



SAINT STEPHEN'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH  
HOLY EUCHARIST: RITE II  
SUNDAY, APRIL 14, 2024  
THIRD SUNDAY OF EASTER

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Opening Hymn: *Hymnal 1982 #212 - Awake, arise, lift up your voice (verses 1-3)*

1 A - wake, a - rise, lift up your voice, let  
2 Oh, with what glad - ness and sur - prise the  
3 those hands of lib - eral love in - deed in

1 Eas - ter mu - sic swell; re - joice in Christ, a -  
2 saints their Sa - vior greet; nor will they trust their  
3 in - fi - nite de - gree, those feet still free to

1 gain re - joice and on his prais - es dwell.  
2 ears and eyes but by his hands and feet,  
3 move and bleed for mil - lions and for me.

Words: Christopher Smart (1722-1771), alt. Music: *Richmond*, melody Thomas Haweis (1734-1816); adapt. Samuel Webbe (1740-1816).

*In place of the above, from Easter Day through the Day of Pentecost*

*Celebrant* Alleluia. Christ is risen.

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

*The Celebrant may say*

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.***

*When appointed, the following hymn or some other song of praise is sung or said, all standing*

***Glory to God in the highest,***

***and peace to God's people on earth.***

***Lord God, heavenly King,***

***almighty God and Father,***

***we worship you, we give you thanks,***

***we praise you for your glory.***

***Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father,***

*Lord God, Lamb of God,  
you take away the sin of the world:  
have mercy on us;  
you are seated at the right hand of the Father:  
receive our prayer.  
For you alone are the Holy One,  
you alone are the Lord,  
you alone are the Most High,  
Jesus Christ,  
with the Holy Spirit,  
in the glory of God the Father. Amen.*

### **The Collect of the Day**

*Celebrant* The Lord be with you.

*People* ***And also with you.***

*Celebrant* Let us pray.

O God, whose blessed Son made himself known to his disciples in the breaking of bread: Open the eyes of our faith, that we may behold him in all his redeeming work; who lives and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. ***Amen.*** [The people may be seated for the readings]

### **A Reading from the Acts of the Apostles (3:12 – 19),**

Peter addressed the people, “You Israelites, why do you wonder at this, or why do you stare at us, as though by our own power or piety we had made him walk? The God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob, the God of our ancestors has glorified his servant Jesus, whom you handed over and rejected in the presence of Pilate, though he had decided to release him. But you rejected the Holy and Righteous One and asked to have a murderer given to you, and you killed the Author of life, whom God raised from the dead. To this we are witnesses. And by faith in his name, his name itself has made this man strong, whom you see and know; and the faith that is through Jesus has given him this perfect health in the presence of all of you.

“And now, friends, I know that you acted in ignorance, as did also your rulers. In this way God fulfilled what he had foretold through all the prophets, that his Messiah would suffer. Repent therefore, and turn to God so that your sins may be wiped out.”

*Reader*        *The Word of the Lord*

*People*        *Thanks be to God*

#### **Psalm 4**

1 Answer me when I call, O God, defender of my cause; \*  
    you set me free when I am hard-pressed;  
    have mercy on me and hear my prayer.

2 "You mortals, how long will you dishonor my glory; \*  
    how long will you worship dumb idols  
    and run after false gods?"

3 Know that the Lord does wonders for the faithful; \*  
    when I call upon the Lord, he will hear me.

4 Tremble, then, and do not sin; \*  
    speak to your heart in silence upon your bed.

5 Offer the appointed sacrifices \*  
    and put your trust in the Lord.

6 Many are saying, "Oh, that we might see better times!" \*  
    Lift up the light of your countenance upon us, O Lord.

7 You have put gladness in my heart, \*  
    more than when grain and wine and oil increase.

8 I lie down in peace; at once I fall asleep; \*  
    for only you, Lord, make me dwell in safety.

#### **A Reading from The First Letter John (3:1 – 7),**

See what love the Father has given us, that we should be called children of God; and that is what we are. The reason the world does not know us is that it did not know him. Beloved, we are God's children now; what we will be has not yet been revealed. What we do know is this: when he is revealed, we will be like him, for we will see him as he is. And all who have this hope in him purify themselves, just as he is pure.

