

# The Fifth Sunday of Easter

May 18, 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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## **Opening Rites**

BCP 77

Christ has entered, not into a sanctuary made with hands, a copy of the true one, but into heaven itself, now to appear in the presence of God on our behalf. *Hebrews 9:24*

## **Confession of Sin**

*Officiant* Let us confess our sins to God.

*The people kneel as they are able.*

*A period of silence is kept.*

*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.

*Officiant:*

May the Almighty God grant us forgiveness of all our sins, and the grace and comfort of the Holy Spirit. *Amen.*

*The people stand as they are able.*

## Invitatory and Psalter

### Invitatory

**Officiant** Lord, open our lips.

**People** *And our mouth shall proclaim your praise.*

**Officiant and People** Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit: as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be for ever. Amen. Alleluia.

BCP 81

Alleluia. The Lord is risen indeed: Come let us adore him. Alleluia.

### The Invitatory

BCP 83

### Christ our Passover Pascha nostrum

*1 Corinthians 5:7-8; Romans 6:9-11; 1 Corinthians 15:20-22*

Alleluia.

Christ our Passover has been sacrificed for us; \*

therefore let us keep the feast,

Not with the old leaven, the leaven of malice and evil, \*

but with the unleavened bread of sincerity and truth. Alleluia.

Christ being raised from the dead will never die again; \*

death no longer has dominion over him.

The death that he died, he died to sin, once for all; \*

but the life he lives, he lives to God.

So also consider yourselves dead to sin, \*

and alive to God in Jesus Christ our Lord. Alleluia.

Christ has been raised from the dead, \*

the first fruits of those who have fallen asleep.

For since by a man came death, \*

by a man has come also the resurrection of the dead.

For as in Adam all die, \*

so also in Christ shall all be made alive. Alleluia.

*The people sit.*

## **Psalm**

### **Psalm 31:1-5,15-16**

*BCP p. 622*

*In te, Domine, speravi*

- 1 In you, O LORD, have I taken refuge;  
let me never be put to shame; \*  
deliver me in your righteousness.
- 2 Incline your ear to me; \*  
make haste to deliver me.
- 3 Be my strong rock, a castle to keep me safe,  
for you are my crag and my stronghold; \*  
for the sake of your Name, lead me and guide me.
- 4 Take me out of the net that they have secretly set for me, \*  
for you are my tower of strength.
- 5 Into your hands I commend my spirit, \*  
for you have redeemed me,  
O LORD, O God of truth.
- 15 My times are in your hand; \*  
rescue me from the hand of my enemies,  
and from those who persecute me.
- 16 Make your face to shine upon your servant, \*  
and in your loving-kindness save me.”

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit: \* as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be for ever. Amen.

*A period of silence is kept.*

## **The Liturgy of the Word**

A reading from The Acts of the Apostles (7:55-60).

<sup>55</sup> But filled with the Holy Spirit, he gazed into heaven and saw the glory of God and Jesus standing at the right hand of God. <sup>56</sup> “Look,”

he said, "I see the heavens opened and the Son of Man standing at the right hand of God!" <sup>57</sup> But they covered their ears, and with a loud shout all rushed together against him. <sup>58</sup> Then they dragged him out of the city and began to stone him; and the witnesses laid their coats at the feet of a young man named Saul. <sup>59</sup> While they were stoning Stephen, he prayed, "Lord Jesus, receive my spirit." <sup>60</sup> Then he knelt down and cried out in a loud voice, "Lord, do not hold this sin against them." When he had said this, he died.  
Here ends the reading

*A period of silence is kept.*

The Song of Zechariah

**Canticle 16**

*BCP p. 92*

Luke 1:68-79

Canticle 16

The Song of Zechariah

*Benedictus Dominus Deus*

Blessed be the Lord, the God of Israel; \*

he has come to his people and set them free.

He has raised up for us a mighty savior, \*

born of the house of his servant David.

Through his holy prophets he promised of old,

that he would save us from our enemies, \*

from the hands of all who hate us.

He promised to show mercy to our fathers \*

and to remember his holy covenant.

This was the oath he swore to our father Abraham, \*

to set us free from the hands of our enemies,

Free to worship him without fear, \*

holy and righteous in his sight

all the days of our life.

You, my child, shall be called the prophet of the Most High, \*

for you will go before the Lord to prepare his way,

To give his people knowledge of salvation \*

by the forgiveness of their sins.

In the tender compassion of our God \*

the dawn from on high shall break upon us,  
To shine on those who dwell in darkness and the  
shadow of death, \*  
and to guide our feet into the way of peace.

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit: \*  
as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be for ever. Amen.

*A period of silence is kept.*

A reading from The First Letter of Peter (2:2-10).

