

FOURTH SUNDAY OF EASTER
HOLY EUCHARIST: RITE TWO
APRIL 25, 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.

ORDER OF SERVICE

VOLUNTARY

All Thy Faithful Mercy, Lord

Roger Petrich

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 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 LESSONS (Please be seated.)

The New Testament Reading: *Acts 4:5-12*

The rulers, elders, and scribes assembled in Jerusalem, with Annas the high priest, Caiaphas, John, and Alexander, and all who were of the high-priestly family.

When they had made the prisoners stand in their midst, they inquired, "By what power or by what name did you do this?" Then Peter, filled with the Holy Spirit, said to them, "Rulers of the people and elders, if we are questioned today because of a good deed done to someone who was sick and are asked how this man has been healed, let it be known to all of you, and to all the people of Israel, that this man is standing before you in good health by the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth, whom you crucified, whom God raised from the dead. This Jesus is

`the stone that was rejected by you, the builders;
it has become the cornerstone.'

There is salvation in no one else, for there is no other name under heaven given among mortals by which we must be saved."

Reader: The Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

Psalm 23 *Dominus regit me*

(we read the Psalm responsively by whole verse)

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.**

**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: *John 10:11-18* (Please stand.)

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

People: Glory to you, Lord Christ.

Jesus said, "I am the good shepherd. The good shepherd lays down his life for the sheep. The hired hand, who is not the shepherd and does not own the sheep, sees the wolf coming and leaves the sheep and runs away—and the wolf snatches them and scatters them. The hired hand runs away because a hired hand does not care for the sheep. I am the good shepherd. I know my own and my own know me, just as the Father knows me and I know the Father. And I lay down my life for the sheep. I have other sheep that do not belong to this fold. I must bring them also, and they will listen to my voice. So there will be one flock, one shepherd. For this reason the Father loves me, because I lay down my life in order to take it up again. No one takes it from me, but I lay it down of my own accord. I have power to lay it down, and I have power to take it up again. I have received this command from my Father."

Priest: The Gospel of the Lord.

People: Praise to you, Lord Christ.

THE SERMON

The Reverend Gene Carpenter

The King of Love My Shepherd Is

Paul Whitaker

Soloist: Judy Carpenter

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.**

Hosanna in the highest.

**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.

Shepherd of Souls

John Dykes

Soloist: Judy Carpenter

Rector Search Prayer

Amighty God, who knows our hearts and minds. You have blessed our Church with generations of faithful servant leaders. Guide our Search Committee, Vestry and Parish Family as we call for our new Rector. Grace us with patience, trust, and hope through this time of discovery. We pray that we may call a faithful Rector who will guide us in our spiritual journey. Through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

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

Fugue in G major

Dietrich Buxtehude

Flowers on the altar are given to the glory of God and in celebration
of Archer Watkins, Jr.'s birthday.
by Shari and Archer Watkins

SERVING TODAY

Reader: Kyle Saylor

Crucifer: Caroline Saylor

Soloist: Chris Garrison

Recording: Xena Markine-Morrison

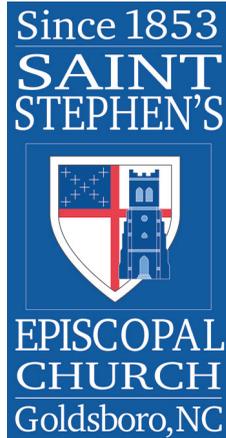
CHURCH STAFF

Church Administrative Assistant: Vicky Bailey
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Church Sexton: Alfie Barnes

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CLERGY

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

CHOIRMASTER

Marshall Foster
marshallfoster@gmail.com

DIRECTOR OF CHRISTIAN FORMATION

Xena Markine-Morrison
xmorrison@ststephenschurch.com

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