

The Fifth Sunday of Easter, May 10, 2020
Mother's Day

ST. FRANCIS' EPISCOPAL CHURCH

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*Welcome to St. Francis' Episcopal Church
where all are accepted and validated!*

*Lectionary Year A Daily Office Year 2
The Liturgy is from The Book of Common Prayer (BCP), and other
approved liturgical sources. Scripture readings are taken from the New
Revised Standard Version bible. All music is reproduced under One
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In the absence of the Deacon the Celebrant assumes those liturgical roles.

A Service of Spiritual Communion

*Our Sunday worship service will be available for you to share in,
beginning at 10:15 a.m. each Sunday, on Facebook and Zoom*

*This copy of the bulletin contains everything needed for today's worship.
You are encouraged to respond and sing out loud with all persons gathered
in your home.*

Prelude

Gathering Hymn The Day of Resurrection *All verses*

Hymnal 210

Descant



3 Now let the heavens be joy - ful, let earth her song be - gin,

1 The day of re - sur - rec - tion! Earth, tell it out a - broad;
2 Our hearts be pure from e - vil, that we may see a - right
3 Now let the heavens be joy - ful, let earth her song be - gin,

the round world keep high tri - umph, and all that is there - in;

the Pass - o - ver of glad - ness, the Pass - o - ver of God.
the Lord in rays e - ter - nal of re - sur - rec - tion light;
the round world keep high tri - umph, and all that is there - in;

let all things seen and un - seen their notes to - geth - er blend,

From death to life e - ter - nal, from earth un - to the sky,
and, lis - tening to his ac - cents, may hear so calm and plain
let all things seen and un - seen their notes to - geth - er blend,

for Christ the Lord is ris - en, our joy that hath no end.

our Christ hath brought us o - ver with hymns of vic - to - ry.
his own "All hail!" and, hear - ing, may raise the vic - tor strain.
for Christ the Lord is ris - en, our joy that hath no end.

Words: John of Damascus (8th cent.); tr. John Mason Neale (1818-1866), alt. Music: *Ellacombe*, melody from *Gesangbuch. . . der Herzogl. Württembergischen katholischen Hofkapelle*, 1784, alt.; adapt. *Katholisches Gesangbuch*, 1863; harm. William Henry Monk (1823-1889); desc. Cyril Winn (1884-1973)
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The Word of God

The Celebrant greets the People and they respond

Alleluia! Christ is risen!

BCP 355

The Lord is risen indeed. Alleluia!

The Celebrant then says

Almighty God, to you all hearts are open, all desires known, and from you no secrets are hid: Cleanse the thoughts of our by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you, and worthily magnify your holy Name; through Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Hymn of Praise

Alleluia, Alleluia! Give Thanks to the Risen Lord

Hymnal 178

The musical score is written for two staves in G major (three sharps). It begins with a 'Descant' section on the first staff, followed by a 'Refrain' section on the second staff. The lyrics are: 'Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia! Give thanks to the lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia! ris - en Lord. Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia! Give Praise to his Name. Name. Praise to his Name. Name.' The score includes a '1-4' repeat sign and a 'Final Ending' section.

Descant

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

Refrain

Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia! Give thanks to the

lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!

ris - en Lord. Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia! Give

1-4 *Final Ending*

Praise to his Name. Name.

Praise to his Name. Name.

1 Je - sus is Lord of all the earth.
 2 Spread the good news o'er all the earth:
 3 We have been cru - ci - fied with Christ.
 4 Come, let us praise the liv - ing God,

He is the King of cre - a - tion.
 Je - sus has died and has ris - en. Al - le -
 Now we shall live for ev - er.
 joy - ful - ly sing to our Sa - vior.

Repeat Refrain

The descant may be sung after stanzas 3 and 4.

Words: Donald Fishel (b. 1950) Music: *Alleluia No. 1*, Donald Fishel (b. 1950) Words, Music (melody): Copyright ©1973, The Word of God.
 arr. Betty Pulkingham (b. 1928), Charles Mallory (b. 1950) and George Mims (b. 1938) Copyright ©1979, Celebration.
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The Collect/ Prayer of the Day

The Celebrant says

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Let us pray.

