharist: Rite Two

St. Stephen's Episcopal Church & Richmond, Virginia

Welcome to St. Stephen's Episcopal Church. We are glad you are here. We welcome and include all people without exception and we extend a special greeting to any visitors. Throughout this bulletin, helpful guidance is printed in italics. Visitor guides are found in racks at the entrance doors. When you wish to be known here, please fill out a welcome card (found in each pew or online); you may drop the card into the offering plate as it is passed. Children are very welcome in this service, and child care is also available for infants and children through age four in our nursery on the lower level near the main parking lot entrance; greeters are happy to guide you. The church is open for prayer from 7 a.m. to 6 p.m., Monday through Thursday. We hope to see you again soon!

Voluntary *Christ ist erstanden*, BWV 627

J. S. Bach

The Word of God

Hymn 376 Joyful, joyful, we adore thee

Hymn to Joy

Sung by all, standing as you are able. All hymns are found in The Hymnal 1982, the blue book in your pew rack.

Opening Acclamation

The Book of Common Prayer, page 355

Celebrant Alleluia. Christ is risen.

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

The Collect for Purity

Said by all.

Prayer Book, page 355

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.

Song of Praise God's Paschal Lamb

Sung by all, standing.

Sine Nomine

1. God's Pas-chal Lamb is sac - ri - ficed for us; there - fore with
 2. Now Christ is raised and will not die a - gain; death has no
 3. In Christ we see the first fruits of the dead: though A - dam's
 joy we keep the Eas - ter feast; for - sak - ing sin, we
 more do - min - ion o - ver him; through him we die to
 sin had doomed all flesh to die, in Christ's new life shall
 share the bread of truth.
 sin and live to God. Al - le - lu - ia, Al - le - lu - ia!
 all be made a - live.

The Collect of the Day

Prayer Book, page 225

Celebrant The Lord be with you.

People **And also with you.**

Celebrant Let us pray. *A period of silence is kept.*

Almighty God, whom truly to know is everlasting life: Grant us so perfectly to know your Son Jesus Christ to be the way, the truth, and the life, that we may steadfastly follow his steps in the way that leads to eternal life; through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord, who lives and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

The Lesson Acts 7:55-60 *Please sit.*

Reader A reading from the Acts of the Apostles.

Filled with the Holy Spirit, Stephen gazed into heaven and saw the glory of God and Jesus standing at the right hand of God. "Look," he said, "I see the heavens opened and the Son of Man standing at the right hand of God!" But they covered their ears, and with a loud shout all rushed together against him. Then they dragged him out of the city and began to stone him; and the witnesses laid their coats at the feet of a young man named Saul. While they were stoning Stephen, he prayed, "Lord Jesus, receive my spirit." Then he knelt down and cried out in a loud voice, "Lord, do not hold this sin against them." When he had said this, he died.

Reader The Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.** *A period of silence is kept.*

Psalm 31:1-5, 15-16 *Said responsively by whole verse, seated.*

Prayer Book, page 622

1 In you, O LORD, have I taken refuge;
let me never be put to shame; *
deliver me in your righteousness.

2 Incline your ear to me; *
make haste to deliver me.

3 Be my strong rock, a castle to keep me safe,
for you are my crag and my stronghold; *
for the sake of your Name, lead me and guide me.

4 Take me out of the net that they have secretly set for me, *
for you are my tower of strength.

5 Into your hands I commend my spirit, *
for you have redeemed me, O LORD, O God of truth.

15 My times are in your hand; *
rescue me from the hand of my enemies,
and from those who persecute me.

16 Make your face to shine upon your servant, *
and in your loving-kindness save me.
Silence is kept.

Hymn 487 Come, my Way, my Truth, my Life *Sung by all, standing.*

The Call

The Gospel John 14:1-14 *Please remain standing and face the reader of the Gospel.*

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

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

Jesus said, "Do not let your hearts be troubled. Believe in God, believe also in me. In my Father's house there are many dwelling places. If it were not so, would I have told you that I go to prepare a place for you? And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again and will take you to myself, so that where I am, there you may be also. And you know the way to the place where I am going." Thomas said to him, "Lord, we do not know where you are going. How can we know the way?" Jesus said to him, "I am the way, and the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me. If you know me, you will know my Father also. From now on you do know him and have seen him."