<sup>2</sup> Like newborn infants, long for the pure, spiritual milk, so that by it you may grow into salvation— <sup>3</sup> if indeed you have tasted that the Lord is good. <sup>4</sup> Come to him, a living stone, though rejected by mortals yet chosen and precious in God's sight, and <sup>5</sup> like living stones, let yourselves be built into a spiritual house, to be a holy priesthood, to offer spiritual sacrifices acceptable to God through Jesus Christ. <sup>6</sup> For it stands in scripture:

“See, I am laying in Zion a stone,  
a cornerstone chosen and precious;  
and whoever believes in him will not be put to shame.”

<sup>7</sup> To you then who believe, he is precious; but for those who do not believe,

“The stone that the builders rejected  
has become the very head of the corner,”

<sup>8</sup> and

“A stone that makes them stumble,  
and a rock that makes them fall.”

They stumble because they disobey the word, as they were destined to do. <sup>9</sup> But you are a chosen race, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, God's own people, in order that you may proclaim the mighty acts of

him who called you out of darkness into his marvelous light. <sup>10</sup> Once  
you were not a people,

but now you are God's people;

once you had not received mercy,

but now you have received mercy.

Hear what the Spirit is saying to God's people

*A period of silence is kept.*

The Song of the Redeemed

**Canticle 19**

*BCP p. 94*

Revelation 15:3-4

Canticle 19

The Song of the Redeemed

*Magna et mirabilia*

O ruler of the universe, Lord God,  
great deeds are they that you have done, \*  
surpassing human understanding.

Your ways are ways of righteousness and truth, \*  
O King of all the ages.

Who can fail to do you homage, Lord,  
and sing the praises of your Name? \*  
for you only are the holy One.

All nations will draw near and fall down before you, \*  
because your just and holy works have been revealed.

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit: \*  
as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be for ever. Amen.

*A period of silence is kept.*

**Gospel**

The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Luke (4:16-30).

<sup>16</sup>When he came to Nazareth, where he had been brought up, he  
went to the synagogue on the sabbath day, as was his custom. He  
stood up to read, <sup>17</sup>and the scroll of the prophet Isaiah was given to

him. He unrolled the scroll and found the place where it was written:

<sup>18</sup>“The Spirit of the Lord is upon me,  
because he has anointed me

to bring good news to the poor.

He has sent me to proclaim release to the captives  
and recovery of sight to the blind,

to let the oppressed go free,

<sup>19</sup>to proclaim the year of the Lord’s favor.” <sup>20</sup>And he rolled up the scroll, gave it back to the attendant, and sat down. The eyes of all in the synagogue were fixed on him. <sup>21</sup>Then he began to say to them, “Today this scripture has been fulfilled in your hearing.” <sup>22</sup>All spoke well of him and were amazed at the gracious words that came from his mouth. They said, “Is not this Joseph’s son?” <sup>23</sup>He said to them, “Doubtless you will quote to me this proverb, ‘Doctor, cure yourself!’ And you will say, ‘Do here also in your hometown the things that we have heard you did at Capernaum.’” <sup>24</sup>And he said, “Truly I tell you, no prophet is accepted in the prophet’s hometown. <sup>25</sup>But the truth is, there were many widows in Israel in the time of Elijah, when the heaven was shut up three years and six months, and there was a severe famine over all the land; <sup>26</sup>yet Elijah was sent to none of them except to a widow at Zarephath in Sidon. <sup>27</sup>There were also many lepers in Israel in the time of the prophet Elisha, and none of them was cleansed except Naaman the Syrian.” <sup>28</sup>When they heard this, all in the synagogue were filled with rage. <sup>29</sup>They got up, drove him out of the town, and led him to the brow of the hill on which their town was built, so that they might hurl him off the cliff. <sup>30</sup>But he passed through the midst of them and went on his way.

The Word of the Lord  
People  
Thanks be to God

*A period of silence is kept.*

## **Sermon**

*The people stand as they are able.*

## **The Apostles' Creed**

*All say together*

I believe in God, the Father almighty,  
creator of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.

He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit and born of the  
Virgin Mary.

He suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was  
buried.

He descended to the dead.

On the third day he rose again.

He ascended into heaven, and is seated at the right hand of the  
Father.

He will come again to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit,  
the holy catholic Church,  
the communion of saints,  
the forgiveness of sins,  
the resurrection of the body,  
and the life everlasting. Amen.

## **The Prayers**

**Officiant**            The Lord be with you.

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

**Officiant**            Let us pray.

**Officiant and  
People**

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.

V. Save your people, Lord, and bless your inheritance;  
R. Govern and uphold them, now and always.  
V. Day by day we bless you;  
R. We praise your Name for ever.  
V. Lord, keep us from all sin today;  
R. Have mercy on us, Lord, have mercy.  
V. Lord, show us your love and mercy;  
R. For we put our trust in you.  
V. In you, Lord, is our hope;  
R. And we shall never hope in vain.

