



SAINT STEPHEN'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH  
HOLY EUCHARIST: RITE II  
SUNDAY, MAY 18, 2025  
THE FIFTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

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Opening Hymn: *Hymnal 1982 #487 - Come, my Way, my Truth, my Life*

1 Come, my Way, my Truth, my Life: such a  
2 Come, my Light, my Feast, my Strength: such a  
3 Come, my Joy, my Love, my Heart: such a

way as gives us breath; such a truth as ends all  
light as shows a feast; such a feast as mends in  
joy as none can move; such a love as none can

strife; such a life as kill - eth death.  
length; such a strength as makes his guest.  
part; such a heart as joys in love.

Words: George Herbert (1593-1633). Music: *The Call*, Ralph Vaughan Williams (1872-1958).

*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 his 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.

Almighty God, whom truly to know is everlasting life: Grant us so perfectly to know your Son Jesus Christ to be the way, the truth, and the life, that we may steadfastly follow His steps in the way that leads to eternal life; through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord, who lives and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. ***Amen.*** [The people may be seated for the readings]

### **A Reading from the Acts of the Apostles (11:1 – 18),**

Now the apostles and the believers who were in Judea heard that the Gentiles had also accepted the word of God. So, when Peter went up to Jerusalem, the circumcised believers criticized him, saying, "Why did you go to uncircumcised men and eat with them?" Then Peter began to explain it to them, step by step, saying, "I was in the city of Joppa praying, and in a trance I saw a vision. There was something like a large sheet coming down from heaven, being lowered by its four corners; and it came close to me. As I looked at it closely I saw four-footed animals, beasts of prey, reptiles, and birds of the air. I also heard a voice saying to me, 'Get up, Peter; kill and eat.' But I replied, 'By no means, Lord; for nothing profane or unclean has ever entered my mouth.' But a second time the voice answered from heaven, 'What God has made clean, you must not call profane.' This happened three times; then everything was pulled up again to heaven. At that very moment three men, sent to me from Caesarea, arrived at the house where we were. The Spirit told me to go with them and not to make a distinction between them and us. These six brothers also accompanied me, and we entered the man's house. He told us how he had seen the angel

standing in his house and saying, 'Send to Joppa and bring Simon, who is called Peter; he will give you a message by which you and your entire household will be saved.' And as I began to speak, the Holy Spirit fell upon them just as it had upon us at the beginning. And I remembered the word of the Lord, how he had said, 'John baptized with water, but you will be baptized with the Holy Spirit.' If then God gave them the same gift that he gave us when we believed in the Lord Jesus Christ, who was I that I could hinder God?" When they heard this, they were silenced. And they praised God, saying, "Then God has given even to the Gentiles the repentance that leads to life."

*Reader*            *The Word of the Lord*

*People*            *Thanks be to God*

### **Psalm 148**

1 Hallelujah!

Praise the Lord from the heavens; \*  
praise him in the heights.

2 Praise him, all you angels of his; \*  
praise him, all his host.

3 Praise him, sun and moon; \*  
praise him, all you shining stars.

4 Praise him, heaven of heavens, \*  
and you waters above the heavens.

5 Let them praise the Name of the Lord; \*  
for he commanded, and they were created.

6 He made them stand fast for ever and ever; \*  
he gave them a law which shall not pass away.

7 Praise the Lord from the earth, \*  
you sea-monsters and all deeps;

8 Fire and hail, snow and fog, \*  
tempestuous wind, doing his will;

9 Mountains and all hills, \*  
fruit trees and all cedars;

10 Wild beasts and all cattle, \*  
creeping things and winged birds;

11 Kings of the earth and all peoples, \*  
princes and all rulers of the world;

12 Young men and maidens, \*  
old and young together.

13 Let them praise the Name of the Lord, \*  
for his Name only is exalted,  
his splendor is over earth and heaven.

14 He has raised up strength for his people  
and praise for all his loyal servants, \*  
the children of Israel, a people who are near him.  
Hallelujah!

