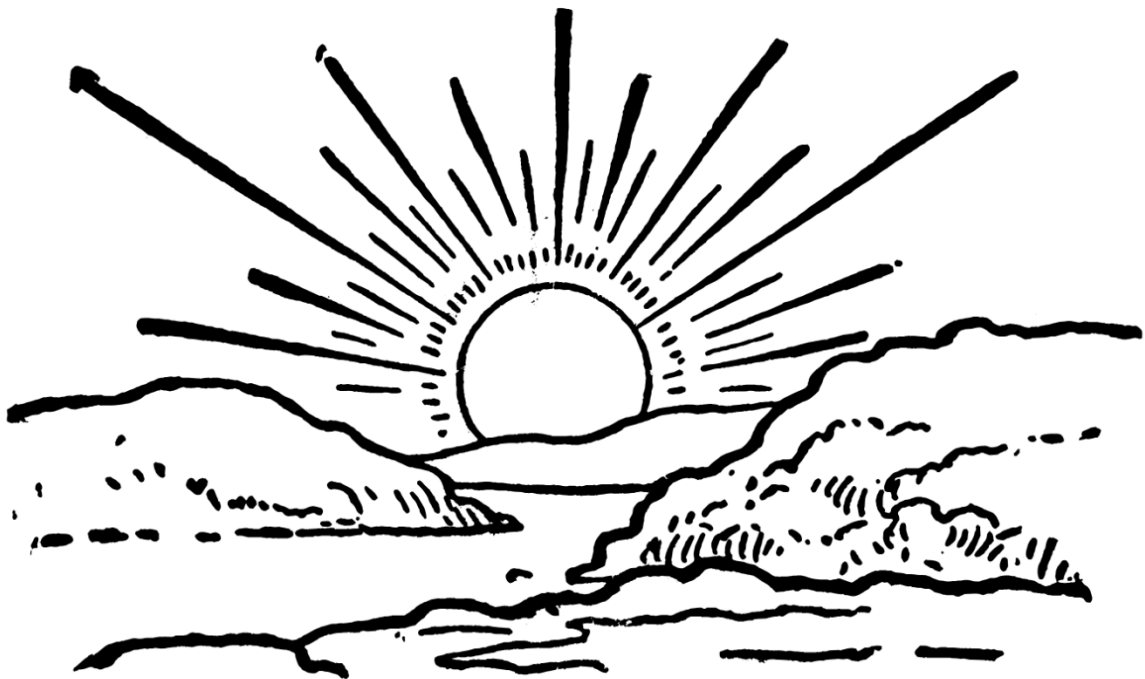


CHRIST IS RISEN!



The Feast of the  
RESURRECTION

# THE ORDER OF SERVICE FOR HOLY EUCHARIST WITH BAPTISM

## EASTER SUNDAY

April 5<sup>th</sup>, 2026

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### 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.*



Welcome! If you are unfamiliar with the rituals of the Episcopal Church, simply let the congregation carry you in worship. The order of worship is found in this service booklet and the hymns are in the blue hymnal in your pew.



### ANNOUNCEMENTS

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

### GATHERING HYMN

#207 Jesus Christ is Ris'n Today

### SALUTATION

Celebrant: Blessed be God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

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

Celebrant: There is one Body and one Spirit;

**People: There is one hope in God's call to us;**

Celebrant: One Lord, one Faith, one Baptism;

**People: One God and Father of all.**

Celebrant: The Lord be with you.

**People: And also with you.**

Celebrant: Let us pray.

### COLLECT FOR THE DAY

The Lord be with you.

**And also with you.**

Let us pray.

God of new creation, from the womb of earth you raised the Lord of life: may we receive the word of women who braved the soldier's spears and met him in the dawning light; may we live with morning joy that love will never die, through Jesus Christ, the resurrection and the life. **Amen.**

## THE FIRST READING

Acts 10:34-43

Then Peter began to speak to them: “I truly understand that God shows no partiality, but in every people anyone who fears him and practices righteousness is acceptable to him. You know the message he sent to the people of Israel, preaching peace by Jesus Christ—he is Lord of all. That message spread throughout Judea, beginning in Galilee after the baptism that John announced: how God anointed Jesus of Nazareth with the Holy Spirit and with power; how he went about doing good and healing all who were oppressed by the devil, for God was with him. We are witnesses to all that he did both in Judea and in Jerusalem. They put him to death by hanging him on a tree, but God raised him on the third day and allowed him to appear, not to all the people but to us who were chosen by God as witnesses and who ate and drank with him after he rose from the dead. He commanded us to preach to the people and to testify that he is the one ordained by God as judge of the living and the dead. All the prophets testify about him that everyone who believes in him receives forgiveness of sins through his name.”

