

The Sixth Sunday of  
**EASTER**

THE ORDER OF SERVICE FOR HOLY EUCHARIST

SIXTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

May 10th, 2026

---

**St. Stephen's Episcopal Church**

The Rev. Cn. Jonathan Myers, Rector: jonathan@ststephens-spokane.com | 509.448.1504

Rev. Elaine Pitzer, Parish Deacon: evpitzer@aol.com

Alayna Biersdorff, Lay Pastor for Formation and Administration:

alayna@ststephens-spokane.com | 509.703.2851

*St Stephen's is called, with God's help, to follow Jesus, and to be a source of transformation and Christian hope and inspiration to those within our community and those in our respective neighborhoods.*

---

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

*Preceding the service, a singing bowl will be rung as we prepare ourselves interiorly for worship.*

**GATHERING HYMN**

#192 This Joyful Eastertide

**OPENING BLESSING**

Celebrant: Blessed be God: Creator, Redeemer, and Sustainer.

People: And blessed be God's kingdom, now and forever. Amen.

**COLLECT FOR PURITY**

*The Kenyan Anglican Church*

Almighty God, You bring to light things hidden in darkness, and know the shadows of our hearts; Cleanse and renew us by your Spirit, that we may walk in the light and glorify your name, through Jesus Christ, the Light of the world. Amen.

**GLORIA**

*mf*  
Glo - ry to God in the high - est! Peace to his  
peo - ple on earth. Lord God, heav - en - ly King, al - might - y



## COLLECT FOR THE DAY

The Lord be with you.

**And also with you.**

Let us pray.

Trinity of love, inviting us to abide with you: may we follow the Spirit of truth through the desert wild and city street, rutted field and snowbound height, battleground and market square, that your demanding love might speak to the heart of the manifold world; through Jesus Christ, our Brother.

**Amen.**

## THE FIRST READING

Acts 17:22-31

Then Paul stood in front of the Areopagus and said, “Athenians, I see how extremely spiritual you are in every way. For as I went through the city and looked carefully at the objects of your worship, I found among them an altar with the inscription, ‘To an unknown god.’ What therefore you worship as unknown, this I proclaim to you. The God who made the world and everything in it, he who is Lord of heaven and earth, does not live in shrines made by human hands, nor is he served by human hands, as though he needed anything, since he himself gives to all mortals life and breath and all things. From one ancestor he made all people to inhabit the whole earth, and he allotted the times of their existence and the boundaries of the places where they would live, so that they would search for God and perhaps fumble about for him and find him—though indeed he is not far from each one of us. For ‘In him we live and move and have our being’; as even some of your own poets have said, ‘For we, too, are his offspring.’ Since we are God’s offspring, we ought not to think that the deity is like gold or silver or stone, an image formed by the art and imagination of mortals. While God has overlooked the times of human ignorance, now he commands all people everywhere to repent, because he has fixed a day on which he will have the world judged in righteousness by a man whom he has appointed, and of this he has given assurance to all by raising him from the dead.”

Reader: Hear what the Spirit is saying to God’s people.

**People: Thanks be to God.**

## THE RESPONSORY

Psalm 66:1-7, 16, 20

Let all the earth cry out to God with joy.

The musical notation is for a responsory in 4/4 time, key of D major. It consists of two staves: a treble clef staff and a bass clef staff. The melody is primarily in the treble staff, with the bass staff providing a harmonic accompaniment. The lyrics are placed below the treble staff, with lines of music corresponding to the words. The piece ends with a final chord in the bass staff.