Everyone who commits sin is guilty of lawlessness; sin is lawlessness. You know that he was revealed to take away sins, and in him there is no sin. No one who abides in him sins; no one who sins has either seen him or known him. Little children, let no one deceive you. Everyone who does what is right is righteous, just as he is righteous.


*Reader*        *The Word of the Lord*

*People*        *Thanks be to God*

**Sequence Hymn: *My Heart Sings Out #51 - Gentle Jesus, risen Lord***




Gen - tle Je - sus,      ris - en Lord,  
Bring - ing gifts of all we are,      we come to your ta - ble;  
In your bod - y we find life,  
Je - sus Sav - ior,      liv - ing bread!



with our hearts so full of joy,  
gifts of life and love and joy,      we come to your ta - ble.  
life you give for us to share,  
bread of heav - en,      bread of hope,



We come, we come, we come to your ta - ble. We come,



we come, we come to your ta - ble.

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**[Please stand for the proclamation of the Gospel]**

*Priest*        *The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Luke (24:36b - 48)*

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

Jesus himself stood among the disciples and said to them, “Peace be with you.” They were startled and terrified, and thought that they were seeing a ghost. He said to them, “Why are you frightened, and why do doubts arise in your hearts? Look at my hands and my feet; see that it is I myself. Touch me and see; for a ghost does not have flesh and bones as you see that I have.” And when he had said this, he showed them his hands and his feet. While in their joy they were disbelieving and still wondering, he said to them, “Have you anything

here to eat?” They gave him a piece of broiled fish, and he took it and ate in their presence.

Then he said to them, “These are my words that I spoke to you while I was still with you—that everything written about me in the law of Moses, the prophets, and the psalms must be fulfilled.” Then he opened their minds to understand the scriptures, and he said to them, “Thus it is written, that the Messiah is to suffer and to rise from the dead on the third day, and that repentance and forgiveness of sins is to be proclaimed in his name to all nations, beginning from Jerusalem. You are witnesses of these things.

*Reader*        The Gospel of the Lord  
*People*        *Praise to you, Lord Christ*

## Sermon

### **The Nicene Creed [Please stand, as you are able]**

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 – Form III [The people may be seated]**

*The Leader and People pray responsively*

In peace, we pray to you, Lord God.

*Silence*

For all people in their daily life and work;

***For our families, friends, and neighbors, and for those who are alone.***

For this community, the nation, and the world;

***For all who work for justice, freedom, and peace.***

For the just and proper use of your creation;

***For the victims of hunger, fear, injustice, and oppression.***

For all who are in danger, sorrow, or any kind of trouble;

***For those who minister to the sick, the friendless, and the needy.***

For the peace and unity of the Church of God;

***For all who proclaim the Gospel, and all who seek the Truth.***

For Michael our Presiding Bishop, and Martyr our Bishop; and for all bishops and other ministers;

***For all who serve God in his Church.***

For the special needs and concerns of this congregation.

*Silence*

*The People may add their own petitions.*

On the Anglican Cycle of Prayers, we pray for The Anglican Church in Aotearoa, New Zealand and Polynesia.

On the Diocesan Cycle of Prayer, we pray for St. Andrews, Polson. We also pray for Camp Marshall.

Within our parish family, we pray for Candace, Danielle, Doug, Jari, Jennie, Jerry, Justin, Laura, Libby, Maddie, Michael, Nancy, and Richard. We also pray for our hosts and partners - the staff and community members of Saint John's United.

