



SAINT STEPHEN'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH  
MORNING PRAYER: RITE II  
SUNDAY, MAY 11, 2025  
THE FOURTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

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Opening Hymn: *Hymnal 1982 #366 - Holy God we praise thy Name (verses 1-3)*

1 Ho - ly God, we praise thy Name, Lord of all, we bow be - fore thee;  
2 Hark, the loud ce - les - tial hymn an - gel choirs a - bove are rais - ing;  
3 Lo, the a - po - sto - lic train join, thy sa - cred Name to hal - low;

1 all on earth thy scep - ter claim, all in heaven a - bove a - dore thee;  
2 cher - u - bim and ser - a - phim, in un - ceas - ing cho - rus prais - ing,  
3 pro-phets swell the loud re - frain, and the white-robed mar - tyrs fol - low;

1 in - fi - nite thy vast do - main, ev - er - last - ing is thy reign.  
2 fill the heavens with sweet ac - cord: ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord!  
3 and, from morn till set of sun, through the Church the song goes on.

Words: Para. the *Te Deum*, Sts. 1-4, Ignaz Franz (1719-1790), tr. Clarence Walworth (1820-1900). Sts. 5-7, F. Bland Tucker (1895-1984). Copyright © The Church Pension Fund. Music: *Grosser Gott*, melody from *Katholisches Gesangbuch*, 1686; alt. *Cantante*, 1851; harm. Charles Winfred Douglas (1867-1944), after Conrad Kocher (1786-1872). Harmonization Copyright © by The Church Pension Fund.

*The officiant begins*

Alleluia! Christ is risen.

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

You shall receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you; and you shall be my witnesses in Jerusalem, and in all Judea, and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth. *Acts 1:8*

## The Invitatory and Psalter

*All stand*

*Officiant*      Lord, open our lips.

*People*      *And our mouth shall proclaim your praise.*

*Officiant and People*

***Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit: as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be for ever. Amen.***

### **Jubilate Psalm 100**

***Be joyful in the Lord, all you lands;  
serve the Lord with gladness  
and come before his presence with a song.***

***Know this: The Lord himself is God;  
he himself has made us, and we are his;  
we are his people and the sheep of his pasture.***

***Enter his gates with thanksgiving;  
go into his courts with praise;  
give thanks to him and call upon his Name.***

***For the Lord is good;  
his mercy is everlasting;  
and his faithfulness endures from age to age.***

### **Psalm 23**

1 The Lord is my shepherd; \*  
I shall not be in want.

2 He makes me lie down in green pastures \*  
and leads me beside still waters.

3 He revives my soul \*  
and guides me along right pathways for his Name's sake.

4 Though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I shall fear no evil; \*  
for you are with me;  
your rod and your staff, they comfort me.

5 You spread a table before me in the presence of those who trouble me; \*  
you have anointed my head with oil,  
and my cup is running over.

6 Surely your goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life, \*  
and I will dwell in the house of the Lord for ever.

*At the end of the Psalms is sung or said*

***Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit:  
as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be for ever. Amen.***

**[The people may be seated for the readings]**

## **The Word of God**

### **A Reading from the Second Book of Acts (9:36 – 43),**

Now in Joppa there was a disciple whose name was Tabitha, which in Greek is Dorcas. She was devoted to good works and acts of charity. At that time she became ill and died. When they had washed her, they laid her in a room upstairs. Since Lydda was near Joppa, the disciples, who heard that Peter was there, sent two men to him with the request, "Please come to us without delay." So Peter got up and went with them; and when he arrived, they took him to the room upstairs. All the widows stood beside him, weeping and showing tunics and other clothing that Dorcas had made while she was with them. Peter put all of them outside, and then he knelt down and prayed. He turned to the body and said, "Tabitha, get up." Then she opened her eyes, and seeing Peter, she sat up. He gave her his hand and helped her up. Then calling the saints and widows, he showed her to be alive. This became known throughout Joppa, and many believed in the Lord. Meanwhile he stayed in Joppa for some time with a certain Simon, a tanner.

*Reader*            **The Word of the Lord**

*People*            ***Thanks be to God***

## **Canticle 11 - The Third Song of Isaiah**

Arise, shine, for your light has come,  
and the glory of the Lord has dawned upon you.  
For behold, darkness covers the land;  
deep gloom enshrouds the peoples.  
But over you the Lord will rise,  
and his glory will appear upon you.  
Nations will stream to your light,  
and kings to the brightness of your dawning.  
Your gates will always be open;  
by day or night they will never be shut.

They will call you, The City of the Lord,  
The Zion of the Holy One of Israel.  
Violence will no more be heard in your land,  
ruin or destruction within your borders.  
You will call your walls, Salvation,  
and all your portals, Praise.  
The sun will no more be your light by day;  
by night you will not need the brightness of the moon.  
The Lord will be your everlasting light,  
and your God will be your glory.

***Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit:  
as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be for ever. Amen.***

**A Reading from the Book of Revelation (7:9 – 17),**

I looked, and there was a great multitude that no one could count, from every nation, from all tribes and peoples and languages, standing before the throne and before the Lamb, robed in white, with palm branches in their hands. They cried out in a loud voice, saying,

“Salvation belongs to our God who is seated on the throne, and to the Lamb!”

And all the angels stood around the throne and around the elders and the four living creatures, and they fell on their faces before the throne and worshiped God, singing,

“Amen! Blessing and glory and wisdom  
and thanksgiving and honor  
and power and might  
be to our God forever and ever!  
Amen.”

Then one of the elders addressed me, saying, "Who are these, robed in white, and where have they come from?" I said to him, "Sir, you are the one that knows." Then he said to me, "These are they who have come out of the great ordeal; they have washed their robes and made them white in the blood of the Lamb.


For this reason, they are before the throne of God,  
and worship him day and night within his temple,  
and the one who is seated on the throne will shelter them.

They will hunger no more, and thirst no more;  
the sun will not strike them,  
nor any scorching heat;  
for the Lamb at the center of the throne will be their shepherd,  
and he will guide them to springs of the water of life,  
and God will wipe away every tear from their eyes."

*Reader*           The Word of the Lord

*People*           *Thanks be to God*

### Sequence Hymn: *Hymnal 1982 #184 - Christ the Lord is risen again!*



1 Christ the Lord is risen a - gain!      Christ has bro - ken ev - ery chain!  
2 He who gave for us his life,      who for us en - dured the strife,  
3 He who bore all pain and loss      com - fort - less up - on the cross

Now through all the world it rings      that the Lamb is King of kings.  
takes our sin and guilt a - way      that with an - gels we may say:  
is ex - alt - ed now to save,      wrest - ing vic - tory from the grave.

*Refrain*

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

al - le - lu - ia!      Christ, our Pas - chal Lamb in - deed,

Christ, to - day your peo - ple feed.      Al - le - lu - ia!

Words: Michael Weisse (1480-1534); tr. Catherine Winkworth (1827-1878), alt. Music: *Christ ist erstanden*, melody from *Geistliche Lieder*, 1533; harm. after Hans Leo Hassler (1564-1612).

### A Reading from the Gospel of John (10:22 – 30),

At that time the festival of the Dedication took place in Jerusalem. It was winter, and Jesus was walking in the temple, in the portico of Solomon. So the Jews gathered around him and said to him, "How long will you keep us in suspense? If you are the Messiah, tell us plainly." Jesus answered, "I have told you, and you do not believe. The works that I do in my Father's name testify to me; but you do not believe, because you do not belong to my sheep. My sheep hear my voice. I know them, and they follow me. I give them eternal life,

and they will never perish. No one will snatch them out of my hand. What my Father has given me is greater than all else, and no one can snatch it out of the Father's hand. The Father and I are one."

*Reader*           The Word of the Lord

*People*           *Thanks be to God*

## Silent Reflection

**The Apostles' Creed** [Please stand, as you are able]

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

*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.*

*I believe in the Holy Spirit,*

*the holy catholic Church,*

*the communion of saints,*

*the forgiveness of sins,*

*the resurrection of the body,*

*and the life everlasting. Amen.*

## The Prayers

*The people stand or kneel*

*Officiant*       The Lord be with you.

*People*           *And also with you.*

*Officiant*       Let us pray.

*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 Prayers of the People – Form IV [The people may be seated]**

*Deacon or other leader*

Let us pray for the Church and for the world.

Grant, Almighty God, that all who confess your Name may be united in your truth, live together in your love, and reveal your glory in the world.

*Silence*

Lord, in your mercy

***Hear our prayer.***

Guide the people of this land, and of all the nations, in the ways of justice and peace; that we may honor one another and serve the common good.

*Silence*

Lord, in your mercy

***Hear our prayer.***

Give us all a reverence for the earth as your own creation, that we may use its resources rightly in the service of others and to your honor and glory.

*Silence*

Lord, in your mercy

***Hear our prayer.***

Bless all whose lives are closely linked with ours, and grant that we may serve Christ in them, and love one another as he loves us.

On the Anglican Cycle of Prayer, we pray for The Anglican Church in Japan (The Nippon Sei Ko Kai).

In the Diocese of Montana, we pray for St. Peter's Cathedral, Helena. We also pray for Camp Marshall.

In the Saint Stephen's community, we pray for Peggy Fry and the Gerstners.