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 Mother's Day

All say together

Almighty God, creator of all life, we have been marvelously made and knit together in our mother's wombs. We thank you for the gift of motherhood. For some of us this gift nurtured us and helped us to grow; taught us patience, understanding and what love meant. For some of us this gift was not nurturing and loving. Help us to be thankful for what our mothers gave us and to forgive that which was lacking in them.

May all mothers model the love and understanding of your Divine Son's mother, Mary. May our Lord Jesus keep them close to him and provide for them as he did for his own mother from the cross. May the Holy Spirit grant them wisdom in mothering and peace in their lives. Amen.

The Lessons

The Lector says

A reading from the Acts of the Apostles

Acts 7:55-60

But filled with the Holy Spirit, Stephen gazed into heaven and saw the glory of God and Jesus standing at the right hand of God. ⁵⁶'Look,' he said, 'I see the heavens opened and the Son of Man standing at the right hand of God!' ⁵⁷But they covered their ears, and with a loud shout all rushed together against him. ⁵⁸Then 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. ⁵⁹While they were stoning Stephen, he prayed, 'Lord Jesus, receive my spirit.' ⁶⁰Then 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.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Psalm 31:1-5, 15-16

In te, Domine, speravi

BCP 622

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."

The Epistle

The Lector says

A reading from the First Letter of Peter.

1 Peter 2: 2-10

Like newborn infants, long for the pure, spiritual milk, so that by it you
may grow into salvation—³if indeed you have tasted that the Lord is good.

⁴Come to him, a living stone, though rejected by mortals yet chosen and
precious in God's sight, and ⁵like 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. ⁶For 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.' ⁷To 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', ⁸and '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. ⁹ 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. ¹⁰ 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.

The Word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

The Gospel Hymn Open your ears, O faithful people Hymnal 536
All verses

1 O - pen your ears, O faith - ful peo - ple,
 2 They who have ears to hear the mes - sage,
 3 Is - ra - el comes to greet the Sa - vior,
 4 O - pen your ears, O faith - ful peo - ple,

o - pen your ears and hear God's word. O - pen your hearts, O
 they who have ears, then let them hear. They who would learn the
 Ju - dah is glad to see his day. From east and west the
 o - pen your ears and hear God's word. O - pen your hearts, O

roy - al priest - hood, God has come to you.
 way of wis - dom, let them hear God's word.
 peo - ples trav - el, he will show the way.
 roy - al priest - hood, God has come to you. *Fine*

God has spo - ken to his peo - ple, Hal - le - lu - jah!

And his words are words of wis - dom, Hal - le - lu -

jah! Hal - le - lu - jah! God has spo - ken to his peo - ple,
To - rah o - ra, To - rah o - ra,

Hal - le - lu - jah! And his words are
To - rah o - ra,

words of wis - dom, Hal - le - lu - jah!
To - rah o - ra, Hal - le - lu - jah!

Da Capo

“Torah ora” is Hebrew for, “The Law is our Light.”

Words: Willard F. Jabusch (b. 1930), alt. Copyright ©1966, 1984 by Willard F. Jabusch Music: *Torah song [Yisrael V'oraita]*, Hasidic melody; arr. Richard Pronlx (b. 1937) Copyright ©1985, G.I.A. Publications, Inc. All rights reserved. Used with permission.

The Deacon reads the Gospel, first saying

The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to John. *14:1-14*
Glory to you, Lord Christ.

