

FIFTH SUNDAY OF EASTER
HOLY EUCHARIST: RITE TWO
APRIL 29, 2018 ■ 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

Meditation on a Plainsong Kyrie

G. W. Cassler

The People of God gather to proclaim and respond to the Word of God

ENTRANCE RITE

PROCESSIONAL HYMN

Love divine, all loves excelling

Hymn 657

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.



- 1 Alleluia, alleluia. *
Alleluia, alleluia.
- 2 Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us, *
therefore let us keep the feast,
- 3 Not with old leaven,
neither with the leaven of malice and wickedness, *
but with the unleavened bread of sincerity and truth.
- 4 Alleluia, alleluia. *
Alleluia, alleluia.
- 5 Christ being raised from the dead dieth no more; *
death hath no more dominion over him.
- 6 For in that he died, he died unto sin once; *
but in that he liveth, he liveth unto God.
- 7 Likewise reckon ye also yourselves to be dead unto sin, *
but alive unto God through Jesus Christ our Lord.
- 8 Alleluia, alleluia. *
Alleluia, alleluia.
- 9 Christ is risen from the dead, *
and become the first fruits of them that slept.
- 10 For since by man came death, *
by man came also the resurrection of the dead.
- 11 For as in Adam all die, *
even so in Christ shall all be made alive.
- 12 Alleluia, alleluia. *
Alleluia, alleluia.

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 LESSONS (Please be seated.)

The First Reading: *Acts 8:26-40*

An angel of the Lord said to Philip, “Get up and go toward the south to the road that goes down from Jerusalem to Gaza.” (This is a wilderness road.) So he got up and went. Now there was an Ethiopian eunuch, a court official of the Candace, queen of the Ethiopians, in charge of her entire treasury. He had come to Jerusalem to worship and was returning home; seated in his chariot, he was reading the prophet Isaiah. Then the Spirit said to Philip, “Go over to this chariot and join it.” So Philip ran up to it and heard him reading the prophet Isaiah. He asked, “Do you understand what you are reading?” He replied, “How can I, unless someone guides me?” And he invited Philip to get in and sit beside him. Now the passage of the scripture that he was reading was this:

“Like a sheep he was led to the slaughter,
and like a lamb silent before its shearer,
so he does not open his mouth.

In his humiliation justice was denied him.
Who can describe his generation?
For his life is taken away from the earth.”

The eunuch asked Philip, “About whom, may I ask you, does the prophet say this, about himself or about someone else?” Then Philip began to speak, and starting with this scripture, he proclaimed to him the good news about Jesus. As they were going along the road, they came to some water; and the eunuch said, “Look, here is water! What is to prevent me from being baptized?” He commanded the chariot to stop, and both of them, Philip and the eunuch, went down into the water, and Philip baptized him. When they came up out of the water, the Spirit of

the Lord snatched Philip away; the eunuch saw him no more, and went on his way rejoicing. But Philip found himself at Azotus, and as he was passing through the region, he proclaimed the good news to all the towns until he came to Caesarea.

Reader: The Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

Psalms 22:24-30 *Deus, Deus meus*

My praise is of him in the great assembly; *

I will perform my vows in the presence of those who worship him.

**The poor shall eat and be satisfied,
and those who seek the Lord shall praise him: *
“May your heart live for ever!”**

All the ends of the earth shall remember and turn to the Lord, *
and all the families of the nations shall bow before him.

**For kingship belongs to the Lord; *
he rules over the nations.**

To him alone all who sleep in the earth bow down in worship; *
all who go down to the dust fall before him.

**My soul shall live for him;
my descendants shall serve him; *
they shall be known as the Lord’S for ever.**

They shall come and make known to a people yet unborn *
the saving deeds that he has done.

**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 Second Reading: *1 John 4:7-21*

Beloved, let us love one another, because love is from God; everyone who loves is born of God and knows God. Whoever does not love does not know God, for God is love. God's love was revealed among us in this way: God sent his only Son into the world so that we might live through him. In this is love, not that we loved God but that he loved us and sent his Son to be the atoning sacrifice for our sins. Beloved, since God loved us so much, we also ought to love one another. No one has ever seen God; if we love one another, God lives in us, and his love is perfected in us.

By this we know that we abide in him and he in us, because he has given us of his Spirit. And we have seen and do testify that the Father has sent his Son as the Savior of the world. God abides in those who confess that Jesus is the Son of God, and they abide in God. So we have known and believe the love that God has for us.

God is love, and those who abide in love abide in God, and God abides in them. Love has been perfected among us in this: that we may have boldness on the day of judgment, because as he is, so are we in this world. There is no fear in love, but perfect love casts out fear; for fear has to do with punishment, and whoever fears has not reached perfection in love. We love because he first loved us. Those who say, "I love God," and hate their brothers or sisters, are liars; for those who do not love a brother or sister whom they have seen, cannot love God whom they have not seen. The commandment we have from him is this: those who love God must love their brothers and sisters also.

Reader: The Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

Sequence Hymn

Come, my Way, my Truth, my Life

Hymn 487

The Gospel: *John 15:1-8* (Please stand.)

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

People: Glory to you, Lord Christ.

