



## EASTER DAY

The fifth day of April in the year of our Lord two-thousand twenty-six  
Eight forty-five and Eleven o'clock in the morning  
The Episcopal Church of the Nativity  
Huntsville, Alabama



- 14 The Lord is my strength and my / song, \*  
and he has become / my salvation.
- 15 There is a sound of exultation and / victory \*  
in the tents / of the righteous:**
- 16 "The right hand of the Lord has / triumphed! \*  
the right hand of the Lord is exalted! →  
the right hand of the / Lord has triumphed!"
- 17 I shall not die, but / live, \*  
and declare the / works of the Lord.**
- 18 The Lord has punished me / sorely, \*  
but he did not hand me / over to death.
- 19 Open for me the gates of / righteousness; \*  
I will enter them; I will offer / thanks to the Lord.**
- 20 "This is the gate of the / Lord; \*  
he who is right-/eous may enter."
- 21 I will give thanks to you, for you / answered me \*  
and have become / my salvation.**
- 22 The same stone which the builders re-/jected \*  
has become / the chief cornerstone.
- 23 This is the Lord's / doing, \*  
and it is mar/velous in our eyes.**
- 24 On this day the Lord has / acted; \*  
**we will rejoice / and be glad in it.**

### The Second Reading

Colossians 3:1-4

If you have been raised with Christ, seek the things that are above, where Christ is, seated at the right hand of God. Set your minds on things that are above, not on things that are on earth, for you have died, and your life is hidden with Christ in God. When Christ who is your life is revealed, then you also will be revealed with him in glory.

*Reader* The Word of the Lord.

*People* **Thanks be to God.**

**Hymn 180, Standing, sung by all**

*He is risen* UNSER HERRSCHER

*During the sequence hymn, children aged 4 through 4<sup>th</sup> grade are invited to follow the children's cross out to Children's Chapel.  
Parents are always welcome to attend. All will return during the Peace.*

### The Holy Gospel

Matthew 28:1-10

*Gospeler* The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew.

*People* **Glory to you, Lord Christ.**

After the sabbath, as the first day of the week was dawning, Mary Magdalene and the other Mary went to see the tomb. And suddenly there was a great earthquake; for an angel of the Lord, descending from heaven, came and rolled back the stone and sat on it. His appearance was like lightning, and his clothing white as snow. For fear of him the guards shook and became like dead men. But the angel said to the women, "Do not be afraid; I know that you are looking for Jesus who was crucified. He is not here; for he has been raised, as he said. Come, see the place where he lay. Then go quickly and tell his disciples, 'He has been raised from the dead, and indeed he is going ahead of you to Galilee; there you will see him.' This is my message for you." So they left the tomb quickly with fear and great joy, and ran to tell his disciples. Suddenly Jesus met them and said, "Greetings!" And they came to him, took hold of his feet, and worshiped him. Then Jesus said to them, "Do not be afraid; go and tell my brothers to go to Galilee; there they will see me.

*Gospeler* The Gospel of the Lord.

*People* **Praise to you, Lord Christ.**

**The Sermon**

The Rev. Michael Goldsmith

**Prayers of the People, *Standing or kneeling***

*Leader* On this day of resurrection and joy, let us pray for the Church and for the world, saying: Lord, in your mercy, hear our prayer.

*Leader* O God, we give thanks for the goodness of creation, for the victory of resurrection, and for the grace of redemption. We praise you for leading us from the darkness into light, and for bringing us through the waters of death into new life in you: Lord, in your mercy,

*People* **Hear our prayer.**

*Leader* That the Church, celebrating the resurrection with joy, may bring the light of Christ into the world: Lord, in your mercy,

*People* **Hear our prayer.**

*Leader* That our community, renewed through word and sacrament, may be strengthened in the covenant of our baptism: Lord, in your mercy,

*People* **Hear our prayer.**

*Leader* That the people of the world, remembering the source of creation, may care for the waters of the earth and for all living things: Lord, in your mercy,

*People* **Hear our prayer.**

*Leader* That the leaders of nations, knowing their power, may bring peace and justice to the world: Lord, in your mercy,

