

# St. Monica's Episcopal Church

Where we "Pray, Love, Give"

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## FIFTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

### HOLY EUCHARIST

### RITE II

Saturday 5:00pm May 2, 2026

Sunday 10:00am May 3, 2026

Welcome to Saint Monica's Episcopal Church. We rejoice that you came to our church today, and we hope that you feel at home here.

As an Episcopal Church, we believe the mission of the Church is to restore all people to unity with God and each other in Christ. The Church pursues its mission as it prays and worships, proclaims the Gospel, and promotes justice, peace, and love. The church carries out its mission through the ministry of all its members.

*(Book of Common Prayer, p. 855)*

As you consider what brought you here, perhaps seeking spiritual growth, looking for community, or responding to a simple invitation, please take a moment to look at the opportunities listed in the announcements included with this bulletin to find ways to grow in your faith and find a place of welcome. If you have any questions about how you can take part in the community of St. Monica's or about the Episcopal Church, please feel free to contact The Rev. Sylvia Czarnetzky, Interim Rector or The Rev. Ken McCaslin, Deacon.

Again, we are glad you are here at Saint Monica's Episcopal Church where all are welcome.

**\*\* Please remember to silence your electronic devices during the service. \*\***

## Prelude

## Welcome and Announcements

*Please stand as you are able*

**Processional Hymn**

*Christ is Made the Sure Foundation*

**Hymn 518**

## Opening Acclamation

Celebrant Alleluia. Christ is risen.

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

## Gloria

*Glory to God in the Highest*

S-278

Glory to God in the highest, and peace to his people on earth. Lord God, heavenly King, almighty God and Father, we worship you, we give you thanks, we praise you for your glory. Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father, Lord God, Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world: have mercy on us; you are seated at the right hand of the Father: receive our prayer. For you alone are the Holy One, you alone are the Lord, you alone are the Most High, Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit, in the glory of God the Father. *Amen.*

## Collect of the Day

Celebrant The Lord be with you.

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

Celebrant 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.**

## The Word of God

*Please be seated*

**The First Lesson**

Acts 7:55-60

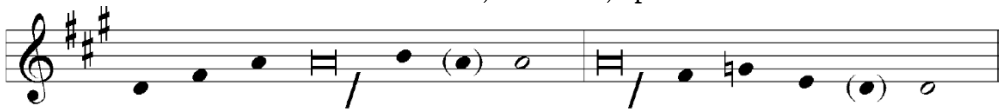
Filled with the Holy Spirit, Stephen gazed into heaven and saw the glory of God and Jesus standing at the right hand of God. "Look," he said, "I see the heavens opened and the Son of Man standing at the right hand of God!" But they covered their ears, and with a loud shout all rushed together against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

Reader

The Word of the Lord.

*People*

**Thanks be to God.**



- 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.”

**Second Reading**

1 Peter 2: 2-10

Like newborn infants, long for the pure, spiritual milk, so that by it you may grow into salvation— if indeed you have tasted that the Lord is good. Come to him, a living stone, though rejected by mortals yet chosen and precious in God’s sight, and 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. 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.” 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”, 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. 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. 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.

Reader      The Word of the Lord.  
*People*      **Thanks be to God.**

Celebrant     The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to John.  
*People*        **Glory to you, Lord Christ**

Jesus said, "Do not let your hearts be troubled. Believe in God, believe also in me. In 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? And 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. And you know the way to the place where I am going." Thomas said to him, "Lord, we do not know where you are going. How can we know the way?" Jesus said to him, "I am the way, and the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me. If you know me, you will know my Father also. From now on you do know him and have seen him." Philip said to him, "Lord, show us the Father, and we will be satisfied." 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'? Do 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. Believe 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. Very 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. I will do whatever you ask in my name, so that the Father may be glorified in the Son. If in my name you ask me for anything, I will do it."