Philip said to him, "Lord, show us the Father, and we will be satisfied." Jesus said to him, "Have I been with you all this time, Philip, and you still do not know me? Whoever has seen me has seen the Father. How can you say, 'Show us the Father'? Do you not believe that I am in the Father and the Father is in me? The words that I say to you I do not speak on my own; but the Father who dwells in me does his works. Believe me that I am in the Father and the Father is in me; but if you do not, then believe me because of the works themselves. Very truly, I tell you, the one who believes in me will also do the works that I do and, in fact, will do greater works than these, because I am going to the Father. I will do whatever you ask in my name, so that the Father may be glorified in the Son. If in my name you ask me for anything, I will do it."

Deacon The Gospel of the Lord.

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

The Sermon The Rev. William S. Stanley

The Nicene Creed *Said by all, standing.*

Prayer Book, page 358

We believe in one God,
the Father, the Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth,
of all that is, seen and unseen.

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ,
the only Son of God,
eternally begotten of the Father,
God from God, Light from Light,
true God from true God,
begotten, not made,
of one Being with the Father.
Through him all things were made.
For us and for our salvation
he came down from heaven:
by the power of the Holy Spirit
he became incarnate from the Virgin Mary,
and was made man.

For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate;
he suffered death and was buried.
On the third day he rose again
in accordance with the Scriptures;
he ascended into heaven
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.
He will come again in glory to judge the living
and the dead,
and his kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son.
With the Father and the Son he is worshiped and glorified.
He has spoken through the Prophets.
We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church.
We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.
We look for the resurrection of the dead,
and the life of the world to come. Amen.

The Prayers of the People

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, especially to those who suffer in all places of conflict,
at home and abroad,
People **May the risen Christ compel 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, [especially _____].
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.**

The Easter season, known as the Great Fifty Days, is the longest liturgical season in order to celebrate God's saving acts through Christ's risen life. In recognition of God's reconciling love, we abstain from confession until the season after Pentecost.

Celebrant The peace of the Lord be always with you.
 People **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, with recognition of graduating high school seniors

The Holy Communion

All comes from God, so from what God has given, we offer gifts as we participate in God's work in the world. You may offer your gift in an offering plate as they come by or make a gift online by scanning the QR code or texting STSTEPHENSVA to 73256.



At the Offertory

Hymn 586 Jesus, thou divine Companion [9:00] *Sung by all, seated.* *Pleading Savior*
 Come, my Way, my Truth, my Life [11:15] *Sung by the choir.* text: George Herbert; music: Harold Friedell
 For text, see Hymn 487.

At the Presentation

Sung by all, standing.

Lasst uns erfreuen

The fruits of our labor are presented to God, along with gifts for our food ministry.

Praise God from whom all blessings flow. Praise him, all creatures here below. Al-le-lu-ia! Al-le-lu-ia! Praise him above, ye heav'nly hos:: Praise Fa-ther, Son, and Ho-ly Ghost. O praise him; O praise him; Al-le-lu-ia! Al-le-lu-ia! Al-le-lu-ia!

The Great Thanksgiving Eucharistic Prayer B

The people remain standing.

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 God thanks and praise.**
 Celebrant It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth. *Here a proper preface is said.*

Therefore we praise you, joining our voices with Angels and Archangels and with all the company of heaven, who for ever sing this hymn to proclaim the glory of your Name:

Sanctus

Sung by all.

The Hymnal S-125, Richard Proulx

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow-er and might,
heaven and carth are full of your glo - ry. Ho -
san - na in the high - est. Ho - san - na in the high-est.
Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Ho -
san - na in the high-est. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

You may stand or kneel.

Celebrant

We give thanks to you, O God, for the goodness and love which you have made known to us in creation; in the calling of Israel to be your people; in your Word spoken through the prophets; and above all in the Word made flesh, Jesus, your Son. For in these last days you sent him to be incarnate from the Virgin Mary, to be the Savior and Redeemer of the world. In him, you have delivered us from evil, and made us worthy to stand before you. In him, you have brought us out of error into truth, out of sin into righteousness, out of death into life.

On the night before he died for us, our Lord Jesus Christ 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."

Therefore, according to his command, O Father,

Celebrant and People

We remember his death,

We proclaim his resurrection,

We await his coming in glory;

Celebrant

And we offer our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving to you, O Lord of all; presenting to you, from your creation, this bread and this wine.

We pray you, gracious God, to send your Holy Spirit upon these gifts that they may be the Sacrament of the Body of Christ and his Blood of the new Covenant. Unite us to your Son in his sacrifice, that we may be acceptable through him, being sanctified by the Holy Spirit. In the fullness of time, put all things in subjection under your Christ, and bring us to that heavenly country where, with Blessed Stephen; Blessed Mary, Mother of God; and all your saints, we may enter the everlasting heritage of your sons and daughters; through Jesus Christ our Lord, the firstborn of all creation, the head of the Church, and the author of our salvation.

