

**Fourth Sunday of Easter**

**April 27, 2014**



St. Stephen's Episcopal Church  
1512 Willow  
Blytheville, AR 72315

The Rt. Rev. Larry Benfield, Bishop of Arkansas  
Fr. John Scott Trotter

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# Entrance Rites

*The people stand as they are able.*

## Opening Hymn

The Hymnal 1982 #645 The King of Love my shepherd is

# Opening Acclamation

**Celebrant** Alleluia. Christ is risen.

**People** *Christ 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.*

## Glory to God

*The Hymnal 1982, Service Music #280*

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 -  
 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.

## 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 people sit.*

# The Word of God

## First Reading

A reading from The Acts of the Apostles (4:5-12).

<sup>5</sup>The next day their rulers, elders, and scribes assembled in Jerusalem,  
<sup>6</sup>with Annas the high priest, Caiaphas, John, and Alexander, and all  
who were of the high-priestly family. <sup>7</sup>When they had made the  
prisoners stand in their midst, they inquired, “By what power or by  
what name did you do this?” <sup>8</sup>Then Peter, filled with the Holy Spirit,  
said to them, “Rulers of the people and elders, <sup>9</sup>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, <sup>10</sup>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. <sup>11</sup>This Jesus is  
‘the stone that was rejected by you, the builders;  
it has become the cornerstone.’

<sup>12</sup>There is salvation in no one else, for there is no other name under  
heaven given among mortals by which we must be saved.”

The Word of the Lord  
People  
Thanks be to God

*A period of silence is kept.*

## Psalm 23

*BCP p. 612*

*Dominus regit me*

- 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.

*A period of silence is kept.*

## **Second Reading**

A reading from The First Letter of John (3:16-24).

<sup>16</sup>We know love by this, that he laid down his life for us—and we ought to lay down our lives for one another. <sup>17</sup>How does God’s love abide in anyone who has the world’s goods and sees a brother or sister in need and yet refuses help? <sup>18</sup>Little children, let us love, not in word or speech, but in truth and action. <sup>19</sup>And by this we will know that we are from the truth and will reassure our hearts before him <sup>20</sup>whenever our hearts condemn us; for God is greater than our hearts, and he knows everything. <sup>21</sup>Beloved, if our hearts do not condemn us, we have boldness before God; <sup>22</sup>and we receive from him whatever we ask, because we obey his commandments and do what pleases him. <sup>23</sup>And this is his commandment, that we should believe in the name of his Son Jesus Christ and love one another, just as he has commanded us. <sup>24</sup>All who obey his commandments abide in him, and he abides in them. And by this we know that he abides in us, by the Spirit that he has given us.

Reader

Hear what the Spirit is saying to God's people

People  
Thanks be to God

*A period of silence is kept.*

*The people stand as they are able.*

The Hymnal 1982 #518 -Christ is made the sure foundation

## **Gospel**

The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to John  
(10:11-18).

Glory to you Lord Christ

<sup>11</sup>“I am the good shepherd. The good shepherd lays down his life for the sheep. <sup>12</sup>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. <sup>13</sup>The hired hand runs away because a hired hand does not care for the sheep. <sup>14</sup>I am the good shepherd. I know my own and my own know me, <sup>15</sup>just as the Father knows me and I know the Father. And I lay down my life for the sheep. <sup>16</sup>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. <sup>17</sup>For this reason the Father loves me, because I lay down my life in order to take it up again. <sup>18</sup>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.”

The Gospel of the Lord  
People  
Praise to you Lord Christ

*The people sit.*

## **Sermon**

*The people stand as they are able.*

## **The Nicene Creed**

*All say together*

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 people kneel or stand as they are able*

## **Prayers of the People**

BCP 387

### **Intercessor**

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 People may add their own petitions.*

*A period of silence is kept.*

### **Collect**

BCP 223

O God, who by the glorious resurrection of your Son Jesus Christ destroyed death and brought life and immortality to light: Grant that we, who have been raised with him, may abide in his presence and rejoice in the hope of eternal glory; through Jesus Christ our Lord, to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit, be dominion and praise for ever and ever. Amen.

### **Confession of sin**

#### **Penitential Sentence**

BCP 351

*The Presider then says*

Jesus said, “The first commandment is this: Hear, O Israel: The Lord our God is the only Lord. Love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul, with all your mind, and with all your strength. The second is this: Love your neighbor as yourself. There is no other commandment greater than these.” *Mark 12:29-31*

Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

*The people kneel as they are able.*

### **Confession of Sin**

*All say together*

Most merciful God,  
we confess that we have sinned against you  
in thought, word, and deed,  
by what we have done,  
and by what we have left undone.  
We have not loved you with our whole heart;  
we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves.  
We are truly sorry and we humbly repent.  
For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ,  
have mercy on us and forgive us;  
that we may delight in your will,  
and walk in your ways,  
to the glory of your Name. Amen.

## **Absolution**

BCP 353

Almighty God have mercy on you, forgive you all your sins through our Lord Jesus Christ, strengthen you in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep you in eternal life. Amen.