Celebrant                     The Gospel of the Lord.  
*People*                        **Praise to you, Lord Christ.**

## The Sermon

The Rev. Jean Hite

*Please stand as you are able*

## The Nicene Creed

Page 358, BCP

**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 Prayers of the People

Form III

*The Leader and People pray responsively*

Reader Father, we pray for your holy Catholic Church;  
**People That we all may be one.**

Reader Grant that every member of the Church may truly and humbly serve you;  
**People That your Name may be glorified by all people.**

Reader We pray for all bishops, priests, and deacons;  
**People That they may be faithful ministers of your Word and Sacraments.**

Reader We pray for all who govern and hold authority in the nations of the world;  
**People That there may be justice and peace on the earth.**

Reader Give us grace to do your will in all that we undertake;  
**People That our works may find favor in your sight.**

Reader Have compassion on those who suffer from any grief or trouble;  
**People That they may be delivered from their distress.**

Reader Give to the departed eternal rest.  
**People Let light perpetual shine upon them.**

Reader We praise you for your saints who have entered into joy;  
**People May we also come to share in your heavenly kingdom.**

Reader Let us pray for our own needs and those of others.

*Silence*

### Concluding Collect

Eternal God, continue to grace your people with the will to do justice, love mercy, and walk humbly with you as we discern your presence in all challenges we face, for we have been redeemed by your Son who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

### Confession of Sin

Celebrant Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

*Silence may be kept.*

**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

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**

*Please stand as you are able.*

### The Peace

Celebrant The peace of the Lord be always with you.  
**People And also with you.**

# The Holy Communion

## Offertory Sentence

Ascribe to the Lord the honor due his Name; bring offerings and come into his courts.

## Offertory

*Please stand as you are able.*

## Presentation

**Celebrant:** All things come of thee, O Lord,  
**People:** And of thine own have we given thee.

## The Great Thanksgiving

Eucharistic Prayer A, BCP 361

**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 continues:*

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:

## Sanctus and Benedictus

*Holy, Holy, Holy Lord*

**Hymn S-129**

**Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,  
heaven and earth are full of your glory.  
Hosanna in the highest.  
Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.  
Hosanna in the highest.**

*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:

**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.**

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.**

## The Breaking of the Bread

Fraction Anthem

*Christ Our Passover*

Hymn S-155

**Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.**

**Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us; therefore let us keep the feast.**

**Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.**

*You are invited and encouraged to come to God's table. The communion bread is received on an outstretched palm.*

*If you wish to receive a blessing instead of the sacrament, please cross your arms over your chest.*

*Gluten-free bread is available upon request.*

*Please stand as you are able.*

**Communion**

*Come, My Way*

Hymn 487

*Please stand as you are able.*

Almighty and everliving God, we thank you for feeding us with the spiritual food of the most precious Body and Blood of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ; and for assuring us in these holy mysteries that we are living members of the Body of your Son, and heirs of your eternal kingdom. And now, Father, send us out to do the work you have given us to do, to love and serve you as faithful witnesses of Christ our Lord. To him, to you, and to the Holy Spirit, be honor and glory, now and for ever. *Amen*

The Blessing

Response: *Amen.*

Recessional Hymn

*Holy God, We Praise thy Name*

Hymn 366

The Dismissal

Celebrant  
*People*

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord. Alleluia. Alleluia.  
Thanks be to God. Alleluia. Alleluia.

Postlude

LECTORS THIS WEEK

5pm Ed Strong  
10am Cindy Gault

USHERS THIS WEEK

5pm Frank Dowd  
Linda Duffy  
10am Jack Hufty  
Betty Devlin

FLOWER GUILD MEMBERS

Debbie Corey  
Sharon Lapierre

GREETERS THIS WEEK

5pm Ruth Kalwinsky  
10am Sue Adams

ACOLYTES THIS WEEK

5pm Toni Strong  
10am Linda Flores-Rumph

CAMERA TEAM

Tom Cotè  
Matt Devlin  
Ashan Nabbie  
Jim Sarconi  
Kyle Williamson

ALTAR GUILD MEMBERS

Linda Duffy  
Linda Freund  
Mary Gentzle  
Sandy Kilmon  
Stacey McCurdy  
Theresa Miller  
JoAnn Sarconi  
Ruthann Turley  
Heather Williamson

VESTRY

Ed Strong - Sr. Warden, Ralph Pike - Jr. Warden, Heather Williamson - Secretary  
Melanie Rose, Marilyn Dessauer, Margaret Holt, Dick Rumpf, Betty Devlin, Kathy Connelly

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