



St. Luke's Episcopal Church – Stephenville, TX
Easter Sunday
April 5th, 2026
8:00 am & 10:00 am

Easter Potluck meal to follow at 11:00

To All Who Are Joyful And Thankful, To All Who Mourn And Need Comfort
To All Who Are Weary And Need Rest, To All Who Are Friendless And Wish Friendship
To All Who Pray And Who Do Not But Ought, To All Who Sin And Need A Savior.
And To Whoever Will, The Church Opens Wide The Door
And In The Name Of Christ, The Lord Says Welcome.

The Processional Hymn

The Hymnal 1982 #208 The strife is o'er

The people standing, the Celebrant says (three times)

Celebrant Alleluia! Christ is risen.

People **The Lord is risen indeed. Alleluia!**

The Celebrant may say

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 Gloria

The Hymnal 1982, Service Music - #280 Canticle 20, Glory to God: Gloria in excelsis

1. Glo - ry to God in the high - est, and
peace to his peo - ple on earth. 2. Lord God, heaven - ly
King, al - mighty God and Fa - ther, we wor - ship you, we
give you thanks, we praise you for your glo - ry. 3. Lord Je - sus
Christ, on - ly Son of the Fa - ther, Lord God, Lamb of God, 4. you
take a - way the sin of the world: have mer - cy
on us; 5. you are seat - ed at the right hand of the Fa - ther: re -
ceive our prayer. 6. For you a - lone are the Ho - ly One,

you a - lone are the Lord, 7. you a - lone are the Most
 High, Je - sus Christ, with the Ho - ly Spi - rit, in the
 glo - ry of God the Fa - ther. A - men.

The Collect of the Day

The Celebrant says to the people

	The Lord be with you.
<i>People</i>	And also with you.
<i>Celebrant</i>	Let us pray.

Almighty God, who through your only-begotten Son Jesus Christ overcame death and opened to us the gate of everlasting life: Grant that we, who celebrate with joy the day of the Lord's resurrection, may be raised from the death of sin by your life-giving Spirit; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

The Readings

All are seated.

Acts 10:34-43

Peter began to speak to Cornelius and the other Gentiles: "I truly understand that God shows no partiality, but in every nation anyone who fears him and does what is right is acceptable to him. You know the message he sent to the people of Israel, preaching peace by Jesus Christ--he is Lord of all. That message spread throughout Judea, beginning in Galilee after the baptism that John announced: how God anointed Jesus of Nazareth with the Holy Spirit and with power; how he went about doing good and healing all who were oppressed by the devil, for God was with him. We are witnesses to all that he did both in Judea and in Jerusalem. They put him to death by hanging him on a tree; but God raised him on the third day and allowed him to appear, not to all the people but to us who were chosen by God as witnesses, and who ate and drank with him after he rose from the dead. He commanded us to preach to the people and to testify that he is the one ordained by God as judge of the living and the dead. All the prophets testify

	The Word of the Lord.
<i>People</i>	Thanks be to God.

All stand, as are able

Gradual Hymn

Lift Every Voice and Sing II #221 This little light of mine

1. This lit - tle light of mine, _____ I'm gon - na let it
2. Ev - 'ry - where I go, _____ I'm gon - na let it
3. Je - sus gave it to me, _____ I'm gon - na let it

1. shine, _____ This lit - tle light of mine,
2. shine, _____ Ev - 'ry - where I go,
3. shine, _____ Je - sus gave it to me,

1. I'm gon - na let it shine; _____ This lit - tle light of
2. I'm gon - na let it shine; _____ Ev - 'ry - where I
3. I'm gon - na let it shine; _____ Je - sus gave it to

1. mine, _____ I'm gon - na let it shine, _____ Let it
2. go, _____ I'm gon - na let it shine, _____ Let it
3. me, _____ I'm gon - na let it shine, _____ Let it

1. shine, let it shine, let it shine. _____
2. shine, let it shine, let it shine. _____
3. shine, let it shine, let it shine. _____

Words: Traditional. Music: Negro Spiritual; arr. Horace Clarence Boyer (b. 1935). Arr. Copyright © 1992 Horace Clarence Boyer.

The Minister reads the Gospel, first saying

The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew.

People

Glory to you, Lord Christ.

Matthew 28:1-10

After the sabbath, as the first day of the week was dawning, Mary Magdalene and the other Mary went to see the tomb. And suddenly there was a great earthquake; for an angel of the Lord, descending from heaven, came and rolled back the stone and sat on it. His appearance was like lightning, and his clothing white as snow. For fear of him the guards shook and became like dead men. But the angel said to the women, "Do not be afraid; I know that you are looking for Jesus who was crucified. He is not here; for he has been raised, as he said. Come, see the place where he lay. Then go quickly and tell his disciples, 'He has been raised from the dead, and indeed he is going ahead of you to Galilee; there you will see him.' This is my message for you." So they left the tomb quickly with fear and great joy, and ran to tell his disciples. Suddenly Jesus met them and said, "Greetings!" And they came to him,

took hold of his feet, and worshiped him. Then Jesus said to them, “Do not be afraid; go and tell my brothers to go to Galilee; there they will see me.”

The Gospel of the Lord.

People

Praise to you, Lord Christ.

The Sermon

The Rev. Bradley C. Dyche

A brief time of reflection follows the sermon

The 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 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 III

The Leader and People pray responsively

Father, we pray for your holy Catholic Church;

That we all may be one.

Grant that every member of the Church may truly and humbly serve you;

That your Name may be glorified by all people.

We pray for all bishops, priests, and deacons;

That they may be faithful ministers of your Word and Sacraments.