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.*

### **Collect**

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.*

## **Prayer for Mission**

O God and Father of all, whom the whole heavens adore: Let the whole earth also worship you, all nations obey you, all tongues confess and bless you, and men and women everywhere love you and serve you in peace; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

## **Hymn**

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

## **Prayers of the People**

BCP 387

### **Leader**

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.*

## **Collect**

BCP 395

Hasten, O Father, the coming of your kingdom; and grant that we your servants, who now live by faith, may with joy behold your Son at his coming in glorious majesty; even Jesus Christ, our only Mediator and Advocate. *Amen.*

## **General Thanksgiving**

Almighty God, Father of all mercies, we your unworthy servants give you humble thanks for all your goodness and loving-kindness to us and to all whom you have made. We bless you for our creation, preservation, and all the blessings of this life; but above all for your immeasurable love in the redemption of the world by our Lord Jesus Christ; for the means of grace, and for the hope of glory. And, we pray, give us such an awareness of your mercies, that with truly thankful hearts we may show forth your praise, not only with our lips, but in our lives, by giving up our selves to your service, and by walking before you in holiness and righteousness all our days; through Jesus Christ our Lord, to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit, be honor and glory throughout all ages. Amen.

## **Prayer of St. Chrysostom**

Almighty God, you have given us grace at this time with one accord to make our common supplication to you; and you have promised through your well-beloved Son that when two or three are gathered together in his Name you will be in the midst of them: Fulfill now, O Lord, our desires and petitions as may be best for us; granting us in this world knowledge of your truth, and in the age to come life everlasting. Amen.

**Officiant**            Let us bless the Lord.

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

### **Closing Sentence**

Glory to God whose power, working in us, can do infinitely more than we can ask or imagine: Glory to him from generation to generation in the Church, and in Christ Jesus for ever and ever. Amen.  
Ephesians 3:20, 21

## **Prayer List**

Ronnie, Joe, Bill, Chris, John, Angie, Marcel, Corbet, Evan, Harry, Cooper Richey, Charles, Renee, Carolyn, Sam, Sandra, Chris and family, Debbie, "E", Sarah and Ray, Leila & Diana Khouny, Claude, Jessica Williams and her family, Larry, Vince, John and Deb, Peggy and Dave, Charles, Tucker & Ellen, Adam, Jenna, Mary-Gay, Carter & Charles, Dennis, Alice, Dennis and Molly Hay, Rey, Sarah and Family, the Quinn family, Charlotte, Anita, Tiffany, Gavin, and Gabby, Francis Jackson, the Nieves and Perez families, Dale and her family, those suffering from seasonal storms especially in Mayflower, Viola, Foley AL and Bon Secour, meals on wheels, making better men of young men, those serving our country, those traveling, and for those we now name...

## **Announcements**

### **May 25th 1 pm Rogation Sunday May, Calvary Osceola**

gather 12:00 pm to 12:30

sack lunch, drinks and desserts provided

bring a chair

Location: Jay and Terri Page farm

Travel south on Hwy 61 – a little over 1 1/2 miles south of Luxora – to Cty Rd 559 (across the highway from Hwy 140). Turn right, then make an immediate right and travel north to the bend in the road where Jay and Terry's house sits.

Look for balloons tied to a mailbox to indicate where to turn.

### **Women's Institute 2014**

June 6–8, at Camp Mitchell

Women's Institute, an annual three-day retreat held at Camp Mitchell, brings together women of all ages and experiences. This year, it begins on Friday, June 6, with Quiet Day, led by the Rev. Lisa Fry. Phyllis Raney, psychotherapist and lifelong Episcopalian, will be the guest speaker. To learn more and to download the registration form, visit the Arkansas ECW website.

**Time to renew Prayer list**, please leave a note in alms basin, on the office desk or email/text Fr. Scott with name of people you wish to include in our weekly prayers. begin to use renewed list May 25th.

**Calendar**

May 18 5th Sunday of Easter  
 9:00 am Worship  
 10:00 am Fellowship

May 20 6:00 pm Al Anon  
 6:30 pm Brewing Faith

May 23 6:00 pm Friday Families

May 25 6th of Easter  
 9:00 am Worship  
 10:00 am Fellowship  
 1:00 pm Rogation - Calvary, Page Farm - Osceola  
 (see announcements for directions)

**Worship Leaders**

<b>Date</b>	<b>Proper</b>	<b>Service</b>	<b>EM/ Worship Ldr</b>	<b>reader</b>	<b>Intercessor</b>
May 18	5 <sup>th</sup> of Easter	MP	Beth McGrain	Liz Cato	Pat McGrain
May 27	6 <sup>th</sup> of Easter	Eucharist	Liz Cato		Connie Erwin

**Prayer List request**

Please include: \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_

on St. Stephen's prayer list

**Fr. Scott's contact**

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**St. Stephen's contact**

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