By him, and with him, and in him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit all honor and glory is yours, Almighty Father, now and for ever. **AMEN.**

And now, as our Savior Christ has taught us, we are bold to say,

**Our Father, who art in heaven,
hallowed be thy Name,
thy kingdom come,
thy will be done,
on earth as it is in heaven.**

Give us this day our daily bread.

**And forgive us our trespasses,
as we forgive those
who trespass against us.**

**And lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil.**

**For thine is the kingdom,
and the power, and the glory,
for ever and ever. Amen.**

The Breaking of the Bread

*The Celebrant breaks the consecrated bread.
A period of silence is kept.*

The Hymnal S-154, David Hurd

Cantor:

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

All:

Christ our Pass - o - ver is sac - ri - ficed for us;
there - fore let us keep the feast.

Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

Celebrant

The gifts of God for the people of God.

At the Communion of the People

All are welcome at the altar in this place. Communion is distributed at the chancel steps [9:00] or the high altar [11:15] and in both side chapels. The altar also extends to your pew if you need us to bring the sacrament to you; just let an usher know. To receive Communion, cross one hand over the other, palms up. You may consume the bread and then drink from the wine in the larger chalice. If you prefer to "intinct" or touch the edge of your bread to the wine, please use one of the smaller cups, available at all stations. Gluten-free wafers are available upon request. If you prefer to receive a blessing, cross your arms against your chest.

Music at Communion

Anthem The day draws on with golden light [11:15] *Sung by the choir.* Edward Bairstow

The day draws on with golden light, glad songs go echoing through the height, the broad earth lifts an answering cheer, the deep makes moan with wailing fear. For lo, he comes, the mighty King, to take from death his power and sting, to trample down his gloomy reign and break the weary prisoner's chain. Maker of all, to thee we pray, fulfil in us thy joy today; when death assaults, grant, Lord, that we may share thy paschal mystery.

Hymn 194 Jesus lives! thy terrors now

Sung by all, seated.

St. Albinus

Sending Forth Eucharistic Visitors

When a Lay Eucharistic Visitor is scheduled to visit a parishioner, the following is said.

Deacon *N., we send you out to share Communion with N.*

People **Carry the prayers of all of us as you take this sacrament of Christ's presence.**

Deacon We who are many are one body because we share one bread and one cup. **Amen.**

After Communion, the Celebrant says

Let us pray. *You may stand or kneel.*

All **Eternal God, heavenly Father,
you have graciously accepted us as living members
of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ,
and you have fed us with spiritual food
in the Sacrament of his Body and Blood.
Send us now into the world in peace,
and grant us strength and courage
to love and serve you
with gladness and singleness of heart;
through Christ our Lord. Amen.**

Prayer Book, page 365

The Blessing *The Celebrant pronounces God's blessing.*

Hymn 182 Christ is alive! *Sung by all, standing.*

Truro

Dismissal

Prayer Book, page 366

Deacon Go in peace to love and serve the Lord. Alleluia, alleluia.

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

Voluntary Imperial March

Edward Elgar, arr. for organ by G. C. Martin



Memorials

The flowers are given to the glory of God and in memory of Ellen Bowers Hofstead by Mr. and Mrs. Robert Cabaniss III.

Participants

9:00 | **CELEBRANT:** The Rev. John W. A. Jenkins; **DEACON:** The Rev. John D. Rohrs; **SUBDEACON:** Barbara Massey; **READER:** Windsor Ross; **PREACHER:** The Rev. William S. Stanley; **INTERCESSOR:** Beth Crews; **ASSISTING PRIEST:** The Rev. Judy Webb Davis; **CHALICE BEARERS:** Kristen Estes, Gabrielle Maes, Kim Schmidt, Deborah Waters; **ACOLYTES:** Ada Mathews, Betsy Proutt, Olivia Randolph, Tripp Schnell, Collin Weis; **LAY EUCHARISTIC VISITOR:** Marty Easton; **MUSICIANS:** St. Stephen's Hymn Choir, Chris Edwards, *director*; Robert McCormick, *organ*; **VERGER:** Dave Davis

