



St. Luke's Episcopal Church – Stephenville, TX

The Second Sunday of Easter

April 12, 2026

8:00 am - 10:00 am - 5:30 pm

Coffee Hour 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 #193 That Easter Day

The people standing, the Celebrant says (three times)

Alleluia. Christ is risen.

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

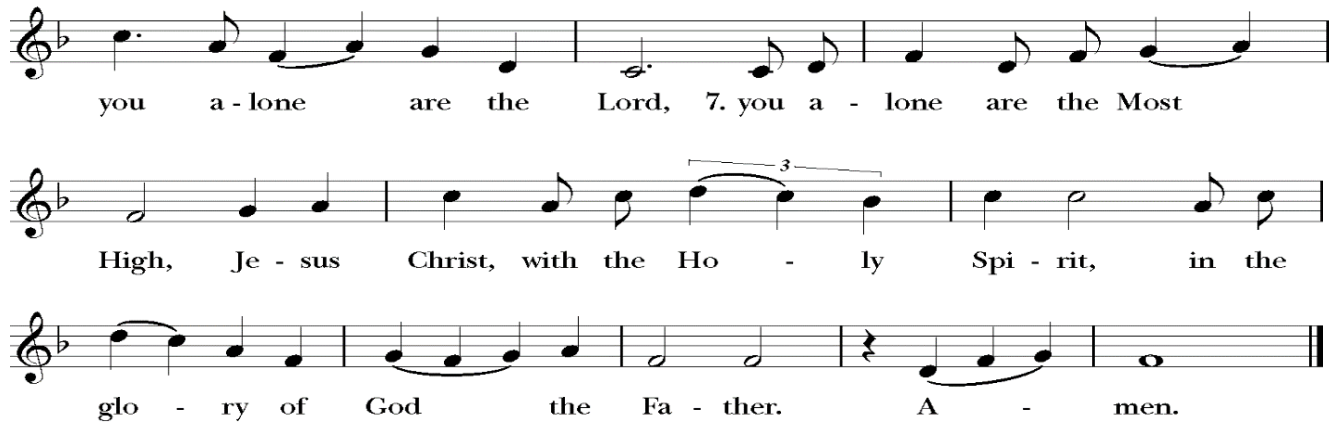
The Collect for Purity

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.**

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,



The Collect of the Day

Celebrant The Lord be with you.

People **And also with you.**

Celebrant Let us pray.

Almighty and everlasting God, who in the Paschal mystery established the new covenant of reconciliation: Grant that all who have been reborn into the fellowship of Christ's Body may show forth in their lives what they profess by their faith; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

The Readings

All are seated.

Acts 2:14a,22-32

Peter, standing with the eleven, raised his voice and addressed the crowd, “You that are Israelites, listen to what I have to say: Jesus of Nazareth, a man attested to you by God with deeds of power, wonders, and signs that God did through him among you, as you yourselves know— this man, handed over to you according to the definite plan and foreknowledge of God, you crucified and killed by the hands of those outside the law. But God raised him up, having freed him from death, because it was impossible for him to be held in its power. For David says concerning him,

‘I saw the Lord always before me,
for he is at my right hand so that I will not be shaken;
therefore my heart was glad, and my tongue rejoiced;
moreover my flesh will live in hope.

For you will not abandon my soul to Hades,
or let your Holy One experience corruption.

You have made known to me the ways of life;
you will make me full of gladness with your presence.’

“Fellow Israelites, I may say to you confidently of our ancestor David that he both died and was buried, and his tomb is with us to this day. Since he was a prophet, he knew that God had sworn with an oath to him that he would put one of his descendants on his throne. Foreseeing this, David spoke of the resurrection of the Messiah, saying,

‘He was not abandoned to Hades,
nor did his flesh experience corruption.’

This Jesus God raised up, and of that all of us are witnesses.”

The Word of the Lord.

People

Thanks be to God.

Psalm 16 *Conserva me, Domine (Read responsively by half verse)*

- 1 Protect me, O God, for I take refuge in you;
**I have said to the Lord, "You are my Lord,
my good above all other."**
- 2 All my delight is upon the godly that are in the land,
upon those who are noble among the people.
- 3 But those who run after other gods
shall have their troubles multiplied.
- 4 Their libations of blood I will not offer,
nor take the names of their gods upon my lips.
- 5 O Lord, you are my portion and my cup;
it is you who uphold my lot.
- 6 My boundaries enclose a pleasant land;
indeed, I have a goodly heritage.
- 7 I will bless the Lord who gives me counsel;
my heart teaches me, night after night.
- 8 I have set the Lord always before me;
because he is at my right hand I shall not fall.
- 9 My heart, therefore, is glad, and my spirit rejoices;
my body also shall rest in hope.
- 10 For you will not abandon me to the grave,
nor let your holy one see the Pit.
- 11 You will show me the path of life;
**in your presence there is fullness of joy,
and in your right hand are pleasures for evermore.**

1 Peter 1:3-9

Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ! By his great mercy he has given us a new birth into a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead, and into an inheritance that is imperishable, undefiled, and unfading, kept in heaven for you, who are being protected by the power of God through faith for a salvation ready to be revealed in the last time. In this you rejoice, even if now for a little while you have had to suffer various trials, so that the genuineness of your faith-- being more precious than gold that, though perishable, is tested by fire-- may be found to result in praise and glory and honor when Jesus Christ is revealed. Although you have not seen him, you love him; and even though you do not see him now, you believe in him and rejoice with an indescribable and glorious joy, for you are receiving the outcome of your faith, the salvation of your souls.