*A Collect for Regular Use during Sunday Worship by Congregations in Discernment*

Blessed God, you make all things new: Guide us as we seek your will for a new community of Word and Sacrament, that it may be leaven for the world's bread, and wine of delight for hearts in need; a gathering strong for service and glad in praise; and a people listening and responding to your presence in their midst; through Jesus our Redeemer and steadfast companion. **Amen.**

Hear us, Lord;

***For your mercy is great.***

We thank you, Lord, for all the blessings of this life.

*Silence*

*The People may add their own thanksgivings*

We will exalt you, O God our King;

***And praise your Name for ever and ever.***

We pray for all who have died, that they may have a place in your eternal kingdom.

*Silence*

*The People may add their own petitions*

Lord, let your loving-kindness be upon them;

***Who put their trust in you.***

*The Celebrant adds a concluding Collect.*

O Lord our God, accept the fervent prayers of your people; in the multitude of your mercies, look with compassion upon us and all who turn to you for help; for you are gracious, O lover of souls, and to you we give glory, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, now and for ever. *Amen.*

### **The Peace**

*All stand. The Celebrant says to the people* **[Please stand, as you are able]**

The peace of the Lord be always with you.

*People*      ***And also with you.***

### **Offertory Sentences**

Ascribe to the Lord the honor due His Name; bring offerings and come into His courts.

Walk in love, as Christ loved us and gave Himself for us, an offering and sacrifice to God. *Psalm*

*96:8, Ephesians 5:2*



## Offertory Hymn: *Lift Every Voice and Sing* #41 - Christ Has Arisen (sung twice through)

Christ has a - ris - en, Al - le - lu - ia. Re - joice and  
 praise Him, Al - le - lu - ia. For our Re - deem - er burst from the  
 tomb, E - ven from death dis - pel - ling its gloom. Let us sing praise to Him  
 with end - less joy. Death's fear - ful sting He has come to de - stroy, Our sin for -  
 giv - ing, Al - le - lu - ia. Je - sus is liv - ing, Al - le - lu - ia.

Words: Swahili Text; tr. Howard Olson. Music: Haya Tune; *Tumshagilie Mungu*, Makumira, Tanzania; harm. Carl Haywood (b. 1949), from *Songs of Praise*. Copyright © 1992. Words and Music Reprinted from Lead Us Lord by Howard S. Olson, Copyright © 1974 Augsburg Publishing House. Used by permission of Augsburg Fortress.

## Anthem

Praise God, from whom all bless - ings flow; praise  
 him, all crea - tures here be - low; praise him a - bove, ye  
 heaven - ly host: praise Fa - ther, Son, and Ho - ly Ghost.

Words: Isaac Watts (1674-1748), para. of Psalm 117. St. 3, Thomas Ken (1637-1711)  
 Music: *Old 100th*, melody from *Pseaumes octante trois de David*, 1551, alt.; harm. after Louis Bourgeois (1510?-1561?)

## HOLY COMMUNION - Eucharistic Prayer D [Please stand, as you are able]

*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.***

It is truly right to glorify you, Father, and to give you thanks; for you alone are God, living and true, dwelling in light inaccessible from before time and for ever.

Fountain of life and source of all goodness, you made all things and fill them with your blessing; you created them to rejoice in the splendor of your radiance.

Countless throngs of angels stand before you to serve you night and day; and, beholding the glory of your presence, they offer you unceasing praise. Joining with them, and giving voice to every creature under heaven, we acclaim you, and glorify your Name, as we sing,

*Celebrant and People*

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow-er and  
might, hea - ven 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.\_\_\_\_\_

*Then the Celebrant continues*

We acclaim you, holy Lord, glorious in power. Your mighty works reveal your wisdom and love. You formed us in your own image, giving the whole world into our care, so that, in obedience to you, our Creator, we might rule and serve all your creatures. When our disobedience took us far from you, you did not abandon us to the power of death. In your mercy you came to our help, so that in seeking you we might find you. Again and again, you called us into covenant with you, and through the prophets you taught us to hope for salvation.