*People* **Hear our prayer.**

*Leader* That all who suffer, recalling the mystery of Christ crucified and risen, may be comforted: Lord, in your mercy,

*People* **Hear our prayer.**

*Leader* In thanksgiving for the saints and martyrs, for the witnesses of the resurrection, and for all who have passed over from the darkness of death into the glorious light of Christ: Lord, in your mercy,

*People* **Hear our prayer.**

*The Celebrant concludes with a collect*

**The Peace, *Standing***

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

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

**The Holy Communion**

**Offertory Anthem**

**8:45am**

*This joyful Eastertide*

John Bertalot

This joyful Eastertide, away with sin and sorrow!  
My Love, the Crucified, has sprung to life this morrow:  
Refrain: Had Christ, who once was slain, not burst his three-day prison,  
our faith had been in vain; but now has Christ arisen!  
My flesh in hope shall rest and for a season slumber:  
Till trump from east to west shall wake the dead in number. R.  
Death's flood has lost its chill since Jesus crossed the river;  
Lover of souls, from ill my passing soul deliver. R.  
Alleluia!

—George Woodward

**11:00am**

*The promise which was made*

Edward Bairstow

The promise which was made unto the fathers,  
God hath fulfilled the same unto us, their children,  
In that he raised up Jesus again. Alleluia.  
For lo, the winter is past, the rain is over and gone;  
The flowers appear on the earth; and the time of singing is come.  
And let all flesh give thanks unto his holy Name for ever and ever. Amen.  
—Act 8:32–33; Song of Solomon 2:11–12; Psalm 145:21

**Presentation Hymn 191, st.5, *Standing, sung by all***

LUX EOI

Alleluia, alleluia! Glory be to God on high; Alleluia!  
To the Savior who has won the victory;  
Alleluia! to the Spirit, fount of love and sanctity:  
Alleluia, alleluia! to the Triune Majesty.

**The Great Thanksgiving: Eucharistic Prayer B**

*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* 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 S128, *Sung by all***

Mathias

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.

*Standing or kneeling*

*Celebrant* We give thanks to you, O God, for the goodness and love which you have made known to us in creation; in the calling of Israel to be your people; in your Word spoken through the prophets; and above all in the Word made flesh, Jesus, your Son. For in these last days you sent him to be incarnate from the Virgin Mary, to be the Savior and Redeemer of the world. In him, you have delivered us from evil, and made us worthy to stand before you. In him, you have brought us out of error into truth, out of sin into righteousness, out of death into life.

On the night before he died for us, 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, according to his command, O Father,

*Celebrant and People* **We remember his death,  
We proclaim his resurrection,  
We await his coming in glory;**

*Celebrant* And we offer our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving to you, O Lord of all; presenting to you, from your creation, this bread and this wine.

We pray you, gracious God, to send your Holy Spirit upon these gifts that they may be the Sacrament of the Body of Christ and his Blood of the new Covenant. Unite us to your Son in his sacrifice, that we may be acceptable through him, being sanctified by the Holy Spirit. In the fullness of time, put all things in subjection under your Christ, and bring us to that heavenly country where, with all your saints, we may enter the everlasting heritage of your sons and daughters; through Jesus Christ our Lord, the firstborn of all creation, the head of the Church, and the author of our salvation.

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:

**The Lord's Prayer**, *Said by all*

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**

**Agnus Dei S165**, *Sung by all*

Mathias

Jesus, Lamb of God: have mercy on us.  
Jesus, bearer of our sins: have mercy on us.  
Jesus, redeemer of the world: give us your peace.

**The Invitation to Communion**

*Regardless of the denomination of your baptism, you are invited to receive Holy Communion in the Episcopal Church. If you would prefer to receive a blessing, please cross your arms over your chest. If you are interested in being baptized please speak with a clergy person after the service or contact the church office. Gluten free wafers available upon request.*

**Music during Communion**

*Pascha nostrum*

Plainsong

Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us, alleluia; therefore let us keep the feast with the unleavened bread of sincerity and truth, alleluia, alleluia, alleluia. (1 Corinthians 5; Psalm 118)

Dic nobis Maria, quid vidisti in via?  
Sepulcrum Christi viventis, et gloriam vidi resurgentis:  
Angelicos testes, sudarium et vestes.  
Surrexit Christus spes mea:  
praecedet suos in Galilaeam. Alleluia.