11:15 | **CELEBRANT:** The Rev. Judy Webb Davis; **DEACON:** The Rev. Cate Anthony; **SUBDEACON:** Braxton Hill; **LAY READER:** Daniel Mullery; **PREACHER:** The Rev. William S. Stanley; **INTERCESSOR:** Bill Davis; **ASSISTING CLERGY:** The Rev. John W.A. Jenkins, the Rev. John D. Rohrs; **CHALICE BEARERS:** Charlie Caldwell, Scott Finn, Earl Roney, Kim Spensieri; **ACOLYTES:** Wyatt Hobbs, Wilson Lucas, Avery Peay, Emma Peay, Carley Rose, Linley Rose; **MUSICIANS:** St. Stephen's Choir, Chris Edwards and Robert McCormick, *directors*; Diana Chou and Robert McCormick, *organ*; **VERGER:** Kathy Brock

Parish Prayer List

Loretta Albertis, Leilani Allwine, Patricia Atkins-Smith, Sue Atkinson, Elizabeth Bannerman, Lash Barksdale, Nancy Beale, Linda Bennett, Christine Boeteger, Emma Bolduc, Genie Borum, Julia Bouck, Gene Bowles, Sturges Brian, Kathy Brock, Leslie Brockman, Alex H. Brown, Pat Brown, Sarah Jo Bryce, Turner Bruneau, Matt Boyd, Patti Bullen, Tammy Carleton, Scott Carnohan, Paula Chambers, Michael Click, Nancy Cole, Sarah Cole, Susan Collier, Mary Cooke, Prior Cooper, Kathy Conrad, John Corey, Tracy Councill, Don Cowles, Michelle Crim, the Rt. Rev. Michael Curry, Debbie Cuseo, Chris Davis, Patricia Delany, Ham DeRosa, Terry Dickinson, Davis Dunn Dillard, Stephen Drake Sr., Kristen Estes, Jonathan Fava, Debbie Ferguson, Guy Frank, April Greenwood, Janis Hall, Rodger Hardy, David Harrell, Katie Hellebush, Dan Hill, Anna Hurdle, Alan Jameson, John Turner Jenkins, Lena Jones, Justin Jones-Nickerson, Jane Kelly, Linda Lewis, Ashley Loughan, Genie Lucyk, Margaret Lyle, Pam Lynch, Ross Mackenzie, Barbara Mathison, Adrienne Maxwell, Michael McCabe, Schnucki McCabe, Morgan McCall, Stratton and Robin McCrady, Gertrude McLean, Nancy Meath, Jack Miller, Mary Miller, Tina Millner, Susan Minyard, Sallie Moncol, Susan Moore, Lee W. Mumford, Shelby Nichols, Ashley Nickerson, Mary Beth Noel, Sallie Nolte, Jan Orgain, Tricia Payne, Beth Pearce, Ernest Perry, Courtney Phillips, Scott Pittman, Wilde Poole and family, Lyn Presson, Alma Price, Jamey Price, Julia Putney-Brandt, Brick Quinn, Cary Ragland, Luke Robertson, Jennifer Reed, Aleta Richards, Ryan Rohadfox, Bette Shiflett, Chrys Sills, Aiden Thomas Smith, Josh Spain, Aaron Spicer, Margie Spicer, Regena Stith, Beth Thomas, Bruce Thomas, Margaret Thompson, Brian Trollope, Kenneth Valke, Pam W., Timothy W., Ozzie Wade, Suzanne Wallace, Tom White, Terri Wilcox, Donna Williams, Steve Williams, Martha Wilson, Claire Wood, Emily H. Wood, Rosalyn Wootton, Sue Wootton, Rick Wortham, J. Morgan Wright, Margaret P. Young. **For the blessings of this life**, especially *the marriage of Grace Landolt and Gregory Castle*. **For those who have died**, especially *Mary Gibbs Lane, the Rev. Dr. Ross Mackenzie, and Thomas Logan Scott*. **For those expecting a child**, especially Coleman and Jessica Stewart, and Megan and Tim Watson. **For our missionaries**, Heidi Schmidt and Monica Vega, and the people they serve in Argentina. **In the Anglican Cycle of Prayer**, we pray for the *Church of North India (United)*. **For ReWork Richmond**. **For an end to gun violence**. **For peace and reconciliation** in Haiti, Iraq, Iran, Israel/Palestine, Nigeria, North Korea, South Sudan, Syria, and Ukraine, and at our borders. **For those serving overseas in the military or diplomatic service**: CPT Anna Broadbent-Evelyn and Caroline Finn.

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

In order to keep our prayer list current and facilitate the intentionality and mindfulness with which we pray, we print names on the list for three months or less. If you would like for someone to remain on the list for more (or less) time, please call the office or email Kitty Ball at kball@ststephensRVA.org.

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