Shout joyfully to God, all the earth, sing praise to the glory of his name; proclaim his glorious praise. Say to God, “How tremendous are your deeds.” **R.**

“Let all the earth worship and sing praise to you, sing praise to your name!” Come and see the works of God, his tremendous deeds among the children of Adam. **R.**

He has changed the sea into dry land; through the river they passed on foot; therefore let us rejoice in him. He rules by his might forever. **R.**

Hear now, all you who fear God, while I declare what he has done for me. Blessed be God who refused me not my prayer or his kindness! **R.**

## THE SECOND READING

1 Peter 3:13-22

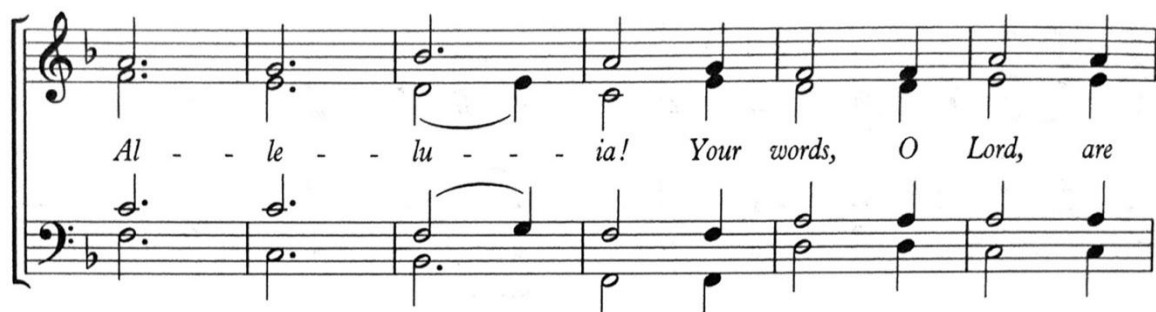
Now who will harm you if you are eager to do what is good? But even if you do suffer for doing what is right, you are blessed. Do not fear what they fear, and do not be intimidated, but in your hearts sanctify Christ as Lord. Always be ready to make your defense to anyone who demands from you an accounting for the hope that is in you, yet do it with gentleness and respect. Maintain a good conscience so that, when you are maligned, those who abuse you for your good conduct in Christ may be put to shame. For it is better to suffer for doing good, if suffering should be God's will, than to suffer for doing evil. For Christ also suffered for sins once for all, the righteous for the unrighteous, in order to bring you to God. He was put to death in the flesh but made alive in the spirit, in which also he went and made a proclamation to the spirits in prison, who in former times did not obey, when God waited patiently in the days of Noah, during the building of the ark, in which a few, that is, eight lives, were saved through water. And baptism, which this prefigured, now saves you—not as a removal of dirt from the body but as an appeal to God for a good conscience, through the resurrection of Jesus Christ, who has gone into heaven and is at the right hand of God, with angels, authorities, and powers made subject to him.

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

People: **Thanks be to God.**

## GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

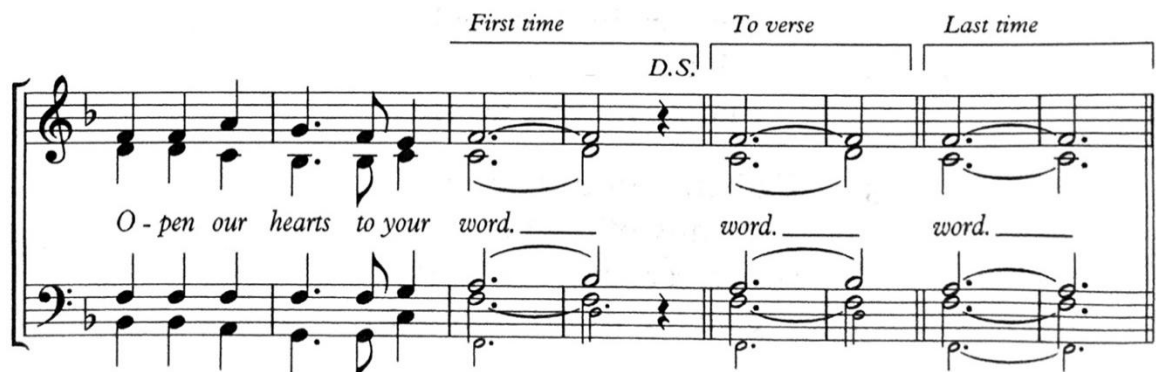
*Gospel Acclamation A&M*



Al - - le - - lu - - - ia! Your words, O Lord, are



spi - rit and life. Al - - le - - lu - - - ia!\_



O - pen our hearts to your word. word. word.