**A Reading from the Book of Revelation (21:1 – 6),**

I saw a new heaven and a new earth; for the first heaven and the first earth had passed away, and the sea was no more. And I saw the holy city, the new Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God, prepared as a bride adorned for her husband. And I heard a loud voice from the throne saying,

"See, the home of God is among mortals.  
He will dwell with them as their God;  
they will be his peoples,  
and God himself will be with them;  
he will wipe every tear from their eyes.  
Death will be no more;  
mourning and crying and pain will be no more,  
for the first things have passed away."

And the one who was seated on the throne said, "See, I am making all things new." Also he said, "Write this, for these words are trustworthy and true." Then he said to me, "It is

done! I am the Alpha and the Omega, the beginning and the end. To the thirsty I will give water as a gift from the spring of the water of life."

*Reader*            The Word of the Lord

*People*            Thanks be to God

**Sequence Hymn: *Hymnal 1982* #657 - Love divine, all loves excelling**

1 Love di - vine, all loves ex - cell - ing, joy of heaven, to  
 2 Come, al - might - y to de - liv - er, let us all thy  
 3 Fi - nish then thy new cre - a - tion; pure and spot - less

earth come down, fix in us thy hum - ble dwell - ing, all thy  
 life re - ceive; sud - den - ly re - turn, and nev - er, nev - er -  
 let us be; let us see thy great sal - va - tion per - fect -

faith - ful mer - cies crown. Je - sus, thou art all com - pas - sion,  
 more thy tem - ples leave. Thee we would be al - way bless - ing,  
 ly re - stored in thee: changed from glo - ry in - to glo - ry,

pure, un - bound - ed love thou art; vis - it us with  
 serve thee as thy hosts a - bove, pray, and praise thee  
 till in heaven we take our place, till we cast our

thy sal - va - tion, en - ter ev - ery trem - bling heart.  
 with - out ceas - ing, glo - ry in thy per - fect love.  
 crowns be - fore thee, lost in won - der, love, and praise.

Words: Charles Wesley (1707-1788). Music: *Hyfrydol*, Rowland Hugh Prichard (1811-1887).

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

*Priest*            The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to John (13:31 - 35)  
*People*            ***Glory to you, Lord Christ.***

At the last supper, when Judas had gone out, Jesus said, "Now the Son of Man has been glorified, and God has been glorified in him. If God has been glorified in him, God will also glorify him in himself and will glorify him at once. Little children, I am with you only a little longer. You will look for me; and as I said to the Jews so now I say to you, 'Where I am going, you cannot come.' I give you a new commandment, that you love one another. Just as I have loved you, you also should love one another. By this everyone will know that you are my disciples, if you have love for one another."

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

## Sermon

**The Nicene Creed** (from *Enriching Our Worship*) **[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,  
was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the Virgin Mary  
and became truly human.***

***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,  
who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified,  
who 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 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 Episcopal Church in Jerusalem & The Middle East.

In the Diocese of Montana, we pray for Togendowagan Society, St. Peter's Cathedral and Darcy O'Dell, Leader. We also pray for Camp Marshall.

In the Saint Stephen's community, we pray for the Grandahls and the Hahns.

*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, 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*

*Prayer In 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*** (*Book of Common Prayer* pg. 824)

Lord, in your mercy

**Hear our prayer.**

*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*

If you need or prefer a gluten-free communion wafer, please let the usher or reader know at this time.