Jesus said to his disciples, "I am the true vine, and my Father is the vinegrower. He removes every branch in me that bears no fruit. Every branch that bears fruit he prunes to make it bear more fruit. You have already been cleansed by the word that I have spoken to you. Abide in me as I abide in you. Just as the branch cannot bear fruit by itself unless it abides in the vine, neither can you unless you abide in me. I am the vine, you are the branches. Those who abide in me and I in them bear much fruit, because apart from me you can do nothing. Whoever does not abide in me is thrown away like a branch and withers; such branches are gathered, thrown into the fire, and burned. If you abide in me, and my words abide in you, ask for whatever you wish, and it will be done for you. My Father is glorified by this, that you bear much fruit and become my disciples."

Priest: The Gospel of the Lord.

People: Praise to you, Lord Christ.

THE SERMON

The Rev. Raymond J. Hanna, Rector

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 FORM II

In the course of the silence after each bidding, the People offer their own prayers, either silently or aloud.

I ask your prayers for God's people throughout the world; for our Bishop Rob; for this gathering; and for all ministers and people.

Pray for the Church.

Silence

I ask your prayers for peace; for goodwill among nations; and for the well-being of all people.

Pray for justice and peace.

Silence

I ask your prayers for the poor, the sick, the hungry, the oppressed, and those in prison.
Pray for those in any need or trouble.

Silence

I ask your prayers for all who seek God, or a deeper knowledge of him.
Pray that they may find and be found by him.

Silence

I ask your prayers for the departed.
Pray for those who have died.

Silence

Members of the congregation may ask the prayers or the thanksgivings of those present

I ask your prayers for those who suffer in body, mind or Spirit, especially our parishioners: Sarah, Anna, Will, Jeff, Thelma, Ann, Tom, Ann, James, Martha, Betty, Jack, Charles, Hal; and our friends, family, and neighbors: David, Don, Joan, Dennis, Joyce, Charlotte, Martha, Kristine, Lee, Billie Ann, Joshua, Alice, Bob, Phyllis, Susan, Elizabeth, Ann, Beth, Sarah, Andrea, David, Eric, Kirk, Sally, Cailee, Catherine, Edna, Jerry, Mike, Sebastian, Holly, Matthew, Alex, Julia, Alexa, Austen, Bob, Anne, Dan, John, Bill, Steve, Parrish, Mary, Ed, Bob, George and Teresa.

I ask your thanksgiving for _____

Silence

Praise God for those in every generation in whom Christ has been honored.
Pray that we may have grace to glorify Christ in our own day.

Silence

The Celebrant adds a concluding Collect.

THE PEACE

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

People: And also with you.

OFFERTORY ANTHEM

O Living Bread from Heaven

Robert Lau

AT THE PRESENTATION OF THE OFFERINGS

I come with joy to meet my Lord, forgiven, loved, and free,
in awe and wonder to recall, his life laid down for me.

Words: Brian Wren

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THE HOLY COMMUNION

The Great Thanksgiving (Eucharistic Prayer A)

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:

Ho - ly, ho - ly,
 ho - ly Lord, God of power and might,
 heaven 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.

The people stand or kneel.

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 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.

Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us;
Therefore let us keep the feast.

Antiphon: Cantor; then All



Be known to us, Lord Je - sus, in the break - ing of the bread.

Cantor



1. The bread which we break, al - le - lu - ia,



is the com - mun - ion of the bo - dy of Christ. [Ant.]

Cantor



2. One bo - dy are we, al - le - lu - ia,



for though man - y we share one bread. [Ant.]

Facing the people, the Celebrant says the following Invitation

The Gifts of God for the People of God.

COMMUNION HYMN

Where charity and love prevail

Hymn 581

SENDING FORTH OF EUCHARISTIC VISITORS

In the name of this congregation, we send you forth bearing these holy gifts, that those to whom you go may share with us in the Communion of Christ's Body and Blood. We who are many are one body because we all share one bread, one cup. *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.**

PROCESSION OUT

Spread, O spread, thou mighty word

Hymn 530

Priest: Go in peace to love and serve the Lord

People: Thanks be to God.

VOLUNTARY

Fugue in G major

Dietrich Buxtehude

SERVING TODAY

Eucharistic Ministers: John Hine & Ed Futch

Eucharistic Visitors: Chris Garrison

Ushers: Tye, Will and Clark Fickling

Crucifer: Cady Stanley

Torch Bearers: Trey Barnes and Zachary Lullay

Flag Bearers: Clark Fickling and Sarah Boyd

CHURCH STAFF

Parish Administrator: Margie Clark

(mclark@ststephenschurch.com)

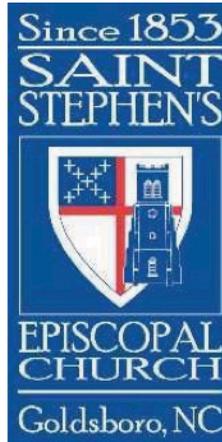
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Director of Children's Choirs: Rebecca Barnes

Treasurer: Emilie Foy

Verger: Ray Harris



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CLERGY

The Rt. Rev. Robert Skirving, Bishop

The Rev. Raymond J. Hanna, Rector

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DIRECTOR OF CHRISTIAN FORMATION

Xena Markine-Morrison

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VESTRY

Senior Warden: Nicole Barnes, Junior Warden: Chris Garrison

Mary Mills Borden, Todd Brantley, Linda Edsall-Huard, Emilie Foy, Drew Grice, Adam Livengood, Pete Mitchell, Alice Royal, Beth Saylor and Dave Tayloe