First time To verse Last time  
D.S.

**Cantor**

Re - jice and sing, all the earth, \_\_\_\_\_ for the  
 night is gone! \_\_\_\_\_ Our God has raised us  
 up from death in Christ Je - - - sus the Son. \_\_\_\_\_ *D.S.*

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

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

**THE HOLY GOSPEL**

John 14:15-21

“If you love me, you will keep my commandments. And I will ask the Father, and he will give you another Advocate, to be with you forever. This is the Spirit of truth, whom the world cannot receive because it neither sees him nor knows him. You know him because he abides with you, and he will be in you. I will not leave you orphaned; I am coming to you. In a little while the world will no longer see me, but you will see me; because I live, you also will live. On that day you will know that I am in my Father, and you in me, and I in you. They who have my commandments and keep them are those who love me, and those who love me will be loved by my Father, and I will love them and reveal myself to them.”

Clergy: The Gospel of the Lord.

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

**THE HOMILY**

**NICENE CREED**

*In Abilone*

1 We be - e - lieve in God al - migh - ty, Au - th - or of all  
 2 We be - e - lieve that Je - sus suf - fered, scourged a - nd scorned a - nd  
 3 We be - e - lieve in God's o - wn Spi - rit, bond - i - ng all the

thi - ngs th - at be, Ma - k - er of the earth and hea - vens,  
 or - u - oi - fi - ed; Ta - k - en from the cross, was bu - ried,  
 sa - ints wi - th - in one church oath - olo, one church ho - ly,

Kee - per of th - e sky and sea. We be - lieve in God's Son,  
 True li - fe there had tru - ly died. We be - lieve that on the  
 Where for - give - ness frees from sin. In the bo - dy's re - sur -

Je - sus, Now for us both Lord and Chr - ist, of the Spi - rit  
 third day. Christ was raised up from the gr - ave, then as - cend - ed  
 rec - tion for the breaking of death's oh - ain. Give the life that's

and of Ma - ry born to bring a - bun - dant life.\_\_\_\_  
 to God's right hand, He will come to\_\_\_\_ judge and save.  
 ev - ver last - ting. This the faith that we\_\_\_\_ have olaimed

**PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE**

V. To you we offer praise eternal; **R. Alleluia! Alleluia!**

*Those in need of healing and support:*

Mary, Darrell, Bishop Gretchen, Kerry, Joey and Family, Tiffany, Tonya, Stephanie, Dan, Jessica, Casey, Steve, Kristin, Daniel, Bahati, Jason, Ashley, Braden, Bev, Chris, Jayne, Vance, Aidan, Jeanne, Leon, Larry, Colin, Connie, Russell, Kadie

**THE PEACE**

# WELCOME SONG

God Welcomes All

God wel - comes all, strang - ers and friends;  
God's love is strong and it nev - er ends.

## OFFERTORY

*To give online, please see the QR code in the back of the bulletin*

## OFFERTORY ANTHEM

In the Spirit

## DOXOLOGY

SA  
TB  
S.A.  
T.B.  
Praise God from whom all bless - ings flow; Praise God all crea - tures here be - low; Praise  
God a - bove ye heav' - nly host; Praise Fa - ther, Son, and Ho - ly Ghost.

## THE EUCHARISTIC PRAYER

### THE PREFACE

The Lord be with you. **And also with you.**

Lift up your hearts. **We lift them to the Lord.**

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

# SANCTUS

*Heritage Mass*

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! Ho -  
san - na in the high - est. Blessed is he who comes in the name  
of the Lord. — Ho - san - na! Ho - san - na in the high - est.

Therefore we proclaim the mystery of faith.