Jesus said, ‘Do not let your hearts be troubled. Believe in God, believe also in me. ²In my Father’s house there are many dwelling-places. If it were not so, would I have told you that I go to prepare a place for you? ³And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again and will take you to myself, so that where I am, there you may be also. ⁴And you know the way to the place where I am going.’ ⁵Thomas said to him, ‘Lord, we do not know where you are going. How can we know the way?’ ⁶Jesus said to him, ‘I am the way, and the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except

through me. ⁷If you know me, you will know my Father also. From now on you do know him and have seen him.' ⁸ Philip said to him, 'Lord, show us the Father, and we will be satisfied.' ⁹ Jesus said to him, 'Have I been with you all this time, Philip, and you still do not know me? Whoever has seen me has seen the Father. How can you say, "Show us the Father"? ¹⁰Do you not believe that I am in the Father and the Father is in me? The words that I say to you I do not speak on my own; but the Father who dwells in me does his works. ¹¹Believe me that I am in the Father and the Father is in me; but if you do not, then believe me because of the works themselves. ¹²Very truly, I tell you, the one who believes in me will also do the works that I do and, in fact, will do greater works than these, because I am going to the Father. ¹³I will do whatever you ask in my name, so that the Father may be glorified in the Son. ¹⁴If in my name you ask me^{*} for anything, I will do it.

After the Gospel the Deacon says

The Gospel of our Lord

Praise to you, Lord Christ.

The Sermon *Children and Adult*

The Rev. Alfred Jewson

To allow for your personal reflection, a time of silence will be kept following the sermon.

The Nicene Creed

BCP 358

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.**

Prayers of the People for the Easter Season

*During the **(Pause)** the intercessor will allow time for worshipers to offer their biddings of thanksgiving or concern.*

The Deacon introduces the Prayers of the People

Alleluia! What was dead shall live; what was entombed shall be set free: what was dark shall shine; what was forgotten shall be remembered, for our Lord has been raised and walks among us. Let us bring before God, who makes all things new, the needs of our church and the entire world.

Intercessor

We pray for the whole church throughout the world—for Michael our presiding Bishop; Deon our Bishop-elect; for Alfred our priest and Rebecca our deacon; for the people and ministry of Christ Episcopal Church, Rolla and Maria their interim priest, and Schelly their deacon; for the Province of the Episcopal Church of South Sudan, and Archbishop Justin Badi Arama; and all who minister in your Church that together we can show forth your resurrection in our lives. *(Pause)* Risen Lord,
Walk among us.

We pray for our elected officials and the leaders of the world in the midst of pandemics of disease, poverty, war, and injustice. Grant them the wisdom and courage to make wise decisions for the welfare and protection of our society. *(Pause)* Risen Lord,
Walk among us.

We pray for all who are still bound in tombs of fear, oppression, hopelessness, and the threat of death, that the peace of the risen Christ will give them hope and we pray that the global community will be empowered to rise up against all forms of injustice. *(Pause)* Risen Lord,
Walk among us.

We pray for our families, companions, and all those we love. On this Mother's Day, we ask your blessings to shine upon Mothers everywhere. We give you thanks for the women in our lives who nurture and care for us, and we are grateful for the experience and memories of mothers who now dwell in the fellowship of your saints. *(Pause)* Risen Lord,
Walk among us.

As we move through these uncertain times of the COVID-19 pandemic, we pray for the wellbeing for all medical professionals who are working on the frontlines as they care for those who are ill. *(Pause)* For the protection of first responders and emergency personnel whose continued work keeps us safe. *(Pause)* For local and regional business owners and their employees who are struggling with decline in business and closures. *(Pause)* And especially, we pray for all who are affected through illness

or bereavement by COVID-19 in our community, across our nation, and throughout the world. *(Pause)* Risen Lord,
Walk among us.

We pray for our parishioners Darla, Noel, Jack, Roger, Annie, Cheryl, Bill, Paul, Brenda and all who are struggling with seclusion or isolation due to Coronavirus. We remember those who have asked for our prayers, particularly Kathy, Sherry & family, Sarah, Olivia, Perry, Virginia, Bob and Virginia. *(Pause)* Risen Lord,
Walk among us.

We pray for all who have died, especially Joan, and the youth in the St. Louis area whose lives were lost due to gun violence, and those on our hearts today. *(Pause)* And we remember those who grieve with broken hearts and shattered dreams. Risen Lord,
Walk among us.

We pray for all who will be born this week and those who will die, and for ourselves wherever we are on our journey in Christ. Risen Lord,
Walk among us.

