



ST. MARK'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH

FOURTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

APRIL 26, 2026 10:00 AM YEAR A

Welcome

Welcome to St. Mark's Episcopal Church! Whether this is your first time or thousandth time in worship with us, we are so glad you are here. St. Mark's is an inclusive community of faith, committed to celebrating God's creative love in all people. Together, we strive to do justice, love mercy, and walk humbly with God. You are welcome here—in worship, at the communion table, and in our walk together.

As we prepare our hearts and minds for worship each week, you are invited to find a comfortable space to sit quietly and listen to the prelude. The prelude is the first part of worship, setting the tone for what is to come and helping God's people to unplug from the rhythms of daily life and prepare for a time of worship. We hope this musical offering will resonate in your soul and invite you into our worship practice.

Prelude “Pastorella: I, II”

J. S. Bach (1685-1750)

THE WORD OF GOD

Presider Alleluia! Christ is Risen!

People ***Christ is Risen indeed! Alleluia!***

Presider Dear friends in the risen Christ, we are made one with Jesus through the waters of baptism and the indwelling of God's Holy Spirit. God's spirit hovered over the waters of creation and called all life into being. May that same spirit rest upon us to remind us that we are baptized into the life, death and resurrection of Jesus the Anointed One.

Presider O God, the Creator of all things, by water and the Holy Spirit you have given the universe its beauty and fashioned us in your own image.

People ***Bless and purify your creation.***

Presider O Christ the Messiah, from your pierced side you gave us your sacraments as fountains of salvation.

People ***Bless and purify your Church.***

Presider O Holy Spirit, giver of life, from the baptismal font of the church you have formed us into a new creation in the waters of rebirth.

People ***Bless and purify your people.***

Opening Hymn “Christ the Lord is risen today”

see insert

Presider May Almighty God, who has given us a new birth by water and the Holy Spirit, and bestowed upon us the forgiveness of sins, keep us in eternal life by grace, in Christ Jesus our Lord.

People ***Amen! Alleluia!***

The Collect for Purity

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.***

Gloria S278

Mathias

Blue 1982 Hymnal

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

Presider The Lord be with you.

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

Presider Together let us pray.

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.

The Lesson: Acts 2:42-47

Those who had been baptized devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching and fellowship, to the breaking of bread and the prayers. Awe came upon everyone, because many wonders and signs were being done by the apostles. All who believed were together and had all things in common; they would sell their possessions and goods and distribute the proceeds to all, as any had need. Day by day, as they spent much time together in the temple, they broke bread at home and ate their food with glad and generous hearts, praising God and having the goodwill of all the people. And day by day the Lord added to their number those who were being saved.

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

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

Hymn 645 “The King of love my shepherd is” *Blue 1982 Hymnal*

The Lesson: 1 Peter 2:19-25

It is a credit to you if, being aware of God, you endure pain while suffering unjustly. If you endure when you are beaten for doing wrong, what credit is that? But if you endure when you do right and suffer for it, you have God's approval. For to this you have been called, because Christ also suffered for you, leaving you an example, so that you should follow in his steps. “He committed no sin, and no deceit was found in his mouth.” When he was abused, he did not return abuse; when he suffered, he did not threaten; but he entrusted himself to the one who judges justly. He himself bore our sins in his body on the cross, so that, free from sins, we might live for righteousness; by his wounds you have been healed. For you were going astray like sheep, but now you have returned to the shepherd and guardian of your souls.

Reader Hear what the Spirit is saying to the Churches

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

Sequence Hymn 391 “Before the Lord’s eternal throne” *Blue 1982 Hymnal*

Deacon The Holy Gospel of our Lord, Jesus Christ according to John
People ***Glory to you, Lord Christ.***

The Gospel: John 10:1-10

Jesus said, “Very truly, I tell you, anyone who does not enter the sheepfold by the gate but climbs in by another way is a thief and a bandit. The one who enters by the gate is the shepherd of the sheep. The gatekeeper opens the gate for him, and the sheep hear his voice. He calls his own sheep by name and leads them out. When he has brought out all his own, he goes ahead of them, and the sheep follow him because they know his voice. They will not follow a stranger, but they will run from him because they do not know the voice of strangers.” Jesus used this figure of speech with them, but they did not understand what he was saying to them. So again Jesus said to them, “Very truly, I tell you, I am the gate for the sheep. All who came before me are thieves and bandits; but the sheep did not listen to them. I am the gate. Whoever enters by me will be saved, and will come in and go out and find pasture. The thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy. I came that they may have life, and have it abundantly.”

