



ST. MARK'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH

FIFTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

MAY 3, 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 “Three Chorales for Eastertide”

J. S. Bach (1685-1750)

“Jesus Christ, our Savior”

“Jesus Christ, my Sure Defense”

“Christ Jesus Lay in Death's Strong Bands” (Hymn 186)

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 518 “Christ is made the sure foundation” *Blue 1982 Hymnal*

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.

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 Lesson: Acts 7:55-60

Filled with the Holy Spirit, Stephen gazed into heaven and saw the glory of God and Jesus standing at the right hand of God. “Look,” he said, “I see the heavens opened and the Son of Man standing at the right hand of God!” But they covered their ears, and with a loud shout all rushed together against him. Then they dragged him out of the city and began to stone him; and the witnesses laid their coats at the feet of a young man named Saul. While they were stoning Stephen, he prayed, “Lord Jesus, receive my spirit.” Then he knelt down and cried out in a loud voice, “Lord, do not hold this sin against them.” When he had said this, he died.

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

People *Thanks be to God.*

Psalm 31:1-5,15-16

see next page

The Lesson: 1 Peter 2:2-10

Like newborn infants, long for the pure, spiritual milk, so that by it you may grow into salvation— if indeed you have tasted that the Lord is good. Come to him, a living stone, though rejected by mortals yet chosen and precious in God’s sight, and like living stones, let yourselves be built into a spiritual house, to be a holy priesthood, to offer spiritual sacrifices acceptable to God through Jesus Christ. For it stands in scripture: “See, I am laying in Zion a stone, a cornerstone chosen and precious; and whoever believes in him will not be put to shame.” To you then who believe, he is precious; but for those who do not believe, “The stone that the builders rejected has become the very head of the corner”, and “A stone that makes them stumble, and a rock that makes them fall.” They stumble because they

cont. page 5

Psalms 31:1-5, 15-16

In te, Domine, speravi

Jonathan Battishill

1 In you, O LORD, have I taken refuge;
let me never be | put to | shame; *
de-| liver • me | in your | righteousness.

3 Be my strong rock, a castle to keep me safe,
for you are my | crag and • my | stronghold; *
for the sake of your | **Name**, | lead me • and | guide me.

5 Into your hands I com- | mend my | spirit, *
for you have redeemed me,
O | LORD, O | God of | truth.

2 In-| cline your | ear to me; *
make | **haste** | to de-| liver me.

4 Take me out of the net that they have | secret-• ly | set for me, *
for | you are • my | tower • of | strength.

15 My times are | in your | hand; *
rescue me from the hand of my enemies,
and from | those who | perse- • cute | me.

16 Make your face to | shine up- • on your | servant, *
and in your | loving- | kindness | save me.

disobey the word, as they were destined to do. But you are a chosen race, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, God's own people, in order that you may proclaim the mighty acts of him who called you out of darkness into his marvelous light.

Once you were not a people, but now you are God's people; once you had not received mercy, but now you have received mercy.

Reader Hear what the Spirit is saying to the Churches

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

Sequence Hymn 487 "Come, My Way, my Truth, my Life" *Blue 1982 Hymnal*

Presider The Holy Gospel of our Lord, Jesus Christ according to John

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

The Gospel: John 14:1-14

Jesus said, "Do not let your hearts be troubled. Believe in God, believe also in me. In my Father's house there are many dwelling places. If it were not so, would I have told you that I go to prepare a place for you? And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again and will take you to myself, so that where I am, there you may be also. And you know the way to the place where I am going." Thomas said to him, "Lord, we do not know where you are going. How can we know the way?" Jesus said to him, "I am the way, and the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me. If you know me, you will know my Father also. From now on you do know him and have seen him." Philip said to him, "Lord, show us the Father, and we will be satisfied." Jesus said to him, "Have I been with you all this time, Philip, and you still do not know me? Whoever has seen me has seen the Father. How can you say, 'Show us the Father'? Do you not believe that I am in the Father and the Father is in me? The words that I say to you I do not speak on my own; but the Father who dwells in me does his works. Believe me that I am in the Father and the Father is in me; but if you do not, then believe me because of the works themselves. Very truly, I tell you, the one who believes in me will also do the works that I do and, in fact, will do greater works than these, because I am going to the Father. I will do whatever you ask in my name, so that the Father may be glorified in the Son. If in my name you ask me for anything, I will do it."

Presider The Gospel of the Lord

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

The Homily

The Rev. Delaney Schlake-Kruse

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: Empowered by the Lord's promise that God will do whatever we ask in Jesus' name, let us, in confidence, 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 and for the power God gives us to serve God's people all our days:
We give thanks for our lives, our families, our companions, and all those we love,
We give thanks for those in our parish family celebrating birthdays and anniversaries this week especially on their birthdays with with Pamela Stuerke, Kelly Borowiakk, Jared Forsyth and Matt Schroeder.

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 be like living stones built into a spiritual house, to be a holy priesthood:

For our clergy and our bishops,

For all the lay people, the true ministers of the Church, who lovingly serve the world as the community of the Church.

In the Diocesan Cycle, we pray for the people and ministry of St. Francis' Episcopal Church in Eureka;

In the Anglican Communion, we pray for Sarah the Archbishop of Canterbury and The Church of North India (United);

In our companion Diocese of Puerto Rico, we pray for Colegio Episcopal Santisima in Trinidad;

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 hungry, the homeless and oppressed, for all immigrants and refugees, all in detention, and all who live in fear of separation from their homes and families. 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

“Here, O Lord, your servants gather”

Isao Koizumi (1907-1992)

Here, O Lord, your servants gather, hand we link with hand;

Looking toward our Savior's cross, joined in love we stand.