Celebrant

God of life, we thank you for the mystery planted in us, the paradox of life from death and community from scattered disciples. You have broken the power of death and made your whole creation new. Hear our prayers for all whom we love and grant that we who celebrate with joy this morning will know the transforming power of your healing love in our hearts, and minds, and bodies, and souls, in Jesus Christ our Risen Lord. **Amen.**

Confession of Sin

EOW 19

The Deacon says

Let us confess our sins to God.

Silence is kept, then the Minister and People say

God of all mercy, we confess that we have sinned against you, opposing your will in our lives. We have denied your goodness in each other, in ourselves, and in the world you have created. We repent of the evil that enslaves us, the evil we have done, and the evil done on our behalf. Forgive, restore, and strengthen us through our Savior Jesus Christ, that we may abide in your love and serve only your will. Amen.

The Priest gives the Absolution from sin

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 Exchange of Peace

The Celebrant says

The peace of the Lord be always with you.

And also with you.

We invite you to take a moment and extend the peace of God to the members of your household and then to people in the world that you love and struggle to love.

The Spiritual Communion


When we receive Christ's Body and Blood in corporal Holy Communion, we take into ourselves the Sacrament of Our Lord Jesus in the form of Consecrated Bread and Wine and are reminded of who we really are.

When we engage in spiritual Holy Communion, we are still reminded of who we really are. We are Christ's body and blood to each other and those whom we encounter in our daily lives.


The Celebrant says

I appeal to you, sisters and brothers, by the mercies of God, to present yourselves as a living sacrifice, holy and acceptable to God, which is your spiritual worship.


Offertory Hymn At the Lamb's high feast we sing Hymnal 174
All verses




1 At the Lamb's high feast we sing praise to our vic - to - rious King,
 2 Where the Pas - chal blood is poured, death's dark an - gel sheathes his sword;
 3 Might - y vic - tim from on high, hell's fierce powers be - neath thee lie;
 4 Eas - ter tri - umph, Eas - ter joy, these a - lone do sin de - stroy.



who hath washed us in the tide flow - ing from his pierc - ed side;
 Is - rael's hosts tri - um - phant go through the wave that drowns the foe.
 thou hast con - quered in the fight, thou hast brought us life and light:
 From sin's power do thou set free souls new - born, O Lord, in thee.



praise we him, whose love di - vine gives his sa - cred Blood for wine,
 Praise we Christ, whose blood was shed, Pas - chal vic - tim, Pas - chal bread;
 now no more can death ap - pall, now no more the grave en - thrall;
 Hymns of glo - ry, songs of praise, Fa - ther, un - to thee we raise:



gives his Bo - dy for the feast, Christ the vic - tim, Christ the priest.
 with sin - cer - i - ty and love eat we man - na from a - bove.
 thou hast o - pened par - a - dise, and in thee thy saints shall rise.
 ris - en Lord, all praise to thee with the Spi - rit ev - er be.

Words: Latin, 1632; tr. Robert Campbell (1814-1868), alt. Music: *Salzburg*, melody Jakob Hintze (1622-1702); harm. Johann Sebastian Bach (1685-1750)

The Great Thanksgiving: Adapted from Eucharistic Prayer A

The Celebrant says

The Lord be with you.

The Lord is present with us.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give God thanks and praise.

The Celebrant says the Preface for Eastertide

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, and all that separates us from you. 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 forever sing this hymn to proclaim the glory of your Name:

Holy, Holy, Holy

Hymnal S130

The musical score is written for two staves, treble and bass clef, in a key of two flats (B-flat and E-flat). The melody is simple and hymn-like, using mostly half and quarter notes. The lyrics are written below the notes. The first line of music covers the lyrics 'Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of power and'. The second line of music covers the lyrics 'might, Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord,'. There are long horizontal lines under the word 'might,' and the second 'Ho - ly' in the second line, indicating a sustained note or a breath mark.

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

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

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 told them to take and eat the bread for it is his Body given for all.

After supper he took the cup of wine; and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, and told them to drink for it is his Blood of the New Covenant shed for them and for many for the forgiveness of sins.

He told them to eat the bread and drink the cup for the remembrance of him.

