



St. Luke's Episcopal Church – Stephenville, TX
6th Sunday in Easter – Year C
In Person and Streamed live on Facebook & YouTube
May 25, 2025
8:00 am & 10:00 am

Coffee hour to follow at 11:00 AM.

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 #537 Christ for the world we sing

The people standing, the Celebrant says (three times)

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

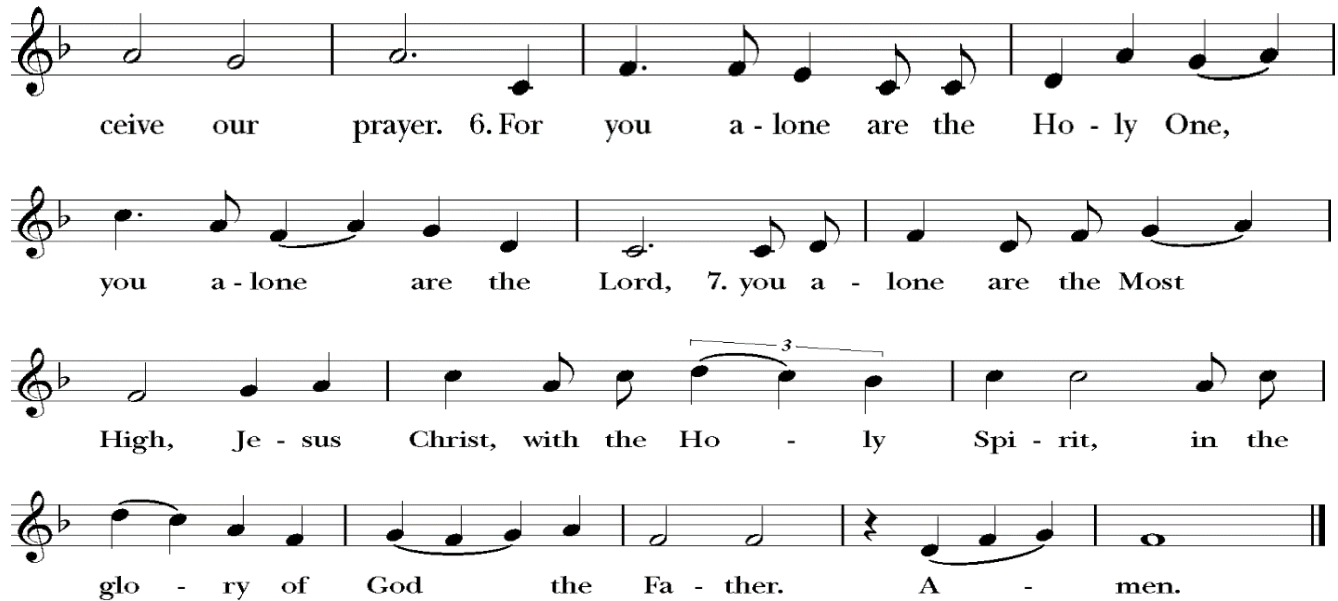
The Celebrant may say

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 - might - y 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 -



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.

O God, you have prepared for those who love you such good things as surpass our understanding; Pour into our hearts such love towards you, that we, loving you in all things and above all things, may obtain your promises, which exceed all that we can desire; 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 16:9-15

During the night Paul had a vision: there stood a man of Macedonia pleading with him and saying, "Come over to Macedonia and help us." When he had seen the vision, we immediately tried to cross over to Macedonia, being convinced that God had called us to proclaim the good news to them.

We set sail from Troas and took a straight course to Samothrace, the following day to Neapolis, and from there to Philippi, which is a leading city of the district of Macedonia and a Roman colony. We remained in this city for some days. On the sabbath day we went outside the gate by the river, where we supposed there was a place of prayer; and we sat down and spoke to the women who had gathered there. A certain woman named Lydia, a worshiper of God, was listening to us; she was from the city of Thyatira and a dealer in purple cloth. The Lord opened her heart to listen eagerly to what was said by Paul. When she and her household were baptized, she urged us, saying, "If you have judged me to be faithful to the Lord, come and stay at my home." And she prevailed upon us.

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

Psalm 67 *Dens misereatur (Read in unison)*

1 May God be merciful to us and bless us, show us the light of his countenance and come to us.

2 Let your ways be known upon earth, your saving health among all nations.

3 Let the peoples praise you, O God; let all the peoples praise you.

4 Let the nations be glad and sing for joy, for you judge the peoples with equity and guide all the nations upon earth.

5 Let the peoples praise you, O God; let all the peoples praise you.

6 The earth has brought forth her increase; may God, our own God, give us his blessing.

7 May God give us his blessing, and may all the ends of the earth stand in awe of him.

Gradual Hymn

The Hymnal 1982 #467 Sing, my soul, his wondrous love

Then, all standing, as are able, the Celebrant reads the Gospel, first saying

People The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to John.
Glory to you, Lord Christ.

