

Seventh Sunday of Easter

April 28, 2017



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

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

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# Entrance Rites

*The people stand as they are able.*

## Opening Hymn

The Hymnal 1982 #460 - Alleluia! sing to Jesus

# Opening Acclamation

**Celebrant** Alleluia. Christ is risen.

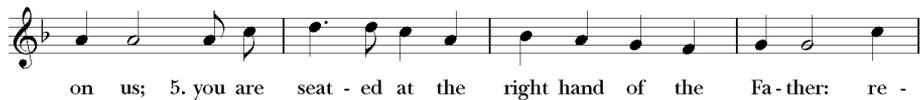
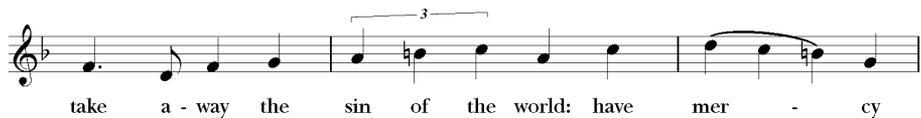
**People** *Christ is risen indeed. Alleluia.*

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 - mighty - 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



## Collect of the Day

**Celebrant** The Lord be with you.

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

**Celebrant** Let us pray.

O God, the King of glory, you have exalted your only Son Jesus Christ with great triumph to your kingdom in heaven: Do not leave us comfortless, but send us your Holy Spirit to strengthen us, and exalt us to that place where our Savior Christ has gone before; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, in glory everlasting. *Amen.*

*The people sit.*

# The Word of God

## First Reading

A reading from The Acts of the Apostles (1:6-14).

<sup>6</sup> So when they had come together, they asked him, “Lord, is this the time when you will restore the kingdom to Israel?” <sup>7</sup> He replied, “It is not for you to know the times or periods that the Father has set by his own authority. <sup>8</sup> But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you; and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth.” <sup>9</sup> When he had said this, as they were watching, he was lifted up, and a cloud took him out of their sight. <sup>10</sup> While he was going and they were gazing up toward heaven, suddenly two men in white robes stood by them. <sup>11</sup> They said, “Men of Galilee, why do you stand looking up toward heaven? This Jesus, who has been taken up from you into heaven, will come in the same way as you saw him go into heaven.” <sup>12</sup> Then they returned to Jerusalem from the mount called Olivet, which is near Jerusalem, a sabbath day’s journey away. <sup>13</sup> When they had entered the city, they went to the room upstairs where they were staying, Peter, and John, and James, and Andrew, Philip and Thomas, Bartholomew and Matthew, James son of Alphaeus, and Simon the Zealot, and Judas son of James. <sup>14</sup> All these were constantly devoting themselves to prayer, together with certain women, including Mary the mother of Jesus, as well as his brothers.

The Word of the Lord  
People  
Thanks be to God

*A period of silence is kept.*

**Psalm 68:1-10,33-36**

*BCP p. 676*

*Exsurgat Deus*

I Let God arise, and let his enemies be scattered; \*

let those who hate him flee before him.

- 2 Let them vanish like smoke when the wind drives it away; \*  
as the wax melts at the fire, so let the wicked perish at  
the presence of God.
- 3 But let the righteous be glad and rejoice before God; \*  
let them also be merry and joyful.
- 4 Sing to God, sing praises to his Name;  
exalt him who rides upon the heavens; \*  
YAHWEH is his Name, rejoice before him!
- 5 Father of orphans, defender of widows, \*  
God in his holy habitation!
- 6 God gives the solitary a home and brings forth prisoners  
into freedom; \*  
but the rebels shall live in dry places.
- 7 O God, when you went forth before your people, \*  
when you marched through the wilderness,
- 8 The earth shook, and the skies poured down rain,  
at the presence of God, the God of Sinai, \*  
at the presence of God, the God of Israel.
- 9 You sent a gracious rain, O God, upon your inheritance; \*  
you refreshed the land when it was weary.
- 10 Your people found their home in it; \*  
in your goodness, O God, you have made provision  
for the poor.
- 33 Sing to God, O kingdoms of the earth; \*  
sing praises to the Lord.
- 34 He rides in the heavens, the ancient heavens; \*  
he sends forth his voice, his mighty voice.
- 35 Ascribe power to God; \*  
his majesty is over Israel;  
his strength is in the skies.
- 36 How wonderful is God in his holy places! \*  
the God of Israel giving strength and power to his people!

Blessed be God!

*A period of silence is kept.*

## **Second Reading**

A reading from The First Letter of Peter (4:12-14;5:6-11).

<sup>12</sup> Beloved, do not be surprised at the fiery ordeal that is taking place among you to test you, as though something strange were happening to you. <sup>13</sup> But rejoice insofar as you are sharing Christ's sufferings, so that you may also be glad and shout for joy when his glory is revealed. <sup>14</sup> If you are reviled for the name of Christ, you are blessed, because the spirit of glory, which is the Spirit of God, is resting on you. <sup>6</sup> Humble yourselves therefore under the mighty hand of God, so that he may exalt you in due time. <sup>7</sup> Cast all your anxiety on him, because he cares for you. <sup>8</sup> Discipline yourselves, keep alert. Like a roaring lion your adversary the devil prowls around, looking for someone to devour. <sup>9</sup> Resist him, steadfast in your faith, for you know that your brothers and sisters in all the world are undergoing the same kinds of suffering. <sup>10</sup> And after you have suffered for a little while, the God of all grace, who has called you to his eternal glory in Christ, will himself restore, support, strengthen, and establish you. <sup>11</sup> To him be the power forever and ever. Amen.