Reader: The Word of the Lord

People: Thanks be to God.

## THE RESPONSORY

Psalm 118: 1-2, 16-17, 22-23

Optional Descant (Fine)  
Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

§ Priest (or Cantor); All repeat; thereafter: All (Fine)  
Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

Give thanks to the Lord, for he is good, for his mercy endures for ever. Let the house of Israel say, “His mercy endures for ever.” **R.**

“The right hand of the Lord has struck with power; the right hand of the Lord is exalted. I shall not die, but live, and declare the works of the Lord.” **R.**

The stone which the builders rejected has become the cornerstone. By the Lord has this been done; it is wonderful in our eyes. **R.**

## THE SECOND READING

Colossians 3:1-4

So if you have been raised with Christ, seek the things that are above, where Christ is, seated at the right hand of God. Set your minds on the things that are above, not on the things that are on earth, for you have died, and your life is hidden with Christ in God. When Christ who is your life is revealed, then you also will be revealed with him in glory.

Reader: The Word of the Lord

People: Thanks be to God.

## GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

*Celtic Alleluia*



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

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

## THE HOLY GOSPEL

John 20:1-18

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.

Clergy: The Gospel of the Lord.

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

## THE HOMILY

# THE BAPTISM

## CANDIDATES FOR HOLY BAPTISM

CAITLIN REILLY | GREG REILLY | LEDA ANDERSON | JOHN "AUGGIE" LINDSEY  
ABIGAIL MARCH | BECKHAM REILLY | CALLIGAN REILLY |

The Candidates for Holy Baptism will now be presented.

### *Sponsors*

I present Caitlin and Greg Reilly to receive the sacrament of Baptism.

Do you desire to be baptized?

I do.

### *Parents and Grandparents*

I present *N.* to receive the Sacrament of Baptism.

Will you be responsible for seeing that the child you present is brought up in the Christian faith and life?

I will, with God's help.

Will you by your prayers and witness help this child to grow into the full stature of Christ?

I will, with God's help.

Do you renounce Satan and all the spiritual forces of wickedness that rebel against God?

I renounce them.

Do you renounce the evil powers of this world which corrupt and destroy the creatures of God?

I renounce them.

Do you renounce all sinful desires that draw you from the love of God?

I renounce them.

Do you turn to Jesus Christ and accept him as your Savior?

I do.

Do you put your whole trust in his grace and love?

I do.

Do you promise to follow and obey him as your Lord?

I do.

*After all have been presented, the Celebrant addresses the congregation, saying*

Will you who witness these vows do all in your power to support these persons in their life in Christ?

**People: We will.**

Let us join with those who are committing themselves to Christ and renew our own baptismal covenant.

## **THE BAPTISMAL COVENANT**

Do you believe in God the Father?

**I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.**

Do you believe in Jesus Christ, the Son of God?

**I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.**

**He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit and born of the Virgin Mary.**

**He suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried.**

**He descended to the dead.**

**On the third day he rose again.**

**He ascended into heaven, and is seated at the right hand of the Father.**

**He will come again to judge the living and the dead.**

Do you believe in God the Holy Spirit?

**I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy universal Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting.**

Will you continue in the apostles' teaching and fellowship, in the breaking of bread, and in the prayers?

**I will, with God's help.**

Will you persevere in resisting evil, and, whenever you fall into sin, repent and return to the Lord?

**I will, with God's help.**

Will you proclaim by word and example the Good News of God in Christ?

**I will, with God's help.**

Will you seek and serve Christ in all persons, loving your neighbor as yourself?

**I will, with God's help.**

Will you strive for justice and peace among all people, and respect the dignity of every human being?

**I will, with God's help.**

## **PRAYERS FOR THE CANDIDATES**

Let us now pray for these persons who are to receive the Sacrament of new birth.

Deliver them, O Lord, from the way of sin and death.

**Lord, hear our prayer.**

Open their hearts to your grace and truth.

**Lord, hear our prayer.**

Fill them with your holy and life-giving Spirit.

**Lord, hear our prayer.**

Keep them in the faith and communion of your holy Church.

**Lord, hear our prayer.**

Teach them to love others in the power of the Spirit.

**Lord, hear our prayer.**

Send them into the world in witness to your love.

**Lord, hear our prayer.**

Bring them to the fullness of your peace and glory.

**Lord, hear our prayer.**

Grant, O Lord, that all who are baptized into the death of Jesus Christ your Son may live in the power of his resurrection and look for him to come again in glory; who lives and reigns now and forever. **Amen.**

## **THANKSGIVING OVER THE WATER**

The Lord be with you.

