

MORNING PRAYER II WITH COMMUNION



THE FOURTH SUNDAY OF EASTER - YEAR A

APRIL 26 2026 - 8 A.M.

Welcome to St. Edward's Episcopal Church. Come as you are. St. Edward's affirms the dignity of every human being. God's abundant love is here for all.

If you are visiting with us today, please fill out a Visitor Card and give it to one of our ushers, so we can send you more information about our church. We are blessed that you are here, and we look forward to meeting you!

PRELUDE

King Jesus hath a garden

Carla Strott

PROCESSIONAL

Jesus Christ is risen today

BLUE HYMNAL 207

All stand, if able.

OPENING SENTENCE

"If then you have been raised with Christ, seek the things that are above, where Christ is, seated at the right hand of God." (Col 3:)

CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION *Please kneel, if able.*

BCP 79

INVITATORY AND PSALTER *Please stand, if able.*

BCP 80

Officiant: Lord, open our lips.

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

Glory to the Father, and the Son and to the Holy Spirit,

as it was in the beginning is now and will be forever. Amen.

CHRIST OUR PASSOVER

BCP 83

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

PSALM 63 *Please be seated.*

BCP 670

PSALM 98

BCP 727

THE LESSONS

THE FIRST LESSON

ACTS 2:42-47

A Lesson from the Book of Acts.

Those who had been baptized devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching and fellowship, to the breaking of bread and the prayers. Awe came upon everyone, because many wonders and signs were being done by the apostles. All who believed were together and had all things in common; they would sell their possessions and goods and distribute the proceeds to all, as any had need. Day by day, as they spent much time together in the temple, they broke bread at home and ate their food with glad and generous hearts, praising God and having the goodwill of all the people. And day by day the Lord added to their number those who were being saved.

Lector: Here ends the Lesson.

CANTICLE 16. THE SONG OF ZECHARIAH *All stand, if able.*

BCP 92

SECOND LESSON *Please be seated.*

JOHN 10:1-10

A Reading from the Gospel of John.

Jesus said, "Very truly, I tell you, anyone who does not enter the sheepfold by the gate but climbs in by another way is a thief and a bandit. The one who enters by the gate is the shepherd of the sheep. The gatekeeper opens the gate for him, and the sheep hear his voice. He calls his own sheep by name and leads them out. When he has brought out all his own, he goes ahead of them, and the sheep follow him because they know his voice. They will not follow a stranger, but they will run from him because they do not know the voice of strangers." Jesus used this figure of speech with them, but they did not understand what he was saying to them. So again, Jesus said to them, "Very truly, I tell you, I am the gate for the sheep. All who came before me are thieves and bandits; but the sheep did not listen to them. I am the gate. Whoever enters by me will be saved, and will come in and go out and find pasture. The thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy. I came that they may have life, and have it abundantly."

Lector: Here ends the Lesson.

THE HOMILY *Please be seated.*

The Rev. Deacon Alyssa Sali

APOSTLES CREED *Please stand if able.*

BCP 96

THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Officiant: Gracious and loving God, you sent Jesus to be the shepherd of your sheep and to lead us into lives of security and goodness: Hear our prayers for your whole creation, and direct us constantly with your presence, as we pray.

Litanist: You have called your Church to be filled with awe and wonder as we praise you with glad and generous hearts: Give your baptized people generosity and trust, that we may devote ourselves to the apostles' teaching and fellowship, to the breaking of bread and the prayers. Guide us along right pathways

for the sake of your Name.

Let your benevolent hand be upon our leaders and upon all who hold authority in the world, that they may protect your people from thieves and bandits who steal and kill and destroy, so that all your sheep may come in and go out securely, and find good pasture. Guide us along right pathways

for the sake of your Name.

Sing your shepherd-song of love to us and to all who live in this community, that everyone will hear the voice of the good shepherd and follow him to green pastures and still waters. Guide us along right pathways

for the sake of your Name.