The Word of the Lord.

People

Thanks be to God.

All stand as are able.

Gradual Hymn

The Hymnal 1982 #209 We walk by faith

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

People

Glory to you, Lord Christ.

John 20:19-31

When it was evening on that day, the first day of the week, and the doors of the house where the disciples had met were locked for fear of the Jews, Jesus came and stood among them and said, "Peace be with you." After he said this, he showed them his hands and his side. Then the disciples rejoiced when they saw the Lord. Jesus said to them again, "Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, so I send you." When he had said this, he breathed on them and said to them, "Receive the Holy Spirit. If you forgive the sins of any, they are forgiven them; if you retain the sins of any, they are retained."

But Thomas (who was called the Twin), one of the twelve, was not with them when Jesus came. So the other disciples told him, "We have seen the Lord." But he said to them, "Unless I see the mark of the nails in his hands, and put my finger in the mark of the nails and my hand in his side, I will not believe."

A week later his disciples were again in the house, and Thomas was with them. Although the doors were shut, Jesus came and stood among them and said, "Peace be with you." Then he said to Thomas, "Put your finger here and see my hands. Reach out your hand and put it in my side. Do not doubt but believe." Thomas answered him, "My Lord and my God!" Jesus said to him, "Have you believed because you have seen me? Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have come to believe."

Now Jesus did many other signs in the presence of his disciples, which are not written in this book. But these are written so that you may come to believe that Jesus is the Messiah, the Son of God, and that through believing you may have life in his name.

The Gospel of the Lord.

People

Praise to you, Lord Christ.

The Sermon

A brief time of reflection follows the sermon

The Rev. Mark Witte

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

In peace, let us pray in peace for the Church and the world.

Father, we pray for your holy Catholic Church;
That we all may be one.

For those who have lost their faith, and for those who feel their faith has fallen short;
That those who have not seen may yet come to believe.

For all ministers of the Gospel, especially our bishops and clergy, and those in discernment;
That they may faithfully proclaim the faith once delivered to the saints.

For the United States, and for all nations, and for those in authority;
That they may serve justice, and promote the dignity and freedom of every person.

For the preservation and restoration of our common resources and lands;
That our boundaries may enclose a pleasant land and be a goodly heritage.

For the peace of the world, especially in places of conflict and unrest;
That a spirit of reconciliation and truth may prevail among all peoples.

For those who suffer in body, mind, or spirit, especially [*St. Luke's Prayer List*], and others known to us;
That they may find wholeness, and know the healing presence of the risen Christ.

For those who have died in the hope of the resurrection, including [*N. of the dead*] and for all the departed;
That they may have a place in your eternal kingdom.

Rejoicing in the fellowship of the blessed Thomas the Apostle and all your saints, we commend ourselves, and one another, and all our life to Christ our God.

To you, O Lord our God.

Almighty God, by your Holy Spirit you have made us one with your saints in heaven and on earth: Grant that in our earthly pilgrimage we may always be supported by this fellowship of love and prayer, and know ourselves to be surrounded by their witness to your power and mercy. We ask this for the sake of Jesus Christ, in whom all our intercessions are acceptable through the Spirit, and who lives and reigns for ever and ever. **Amen.**

The Confession of Sin is omitted during Eastertide

The Peace

All stand as are able.

Celebrant The peace of the Lord be always with you.

People **And also with you.**

Announcements

Birthdays & Anniversaries

Abbey Blackburn (12th), Luke Blackburn (12th), Bill Dennis (12th)

Celebrant and People

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.

Celebrant

Walk in love, as Christ loved us and gave himself for us, an offering and sacrifice to God.

Gifts may be placed in the offering plate, given by text by sending an amount to (254) 282-0706, or given online.

Mailed checks may be sent to the address printed at the end of the bulletin.