We pray for all who govern and hold authority in the nations of the world;

That there may be justice and peace on the earth.

Give us grace to do your will in all that we undertake;

That our works may find favor in your sight.

Have compassion on those who suffer from any grief or trouble;

That they may be delivered from their distress.

Give to the departed eternal rest.

Let light perpetual shine upon them.

We praise you for your saints who have entered into joy;

May we also come to share in your heavenly kingdom.

Let us pray for our own needs and those of others.

Silence

The Celebrant says the following Collect

Almighty God, who through your only-begotten Son Jesus Christ overcame death and opened to us the gate of everlasting life: Grant that we, who celebrate with joy the day of the Lord's resurrection, may be raised from the death of sin by your life-giving Spirit; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

The Confession of Sin is omitted during Eastertide

The Peace

All stand, as are able. The Celebrant says to the people

The peace of the Lord be always with you.

People

And also with you.

Announcements

Birthdays & Anniversaries

Chris Bramlett (8th), Sara Jurney (10th), Roger Furtick (10th)

Watch over your children, O Lord, as their days increase; bless and guide them wherever they may be. Strengthen them when they stand; comfort them when discouraged or sorrowful; raise them up if they fall; and in their hearts may the peace which passes understanding abide all the days of their life; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

The Offertory Hymn

The Hymnal 1982 #210 The day of resurrection

The Doxology

(sung to The Hymnal 618, Ye watchers and ye holy ones)

Praise God, from Whom all blessings flow;

Praise Him, all creatures here below; Alleluia! Alleluia!

Praise Him above, ye Heavenly Host;

Praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost. Amen. Alleluia (5x)

The Great Thanksgiving

Eucharistic Prayer A

The people remain standing, as are able. The Celebrant says

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.**

Then, facing the Holy Table, the Celebrant proceeds

It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Father Almighty, Creator of heaven 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 for ever sing this hymn to proclaim the glory of your Name:

The Hymnal 1982, Service Music - #125 Holy, holy, holy (Proulx)

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow - er and might,

heaven and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho -

san - na in the high - est. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Ho -

san - na in the high - est. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

Music: From *A Community Mass*; Richard Proulx (b. 1937). Copyright © 1971, 1977 GIA Publications, Inc.

The people kneel, as are able.

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

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. Take them in remembrance that Christ died for you, and feed on him in your hearts by faith, with thanksgiving.

The Distribution of Holy Communion

Concerning Holy Communion

*“This is the table, not of the Church, but of the Lord.
It is made ready for those who love him and for those who want to love him more.
So come, you who have much faith, and you who have little,
you who have been here often and you who have not been here long,
you who have tried to follow and you who have failed.
Come, because it is the Lord who invites you.
It is his will that those who want him should meet him here.”*



*If you do not wish to receive the sacrament, we invite you to come forward for a blessing.
Simply cross your arms over your chest and the priest will bless you.*



Gluten free wafers are available upon request.

Communion Hymn

The Hymnal 1982 #178 Alleluia, give thanks to the risen Lord

The Hymnal 1982 #225 I am the bread of life

After Communion, the Celebrant says

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 Priest gives the blessing

May the Peace of the Almighty Creator-God of the Universe calm your Spirit; May the Joy of Christ's Resurrection excite your Soul; May the Beauty of God's creation tickle your Heart; May the Love of God's created - your brothers and sisters - envelope your Walk; And may the Spirituality embedded in you before your earthly birth, guide you Home. **Amen.**

Processional

The Hymnal 1982 #180 He is risen!

The Celebrant, dismisses with these words

Celebrant Let us go forth into the world, rejoicing in the power of the Spirit.

Alleluia! Alleluia!

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

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Easter Flowers Offered

To The Glory of God in Thanksgiving

For

Family

By

Ken & Fran Journey

And To the Glory of God in Memory

Of

Al Lilly

By

Mary, Artice & Robert

From the Calendar of Saints



April 8 William Augustus Muhlenberg *Priest, 1877*

Muhlenberg called on the church for flexibility in worship and polity in an influential proposal at the 1853 General Convention, preparing the ground for later reforms. He also experimented with Christian social living in a community at St. Johnland on Long Island.

April 9 Dietrich Bonhoeffer *Pastor and Theologian, 1945*

Best known for *The Cost of Discipleship*, Bonhoeffer was hanged by the Nazis for his part in an attempt on Hitler's life. As a pacifist theologian, he came to accept his guilt in the plot as the lesser of two evils.

April 10 William Law *Priest, 1762*

In the eyes of many, Law was the personification of the devout parson, dedicating himself to a life of simplicity, devotion, and works of charity. His inspiring sermons and writings assure him a permanent place in Christian literature.

April 11 George Augustus Selwyn *Bishop of New Zealand, and of Lichfield, 1878*

As first Bishop of New Zealand, Selwyn ministered to both sides in the ten-year war between the English and the Maori, winning the affection and admiration of natives and colonists. On a visit to America, he was the preacher at the 1874 General Convention.

St. Luke's Episcopal Church

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Clergy

The Rev. Bradley C. Dyche – Rector

The Rev. Mark Witte – Curate

The Rev. Leslie Guinn - Assisting

Staff

Lexi McLemore – Parish Administrator

Duncan McMahan – Organist

Gail Johnson & Kelly Barbee – Altar Guild Directresses

The Rev. Mark Witte – ECM Missioner

Neely Carter – Vestry Secretary

Emma Gomez – Technology Minister

Vestry

Term Ending 2026 – Kelly Barbee, Malcolm Cross, & Ian Wilson

Term Ending 2027 – Doug McLemore & Allison Haynes

Term Ending 2028 – Gail Johnson & Dylan Dowell