Father, you loved the world so much that in the fullness of time you sent your only Son to be our Savior. Incarnate by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, He lived as one of us, yet without sin. To the poor He proclaimed the good news of salvation; to prisoners, freedom; to the sorrowful, joy. To fulfill your purpose, He gave himself up to death; and, rising from the grave, destroyed death, and made the whole creation new.

And, that we might live no longer for ourselves, but for Him who died and rose for us, He sent the Holy Spirit, His own first gift for those who believe, to complete his work in the world, and to bring to fulfillment the sanctification of all.

When the hour had come for Him to be glorified by you, His heavenly Father, having loved His own who were in the world, He loved them to the end; at supper with them He 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."

Father, we now celebrate this memorial of our redemption. Recalling Christ's death and His descent among the dead, proclaiming His resurrection and ascension to your right hand, awaiting His coming in glory; and offering to you, from the gifts you have given us, this bread and this cup, we praise you and we bless you.

*Celebrant and People*

***We praise you, we bless you,  
we give thanks to you,  
and we pray to you, Lord our God.***

*The Celebrant continues*

Lord, we pray that in your goodness and mercy your Holy Spirit may descend upon us, and upon these gifts, sanctifying them and showing them to be holy gifts for your holy people, the bread of life and the cup of salvation, the Body and Blood of your Son Jesus Christ.

Grant that all who share this bread and cup may become one body and one spirit, a living sacrifice in Christ, to the praise of your Name.

Remember, Lord, your one holy catholic and apostolic Church, redeemed by the blood of your Christ. Reveal its unity, guard its faith, and preserve it in peace.

And grant that we may find our inheritance with the Blessed Virgin Mary, with patriarchs, prophets, apostles, and martyrs, and all the saints who have found favor with you in ages past. We praise you in union with them and give you glory through your Son Jesus Christ our Lord.

Through Christ, and with Christ, and in Christ, all honor and glory are yours, Almighty God and Father, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, for ever and ever. **AMEN.**

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

*Officiant and People*

***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

*This setting is not used in Lent.*

Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.  
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 then says*

The Gifts of God for the People of God. Take them in remembrance that Christ died for you, and feed on Him in your hearts by faith, with thanksgiving.

***All are welcome at the Lord's Table.***

*Communion in one kind (the bread or the wine) is just as valid as communion in both kinds.  
If you would like to receive a blessing instead of receiving communion, simply come forward with your arms crossed.*

*After Communion, the Celebrant says*

Let us pray.

**Post-Communion Prayer [People may stand or kneel]**

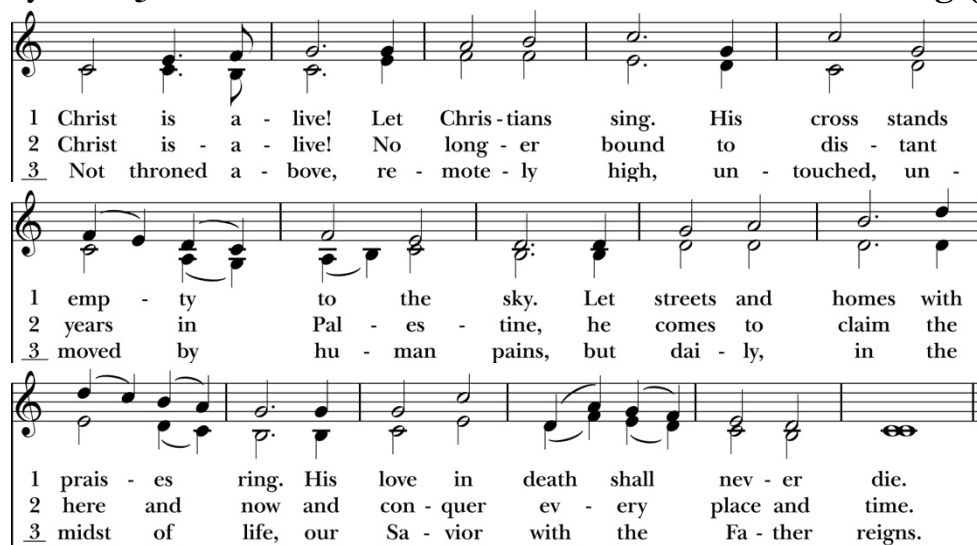
***Almighty and everliving God,  
we thank you for feeding us with the spiritual food  
of the most precious Body and Blood  
of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ;  
and for assuring us in these holy mysteries  
that we are living members of the Body of your Son,  
and heirs of your eternal kingdom.  
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 for ever. Amen.***

