



GRACE *and* ST. STEPHEN'S
✦ EPISCOPAL CHURCH ✦



HOLY EUCHARIST: RITE I
THE FIFTH SUNDAY OF EASTER
MAY 3, 2026 | 8:00AM

GREETING IN THE NAME OF THE ONE GOD: FATHER, SON AND HOLY SPIRIT

Greetings in the Name of the Risen Christ! We are very pleased that you chose to celebrate this season of Resurrection with us. At Grace and St. Stephen's Episcopal Church you will find a vibrant community gathered to offer God our best worship, to help each other follow Jesus and to invite the Spirit to guide us in ways of love, justice and truth.

Kneeling is a posture of penitence and submission, but in Easter we are invited to stand boldly in our faith, symbolizing Christ's rising again and our jubilant celebration of our salvation. Standing is the historical posture for prayer and fitting for this season of Easter. If standing is a physical hardship, please feel free to sit.

Today's Announcements

- Nursery Available, 9am-12pm, Nursery
- Anglican Identity: History with Fr. Robert, 9:15am, Rm 211
- Sunday School, 10:15am, Lower Level
- Sandwich Sunday, 12pm, Taft Hall
- Youth Group, 12pm, Youth Rm (2nd Floor)

This Week at Grace and St. Stephen's

- Mon. May 4 Noontday Prayer with the Anglican Rosary, 12pm, St. Stephen's Chapel
- Tues. May 5 Morning Prayer, 9am, on Facebook
Women's Book Group, 10am, Room 211
- Wed. May 6 Holy Eucharist, 5pm, St. Stephen's Chapel & Communal Supper, 5:30pm
Exploring the Sunday Liturgy w/Fr. Robert, 6pm, Parish Hall
St. Nicholas Choir End Of Season Party, 5pm, Taft Hall
Men's Book Club, 6pm, Weir Conference Rm
- Thur. May 7 Morning Prayer, 9am, on Facebook
Centering Prayer, 11am, Weir Conference Room
- Fri. May 8 Chanted Noontday Prayer, 12pm, St. Stephen's Chapel

Looking Ahead

- Thur. May 14 Ascension Day Evensong, 7pm, Nave
- Thur. May 21 Pomona College Glee Club Concert, 8pm, Nave

Life Together

Birthdays: Felix Willstatter, Quinn Lutton, Emily Rueber, David Bartelson, Sharon Anthony, Diane Jahnke, Tori Price-Smith, David Amrie

Anniversaries: Bill & Helen Hazelton

We pray for those in crisis of health or circumstance: Leigh MacHaffie, Al Larson, Scott Larson, KJ Ramsey

We pray for those celebrating joyfully: Andrew & Karen Theobald upon the birth of their son, Charles

We pray for those in need of ongoing prayer: The Rev. Canon Jon Anderson, Ted Arnn, Laura Bayless, Judy Couchman, Conni Eggers, Eunice Ferguson, Staci Fox, Barb Good, John Hough, Annika Johnson, Maggi Johnson, Sheilah Johnson, Dorothy Kipp, Devon Mack, John McVicker, Debra Millsap, Br. William Marion Page, Elizabeth Phillips, Ed Quinn, Edie Reichert, Kitty Taylor, Carol Townsley, Jill Wasinger, Pam White, Susan Willet, Henry Velandia, Alice, Jennifer, Nancy, Nick H., Oliver & Family, Piper, Wes

We pray for those in harm's way: Mark Jaskot, Frederich Jones, Matthew Lenz, Bill Mack, Rachel Pearson, Adam Tahyar, Nicholas Wolf

THE WORD OF GOD

Please stand, as able, at the entrance of the clergy and servers.

OPENING ACCLAMATION

Book of Common Prayer (BCP), 323

Celebrant Alleluia. Christ is risen.

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

COLLECT FOR PURITY

Celebrant

ALMIGHTY GOD, unto whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hid: Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of thy Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love thee, and worthily magnify thy holy Name; through Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

PASCHA NOSTRUM

BCP, 46

Alleluia. Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us; therefore let us keep the feast, Not with old leaven, neither with the leaven of malice and wickedness, but with the unleavened bread of sincerity and truth. Alleluia.

Christ being raised from the dead dieth no more; death hath no more dominion over him. For in that he died, he died unto sin once; but in that he liveth, he liveth unto God. Likewise reckon ye also yourselves to be dead indeed unto sin, but alive unto God through Jesus Christ our Lord. Alleluia.

Christ is risen from the dead, and become the first fruits of them that slept. For since by man came death, by man came also the resurrection of the dead. For as in Adam all die, even so in Christ shall all be made alive. Alleluia.

THE COLLECT OF THE DAY

Celebrant The Lord be with you.

People **And with thy spirit.**

Celebrant Let us pray.

OALMIGHTY GOD, who alone canst order the unruly wills and affections of sinful men: Grant unto thy people that they may love the thing which thou commandest, and desire that which thou dost promise; that so, among the sundry and manifold changes of the world, our hearts may surely there be fixed where true joys are to be found; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who liveth and reigneth with thee and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

Please be seated.

THE FIRST LESSON

Reader A Reading from the Book of Proverbs. [4:10-18]

Hear, my child, and accept my words, that the years of your life may be many. I have taught you the way of wisdom; I have led you in the paths of uprightness. When you walk, your step will not be hampered, and if you run, you will not stumble. Keep hold of instruction; do not let go; guard her, for she is your life. Do not enter the path of the wicked, and do not walk in the way of evildoers. Avoid it; do not go on it; turn away from it and pass on. For they cannot sleep unless they have done wrong; they are robbed of sleep unless they have made someone stumble. For they eat the bread of wickedness and drink the wine of violence. But the path of the righteous is like the light of dawn, which shines brighter and brighter until full day.

