



Palmer Hall Chapel

Sunday, May 17, 2026 at 9 a.m. ☩ The Seventh Sunday of Easter

Holy Eucharist: Rite Two

St. Stephen's Episcopal Church ☩ Richmond, Virginia

Welcome to the Palmer Hall service

We are delighted you are here. Wherever you might be on your faith journey, we hope your experience here will strengthen and affirm you. We are sure that your presence among us today strengthens others, and we welcome you to join in everything that St. Stephen's offers. During the program year (September–May), Palmer Hall gathers at 9 a.m. for a time of worship, music, and fellowship.

Please note: today is the last Palmer Hall service until September 13, 2026. The Palmer Hall “soft space” will move into the main church for the summer—please join us for worship there at 8 a.m., 10 a.m., or 5:30 p.m. all summer long.

Prelude

Welcome

The Word of God

Opening Hymn Hop up and jump up *Sung by all, standing, several times.* Shaker Canon

Hop up and jump up and whirl 'round whirl 'round; Ga-ther love, here it is
all 'round all 'round; Here it is, flow - ing 'round,
catch it as you whirl 'round; Reach up, reach down, all 'round all 'round.

Opening Acclamation

Deacon Alleluia. Christ is risen.
 People **The Lord is risen indeed. Alleluia.**
 Deacon Give thanks to the Lord, for he is good.
 People **God's faithful love endures forever.**

The Collect of the Day

Prayer Book, page 226

Celebrant The Lord be with you.
 People **And also with you.**
 Celebrant Let us pray. *Silence is kept.*

O God, the King of glory, you have exalted your only Son Jesus Christ with great triumph to your kingdom in heaven: Do not leave us comfortless, but send us your Holy Spirit to strengthen us, and exalt us to that place where our Savior Christ has gone before; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, in glory everlasting. **Amen.**

The Lesson Acts 1:6-14

Reader A reading from the Acts of the Apostles.

When the apostles had come together, they asked Jesus, "Lord, is this the time when you will restore the kingdom to Israel?" He replied, "It is not for you to know the times or periods that the Father has set by his own authority. But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you; and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth." When he had said this, as they were watching, he was lifted up, and a cloud took him out of their sight. While he was going and they were gazing up toward heaven, suddenly two men in white robes stood by them. They said, "Men of Galilee, why do you stand looking up toward heaven? This Jesus, who has been taken up from you into heaven, will come in the same way as you saw him go into heaven."

Then they returned to Jerusalem from the mount called Olivet, which is near Jerusalem, a sabbath day's journey away. When they had entered the city, they went to the room upstairs where they were staying, Peter, and John, and James, and Andrew, Philip and Thomas, Bartholomew and Matthew, James son of Alphaeus, and Simon the Zealot, and Judas son of James. All these were constantly devoting themselves to prayer, together with certain women, including Mary the mother of Jesus, as well as his brothers.

Reader The Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

Psalm 68:1-10, 33-36

Said responsively by whole verse, seated.

Prayer Book, page 676

1 Let God arise, and let his enemies be scattered; *
let those who hate him flee before him.

**2 Let them vanish like smoke when the wind drives it away; *
as the wax melts at the fire, so let the wicked perish at the presence of God.**

3 But let the righteous be glad and rejoice before God; *
let them also be merry and joyful.

**4 Sing to God, sing praises to his Name;
exalt him who rides upon the heavens; ***

YAHWEH is his Name, rejoice before him!

5 Father of orphans, defender of widows, *
God in his holy habitation!

**6 God gives the solitary a home and brings forth prisoners into freedom; *
but the rebels shall live in dry places.**

7 O God, when you went forth before your people, *
when you marched through the wilderness,

**8 The earth shook, and the skies poured down rain,
at the presence of God, the God of Sinai, *
at the presence of God, the God of Israel.**

9 You sent a gracious rain, O God, upon your inheritance; *
you refreshed the land when it was weary.

**10 Your people found their home in it; *
in your goodness, O God, you have made provision for the poor.**

33 Sing to God, O kingdoms of the earth; *
sing praises to the LORD.

**34 He rides in the heavens, the ancient heavens; *
he sends forth his voice, his mighty voice.**

35 Ascribe power to God; *
his majesty is over Israel;
his strength is in the skies.

**36 How wonderful is God in his holy places! *
the God of Israel giving strength and power to his people!
Blessed be God!**

The Gospel Song

The Lord is my shepherd

Sing with Joy

Sung by all, standing, before and after the Gospel.

The Lord is my— shep-herd, I'll walk with him al - ways. He knows me and he
loves me, I'll walk with him al - ways. Al - ways, al - ways, I'll
walk with him al - ways. Al - ways, al - ways, I'll walk with him al - ways.