**Christ has died; Christ is risen; Christ will come again.**

## THE LORD'S PRAYER

Voice  
Our Fa-ther who art in hea - ven hal-lowed be thy name; thy king-dom come; thy will  
D B E A F#m  
be done on earth as it is in hea - ven. Give us this day our dai - ly bread, and  
for-give us our tres-pass-es as we for-give those who tres - pass a-gainst us; and lead  
B A B7 E F#m  
us not in - to temp-ta - tion, but de-liv - er us from e - vil. For the king-dom, the  
D Bm C#m A B 7 E  
pow'r, and the glo - ry are yours, now and for - ev - er.

## THE FRACTION

Alleluia, Alleluia. Christ our Lord is risen for us.

**Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia, Alleluia.**

## HOLY COMMUNION

Christ is the Host of this Holy Feast: All are welcome to receive God's blessing. You may choose to receive wine from the little cups or from the common chalice. To receive from the chalice, please help guide the cup by grasping the bottom of the cup. Please do not dip your wafer (intinct) into the cup. Gluten-free hosts are available—please mention your need for a gluten-free host to the clergy distributing the Body of Christ when you approach to receive Holy Communion.

## COMMUNION ANTHEM

#516 Come Down, O Love Divine  
#341 For the Bread Which You Have Broken

## POST-COMMUNION PRAYER

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.

## BLESSING

## PARISH PRAYER CENTER

## SENDING HYMN

I Serve a Risen Savior

1. I serve a ris - en Sav - ior, He's in the world to - day; —  
2. In all the world a - round me I see His lov - ing care, —  
3. Re - joice, re - joice. O Chris - tian, lift up your voice and sing. —

1. I know that He is liv - ing, what - ev - er oth - ers say; —  
2. And though my heart grows wea - ry I nev - er will de - spair; —  
3. E - ter - nal hal - le - lu - jahs to Je - sus Christ, the King! —

1. I see His hand of mer - cy, I hear His voice of cheer, —  
 2. I know that He is lead - ing through all the storm - y blast, —  
 3. The hope of all who seek Him, the help of all who find, —

1. And just the time I need Him — He's al - ways near. —  
 2. The day of His ap - pear - ing — will come at last. —  
 3. None oth - er is so lov - ing, — so good and kind. —

He lives, — He lives, — Christ Je - sus lives — to - day! —  
 He lives, He lives,

He walks with me and talks with me a - long life's nar - row way. —

He lives, — He lives, — sal - va - tion to im - part! —  
 He lives, He lives,

You ask me how I know He lives? He lives with-in my heart. —

# SENDING

**The People's Response: Thanks be to God. Alleluia, Alleluia.**

**Thanks to all those who serve in St. Stephen's liturgical ministries!**

SATURDAY

**Eucharistic Ministers**

Tim Farley | Julie Henry

**Usher**

Kate Mietus

SUNDAY

**Eucharistic Ministers**

Phil Johnston | Lolita Sutton

**Usher**

Tom Pitzer

**St. Stephen's Choir**

Sopranos: Esther Matuku | Cassie Roeder | Grace Rowe\* | Maude Hales  
Altos: Suzanne Capstick | Zenny Chen | Scarlett Hepworth\* | Debbie Campbell  
Tenors: Trevor Bushnell\* | Kelson Johansing | Dan Roeder  
Basses: Marc Anthony | Chuck Harris | Mike Henneberry | Nathan Hoyt\* | Don Lamp  
Logan Shevalier, Choral Director | Christian Skok, Music Director  
\*Section Leaders

**St. Martha's Altar Guild**

Pam Bernardo | Karen Bushnell | Vanita Davis | Lyla Henderson | The Henry Family  
Suzy Jefferies | Lisa Johnston, President | Meg Jones | Laura Lindsey | Paula Oty  
Mary Lou Redmond | Lolita Sutton | Pam Strickland | Karen Williams

**ST. STEPHEN'S VESTRY**

Sheryll Shepard, Sr. Warden  
Tim Farley, Jr. Warden  
Greg Stevens, Jr. Warden  
Karen Bushnell

Mary Hedrick  
Scarlett Hepworth  
Charlotte Lamp  
Kate Mietus

Karen Williams  
Karen Winston  
Kathleen Henry, Treasurer  
Stuart Hales, Clerk

**Give Online:**