**And also with you.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

We thank you, Almighty God, for the gift of water. Over it the Holy Spirit moved in the beginning of creation. Through it you led the children of Israel out of their bondage in Egypt into the land of promise. In it your Son Jesus received the baptism of John and was anointed by the Holy Spirit as the Messiah, the Christ, to lead us, through his death and resurrection, from the bondage of sin into everlasting life.

We thank you, Father, for the water of Baptism. In it we are buried with Christ in his death. By it we share in his resurrection. Through it we are reborn by the Holy Spirit. Therefore in joyful obedience to your Son, we bring into his fellowship those who come to him in faith, baptizing them in the Name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

*The celebrant blesses the water:*

Now sanctify this water, we pray you, by the power of your Holy Spirit, that those who here are cleansed from sin and born again may continue for ever in the risen life of Jesus Christ our Savior. To him, to you, and to the Holy Spirit, be all honor and glory, now and for ever. **Amen.**

## **THE BAPTISM**

I baptize you in the Name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

Let us pray.

Heavenly Father, we thank you that by water and the Holy Spirit you have bestowed upon these your servants the forgiveness of sin, and have raised them to the new life of grace. Sustain them, O Lord, in your Holy Spirit. Give them an inquiring and discerning heart, the courage to will and to persevere, a spirit to know and to love you, and the gift of joy and wonder in all your works. **Amen.**

You are sealed by the Holy Spirit in Baptism and marked as Christ's own for ever. **Amen.**

*When all have been baptized, the Celebrant says:*

Let us welcome the newly baptized.

**We receive you into the household of God. Confess the faith of Christ crucified, proclaim his resurrection, and share with us in his eternal priesthood.**

*(It is now appropriate to applaud and express outwardly your welcome to the baptized!)*

## **HYMN**

#296 We Know That Christ is Raised

## **THE PEACE**

May the Peace of Christ be always with you

**And also with you**

## **WELCOME SONG**

God Welcomes All

God wel - comes all, strang - ers and friends;

God's love is strong and it nev - er ends.

The image shows a musical score for a welcome song. It consists of two systems of music. Each system has a treble clef staff and a bass clef staff. The key signature is one sharp (F#) and the time signature is 4/4. The lyrics are written below the notes. The first system of music has the lyrics "God wel - comes all, strang - ers and friends;". The second system of music has the lyrics "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**

Hallelujah! Resurrection Day!

## DOXOLOGY

Praise God, from whom all blessings  
flow; Praise him, all creatures here below; Praise  
him above, ye heavenly host: Praise  
1, 2. 3. Fine  
Fa - ther, Son, and Ho - ly Ghost, Praise 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

Mass of Renewal

Ho - ly, Ho - ly, Ho - ly Lord God of hosts. Heav-en and  
earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho-san-na in the high - est.  
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.

Therefore we proclaim the mystery of faith.  
**Christ has died; Christ is risen; Christ will come again.**

# THE LORD'S PRAYER

Our Fa-ther who art in hea - ven hal-lowed be thy name; thy king-dom come; thy will  
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  
us not in - to temp-ta - tion, but de-liv - er us from e - vil. For the king-dom, the  
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**

Christ is Risen, He is Risen Indeed!

## **POST-COMMUNION PRAYER**

**Almighty and everliving God, we thank you for feeding us with the spiritual food of the most precious Body and Blood of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ; and for assuring us in these holy mysteries that we are living members of the Body of your Son, and heirs of your eternal kingdom. And now, Father, send us out to do the work you have given us to do, to love and serve you as faithful witnesses of Christ our Lord. To him, to you, and to the Holy Spirit, be honor and glory, now and forever. Amen.**

## **BLESSING**

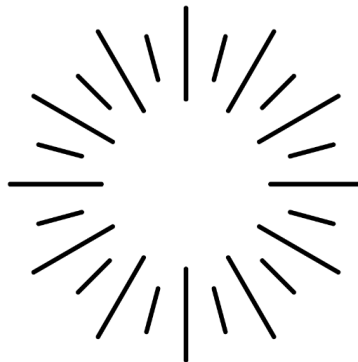
## **PARISH PRAYER CENTER**

## **SENDING**

## **SENDING HYMN**

#175 Hail Thee Festival Day! v. 1-4

*Please join us for Easter fellowship in the parish hall.*



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

**Eucharist Ministers**

Jaki Lake | Lauren Lycan

**Ushers**

Cathy Henneberry | Joy Mewhinney

**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:**