Reader The Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

PSALM 119:9-24 (*Read responsively by whole verse.*) BCP, 764

THE EPISTLE

Reader A Reading from the First Letter of 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.**

THE GOSPEL (*The people stand, as able.*)

Deacon The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to John. [14:1-14]

People **Glory be to thee, O Lord.**

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.”

Gospeller The Gospel of the Lord.

People **Praise be to thee, O Christ.**

SERMON (*Please be seated.*)

The Rev. Dr. Robert Black

- Have you ever found yourself up to the wrong business?
- What distractions do you face in keeping the main thing the main thing?
- Where have you seen the Church misaligned in our mission?
- What do you think the business of the Church is?
- How would you define “wisdom”?
- What would allow you to focus more on God’s wisdom instead of the foolishness of the world?

A period of silence is observed between the sermon and the Creed.

THE NICENE CREED *(The people stand, as able. Spoken by all.)*

BCP, 326

THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

BCP, 329

THANKSGIVING FOR BAPTISM

GOD OF GRACE AND GLORY, thou hast formed us in thy image and mercifully restored us in Jesus Christ. In baptism, we were buried with Christ and rose to new life in him. Renew us in thy Holy Spirit, that we may grow as members of Christ and temples of the Holy Spirit, and strengthen our union with all of Christ's Body. May we, whom thou hast counted worthy, nurture this gift of thy indwelling Spirit with a lively faith and worship thee with holy living; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

THE PEACE

Celebrant The peace of the Lord be always with you.

People **And with thy spirit.**

The Ministers and People greet one another in the name of the Lord.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

THE HOLY COMMUNION

OFFERTORY SENTENCE

*Offer to God a sacrifice of thanksgiving, and make good your
vows to the Most High. (PSALM 50:14)*

Give here:



THE DOXOLOGY *(The people stand, as able.)*

Celebrant All things come of thee, O Lord.

People **And of thine own have we given thee.**

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

Eucharistic Prayer I, BCP, 333

Celebrant The Lord be with you.

People **And with thy spirit.**

Celebrant Lift up your hearts.

People **We lift them up unto the Lord.**

Celebrant Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People **It is meet and right so to do.**

It is very meet, right, and our bounden duty... we laud and magnify thy glorious Name; evermore praising thee, and saying,

SANCTUS AND BENEDICTUS

BCP, 334

Holy, holy, holy, Lord God of Hosts: Heaven and earth are full of thy Glory. Glory be to thee, O Lord Most High. Blessed is he that cometh in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.

THE LORD'S PRAYER *(Prayed by all.)*

BCP, 336

THE BREAKING OF THE BREAD

Celebrant Alleluia. Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us;

People **Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia.**

Celebrant

The Gifts of God for the People of God...

THE ADMINISTRATION OF HOLY COMMUNION

All are welcome and invited to come forward to participate in the grace and peace of Communion.

There are a few ways that you can do this:

- *Receive both the bread and wine: Place one palm on top of the other and you will be given a piece of bread, which you consume. When the chalice comes to you, please assist by guiding the chalice to your lips.*
- *Have the clergy intinct (dip) the bread into the wine for you: Place one palm on top of the other with your palms face down. Then turn your palms over to receive.*
- *Gluten-free wafer: Please let the clergy person distributing bread know.*
- *Receive a prayer of blessing: If you prefer not to receive Communion, or are not Baptized, cross your arms across your chest before receiving the bread. All Baptized Christians (in any tradition or denomination) are welcome to receive. If you are not Baptized and desire to be a part of and receive the Body of Christ, please speak with our clergy.*

+ *If you would like to pray with someone about anything on your heart or mind, a prayer team member will be in the Chapel or at the Tower entrance to pray with you after receiving Communion.*

As you wait to go forward to receive Communion, or afterward, you might find prayers 66 & 67 on page 834 of the Prayer Book to be helpful.

POST-COMMUNION PRAYER *(The people stand, as able.)*

Celebrant Let us pray.

ALMIGHTY AND EVERLIVING GOD, we most heartily thank thee for that thou dost feed us, in these holy mysteries, with the spiritual food of the most precious Body and Blood of thy Son our Savior Jesus Christ; and dost assure us thereby of thy favor and goodness towards us; and that we are very members incorporate in the mystical body of thy Son, the blessed company of all faithful people; and are also heirs, through hope, of thy everlasting kingdom. And we humbly beseech thee, O heavenly Father, so to assist us with thy grace, that we may continue in that holy fellowship, and do all such good works as thou hast prepared for us to walk in; through Jesus Christ our Lord, to whom with thee and the Holy Ghost, be all honor and glory, world without end. Amen.

THE BLESSING

THE DISMISSAL *The Deacon dismisses the people, who respond:*

Thanks be to God. Alleluia, Alleluia.

The Rev. Dr. Robert Black, *Rector*

The Rev. Katie Presley, *Priest Associate*

The Rev. Rich Munsell, *Priest Associate*

Denise Gustafson, *Youth Group Co-Leader*

Katherine Murphy, *Youth Group Co-Leader*

Emily Rueber, *Church Administrator*

Amily Beidelman-Almy, *Dir of Engagement & Finance*

The Rev. Kris Lewis, *Deacon*

The Rev. Sam Pillsbury, *Deacon*

Sr. Marcella Taylor, *Children's Formation Minister*

John Herman, *Interim Director of Music*

Susan Paulson, *Interim Organist*

Clare Davis, *Nursery Director*

601 N. Tejon St
Colorado Springs, CO 80903
www.gssepiscopal.org
(719) 328-1125 | office@gssepicoapal.org