Therefore we proclaim the mystery of faith:

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 ourselves, our souls and bodies as a living sacrifice.

Sanctify us by your Holy Spirit to faithfully 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 forever. **AMEN.**

The Lord's Prayer

Celebrant

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

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.**

Spiritual Communion

The Celebrant says

Remember O people of God, who Jesus was, and is, and will be forevermore.

Behold in him his Body and Blood, broken and shed for us all.

Let us feed on him in our hearts spiritually, by faith with thanksgiving.

While we are unable to physically partake of the sacrament, we invite you to make your communion by praying the following prayer, adapted from the prayer of St. Alphonsus de Liguori:

Beloved Jesus, I believe that you are truly present in the sacrament of the altar. I long for you in my soul, to know that I am in you and that you are in me. Though physically isolated from your altar and the sacrament of your Body and Blood, I receive you spiritually into my heart and the depths of my being. United with you, help me know that my life is hid with you O Christ in the heart of God. Amen.

A moment of silence is kept

A Prayer of Thanksgiving

The Celebrant says

Let us pray

**Almighty God, giver of life and destroyer of death,
you have graciously reunited us as living members
of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ,
and have hid us with him in you.
Fix that morning star which never sets,
the risen light of Christ,
in our lives that together we will walk in your presence,**

serving one another,
 with your love in our hearts,
 your truth in our minds,
 your strength in our wills,
 until, at the end of our journey,
 we know the joy of our homecoming and the welcome of your embrace,
 in Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Eastertide Blessing

The Celebrant says

Alleluia, Christ is Risen:
The Lord is Risen indeed, alleluia!

Alleluia, Christ is Risen:
The power of death has been destroyed, alleluia!

Alleluia, Christ is Risen:
The tombs of the dead are empty, alleluia!

Alleluia, Christ is Risen:
All that separates us from God is gone, alleluia!

Alleluia, Christ is Risen:
The whole of creation rejoices, alleluia!

And the blessing of new life from God Almighty, Creator, Redeemer, and Life-Giver, be among you, and remain with you and all those whom you love and struggle to love, now and forever. **Amen.**

Sending Hymn At this joyful Eastertide Hymnal 192
All Verses

Unison or harmony

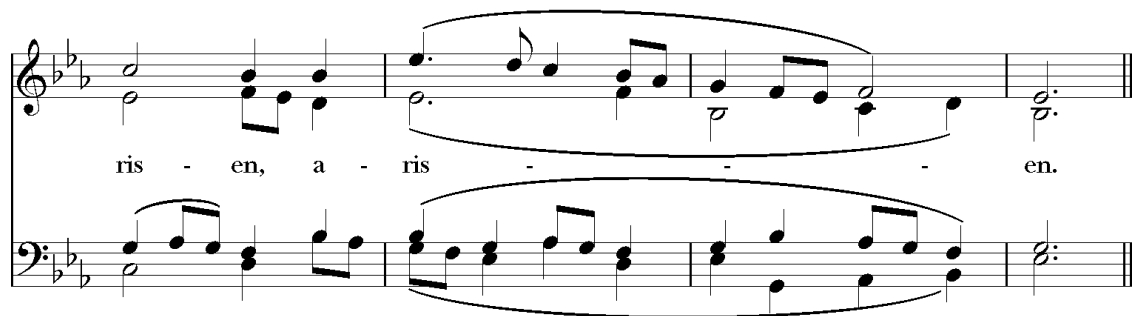
1 This joy - ful Eas - ter - tide, a - way with sin and
 2 Death's flood hath lost its chill, since Je - sus crossed the
 3 My flesh in hope shall rest, and for a sea - son

sor - row! My Love, the Cru - ci - fied, hath
riv - er: Lord of all life, from ill my
slum - ber, till trump from east to west shall

Refrain
sprung to life this mor - row.
pass - ing life de - liv - er. Had Christ, that once was
wake the dead in num - ber.

slain, ne'er burst his three-day pri - son, our faith had been in

vain; but now is Christ a - ris - en, a - ris - en, a -



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 Music: *Vruechten*, melody from *Psalmen*, 1685, harm. Charles Wood (1866-1926)

Birthdays

Kyra Jordan May 12

Jude McCart May 12

Dayna Jewson May 14

Max Starbuck May 14

Announcements

Dismissal

The Deacon gives the dismissal

Go now to love and serve the Lord. Go in peace. Alleluia, alleluia.