The Offertory Hymn
Lift Every Voice and Sing II #42 He Lives



1. I serve a ris - en Sav - ior, He's in the world to - day;___
2. In all the world a - round me I see His lov - ing care,___
3. Re - joice, re - joice. O Chris - tian, lift up your voice and sing. ___



1. I know that He is liv - ing, what - ev - er oth - ers say;___
2. And though my heart grows wea - ry I nev - er will de - spair;___
3. E - ter - nal hal - le - lu - jahs to Je - sus Christ, the King!___



1. I see His hand of mer - cy, I hear His voice of cheer,___
2. I know that He is lead - ing through all the storm - y blast,___
3. The hope of all who seek Him, the help of all who find,___



1. And just the time I need Him___ He's al - ways near. ___
2. The day of His ap - pear - ing___ will come at last. ___
3. None oth - er is so lov - ing,___ so good and kind. ___



He lives,___ He lives,___ Christ Je - sus lives_ to - day!___



He walks with me and talks with me a - long life's nar - row way. ___



He lives,___ He lives,___ sal - va - tion to im - part!___



You ask me how I know He lives? He lives with - in my heart. ___

Words: Alfred H. Ackley (1887-1960). Music: Alfred H. Ackley. Copyright © 1933 Homer A. Rodeheaver, Renewed 1961 The Rodeheaver Co. (A div. of WORD, INC.). All Rights Reserved. International Copyright Secured. Used by permission.

Doxology

(sung to The Hymnal 380)

*Praise God, from Whom all blessings flow;
Praise Him, all creatures here below;
Praise Him above, ye Heavenly Host;
Praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost. Amen.*

**The Great Thanksgiving
Eucharistic Prayer B**

Expansive Language

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

	God be with you.
<i>People</i>	And also with you.
<i>Celebrant</i>	Lift up your hearts.
<i>People</i>	We lift them to the Lord.
<i>Celebrant</i>	Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
<i>People</i>	It is right to give our thanks and praise.

The Celebrant proceeds

It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Almighty God, Creator of heaven and earth.

Through Jesus Christ our Lord; who was tempted in every way as we are, yet did not sin. By his grace we are able to triumph over every evil, and to live no longer for ourselves alone, but for him who died for us and rose again.

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 stand or kneel, as are able.

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 Jesus Christ, the Word made flesh. For in these last days you sent Jesus to be incarnate from the Virgin Mary, to be the Savior and Redeemer of the world. In Christ, you have delivered us from evil, and made us worthy to stand before you. In Christ, you have brought us out of error into truth, out of sin into righteousness, out of death into life.

At the following words concerning the bread, the Celebrant is to hold it or lay a hand upon it; and at the words concerning the cup, to hold or place a hand upon the cup and any other vessel containing wine to be consecrated.

On the night before he died for us, our Savior 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 Jesus 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 Christ's death,
We proclaim Christ's resurrection,
We await Christ's coming in glory;**

The Celebrant continues

And we offer our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving to you, O Savior 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 in the sacrifice of Jesus Christ, through whom we are acceptable to you, 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 the Virgin Mary, Luke and all your saints, we may enter the everlasting heritage of your children; through Jesus Christ our Savior, the firstborn of all creation, the head of the Church, and the author of our salvation.

By Christ, and with Christ, and in Christ, in the unity of the Holy Spirit all honor and glory is yours, Almighty God, 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

Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world,
have mercy on us.

Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world,
have mercy on us.

Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world,
grant us peace.

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.




*If after receiving Communion or a blessing you would like special prayers for healing, you are
invited to go to the votive stand at the rear of the church where someone will pray with you.*

Communion Hymn

Lift Every Voice and Sing II #88 My faith looks up to Thee




1. My faith looks up to thee, Thou lamb of
2. May thy rich grace im - part Strength to my
3. While life's dark maze I tread, And griefs a -
4. When ends life's tran - sient dream, When death's cold,



1. Cal - va - ry, Sav - ior di - vine!
2. faint - ing heart, My zeal in - spire;
3. round me spread, Be thou my guide;
4. sul - len stream Shall o'er me roll;



1. Now hear me while I pray, Take all my guilt a - way;
2. As thou hast died for me, O may my love to thee
3. Bid dark - ness turn to - day, Wipe sor - row's tears a - way;
4. Blest Sav - ior, then in love, Fear and dis - trust re - move,



1. O let me from this day Be whol - ly thine.
2. Pure, warm, and change - less be, A liv - ing fire.
3. Nor let me ev - er stray From thee a - side.
4. O bear me safe a - bove, A ran - somed soul.

Words: Ray Palmer (1808-1987). Music: Lowell Mason (1792-1872).

After Communion, the Celebrant says

Let us pray.

Celebrant and People

Almighty and everliving God, we thank you for feeding us with the spiritual food of the most precious Body and Blood of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ; and for assuring us in these holy mysteries that we are living members of the Body of your Son, and heirs of your eternal kingdom. And now, Father, send us out to do the work you have given us to do, to love and serve you as faithful witnesses of Christ our Lord. To him, to you, and to the Holy Spirit, be honor and glory, now and for ever. Amen.

The Priest gives the blessing

May the God who shakes heaven and earth,
Whom death could not contain,
Who lives to disturb and heal us,
Bless us with power to go forth
And proclaim the Gospel. **Amen.**

Janet Morley

Processional

The Hymnal 1982 #208 Alleluia – the strife is o'er

The Dismissal

Celebrant Let us go forth in the name of Christ. Alleluia. Alleluia.

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

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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