John 14:23-29

Jesus said to Judas (not Iscariot), "Those who love me will keep my word, and my Father will love them, and we will come to them and make our home with them. Whoever does not love me does not keep my words; and the word that you hear is not mine, but is from the Father who sent me.

"I have said these things to you while I am still with you. But the Advocate, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in my name, will teach you everything, and remind you of all that I have said to you. Peace I leave with you; my peace I give to you. I do not give to you as the world gives. Do not let your hearts be troubled, and do not let them be afraid. You heard me say to you, 'I am going away, and I am coming to you.' If you loved me, you would rejoice that I am going to the Father, because the Father is greater than I. And now I have told you this before it occurs, so that when it does occur, you may believe."

People The Word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

The Sermon

A brief time of reflection follows the sermon

The Rev. Bradley Dyche

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. (Insert St. Luke's prayer list)

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

Amanda Greene 25th, Debbie Sheets 27th, Jim & Judy Blackburn 27th, Gwen Burge 28th, and Artice Lilly 31st

Let us pray together.

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

Lift Every Voice and Sing #64 I love to tell the story

1. I love to tell the sto - ry Of un - seen things a - bove,
2. I love to tell the sto - ry, For those who know it best

1. Of Je - sus and His glo - ry, Of Je - sus and His love.
2. Seem hun - ger-ing and thirst-ing To hear it, like the rest.

1. I love to tell the sto-ry, Be - cause I know it's true;
2. And when, in scenes of glo-ry, I sing the new, new song,

1. It sat - is - fies my long-ings As noth - ing else would do.
2. 'Twill be the old, old sto - ry That I have loved so long.

I love to tell the sto-ry; 'Twill be my theme in glo - ry.

To tell the old, old sto-ry Of Je - sus and His love.

Words: A. Katherine Hankey (1831-1911). Music: William G. Fisher (1835-1912).

The Doxology

(sung to *The Hymnal* 618)

***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. Alleluia (5x) Amen.***

The Great Thanksgiving

Eucharistic Prayer A

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

	The Lord 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 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:

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of power and
 might, Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord,
 God of power and might, hea - ven and earth are
 full, full of your glo - ry. Ho -
 san - na in the high - est. 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. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

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 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.*



Communion Hymn

The Hymnal 1982 #645 The King of Love

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

The world now is too dangerous
and too beautiful for anything but love.
May your eyes be so blessed you see God in everyone.
Your ears, so you hear the cry of the poor.
May your hands be so blessed
that everything you touch is a sacrament.
Your lips, so you speak nothing but the truth with love.
May your feet be so blessed you run
to those who need you.
And may your heart be so opened,
so set on fire, that your love,
your love, changes everything. **Amen.**

from the Blackrock Prayer Book

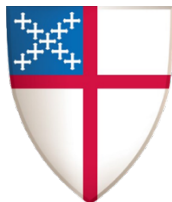
Processional Hymn

The Hymnal 1982 #522 Glorious things of Thee are spoken

The Celebrant, dismisses them 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.**

From the Calendar of Saints



May 25 Bede the Venerable *Priest and Monk, 735*

The greatest scholar of his time in the Western Church, Bede's most famous work is *The Ecclesiastical History of England* written in Latin. The unusual title "Venerable," accorded him over a century after his death, is a tribute to his life as an exemplary monk.

May 26 Augustine *First Archbishop of Canterbury, 605*

As the result of his successful mission to the Anglo-Saxons, Augustine was named "Archbishop of the English Nation" by Ethelbert, the first English king to become a Christian. Under the influence of Pope Gregory the Great, Augustine became an advocate of "unity in diversity," a hallmark of Anglicanism.

May 31 Visitation of the Virgin Mary

When Mary, pregnant with Jesus, visited her cousin, Elizabeth, pregnant with John the Baptist, Mary sang her "Magnificat" of praise and thanksgiving, and John leaped for joy in his mother's womb.

The First Book of Common Prayer (a weekday following the Day of Pentecost)

Primarily the work of Thomas Cranmer, Archbishop of Canterbury in the reign of King Edward VI, the first Book of Common Prayer came into use on the Day of Pentecost in 1549. Its originality lay in its simplification of the complicated liturgies of the medieval church, making it suitable for use by the laity as well as the clergy.

St. Luke's Episcopal Church

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Clergy

The Rev. Bradley C. Dyche – St. Luke's Episcopal Church

Assisting Clergy

The Rev. Leslie Guinn

Staff

Duncan McMahan – Organist
Gail Johnson & Kelly Barbee – Altar Guild Directresses
Mackenzie Campbell-Furtick – ECM Missioner
Lindsey Hughes – Parish Administrator
Neely Carter- Vestry Secretary
Emma Gomez- Technology Minister

Vestry

Term Ending 2025- Gail Johnson & Karl Aho
Term Ending 2026 – Kelly Barbee, Malcolm Cross, & Ian Wilson
Term Ending 2027 – Doug McLemore & Allison Haynes