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

The Homily

The Rev. Dr. Pamela Stuerke

Profession of Faith: Nicene Creed

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. 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.

Prayers of the People

Leader: Gathered in the care of the Good Shepherd and guardian of our souls, let us, in trust, pray for the church and the world, praying, Risen Lord,

People: **Hear our prayer.**

Leader: Let us give thanks to God for the many blessings God bestows upon us: For our lives, our families, our companions, and all those we love, For those in our parish family celebrating birthdays and anniversaries this week especially on their birthdays with Amanda Cashen, Meg Kaupp and Jeanette Swallow.

Let us give thanks to the God of Life, praying, Risen Lord,

People: **Hear our prayer.**

Leader: Let us pray for the Church, that we may devote ourselves to the apostles' teaching with glad and generous hearts:

For our clergy and our bishops,

For all the lay people who minister and lovingly serve the world as the community of the Church.

In the Diocesan Cycle, we pray for the people and ministry of the Episcopal Church of the Transfiguration in Lake St. Louis;

In the Anglican Communion, we pray for Sarah the Archbishop of Canterbury and the Anglican Communion of the Church of Nigeria;

In our companion Diocese of Puerto Rico, we pray for Nuestra Senora De Guadalupe in Patillas;

We pray for our Jubilee Ministry partner Isaiah 58 Ministries and our outreach partner Doorways Interfaith Housing;

We pray for the holy churches in every place, and for the unity of all, praying, Risen Lord,

People: **Hear our prayer.**

Leader: Let us pray for all nations and people of this wide earth, especially the people of Ukraine, Sudan, Cuba, and the Middle East, that all may be delivered from human devices of oppression and from false idols and futile ways; we pray for an end to war, praying Risen Lord,

*People: **Hear our prayer.***

Leader: Let us pray for those who are sick, all who suffer, and those who struggle with addiction or difficult demands of daily life. We pray for the homeless, the oppressed, prisoners, immigrants, and all who live in fear of separation of home and family. We pray for those on our parish prayer list and those we name either silently or aloud [pause], that the hope born of Easter may give them peace, acceptance and renewal, and closer communion with the God who redeems and restores, praying, Risen Lord,

*People: **Hear our prayer.***

Leader: Let us pray for those who have died, that they be welcomed to new and eternal life, embraced by God and the communion of saints, praying, Risen Lord,

*People: **Hear our prayer.***

The Presider offers this concluding collect.

Eternal God, your Son Jesus Christ is the way, the truth and the life for all creation; grant us grace to love one another, to walk in his way, to rejoice in his truth, and to share his risen life; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. *Amen.*

The Peace *We are a community of reconciliation and peace; therefore, we greet each other with a sign of our desire for peace.*

Presider: The peace of Christ be always with you.

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

The Congregation greets one another with the peace of Christ.

Announcements, Birthday and Anniversary Prayers

Children's Time

Presider: Walk in love, as Christ loved us and gave himself for us, an offering and sacrifice to God.

THE HOLY COMMUNION

Offertory Anthem

“My Shepherd Will Supply My Need” arr. Virgil Thomson (1896-1989)

Text: Hymn 664

© 1966 Warner Brothers

The Holy Eucharist II
Lift up your hearts *Sursum corda*

S 120

Celebrant *People*
The Lord be with you. And al - so with you.

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

Celebrant
Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People
It is right to give him thanks and praise.

It is right and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Father Almighty, Creator of heav'n 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:

Holy, Holy Hymnal S 128 *Mathias*
**Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,
Heaven and earth are full of your glory.**

Blue 1982 Hymnal

***Hosanna in the highest.
Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna in the highest.***

The Presider continues

We give thanks to you, O God, for the goodness and love which you have made known to us in creation; in the calling of Israel to be your people; in your Word

spoken through the prophets; and above all in the Word made flesh, Jesus, your Son. For in these last days you sent him to be incarnate from the Virgin Mary, to be the Savior and Redeemer of the world. In him, you have delivered us from evil, and made us worthy to stand before you. In him, you have brought us out of error into truth, out of sin into righteousness, out of death into life.