*The people stand as they are able.*

## The Peace

**Celebrant**            The peace of the Lord be always with you.

**People**                *And also with you.*

*The Ministers and People may greet one another in the name of the Lord.*

## The Holy Communion

*The people sit.*

### **Our work this week**

#### **Offertory**

BCP 343

*The Priest says*

Ascribe to the Lord the honor due his Name; bring offerings and come into his courts. *Psalms 96:8*

#### **The Offertory Hymn**

*as their alms as brought forward the people stand, as they are able*

*The Hymnal 1982 # 380, vs 3*

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

*A period of silence is kept.*

## The Great Thanksgiving

**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.*

### *Celebrant*

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 #130*

The musical score is written for voice and piano. It consists of two systems of music. The first system has a vocal line and a piano accompaniment. The vocal line begins with the lyrics "Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of power and" and continues with "might," followed by "Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord,". The piano accompaniment provides harmonic support with chords and moving lines. The second system continues the vocal line and piano accompaniment. The key signature is B-flat major (two flats) and the time signature is common time (C).

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 or stand as they are able*

*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:

BCP 363

*Celebrant and People*

Christ has died.

Christ is risen.

Christ will come again.

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

## Lord's Prayer

**Celebrant** And now, as our Savior Christ has taught us, we are bold to say,

### *People and Celebrant*

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.

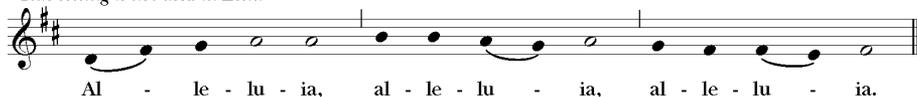
## The Breaking of the Bread

*A period of silence is kept.*

## Fraction Anthem

*The Hymnal 1982, Service Music #154*

*This setting is not used in Lent.*



Christ our Pass - o - ver is sac - ri - ficed for us;  
 there - fore let us keep the feast.  
 Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

*The Priest invites the people to Communion*

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.

*All are invited to our Lord's Table. If you wish to receive communion please extend your hands, one over the other, to receive the bread of Christ. To receive a blessing cross your arms over your chest. To receive the cup of Christ, guide the chalice to your lips. If you wish choose not to receive of the cup, please cross arms over your chest. You may choose to remain seated.*

## **Communion Hymn**

The Hymnal 1982 #304

*The people stand as they are able.*

## **Postcommunion Prayer**

BCP 365

**Celebrant** Let us pray.

*Silence*

*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.

## **Blessing**

BOS 27

*The Bishop or Priest says*

The God of peace, who brought again from the dead our Lord Jesus Christ, the great Shepherd of the sheep, through the blood of the everlasting covenant, make you perfect in every good work to do his will, working in you that which is well-pleasing in his sight; and the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be among you, and remain with you always. *Amen.*

## **Hymn**

The Hymnal 1982 - 581 Where charity and love prevail

## **Dismissal**

**Deacon**

Let us go in peace to love and serve the Lord

**People**

*Thanks be to God. Alleluia, Alleluia.*



## **Prayer List**

Charles, Carolyn, Charlotte, Caden, Tony, the Meadows family, Barbara-Dale, Dale, Angie, Marcel, Nicholas E, Pat P, Beth - Amy & Ian, Chuck and, the Lutes family, Byron, Rock, Ginny, Carson, Liz and family, St. Ambrose, those suffering from seasonal storms, meals on wheels, making better, men of young men, those serving our country, those traveling, and for those we now name...

fo those who have died: Billy

## **World Labyrinth Day**

Saturday, May 2, at St. Luke's, North Little Rock

St. Luke's celebrate the seventh annual World Labyrinth Day on May 2. St. Luke's and the Labyrinth Society invite you to "Walk as One" at 1 p.m. on their outdoor labyrinth, joining others around the globe.

## **Women's Institute**

June 5–7, at Camp Mitchell

This year's Women's Institute is filling up fast. Download a brochure and registration form from the Arkansas ECW website. The Rt. Rev. Steven Charleston, an elder of the Choctaw Nation of Oklahoma and former bishop of Alaska, will look at the gospel of Christ through the eyes of Native American tradition. This year, men are invited to Saturday's events and can download own form from the web site.

## Calendar

### April 26 4th Sunday of Easter

9:00 AM Eucharist

10:00 AM Fellowship and Sunday School

April 28 6:00 PM Al-Anon

May 1, 6:00 PM Friday Families

### May 3, 4th Sunday of Easter

9:00 AM Eucharist

10:00 AM Fellowship and Vestry

## Worship Leaders

Date	Proper	Service	EM Worship Ldr	reader	Intercessor
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April 26	4th Sunday of Easter	Eucharist	Kathryn	Corbet	Beth
May 3	5th Sunday of Easter	Eucharist	Mike	Kathryn	Corbet
May 10	6th Sunday of Easter	Eucharist	Beth	Liz	Mike

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