**Blessing**

The peace of God, which passeth all understanding, keep your hearts and minds in the knowledge and love of God, and of his Son Jesus Christ our Lord; and the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Ghost, be amongst you, and remain with you always. ***Amen.***

**Announcements**

## Recessional Hymn: *Hymnal 1982 #182 - Christ is alive! Let Christians sing (verses 1-3)*



The image shows a musical score for a hymn. It consists of three systems of music, each with a vocal line and a piano accompaniment line. The lyrics are written below the vocal lines. The first system contains the first three lines of the hymn. The second system contains the next three lines. The third system contains the final three lines. The music is written in a treble clef with a key signature of one flat (B-flat). The tempo and mood are indicated as 'Celebrant' and 'Thanks be to God'.

1 Christ is a - live! Let Chris - tians sing. His cross stands  
2 Christ is - a - live! No long - er bound to dis - tant  
3 Not throned a - bove, re - mote - ly high, un - touched, un -

1 emp - ty to the sky. Let streets and homes with  
2 years in Pal - es - tine, he comes to claim the  
3 moved by hu - man pains, but dai - ly, in the

1 prais - es ring. His love in death shall nev - er die.  
2 here and now and con - quer ev - ery place and time.  
3 midst of life, our Sa - vior with the Fa - ther reigns.

Words: Brian A. Wren (b. 1936), rev. Copyright © 1975 by Hope Publishing Company, Carol Stream, IL 60188. All Rights Reserved. Used by permission. Music: *Truro*, melody from *Psalmody Evangelica, Part II*, 1789; harm. Lowell Mason (1792-1872), alt.

*Celebrant*  
*People*

Let us go forth into the world, rejoicing in the power of the Spirit.  
*Thanks be to God.*

## Alleluia! The Lord is Risen!

We are now in the Easter Season. During this time of new life and new opportunities, we are called on to reflect on the mission of the Church. At the same time, we are also in a key time of transition as the people of St. Stephen's. As we continue to live into our new realities as a community of faith, we are called on to reflect on who we want to be as a worshipping community. The question we now face is, what do we want to do and be? We are called on **to be a mission-minded or missional people** as followers of Christ. So, the question for all of us is what sort of ministries do we want to be involved with?

Each year the Episcopal Church asks congregations about the Outreach Ministries and Volunteer Activities they are involved in. Here are some of those they list:

- Food pantry, soup kitchen, or meal projects
- Sustainable food garden/cooperative
- Day care, preschool, before- or after-school programs
- Tutoring or literacy programs
- Health programs (parish nurse, clinics, health education, etc.)
- Community organizing, organized social issue advocacy
- Job placement, job training, employment counseling
- Building projects (such as Habitat for Humanity)
- Support groups (bereavement, divorce, job loss, 12-step, etc.)
- Programs for the elderly and homebound persons
- Clothes closet, thrift store
- Homeless or no-freeze shelter
- Overseas sponsorships, microloans, Heifer Project, Haiti relief
- Refugee resettlement

On Easter Sunday, I began asking those in attendance to think about what they want us to be involved in.