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 #544 - Jesus shall reign where'er the sun

## Gospel

The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to John (17:1-11).  
Glory to you Lord Christ

<sup>1</sup> After Jesus had spoken these words, he looked up to heaven and said, "Father, the hour has come; glorify your Son so that the Son may glorify you, <sup>2</sup> since you have given him authority over all people, to give eternal life to all whom you have given him. <sup>3</sup> And this is eternal life, that they may know you, the only true God, and Jesus Christ whom you have sent. <sup>4</sup> I glorified you on earth by finishing the work that you gave me to do. <sup>5</sup> So now, Father, glorify me in your own presence with the glory that I had in your presence before the world existed. <sup>6</sup> "I have made your name known to those whom you gave me from the world. They were yours, and you gave them to me, and they have kept your word. <sup>7</sup> Now they know that everything you have given me is from you; <sup>8</sup> for the words that you gave to me I have given to them, and they have received them and know in truth that I came from you; and they have believed that you sent me. <sup>9</sup> I am asking on their behalf; I am not asking on behalf of the world, but on behalf of those whom you gave me, because they are yours. <sup>10</sup> All mine are yours, and yours are mine; and I have been glorified in them. <sup>11</sup> And now I am no longer in the world, but they are in the world, and I am coming to you. Holy Father, protect them in your name that you have given me, so that they may be one, as we are one.

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.*

## **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*

*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. *Psalm 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*

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of power and

The first system of musical notation is in G minor (one flat) and 4/4 time. It consists of a vocal line and a piano accompaniment. The vocal line begins with a half note G4, followed by a quarter note A4, a quarter note Bb4, and a quarter rest. The piano accompaniment consists of a steady bass line of G2, Bb2, and D3, with a treble line of G4, Bb4, and D5.

might, Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord,

The second system continues the melody. The vocal line has a half note G4 with a slur over it, followed by a quarter note A4, a quarter note Bb4, and a quarter note G4. The piano accompaniment continues with the same bass line and treble accompaniment.

God of power and might, hea - ven and earth are

The third system concludes the phrase. The vocal line has a half note G4 with a slur over it, followed by a quarter note A4, a quarter note Bb4, and a quarter note G4. The piano accompaniment continues with the same bass line and treble accompaniment.

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.*

Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

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 - I come with joy to meet my Lord*

*Unison or harmony*

1 I come with joy to meet my Lord, for -  
 2 I come with Chris - tians far and near to  
 3 As Christ breaks bread and bids us share, each  
 4 And thus with joy we meet our Lord. His  
 5 To - geth - er met, to - geth - er bound, we'll

1 giv - en, loved, and free, in awe and won - der  
 2 find, as all are fed, the new com - mu - ni -  
 3 proud di - vi - sion ends. That love that made us  
 4 pres - ence, al - ways near, is in such friend - ship  
 5 go our dif - ferent ways, and as his peo - ple

1 to re - call his life laid down for me.  
 2 ty of love in Christ's com - mun - ion bread.  
 3 makes us one, and stran - gers now are friends.  
 4 bet - ter known: we see, and praise him here.  
 5 in the world, we'll live and speak his praise.

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*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 #563 - Go forward, Christian soldier

## **Dismissal**

**Deacon**

Let us go in peace to love and serve the Lord

**People**

*Thanks be to God. Alleluia, Alleluia.*

## **Prayer List**

Joe, Bill, Brandon, Charles, Chris, Amy, Shirley, Shelby, Sandy, Lisa, Avery, Charles, Chuck, Christie, Marcel, Angie, Jack & family, Marshal, Diane, Myrtle, Wally, Ann, Hughes, Josh, Brooke, Carter, Carsen, Nadia & family, James & family, Tammy and family, Rodney and Shelia, Frank, Shari, Rickie & Sarah, Becky and family, Tammy, Mary and Family, Blake and Bailey, Crystal, William, Mark, Marie, Connie, Rick, Jerry, Paw-Paw, and Chad, Gira, Christy, Denton, Raylee and family, Sara, London, Landyon, Roy, Sara, and Family, Kimberly and family, Thomas and family, Brandon, Tim, Drake, Ben and Melissa, Martha & Danny, Friday Families, meals on wheels, making better men of young men, those suffering from seasonal storms and fires, those serving our country, those traveling, and for those we now name:

Those who have died: in the bombing in Manchester UK

## **Calendar**

5/28 7th Sunday of Easter

9:00 Eucharist

10:00 Fellowship

5/30 6:30 Al Anon

6/2 6:00pm Family Friday

6/4 Pentecost

9:00 Eucharist

10:00 Fellowship

On June 4 we will refresh our Prayer list. If you wish prayers for any please fill out a new prayer request.

If it is an IMMEDIATE request please write "NOW" on the Prayer Request form. You may place the forms in the alms basin, or on the office desk, or email or text me before Tuesday 5/30.

## Woeship Leaders

Date	Service	Eucharistic Minister	Reader	Intercessor	Notes
			Psalmist		
5/28 Easter 7	Eucharist	Liz	Beth	Bob	
			Amy		
6/4 Pentecost	Eucharist	Beth	Ed	Tucker	
6/11 Trinity Sunday	Eucharist	Liz	Bob	Beth	

## Acolytes

Date	1st Server	2nd Server	People's Gift & Alms
5/28	Belle	Will	Deanna
6/4	Will	Deanna	Belle
6/11	Amy	Belle	Will

# Prayer List Request

Please add the following to St Stephen's Prayer list:

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Please add \_\_\_\_\_ to St Stephen's remembrance of the dead (date of death: MM/DD \_\_\_\_\_)

**Dr. Scott's contact**  
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[frscotto4@gmail.com](mailto:frscotto4@gmail.com)



**St. Stephen's contact**  
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