As we seek the realm of God, we unite to pray:

Jesus, Savior, guide our steps, for you are the Way.

Many are the tongues we speak, scattered are the lands,

Yet our hearts are one in God, one in love's demands.

E'en in darkness hope appears, calling age and youth:

Jesus, teacher, dwell with us, for you are the Truth.

Nature's secrets open wide, changes never cease;

Where, O where, can weary souls find the source of peace?

Unto all those sore distressed, torn by endless strife:

Jesus, healer, bring your balm, for you are the Life.

Grant, O God, an age renewed, filled with deathless love;

Help us as we work and pray, send us from above

Truth and courage, faith and power needed in our strife:

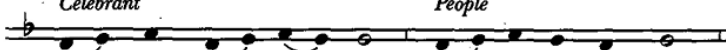
Jesus, Savior, be our Way, be our Truth, our Life. Text by Tokuo Yamaguchi (1900-1995)

The Holy Eucharist II

S 120


Lift up your hearts *Sursum corda*

Celebrant *People*




The Lord be with you. And al - so with you.

Celebrant *People*



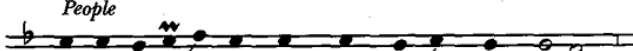
Lift up your hearts. We lift them to the Lord.

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*

Blue 1982 Hymnal

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

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,

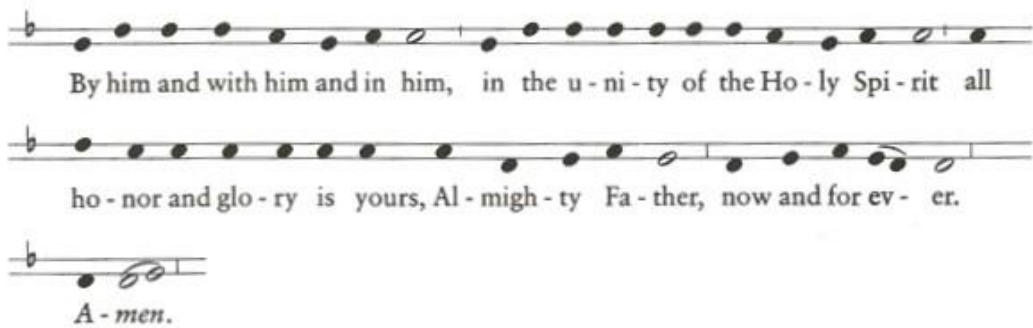
We proclaim his resurrection,

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 232 “By all your saints still stiving”

see page 13

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 525 “The Church’s one foundation”

Blue 1982 Hymnal

Dismissal

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

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

Postlude “Bells”

©1977 Oxford University Press

Arthur Wills (1926-2020)

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ASSISTING IN OUR WORSHIP

Lector: Susan Goen *Usher:* Diane Nienkemper *Greeter:* Marti Robards
Altar Guild: Lori Glover *Livestream:* Scott Thompson *Crucifer:* Sam Barrett
Chalice: Roger Robards/Sam Barrett *Godly Play:* Robards
Coffee Hour: Vicki Stegmann

Communion Hymn 232 “By all your saints still stiving” *Nyland*



1 By all your saints still striv - ing, for all your saints at rest,
2 *(Insert the stanza appropriate to the day)*
3 Then let us praise the Fa - ther and wor-ship God the Son



your ho - ly Name, O Je - sus, for ev - er - more be blessed.
and sing to God the Spi - rit, e - ter-nal Three in One,



You rose, our King vic - tor - ious, that they might wear the crown
till all the ran - somed num - ber who stand be - fore the throne



and ev - er shine in splen-dor re - flect-ed from your throne.
a - scribe all power and glo - ry and praise to God a - lone.

Words: Horatio Bolton Nelson (1823–1913); ver. *Hymnal 1982* Music: *Nyland*, Finnish folk melody; adapt. and harm. David Evans (1874–1948) Copyright: Music: Harmonization by permission of Oxford University Press.

Verse 2 :

All praise, O Lord, for Stephen
 who, martyred, saw you stand
to help in time of torment,
 to plead at God’s right hand.
Like you, our suffering Savior,
 his enemies he blessed,
with “Lord, receive my spirit,”
 his faith, in death, confessed.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Organ Recital

Sam Kendall's organ recital, scheduled for this afternoon at 3 pm, has been postponed due to illness. Further information will be forthcoming.

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

Playground Task Force

The first meeting of the Playground Task force went well. Check out the Article in the New Lion's Tale for more information. Next meeting is scheduled for Sunday May 24th.

May/June Lion's Tale

The new May/June 2026 edition of the Lion's Tale is now published. Check it out for all the new and upcoming events for the first part of the summer. There are printed editions in the back of the church on the credenza, or check your email for the special Lion's Tale email blast.

Summer Coffee Hours

Join your St. Mark's pals and Rev. Delaney for coffee:

May 26 10-11:30am @ MountainHouse Cafe
June 9 10-11:30am @ Espresso Yourself



Francis Park Fellowship

It's that time of year! Stop by and spend some time with your church community. Rockwell offers non-alcoholic beverages, tasty food, and plenty of beer options. See you there!

Thursday May 14 5:00pm
Thursday June 18 5:00pm
Thursday July 9 5:00pm



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, Rusty Cates, 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 Pamela Stuerke, Kelly Borowiakk, Jared Forsyth and Matt Schroeder.

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 Danieley	Nursery Assistant