**We continue to need your input.** Please feel free to share it with me or through one of the following means.

Lovingly yours in Christ,  
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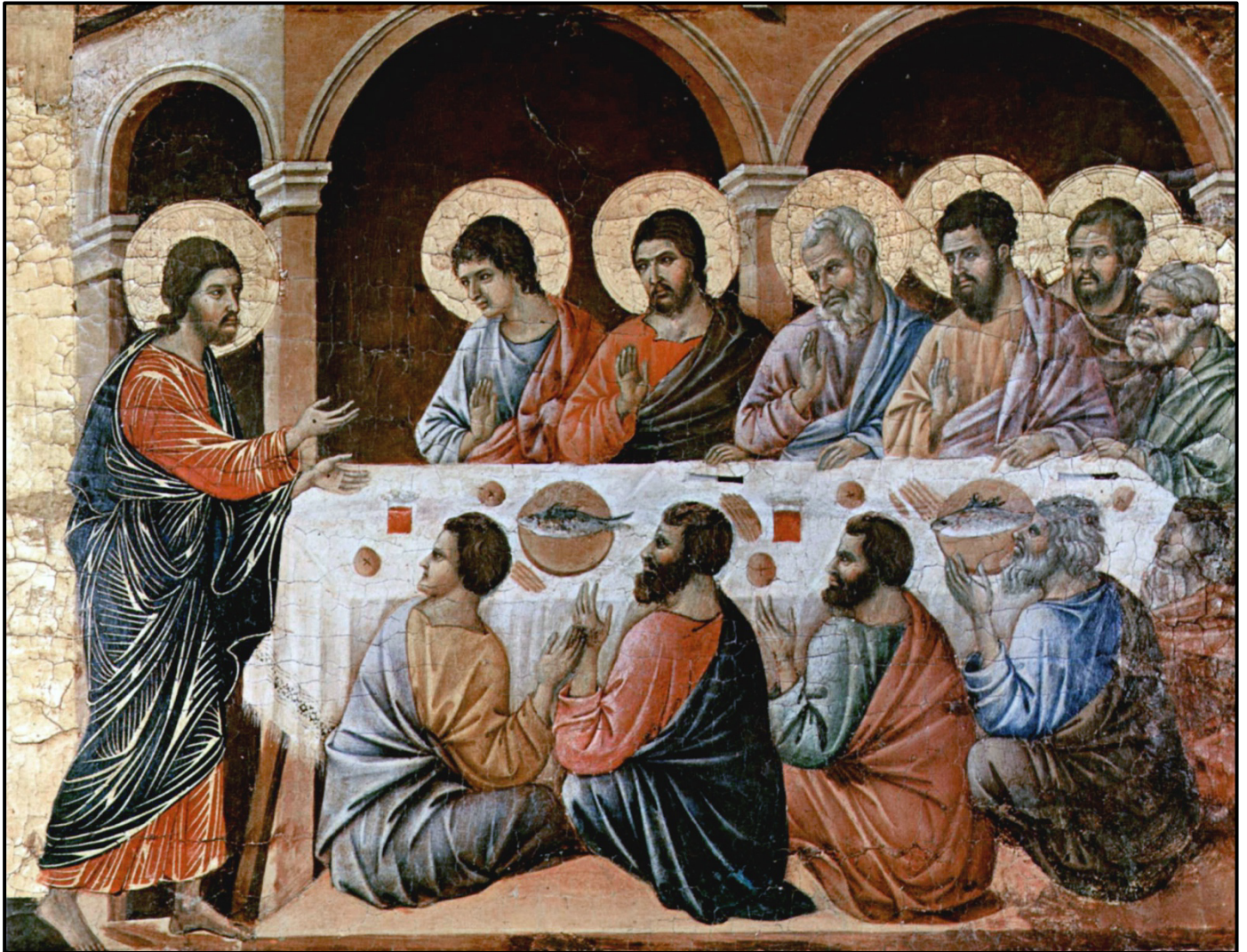
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*“Christ Appears to the Disciples at the Table after the Resurrection” by Duccio di Buoninsegna, 1308-1311*

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