On the night before he died for us, 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, according to his command,

We remember his death,

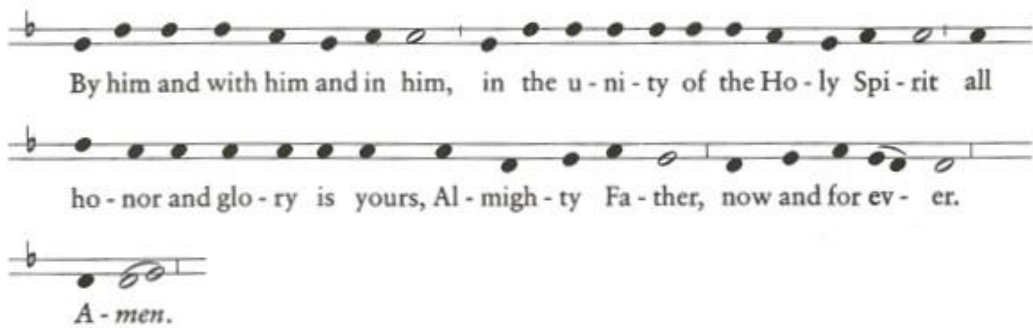
We proclaim his resurrection,

We await his coming in glory;

The Presider continues

And we offer our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving to you, O Lord of all; presenting to you, from your creation, this bread and this wine.

We pray you, gracious God, to send your Holy Spirit upon these gifts that they may be the Sacrament of the Body of Christ and his Blood of the new Covenant. Unite us to your Son in his sacrifice, that we may be acceptable through him, being sanctified by the Holy Spirit. In the fullness of time, put all things in subjection under your Christ, and bring us to that heavenly country where, with all your saints, we may enter the everlasting heritage of your sons and daughters; through Jesus Christ our Lord, the firstborn of all creation, the head of the Church, and the author of our salvation.



The Lord's Prayer

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

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.

Breaking of the Bread and Invitation to Communion

The Presider breaks the consecrated Bread. A period of silence is kept.

Fraction Anthem Hymnal S155 *Near*

Blue 1982 Hymnal

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us;

Therefore let us keep the feast.

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

The Ministration of Communion

All who hunger and thirst for God are welcome to receive the Holy Communion at this altar. Gluten free hosts are available. At the altar rail, please let the priest know that you require gluten free.

Communion Hymn 343 "Shepherd of souls, refresh and bless"

Blue 1982 Hymnal

Prayer after Communion

Loving God, we give you thanks for restoring us in your image and nourishing us with spiritual food in the Sacrament of Christ's Body and Blood. Now send us forth a people, forgiven, healed, renewed; that we may proclaim your love to the world and continue in the risen life of Christ our Savior. Amen.

The Blessing

May Almighty God, who has redeemed us and made us his children through the resurrection of his Son our Lord, bestow upon you the riches of his blessing. *Amen.*

May God, who through the water of baptism has raised us from sin into newness of life, make you holy and worthy to be united with Christ for ever. *Amen.*

May God, who has brought us out of bondage to sin into true and lasting freedom in the Redeemer, bring you to your eternal inheritance. *Amen.*

And the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be upon you and remain with you for ever. *Amen.*

Closing Hymn 180 “He is risen, he is risen”

Blue 1982 Hymnal

Dismissal

Deacon Alleluia, alleluia! Let us go forth into the world, rejoicing in the power of the Spirit.

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

Postlude “Tuba Tune in D Major”

©1929 J. B. Cramer

C. S. Lang (1891-1971)

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ASSISTING IN OUR WORSHIP

Lector: Matthew Cashen

Usher: Amanda Cashen

Greeter: Marti Robards

Altar Guild: Jon Danieley

Livestream: Lucy Danieley

Crucifer: Jonathan Robards

Chalice: Marilyn Wiethop/Jonathan Robards

Godly Play: Jeffery

Coffee Hour: Margaret Hvatum

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Playground Task Force

First meeting is TODAY, after service. If you would like to be part of that conversation about installing a Playground on St. Mark's property, please come to the meeting next week.

Rector Vacation

Delaney will be out of town April 22-29. In the event of pastoral needs, please contact Deacon Jerre.

Organ Recital

On **Sunday, May 3, at 3 pm**, organist Sam Kendall will play a recital at St. Mark's. Sam is a student of Barbara Raedeke at Washington University and has played for us a number of times in the past. His program will include music of Bach, Vierne, and Duruflé. Please come to hear this beautiful music played on our magnificent organ by a talented young organist!

Peace Meal

Are you interested in serving your neighbors? Consider joining St. Mark's at the Peace Meal at St John's Church on May 23rd. We need volunteers for the first afternoon shift for cooking from 2:00pm to 4:00pm and the 2nd shift from 3:45pm to 5:30pm to serve and clean up. Your help is greatly appreciated. Please let Marti Robards know if you are able to help (314-596-6383).