We go in the name of the risen Lord. Alleluia, alleluia.

*St. Francis is a Two rule Church:
 Love God, Love Each Other*

PRAYER LISTS

Homebound Parishioners: Darla, Noel, Jack

Parishioners: Roger, Annie, Cheryl, Bill, Paul, Brenda and those secluded or isolated due to Coronavirus

Weekly Prayer Rota: Mary, and Katie, Scott, Colton & Sarah, and Liz, Jeff, & Evelyn

Parish & Diocesan related prayer requests:

St. Francis' Discernment Team

Students and staff of Friends of St. Francis' Childcare Center

Kyle (USMC) deployed to Iran

Diocesan Cycle of Prayer: For the people and ministry of Christ Episcopal Church, Rolla, and Maria their interim priest, and Schelly their deacon

Companion Diocese of Lui, South Sudan: For the Province of the Episcopal Church of South Sudan, and Archbishop Justin Badi Arama

For those Committed to Our Ongoing Prayers: Deaconess Anne House interns; those discerning a call to ordained ministry; the ministry of the chaplains, staff & volunteers at ECM, & the youth in detention and their families; patients, families, and communities affected by substance use disorders; those suffering from untreated and undertreated pain and chronic diseases; those who are affected through illness or bereavement by COVID-19 across the world, in our nation and communities

For those who have asked for prayers: Kathy, Sherry & Family, Sarah, Olivia, Perry, Virginia; Bob and Virginia; first responders & healthcare professionals on the frontlines of the Coronavirus pandemic; medical researchers searching for a cure & treatment for COVID-19; & area store & restaurant owners & employees

For those who have Died and those who Mourn:

For youth in the greater St. Louis area whose lives were lost to gun

Violence and their families; for Joan, grandmother of Liz, who died April 26, 2020

Bible Study Questions

Acts 7: 55-60

This incident involves Stephen, a Hellenist (Greek-speaking Jew) in Jerusalem and one of the early believers.

1. Skim the complete story of Stephen, down to our lesson, Acts 6:1-7:54. Why was Stephen appointed (Acts 6:1)? How does that situation compare with the picture given in Acts 2:44-47? What was Stephen's function (Acts 6:2-6). What kind of person was Stephen (6:8-10)? Why was he arrested (6:12-15)? He gave a long speech in his defense (7:2-53); how successful was his appeal?
2. Take 6:8 and 7:55-56 together. What do they tell you about Stephen?
3. Look at 6:13 and 7:60. Of whom do these incidents remind you? Look at John 14:12. What does that verse suggest about why Luke includes the Stephen story in his Acts narrative?
4. Where is the Gospel word of forgiveness in this passage? What famous person participated in Stephen's execution? What happened after Stephen's martyrdom (see 8:1-4)? As Luke tells the story, how does the Stephen incident work into God's plan?

1st Peter 2:1-10

1. How is Christ the cornerstone? Why would people stumble over the stone rather than build upon it?
2. How would you rephrase in practical terms the images Peter presented in verses 5 and 9? Is it difficult for you to think of yourself in these terms? If so, why?
3. How does it make you feel to be a chosen, royalty, and God's possession? When is it most difficult to remember what God has made you?

John 14: 1-14

This passage is part of Jesus' Farewell Discourse, chapters 13-17. In the Discourse, Jesus prepare his disciples (and the subsequent church, including us) for life and witness in his absence.