*Dic nobis Maria*

Giovanni Bassano

*Tell us, Mary, what did you see on your way?  
The tomb of Christ, who is alive, and I saw the glory of his rising:  
Angels standing as witnesses, the shroud and linen cloth.  
Christ my hope has risen:  
He has gone to Galilee before you. Alleluia.*  
—excerpt from 'Victimae Paschali laudes', Sequence for Easter Day

(8:45am) **Hymn 205**

*Good Christians all, rejoice and sing* GELOBT SEI GOTT

(11:00am) **Hymn 183**

*Christians, to the Paschal victim* VICTIMAE PASCHALI LAUDES

**Hymn 193**

*That Eastertide with joy was bright* PUER NOBIS

**The Postcommunion Prayer**, *Standing or kneeling*

*Celebrant* Let us pray.

*Celebrant and People* **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.**

**The Blessing**

**Hymn 210**, *Standing, sung by all*

*The day of resurrection* ELLACOMBE

**The Dismissal**

*Deacon* Let us go forth into the world rejoicing in the power of the Spirit. Alleluia, alleluia.

*People* **Thanks be to God. Alleluia, alleluia.**

**Voluntary**

*Grand Choer Dialogue*

Eugène Gigout

**8:45am**

**CELEBRANT** The Rev. Rose Veal Eby  
**PREACHER** The Rev. Michael Goldsmith  
**ASSISTING CLERGY** The Rev. Dr. Melissa M. Hartley  
**DEACON** The Rev. Dn. Dr. Robert A. Serio  
**DIRECTOR OF MUSIC** Dr. Aaron Tan

**11:00am**

**CELEBRANT** The Rev. Dr. Melissa M. Hartley  
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## *Easter Flower Dedications*

The flowers on the Altar are offered to the glory of God and in loving memory of W.H. (Buster) Pollard, by his friends.

The flowers on the Pulpit are offered to the glory of God and in loving memory of Anne Conner by Eleanor and Wayne May.

The flowers in the Font area are offered to the glory of God and in loving memory of Sara Landman Whitworth, by Jerry Whitworth.

The flowers on the Front Gate are offered to the glory of God and in thanksgiving of Martha Joffrion by her family.

The flowers on the Ridley Hall Gate are offered to the glory of God and in loving memory of Robert Tindall Crosthwait, brother of Kay Wheeler by the Nativity Flower Guild.

The flowers on the Outside Cross are offered to the glory of God and in thanksgiving of Aurora and Eloise Crosby by their family.

The flowers in the Bell Tower are offered to the glory of God and in celebration of our family by Connie and Rusty Stephenson.

The flowers on the Bell Tower Gate are offered to the glory of God and in thanksgiving of Andrew James Luther by his family.

The flowers on the Chapel Altar are offered to the glory of God and in loving memory of our parents, Chuck and Shirley Verschoore and Kyle and Marsha Samples, by Stuart and Rachael Samples.

The flowers at the Chapel Font are offered to the glory of God and in loving memory of Hal Vandervoort by his family.

The flowers on the Front Doors are offered to the glory of God and in loving memory of Claire Smith Johnston, by her family.

The flowers on the Paschal Candle are offered to the glory of God and in loving memory of John Cline by his family.

The flowers on the Sconces are offered to the glory of God and in thanksgiving of Melissa Kirkindall by the Nativity Flower Guild.

The flowers on the outside Chapel Gate are offered to the glory of God and in loving memory of Marian Elias, Paul Elias and Christopher by Susan Fredin.

The flowers in the Lady Chapel are offered to the glory of God and in thanksgiving for our grandchildren, Parker and Maggie Sanders, Liam and Alice Petroff, Eleanor Nicely and Oscar Eaton by Peggy and Bob Serio.