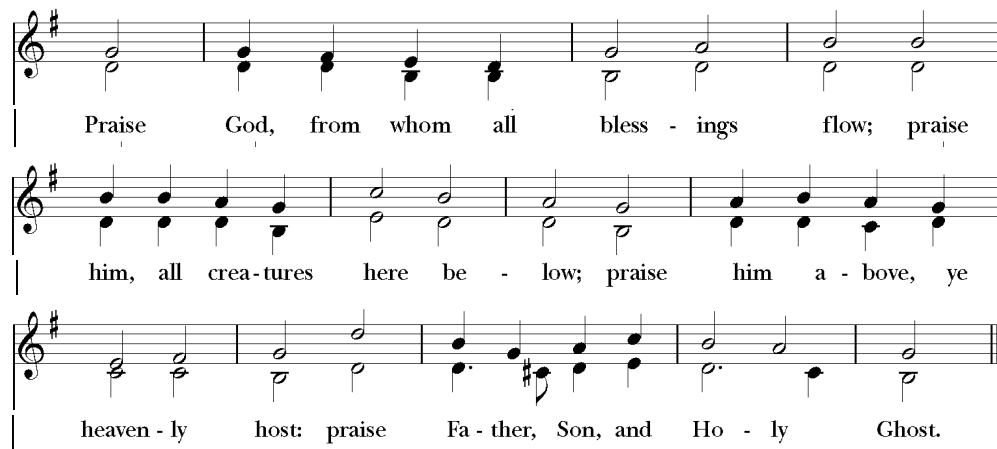
## Offertory Hymn: *Hymnal 1982* #457 - 'Thou art the Way, to thee alone

1 Thou art the Way, to thee a - lone from sin and death we flee;  
2 Thou art the Truth, thy word a - lone true wis - dom can im - part;  
3 Thou art the Life, the rend - ing tomb pro - claims thy con - quering arm;  
4 Thou art the Way, the Truth, the Life: grant us that way to know,

and all who would the Fa - ther seek, must seek him, Lord, by thee.  
thou on - ly canst in - form the mind and pu - ri - fy the heart.  
and those who put their trust in thee nor death nor hell shall harm.  
that truth to keep, that life to win, whose joys e - ter - nal flow.

Words: George Washington Doane (1799-1859), alt. Music: *St. James*, Raphael Courteville (d. 1735).

## 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 *Pseumes octante trois de David*, 1551, alt.; harm. after Louis Bourgeois (1510?-1561?)

## HOLY COMMUNION - Eucharistic Prayer A [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.***

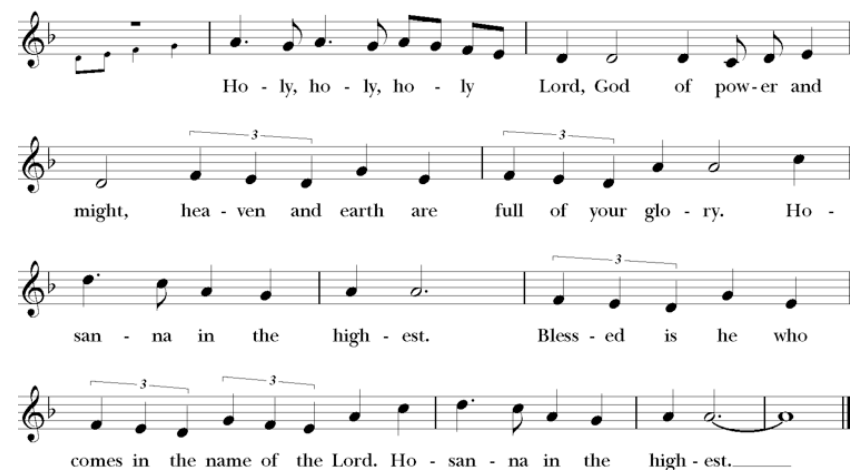
*Celebrant* Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

*People* ***It is right to give God thanks and praise.***

It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth. But chiefly are we bound to praise you for the glorious resurrection of your Son Jesus Christ our Lord; for He is the true Paschal Lamb, who was sacrificed for us, and has taken away the sin of the world. By His death He has destroyed death, and by His rising to life again He has won for us everlasting life.

Therefore, we praise you, joining our voices with Angels and Archangels and with all the company of heaven, who forever sing this hymn to proclaim the glory of your Name:

*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*

Holy and gracious Father: In your infinite love you made us for yourself; and, when we had fallen into sin and become subject to evil and death, you, in your mercy, sent Jesus Christ, your only and eternal Son, to share our human nature, to live and die as one of us, to reconcile us to you, the God and Father of all.