1. What is the special comfort Jesus offers in verse 1? In light of verse

- 10, how do we understand this reference to dual foci for our belief: Jesus and God?
2. How do we frequently use verses 2-4 today? Consider them for a moment as words to prepare the disciples for Jesus' absence on earth. What is Jesus teaching them (and us, as well)?
 3. Jesus is persuading his disciples that they (and those after them) can carry on the ministry he began. Jesus speaks in two time frames: the present and the future [after "a little while"(16:16), when Jesus returns to the Father and is no longer present physically with the disciples]. In this passage, what words speak to each time frame.
 4. How is God described in John 4:24? How then do we understand what Jesus means in verse 9, that whoever sees him sees the Father?

Something to Think About

Brought to you by the Stewardship of Life

Part of our stewardship is taking time, developing our ability to pray-to communicate with God in Prayers of Intercession for those in need of God's healing. In practicing good Christian stewardship, it is not time or abilities, or money, but all three, given to make known God's love for this world. We are healed not to retire from God's service, but to serve God's world. We are always called upon to practice good stewardship.

<p style="text-align: center;">Today's Ministers of Worship</p>
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Celebrant	The Rev. Alfred Jewson
Deacon	The Rev. Rebecca Barger
Musician	Cheryl Foster
Lectors	Sheila McCart & Barb Sacco
Intercessor	Tracey Oswald
<i>Virtual Honorary Verger</i>	Paul Jokerst

St. Francis' Church Book Club

The Book Club will meet via Zoom at 6:30 pm on Monday, May 11. Kathleen McDonald will send a link out that afternoon. There is concern that some members do not care for this particular book. Log in anyway and we will discuss an appropriate time and place (?) for our next meeting and possibly a new book.

Birthdays and Anniversaries

If your birthday or anniversary does not get listed in our bulletin it is because we do not know the date. Please send an email to ajewson.stfranch@gmail.com.

The May Chalice is available on our website. Open stfranciseureka.com go to Archives and scroll down to Newsletters and click on it.

<p style="text-align: center;"><u>Readings for next Sunday, May 17, 2020</u></p>

<p style="text-align: center;">Acts 17:22-31 Psalm 66:7-18 1 Peter 3:3-22 John 14:15-21</p>

<p align="center">The Schedule for The Week</p>
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Sunday, May 10 5th Sunday of Easter <i>Mother's Day</i>	10:15am	Spiritual Holy Communion followed by virtual coffee hour
Monday, May 11	8:30 am 5:00 pm 6:30 pm	Morning Prayer Evening Prayer Book Club—zoomed
Tuesday, May 12	8:30 am 5:00 pm	Morning Prayer Evening Prayer
Wednesday, May 13	8:30 am 5:00 pm	Morning Prayer Evening Prayer
Thursday, May 14	8:30 am 5:00 pm	Morning Prayer Evening Prayer
Friday, May 15	8:30 am 5:00 pm	Morning Prayer Evening Prayer
Sunday, May 17 6th Sunday of Easter	10:15 am	Spiritual Holy Communion followed by virtual coffee hour

St. Francis' Episcopal Church

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The Rt. Reverend George Wayne Smith, *Bishop of Missouri*
The Rev. Alfred Jewson, *Interim Vicar*, ajewson.stfranch@gmail.com 314-560-1375
The Ven. Rebecca Barger, *Deacon*, rsbarger@charter.net 713-515-5676
Cheryl Foster, *Music Director*, stfranch@sbcglobal.net

The Bishop's Committee

Jackie Selle, <i>Bishop's Warden</i>	Donna Bernert, <i>Junior Warden</i>
Sylvia Ahmad	Mary Ann Kinder
Mike Rohan	Barb Sacco
Doris Schaefer	Bob Smith
Herb Smith	Bill Thompson

Treasurer

Tracey Oswald

Bishop's Committee Clerk

Caitlin Selle

Convention Delegates

Max Starbuck Paul Jokerst
Michael Booker, *Alternate*

The Search Committee

Michael Booker	Paul Jokerst, <i>Chair</i>
Suzanne Jones	Jack Laules
Jerry Smith	Barb Sacco
Mike Rohan, <i>BC Liaison</i>	Marsha Smith

Friends of St. Francis Day Care

Kathy Regnier, *Director*, friendsofstfran@gmail.com, 636-333-1870
<https://www.facebook.com/FriendsofStFrancisChildcare/>