Meeting Jesus in Our Neighborhood

This summer, St. Mark's will begin an intentional time of listening and noticing in our neighborhood. Join in the process as we take group walks, rides, and self-directed noticing tours. Together, we will follow the Spirit, look for Jesus, and begin mapping our neighborhood.

Walking	Driving
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• W 5/6 1pm• W 5/27 5:30PM• Th 6/11 10AM• Sun 6/14 11:45AM• Th 7/16 10AM• Sun 7/12 11:45AM	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• M 5/4 5:30PM• T 5/12 11AM• M 6/15 5:30PM• Th 6/18 1PM• W 7/15 5:30PM• Th 7/23 11AM

Online Giving at St. Mark's

Thank you so much for your desire to support the ministry here at St. Mark's! If you would like to give online, simply scan the QR code below using the camera on your smart phone to visit our online giving platform.

Your generosity is a blessing!



We pray for those who are ill, in trouble or distress of any kind, especially Duane and Anne Benson, Yulia Borjte, Canon Desiree Brattin, Steve Chamberlin, Randy and Jenny Coffey, Alicia Crowe, Tom Gard, Sue Garrett, Mark Godfrey, Yaz Hernández and their extended family, Denise Huber, Margaret and Tor Hvatum, Jane Kozielec and Allen, Debbie Kramer, Becky Kruse, Stephanie Maass, the McLean, Haggerty, and Casey families, Gary Medley, Beverly (Kocot) Meyers, Donna Musgrave, Neice Nelson, Betty Orlando, Nancy Raedeke, Jennifer Salci and her parents, Cheryl Schulz, Lois Schubert, Tom Schroeder, Rick Schubert, John Sheridan, Logan Smith, Mitchell and Tracy Shelton, Gracie Stephens, Jeanette Swallow, Lou Swallow, Scott Thomas, Bill Trafka, Casey Tyler, David and Doris Westfall, The White Family, Gene Wilberg, Susan Winfrey, Walter Zimmerman, Eric, Elizabeth, Gary, Marian, Ted, Karen, Larry, Doug, Fritz, Rebecca, Lynn, Catreta and Dennis, Kate, Maggie, Ari and family.

We give thanks on their birthdays with Amanda Cashen, Meg Kaupp and Jeanette Swallow.

We pray for those serving in the armed forces, especially Jesse Foy, Robert McCarthy, Brandon George, Jon Moore, Paul Malabar, Logan Smith.

SAINT MARK'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH
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The Rt. Rev. Deon K. Johnson	Bishop of MO	Barbara Raedeke	Organist and Choir Director
The Rev. Delaney Schlake-Kruse	Rector	Celeste Kocot	Youth Christian Formation
The Rev. Jerre Birdsong	Deacon	Melissa Engle	Parish Administrator
		Frankie Danieleley	Nursery Assistant

Christ the Lord Is Risen Today!

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LLANFAIR 7.7.7.7 with alleluias

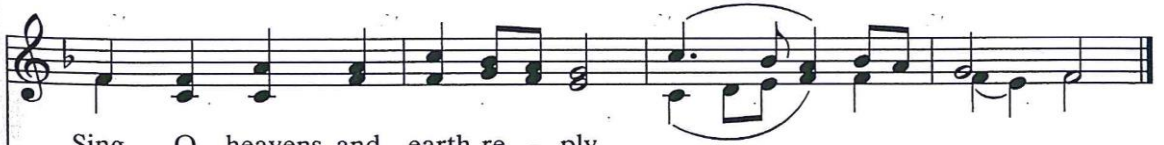
Robert Williams, 1817
Harm. David Evans, 1927

Charles Wesley, 1739; alt.

1. "Christ the Lord is risen to - day!"
2. Love's re - deem - ing work is done, Al - le - lu - ia!
3. Lives a - gain our glo - rious King;
4. Hail, the Lord of earth and heaven!

All cre - a - tion, join to say;
Fought the fight, the bat - tle won; Al - le - lu - ia!
Where, O death, is now your sting?
Praise to You by both be given;

Raise your joys and tri - umphs high;
Death in vain for - bids Him rise; Al - le - lu - ia!
Je - sus died, our souls to save;
Ev - ery knee to You shall bow,



Sing, O heavens, and earth re - ply,
Christ has o - pened par - a - dise. Al - le - lu - ia!
Where your vic - to - ry, O grave?
Ris - en Christ, tri - um - phant now.