*Silence*

Lord, in your mercy

***Hear our prayer.***

Comfort and heal all those who suffer in body, mind, or spirit; give them courage and hope in their troubles, and bring them the joy of your salvation.

*Silence*

Within our parish family, we pray for Brian, Carolyn, Christi, Danielle, Darlene, Donna, Ellie, Joe, Justin, Katie, Laura, and Libby. We also pray for our hosts and partners - the staff and community members of Saint John's United.

*Silence*

Lord, in your mercy

***Hear our prayer.***

We commend to your mercy all who have died, that your will for them may be fulfilled; and we pray that we may share with all your saints in your eternal kingdom.

*Silence*

Lord, in your mercy

***Hear our prayer.***

*The officiant 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.***

## Offertory Hymn: *Hymnal 1982 #209 - We walk by faith, and not by sight*

1 We walk by faith, and not by sight; no  
 2 We may not touch his hands and side, nor  
 3 Help then, O Lord, our un - be - lief; and  
 4 that, when our life of faith is done, in

gra - cious words we hear from him who spoke as  
 fol - low where he trod; but in his prom - ise  
 may our faith a - bound, to call on you when  
 realms of clear - er light we may be - hold you

none e'er spoke; but we be - lieve him near.  
 we re - joice, and cry, "My Lord and God!"  
 you are near, and seek where you are found:  
 as you are, with full and end - less sight.

Words: Henry Alford (1810-1871), alt. Music: *St. Botolph*, Gordon Slater (1896-1979). By permission of Oxford University Press.

### *Collect of the Day*

O God, whose Son Jesus is the good shepherd of your people: Grant that when we hear His voice we may know Him who calls us each by name, and follow where He leads; who, with you and the Holy Spirit, lives and reigns, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

### *Collect for Sundays*

O God, you make us glad with the weekly remembrance of the glorious resurrection of your Son our Lord: Give us this day such blessing through our worship of you, that the week to come may be spent in your favor; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

### *A Collect for Peace*

O God, the author of peace and lover of concord, to know you is eternal life and to serve you is perfect freedom: Defend us, your humble servants, in all assaults of our enemies; that we, surely trusting in your defense, may not fear the power of any adversaries; through the might of Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

*Prayer for Times of Conflict*

O God, you have bound us together in a common life. Help us, in the midst of our struggles for justice and truth, to confront one another without hatred or bitterness, and to work together with mutual forbearance and respect; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

*Prayer for Mission*

O God, you have made of one blood all the peoples of the earth, and sent your blessed Son to preach peace to those who are far off and to those who are near: Grant that people everywhere may seek after you and find you; bring the nations into your fold; pour out your Spirit upon all flesh; and hasten the coming of your kingdom; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

**The Peace**

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

The peace of the Lord be always with you.

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

**Announcements**

**The General Thanksgiving**

*Officiant and People*

*Almighty God, Father of all mercies,  
we your unworthy servants give you humble thanks  
for all your goodness and loving-kindness  
to us and to all whom you have made.  
We bless you for our creation, preservation,  
and all the blessings of this life;  
but above all for your immeasurable love  
in the redemption of the world by our Lord Jesus Christ;  
for the means of grace, and for the hope of glory.  
And, we pray, give us such an awareness of your mercies,  
that with truly thankful hearts we may show forth your praise,  
not only with our lips, but in our lives,  
by giving up our selves to your service,  
and by walking before you  
in holiness and righteousness all our days;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord,  
to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit,  
be honor and glory throughout all ages. Amen.*

*A Prayer of St. Chrysostom*

**Almighty God, you have given us grace at this time with one accord to make our common supplication to you; and you have promised through your well-beloved Son that when two or three are gathered together in his Name you will be in the midst of them: Fulfill now, O Lord, our desires and petitions as may be best for us; granting us in this world knowledge of your truth, and in the age to come life everlasting. Amen.**

*Then may be said*

*Officiant*      Let us bless the Lord.

*People*          **Thanks be to God.**

*The Officiant concludes with the following*

Glory to God whose power, working in us, can do infinitely more than we can ask or imagine: Glory to him from generation to generation in the Church, and in Christ Jesus for ever and ever. **Amen.** *Ephesians 3:20, 21*

**Recessional Hymn: Hymnal 1982 #205 - Good Christians all, rejoice and sing! (verses 1-3)**

1 Good Chris - tians all, re - joice and sing! Now is the  
\*2 The Lord of life is risen to - day! Sing songs of  
3 Praise we in songs of vic - to - ry that love, that

1 tri - umph of our King! To all the world glad news we bring:  
2 praise a - long his way; let all the earth re - joice and say:  
3 life which can - not die, and sing with hearts up - lift - ed high:

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

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

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

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*"The good shepherd" by JESUS MAFA, 1973*



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