The Gospel

John 17:1-11

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

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

Jesus looked up to heaven and said, "Father, the hour has come; glorify your Son so that the Son may glorify you, since you have given him authority over all people, to give eternal life to all whom you have given him. And this is eternal life, that they may know you, the only true God, and Jesus Christ whom you have sent. I glorified you on earth by finishing the work that you gave me to do. So now, Father, glorify me in your own presence with the glory that I had in your presence before the world existed.

"I have made your name known to those whom you gave me from the world. They were yours, and you gave them to me, and they have kept your word. Now they know that everything you have given me is from you; for the words that you gave to me I have given to them, and they have received them and know in truth that I came from you; and they have believed that you sent me. I am asking on their behalf; I am not asking on behalf of the world, but on behalf of those whom you gave me, because they are yours. All mine are yours, and yours are mine; and I have been glorified in them. And now I am no longer in the world, but they are in the world, and I am coming to you. Holy Father, protect them in your name that you have given me, so that they may be one, as we are one."

Reader The Gospel of the Lord.

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

Wondering

The Rev. Abby Kocher

The children are invited to gather on the center rug.

The Creed

Said by all, standing.

I believe in God above,

I believe in Jesus' love.

I believe God's Spirit too,

comes to tell me what to do.

I believe that I can be

kind and good,

dear Lord, like thee.

The Prayers of the People

Please remain standing as you are able.

Celebrant Let us pray for the church and the world.

Deacon In the work we do this day,

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

Deacon In the challenges we face this day,

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

Deacon Through the people we meet this day,

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

Deacon 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.**

Deacon 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.**

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

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

Deacon Give to the departed eternal rest;

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

Deacon 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.**

Birthday Blessing

Prayer Book, page 830

All **O God, our times are in your hand: Look with favor, we pray, on your servants as they begin another year. Grant that they may grow in wisdom and grace and strengthen their trust in your goodness all the days of their lives, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

The Peace

Prayer Book, page 360

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.

Announcements

The Holy Communion

Offertory Sentence

Walk in love, as Christ loved us and gave himself for us, an offering and sacrifice to God. —*Ephesians 5:2*

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 online (use the QR code, or text STSTEPHENSVA to 73256), or in the offering plates as they come by.



Offertory Music

At the Presentation

Sung by all, standing.

Lasst uns erfreuen

Praise God from whom all blessings flow. Praise him, all creatures here be -
 low. Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia! Praise him a - bove, ye heav'nly
 host: 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 children are invited to follow the ushers forward to sit on the rug in front of the altar for the Great Thanksgiving.

The Great Thanksgiving Eucharistic Prayer B

Prayer Book, page 367

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.

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

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.**

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

Celebrant and People

Prayer Book, page 364

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.

Mason Martens, S-152

Cantor 
Al - le - lu - ia. Christ our Pass - o - ver is sac - ri - ficed for us;

All 
There-fore let us keep the feast. Al - le - lu - ia.

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

Communion will be served at two stations, standing. All are welcome to come forward. To receive Communion, place your hands together, palms up. If you would like a gluten-free wafer, please tell the minister. If you prefer a blessing, please cross your arms on the front of your chest.

After Communion, the Celebrant says

Let us pray. *Please stand.*

All **God of abundance,
you have fed us with the bread of life and cup of salvation;
you have united us with Christ and one another;
and you have made us one with all your people in heaven and on earth.
Now send us forth in the power of your Spirit,
that we may proclaim your redeeming love to the world
and continue for ever in the risen life of Christ our Savior. Amen.**

The Blessing Song Go now in peace
**Go now in peace, go now in peace.
May the love of God surround you,
everywhere, everywhere you may go.**

Sung by all, standing.

Natalie Sleeth

Hymn 460, vs. 1, 3, 4 Alleluia! sing to Jesus

Sung by all.

Hyfrydol

Dismissal

Deacon Let us go forth in the name of Christ. Alleluia, alleluia.
People **Thanks be to God. Alleluia, alleluia.**

Prayer Book, page 366

Postlude



Participants

CELEBRANT: The Rev. Cate Anthony
DEACON: The Rev. Abby Kocher
MUSICIAN: Karen Harris, *piano*

The Parish Prayer List

Loretta Albertis, Kay Alley, 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, Emma Hassmer, Katie Hellebush, Dan Hill, *Ron Hunt*, Anna Hurdle, Alan Jameson, John Turner Jenkins, Lena Jones, Justin Jones-Nickerson, Jane Kelly, Linda Lewis, Ashley Loughan, Genie Lucyk, Margaret Lyle, Pam Lynch, 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, *Steve Wilson*, Donna Williams, Steve Williams, Martha Wilson, Claire Wood, Emily H. Wood, Rosalyn Wootten, Sue Wootton, Rick Wortham, J. Morgan Wright, Margaret P. Young. **For those who have died**, especially *Josie Bassoua, Robert Morris, Robert Avery Peay, Jr., and Charlotte Williams*. **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 *Anglican Church of Papua New Guinea*. **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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