

**THIRD SUNDAY OF EASTER  
HOLY EUCHARIST: RITE TWO  
APRIL 18, 2021 ■ 10:30 A.M.**



**Welcome to St. Stephen's Episcopal Church**

St. Stephen's Episcopal Church has worshipped on this corner of North James and Mulberry Streets in Goldsboro since 1857 — in the same building! We welcome you to our historic building, but more than that, we are happy to have you worship with us.

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**ORDER OF SERVICE**

**VOLUNTARY**      *Lord Christ, On You My Hope Is Stayed*      Johann Pachelbel  
The people of God gather to proclaim and respond to the Word of God.

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

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.**

## 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 LESSONS (Please be seated.)

### **The New Testament Reading:** *Acts 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** *Cum invocarem*

*(we read the Psalm responsively by whole verse)*

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.**

**Glory to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit. As it was in the beginning is now and will be forever. Amen.**

**The Gospel:** *Luke 24:36b-48* (Please stand.)

Priest: The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Luke.

**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.

Priest: The Gospel of the Lord.

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

# THE SERMON

The Rev. Alan Neale, Interim Rector

*The Call*

K. Lee Scott

Soloist: Chris Garrison

## THE NICENE CREED (All stand.)

**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

Beloved God, we thank you for giving us power through your Spirit to reveal your life to the world: strengthen, bless, and guide us to make you known by word and example.

We are your Church, O God.

**Guide us in your grace.**

We thank you for your creation, and pray for the earth you have given us to cherish and protect: nourish in us your love for all you have made.

We are your stewards, O God.

**Guide us in your grace.**

Guide and bless us in our work and in our play, and shape the patterns of our political and economic life, that all people may share in the fulfillment of your creative work.

We are your servants, O God.

**Guide us in your grace.**

Awaken our hearts to your presence in all people; in those we love easily and those with whom we struggle, in those different from us and those familiar to us.

We are made in your image, O God.

**Guide us in your grace.**

We thank you for calling us to a glorious heritage as your holy people. Free us from lack of vision, from inertia of will and spirit. By your life-giving Spirit, lead us out of isolation and oppression, redeem and restore us.

You are the life within us, O God.

**Guide us in your grace.**

We thank you for the gift of life, with all its blessings and sorrows. Shield the joyous, comfort and strengthen those in any need or trouble. Bless those who will be born today and those who will die, that joining with the company of all your saints we may rejoice in one unending song of praise.

In you alone we have eternal life, O God.

**Guide us in your grace.**

Celebrant:

We offer these our prayers and thanksgivings to you, O God, the source of all that is true and holy, now and for ever. **Amen.**

## THE PEACE

Celebrant: The Peace of the Lord be always with you.

**People: And also with you.**

## THE HOLY COMMUNION

### The Great Thanksgiving (Eucharistic Prayer B)

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 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 heaven and earth. (Here a Proper Preface is added.)

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

*Celebrant and People*

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

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

### **Celebrant and People:**

*The people stand or kneel.*

Then the Celebrant 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, O Father,

**Celebrant and People:**

**We remember his death,  
We proclaim his resurrection,  
We await his coming in glory;**

The Celebrant 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.

By him, and with him, and in him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit all honor and glory is yours, Almighty Father, now and for ever. AMEN.

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.**

## THE BREAKING OF THE BREAD

The Celebrant breaks the consecrated bread.

Alleluia, Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us;  
**Therefore let us keep the feast, Alleluia**

*Facing the people, the Celebrant says the following Invitation:*  
The Gifts of God for the People of God

We welcome those viewing online to make their Communion spiritually. Tell the Lord that you open your hearts, minds, and lives to Him. Remember the promise of Scripture, “The Lord says, Behold I stand at the door and knock. If anyone opens the door, I will come in and eat with them.

*Christ Our Passover*

Richard Woodward

Soloist: Chris Garrison

**Let us pray.**

*Celebrant and People:*

**Eternal God, heavenly father  
you have graciously accepted us as living members  
of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ,  
and you have fed us with spiritual food  
in the Sacrament of his Body and Blood.  
Send us now into the world in peace,  
and grant us strength and courage  
to love and serve you  
with gladness and singleness of heart;  
through Christ our Lord. Amen.**

*The Deacon, or the Celebrant, dismisses them with these words*

Alleluia, Alleluia Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

**People:** Thanks be to God. Alleluia. Alleluia

**VOLUNTARY**

*Christ Is Arisen*

Samuel Scheidt

Flowers on the altar are given to the glory of God and in  
celebration of Alan Neale's birthday.  
by Wendy Neale

## **SERVING TODAY**

**Soloist:** Chris Garrison

**Recording:** Xena Markine-Morrison

## **CHURCH STAFF**

Church Administrative Assistant: Vicky Bailey  
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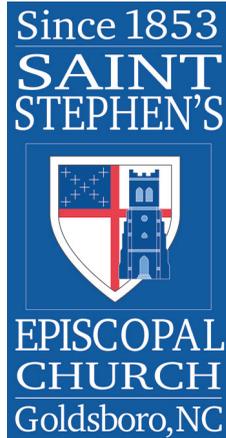
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**CLERGY**

The Rt. Rev. Robert Skirving, Bishop  
The Rev. Alan Neale, Interim Rector

**CHOIRMASTER**

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**DIRECTOR OF CHRISTIAN FORMATION**

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**VESTRY**

Senior Warden: Lori Allen; Junior Warden: Mike Saylor;  
Will Bland, Tom Brown, Duffy Fleming, Kathy Harris, Mary Susan Heath,  
Mary Lee Jeffreys, Katherine MacDonald, Paul Rutter, Leon Stockton and Sallie Wahl