

MORNING PRAYER II WITH COMMUNION



EASTER SUNDAY APRIL 5, 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!

*This leaflet is your guide to the liturgy and is a resource for the material needed for this service. You will find three books in the pew rack in front of you - The 1979 Book of Common Prayer (red book), The Hymnal 1982 (blue book), and LEVAS (Lift Every Voice and Sing II - black and red cover). Hymn numbers preceded by 'S' are from the Service Music at the front of The Hymnal 1982. It is customary to stand during the singing of hymns and either stand, sit, or kneel for prayers. All items in **bold** are to be read aloud by the people.*

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 3:1)

INVITATORY AND PSALTER

BCP 80

Officiant: Alleluia! Christ is risen!

*People: **The Lord is risen indeed. Alleluia!***

CHRIST OUR PASSOVER

BCP 83

PSALM 149 *Recite by half verse.*

BCP 804

PSALM 150

BCP 807

THE LESSONS

THE FIRST LESSON

ACTS 10:34-43

A Lesson from the Book of Acts.

Peter began to speak to Cornelius and the other Gentiles: "I truly understand that God shows no partiality, but in every nation anyone who fears him and does what is right is acceptable to him. You know the message he sent to the people of Israel, preaching peace by Jesus Christ—he is Lord of all. That message spread throughout Judea, beginning in Galilee after the baptism that John announced: how God anointed Jesus of Nazareth with the Holy Spirit and with power; how he went about doing good and healing all who were oppressed by the devil, for God was with him. We are witnesses to all that he did both in Judea and in Jerusalem. They put him to death by hanging him on a tree; but God raised him on the third day and allowed him to appear, not to all the people but to us who were chosen by God as witnesses, and who ate and drank with him after he rose from the dead. He commanded us to preach to the people and to testify that he is the one ordained by God as judge of the living and the dead. All the prophets testify about him that everyone who believes in him receives forgiveness of sins through his name."

Lector: Here ends the Lesson.

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

BCP 92

SECOND LESSON *Please be seated.*

MATTHEW 28:1-10

A Reading from the Gospel of Matthew.

On the first day of the week, at early dawn, the women who had come with Jesus from Galilee came to the tomb, taking the spices that they had prepared. They found the stone rolled away from the tomb, but when they went in, they did not find the body. While they were perplexed about this, suddenly two men in dazzling clothes stood beside them. The women were terrified and bowed their faces to the ground, but the men said to them, "Why do you look for the living among the dead? He is not here, but has risen. Remember how he told you, while he was still in Galilee, that the Son of Man must be handed over to sinners, and be crucified, and on the third day rise again." Then they remembered his words, and returning from the tomb, they told all this to the eleven and to all the rest. Now it was Mary Magdalene, Joanna, Mary the mother of James, and the other women with them who told this to the apostles. But these words seemed to them an idle tale, and they did not believe them. But Peter got up and ran to the tomb; stooping and looking in, he saw the linen cloths by themselves; then he went home, amazed at what had happened.

Lector: Here ends the Lesson.

THE HOMILY

Father Fabio Sotelo

APOSTLES CREED

BCP 96

THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Officiant: We gather to rejoice in the message delivered to us from the women at the tomb on the third day: Jesus is not among the dead, but he has risen! Hear our prayers, O God, and continue your work to bring life out of death, as we pray:

Litanist: Eternal One, from the first Easter dawn your Church has proclaimed the resurrection of Christ and preached peace in his name: Empower your people to live in his life, to share in his communion, and to continue his ministry of healing and reconciliation in the world. Alleluia! On

this day the Holy One has acted;
we will rejoice and be glad in it. Alleluia!

Everlasting God, in Christ you have initiated the new heaven and the new earth of your reign: Let his peaceful Spirit of justice inspire the leaders of our nation and of every nation, that all may reverence you and do what is right and acceptable to bring delight to all people. Alleluia! On this day the Holy One has acted;
we will rejoice and be glad in it. Alleluia!

Compassionate One, your mercy endures for ever and your right hand is exalted: Be with people everywhere who live with death, disease, poverty or oppression, and deliver them with your power. Alleluia! On this day the Holy One has acted;
we will rejoice and be glad in it. Alleluia!

We remember those for whom we pray in intercession this day, especially for Deron, Carol, Kristina, Elizabeth, Derrick, Anthony, Noah, Thomas, Ginger & Gary, Marian & Jay, Donald, Nevonne, Robert, , Adolphus, Kendra, Erielle, Kip, Julia & Rick, Ali, Hanna, Ben, Russell, Samuel, Julie, Cindy, Rosemary, Delores, Jasmine, Sarah, Jan, Joyce, Shandi, Vinnie Lee, and all those who, in this transitory life, are in trouble, sorrow, need, sickness, or any other adversity (*The congregation may add their own petitions*). Alleluia! On this day the Holy One has acted;
we will rejoice and be glad in it. Alleluia!

We entrust to the new life of resurrection those who have died (*The Congregation may add more names*). Alleluia! On this day the Holy One has acted;
we will rejoice and be glad in it. Alleluia!

Officiant: The stone is rolled away from the tomb, and we stand amazed before the resurrection gift of God: Fill our hearts with new life and hope, that we may continually be witnesses of the power of God, as brothers and sisters in the fellowship of Christ and servants of your Spirit of healing and reconciliation, through the saving work of our Savior Jesus Christ. **Amen.**

THE PEACE

BCP 360

Officiant: The peace of the Lord be always with you.

People: **And also with you.**

APRIL BIRTHDAY AND ANNIVERSARY BLESSINGS (*see insert*)

OFFERTORY SENTENCE

BCP 376

Officiant: God of love, as we offer these gifts, we are reminded that without love, all our actions fall short of their true purpose. May this offering serve to build up your kingdom with faith, hope, and love as its foundation.

OFFERTORY

Lift high the cross

BLUE HYMNAL 473

THE LORD'S PRAYER

BCP 97

Officiant: The Lord be with you.

People: **And also with you.**

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.*

God has raised Christ from the dead and all creation is made new. Alleluia! Christ is risen from the tomb and become your salvation. Rejoice and be glad! God's Spirit lives and breathes resurrection into your life. Live with joy! And the blessing of our wondrous God, the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit, be with you and renew you, now and for ever. **Amen.**

THE DISMISSAL

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

People: **Thanks be to God. Alleluia. Alleluia.**

CLOSING MUSIC

Now the green blade riseth

St. Edward's Ringers

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Serving Today

Officiant & Preacher - Father Fabio Sotelo
Assisting - Leslie Nystrom
Altar Guild - Jewel Ffrench & Christiana Jones
Psalm - Leslie Nystrom
1st Lesson - Sonia Ferris
2nd Lesson - Father Fabio Sotelo
Intercessor - Sonia Ferris
Ushers - Sonia Ferris, Pat Bush & Mark Hefferman
Sound & Video - John Nystrom
VPOD - Darcey Tatum



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