Almighty God, we commend to your gracious care our armed forces at home and abroad, Isaiah, Keira, Juwan, Jason, Christopher, Cole, Akeal, Lyndell, Jacques, Edgar, and Yancy (*The Congregation may add more names*). Defend them day by day with your heavenly grace; strengthen them in their trials and temptations; give them courage to face the perils which beset them; and grant them a sense of your abiding presence wherever they may be. Guide us along right pathways

for the sake of your Name

We pray for God's mercy on the members of our diocesan family currently held in immigration detention: Juan, Jose Manuel, Jose Garcia, Gustavo, Gonzalo, the children, and their families. We pray for their release and for the restoration of humane and ethical immigration enforcement. Guide us along right pathways

for the sake of your Name

Hear our grateful prayers for your guidance and your gifts, especially for the birthdays of George Herrin, Lorenzo Clarke, Keira Woodward and Puline Tweh, Lucy Herrera, Darcey Tatum, Liara Higgins, Charles Higgins, Bajje Serunda, Maurice Rivers, Cindy Moseley (*the Congregation may add more names*). Guide us along right pathways

for the sake of your Name

Let your goodness and mercy surround all who are ill or in any way afflicted, especially Jennifer, Sonia, Ginger, Marian & Jay, Adolphus, Kip, Julia & Rick, Ben, Russell, Samuel, Julie, Cindy, Rosemary, Sarah, Jan, Joyce, Shandi, Debi, Carol, Kristina, Noah, Thomas, Ben, Sammuell, and Vinnie Lee (*the Congregation may add more names*). Guide us along right pathways

for the sake of your Name

Let your resurrection power rescue all who walk through the valley of the shadow of death and lead them to dwell in the house of God forever; we remember those who have died (*the Congregation may add more names*). Guide us along right pathways

for the sake of your Name.

PRAYER FOR STEWARDSHIP OF TIME AND TALENT

Father, you breathed life into humanity and gave us various gifts and talents by which to live and move and have our being. Forgive us when we fall into the temptation of thinking that time and talent are made by us. Help us to see that our salaries and our hard work come only because of your provision of life and health and creativity. Help us as we struggle against a culture in which "time is money." Help us to give ourselves as you did, even unto the cross. May your self-offering be our model and may your love be our encouragement. Amen.

OFFERTORY SENTENCE

BCP 376

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

Ephesians 5:2

OFFERTORY

Lift high the cross

BLUE HYMNAL 473

THE LORD'S PRAYER

BCP 97

THE INVITATION

The Gifts of God for the People of God

Communion is offered in both kinds by intinction. Gluten-free wafers are available by request.

COMMUNION

I am the bread of life

BLUE HYMNAL 335

POST COMMUNION PRAYER

Please stand or kneel.

Officiant: Let us pray.

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.

NOTICES *Please be seated.*

THE BLESSING *Please stand if able.*

May our loving God lead you beside still waters and anoint you with divine abundance. May Christ the Good Shepherd call you by name and lead you along right pathways for his Name's sake. May the goodness and mercy of the Holy Spirit follow you all the days of your life and bring you to dwell in the house of God forever. And the blessing of our generous God, the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit, be with you and guide you forever. **Amen.**

THE DISMISSAL

Officiant: Alleluia, Let us go forth in the name of Christ.

People: Thanks be to God, Alleluia. Alleluia.

RECESSIONAL HYMN

Now the green blade riseth

St. Edward's Ringers

St. Edward's Episcopal Church

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Serving Today

Officiant & Preacher - The Rev. Deacon Alyssa Sali
Assisting - Charmaine Mitchell
Altar Guild - Erica Harris, Jewel Ffrench, Olive Joachim
Psalm - Charmaine Mitchell
1st Lesson - Ruth Mannah
2nd Lesson - The Rev. Deacon Alyssa Sali
Intercessor - Ruth Mannah
Ushers - Sonia Ferris, Pat Bush
Sound & Video - Kevin Lee
VPOD - Ruth Mannah

Those wishing to donate flowers are asked to contact the parish office @ 770-963-6128 or via email: parishadmin@stedwardsonline.org