He stretched out His arms upon the cross, and offered Himself, in obedience to your will, a perfect sacrifice for the whole world.

On the night He was handed over to suffering and death, 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, we proclaim the mystery of faith:

*Celebrant and People*

***Christ has died.***

***Christ is risen.***

***Christ will come again.***

*The Celebrant continues*

We celebrate the memorial of our redemption, O Father, in this sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving. Recalling His death, resurrection, and ascension, we offer you these gifts.

Sanctify them by your Holy Spirit to be for your people the Body and Blood of your Son, the holy food and drink of new and unending life in him. Sanctify us also that we may faithfully receive this holy Sacrament, and serve you in unity, constancy, and peace; and at the last day bring us with all your saints into the joy of your eternal kingdom.

All this we ask through your Son Jesus Christ. By Him, and with Him, and in Him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit all honor and glory are yours, Almighty Father, now and for 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**

Alleluia. Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us;

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

*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 #529* - In Christ there is no East or West

*Unison or harmony*

The musical score is written for three voices (1, 2, 3) and piano accompaniment. It consists of three systems of music. The first system has three staves for voices and one for piano. The second system has two staves for voices and one for piano. The third system has two staves for voices and one for piano. The lyrics are written below the voice staves.

1 In Christ there is no East or West, in  
2 Join hands, dis - ci - ples both of the faith, what -  
3 In Christ now meet both East and West, in

him no South or North, but one great fel - low -  
e'er your race may be! Who serves my Fa - ther  
him meet South and North, all Christ - ly souls are

ship of love through - out the whole wide earth.  
as his child is sure - ly kin to me.  
one in him, through - out the whole wide earth.

Words: John Oxenham (1852-1941), alt.

Music: McKee, Afro-American spiritual; adapt. and harm. Harry T. Burleigh (1866-1949)

CM

*Celebrant* Alleluia, Alleluia! Let us go forth into the world, rejoicing in the power of the Spirit!

*People* Thanks be to God. Alleluia, Alleluia!

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## **Churchy Term of the Week - Episcopal Migration Ministries (EMM)**

Through EMM the Episcopal Church provides a variety of services to refugees and immigrants. Nationally and locally, it offers assistance in sponsorship, advocates on national refugee and migration issues, and provides immigration counseling services. It also participates in international relief and development programs for refugees. Bishop Robert Clarkson of Nebraska first petitioned the General Convention in 1883 to establish a “Committee for the Spiritual Care of Immigrants.” Soon after that a port chaplaincy was established in New York City. After World War I the newly created Bureau of Immigration of the Episcopal Board of Missions was specifically charged with ministry to new arrivals. In 1942 the Presiding Bishop’s Fund for World Relief was founded to respond to the needs of refugees, especially war victims and displaced persons. In 1946 the Episcopal Church and sixteen Protestant denominations founded Church World Service, the overseas relief and service arm of the National Council of Churches of Christ. The Presiding Bishop’s Fund for World Relief continued to resettle refugees through Church World Service until 1981. In 1988 the refugee ministry was separated from the Presiding Bishop’s Fund for World Relief. In 1989 Episcopal Migration Ministries was established as a distinct program within the national church structure. In 1991, following another reconfiguration of the national church, EMM became part of the Advocacy, Witness, and Justice Ministries.

Adapted from Don S. Armentrout’s *An Episcopal Dictionary of the Church: A User-Friendly Reference for Episcopalians* Church Publishing Inc., 2000.

## **About this week’s artwork...**

In 1939, the Diocese of Southern Ohio published this iconic poster – “In the name of these refugees, aid all refugees,” depicting the Holy Family – Jesus and his parents – fleeing to Egypt to escape the persecution of King Herod, as found in the Gospel of Matthew, chapter 2. It became a rallying cry across the church. Parishes and dioceses all across the country joined the effort, speaking out on behalf of Jewish refugees and others displaced by the Nazis. People raised money to pay for steamship passage for refugees escaping Europe, and then mass resettlement efforts began after the war ended in 1945.



*Poster by The Episcopal Diocese of Southern Ohio, 1939*



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