*The flowers in the church are offered to the glory of God and...*

*In Loving Memory of:*

Rose Anne Shearer by Greg and Elizabeth Whitehead

Harry L. McCarter and John Manning Cantey by the Cantey family

Maynard M. and Catherine E. Furney and Avon S. and Eunice P. Clevenger by Terry and Keith Clevenger

The Rev. and Mrs. Glyndon O. Newman by Lloyd Newman and Janet Newman Smith

Elizabeth Pirie McInnis by Anne Carter

Anthony "Tony" Simeone by Nancy Sheppard

Ruth Simeone by Nancy Sheppard

Ray Sheppard, MD by Nancy Sheppard

Leonard Simeone by Nancy Sheppard

Don Askins by Marty Askins

Fred and Lillian Adair by Marty Askins

Benita Collen Hayes by Angela Lucas

Chuck Yarbrough by Regina Yarbrough

Arthur Benzle by Curt Benzle and Wendy Wilson

Martha Benzle by Curt Benzle and Wendy Wilson

John Gilino by Curt Benzle and Wendy Wilson

Mary Wilson by Curt Benzle and Wendy Wilson

Homer Wilson by Curt Benzle and Wendy Wilson

David Wilson by Curt Benzle and Wendy Wilson

Tim Wilson by Curt Benzle and Wendy Wilson

Dwight Sloan by Jennifer and Randy Dill

Matthew Tully Ragland by the Ragland family

Edward Rowland Ragland, Sr. by the Ragland family

Janna Rush Rhoades and Ray Rush by Ed and Donna Rush

Jane Wacaster by Tom Wacaster, The Rev. David Wacaster and John Wacaster

Carroll Ray Lewis by Lynn Sparks Lewis

Mary Lou White by Lynn Sparks Lewis

Anne Steward by Elizabeth, Mike and Will Knight

Bob Steward by Elizabeth, Mike and Will Knight

Frances Knight by Elizabeth, Mike and Will Knight

Rankin Sneed by Marydae and Ben Blank

Will Rawson and Charles Shaver by the Play Day Group

Bev Chase and Nancy Chase by the Chase family

Ernest Potter by Gwyn Potter

*In Loving Memory of: (continued)*

Scott Thomas by Eleanor and Rick Loring

Susan Como Riddle by Rex Riddle

Heidi B. Foreman by Van Foreman

Robert and Norma Liskom by Adam and Allison Proud

N. W. and Anne Blue Tucker by Shari and Nicholas Williams

Virginia Clark Parnell by Shari and Nicholas Williams

Roger and Candis Brown by Taylor and Amy Brooks

Ron McCullar by Jeanette McCullar

Marie and Francois Veglia by Jerry Whitworth

Sherry Sampson by Jerry Whitworth

*In Honor of:*

Our beloved family by Barry and Suzanne Brown

*In Celebration of:*

Mary Hollis Hill by her godmother, Lauren Chenoweth

Ann Hillman Spano by her godmothers, Lauren, Emily and Molly Frances

*In Thanksgiving for:*

Rachel and Johnny Dingess by Anne Carter

Noelle Pirie Carter by Anne Carter

Charlotte, Palmer and Clark Dingess by Anne Carter

Remi, Zach, Hunter, Chaz, Evie and Caden by Regina Yarbrough

Sloan Dill by Jennifer and Randy Dill

Vicky, Chad, Vivian and Alice Mae Hinton by Ed and Donna Rush

Our granddaughters, Emily, Evelyn and Margaret by Emily and Jack Moody

The Nativity Flower Guild and their leaders-Andrea Vandervoort and Kay Wheeler by Kate Noble Purvis

Jack Purvis by Nobie and Doc

Lottie Messer by Nobie and Doc

Thomas, Gus and Sara Margaret Goldsmith by the Reverend and Mrs. Michael Goldsmith

All the members and members to come of the Church of the Nativity

by the Reverend and Mrs. Michael Goldsmith

Our reunion groups by Tommy and Margaret Lotz

Clara Anne Williams by Shari and Nicholas Williams

## The Nativity Scene Easter Sunday

**Welcome to Nativity**– If you are new or visiting with us this morning, please fill out the welcome brochure found in your pew. You can give the completed form to the Vestry Person of the Day or place it in the offering plate. There are sensory items (noise canceling headphones and earplugs) located in the Bell Tower. Busy bags for children are located in the back of the church near the baptismal font.

### Nativity Youth and Children

**Easter Egg Hunt (10am)**–After the 8:45am service children will line up in front of the ribbon in the courtyard. There is a dedicated area for children 3 and under along the side of the Nave. Once the egg hunt begins, children will collect 8 wooden eggs and trade them in for a prize box at the exchange table. If your child doesn't have their Easter basket with them, there are extra bags they can use on the bench right outside the belltower.

**Popup Easter EYC– Tonight!** 6:30pm at the Sandra Moon Complex for pickleball and dodgeball. No dinner provided.

**Senior Send Off Dinner**– All high school seniors and their friends are invited Thursday, April 30th at 6pm. Meet in Bibb Chapel– dinner in the courtyard! RSVP to Madi mbellcolpack@nativity-hsv.org.

### Parish Engagement

**Greene Street Market**–If you enjoy Greene Street Market and what it offers, become a GSM volunteer by calling Marilyn Evans at 256-682-4429. If you prefer to donate, send a check ( made to GSM ) to the church, 208 Eustis Avenue, 35801. Your donations will purchase market equipment and repair items we have (tents, tables, chairs ). These donations also are distributed to people in need each year through our community gift. If you are interested in sponsoring a market, contact Pattie Cline at 259-651-6497. Scan the QR code to read more about GSM!



### Upcoming Events:

- DOK luncheon April 12th at 12:30– Ridley Hall
- Parents with Young Children Meetup April 12th 5-7pm
- Lunch Bunch April 21st at 12pm in Ridley Hall
- Spaghetti Supper April 29th 5:30-7pm

**\*\*Please visit our website for more information on Parish Events!**

[www.nativity-hsv.org](http://www.nativity-hsv.org)

**Social Justice Pilgrimage**– On April 26, following the 11 am service, we will have a meeting in Ridley Hall to discuss the possibility of a Social Justice Pilgrimage to Washington DC. The trip is tentatively planned for March 8-12. The group would lodge at Virginia Theological Seminary, and the pilgrimage would be focused around visiting museums who focus on the history of the marginalized and oppressed. There would be time for reflection as a group every evening, led by Mother Rosie. Please reach out with any questions.

### Music

Three pieces of music this Easter Day stem from the same ancient source. The earliest of these pieces is the first Communion hymn for 11am, “Christians, to the Paschal victim” (VICTIMAE PASCHALI LAUDES), a late-eleventh-century Sequence typically sung before the Gospel lesson. The sequence was so enduring and popular that Martin Luther arranged a metrical German version of the plainsong melody, “Christ lag in Todesbanden”. At the heart of the sequence’s text is a dialogue between Mary Magdalene and a narrator who witnessed Jesus’s resurrection miracle. Venetian composer Giovanni Bassano (c. 1561–1617) took this dialogue as the basis for his motet, “Dic nobis Maria,”

setting the text to light-hearted and joyful music. A couple generations later, the Hamburg-based organist Heinrich Scheidemann (c. 1595–1663) arranged Bassano’s motet into a keyboard intabulation, adding elaborate scalar figurations and making use of echo effects available on the great north German organs of his day.

**Choral Evensong returns Sunday, April 19, 5pm (4:30pm organ recital)**

Nativity’s Chancel Choir offers a service of Choral Evensong featuring canticles by American composer Harold Friedell and a luminous motet by living Swedish composer Fredrik Sixten, “Alleluia”. Immediately preceding the service, organist Aaron Tan offers an organ recital at 4:30pm featuring music from the Netherlands and Scandinavia.

**Prayer Requests for Sunday, April 5, 2026**

**For healing in body, mind or spirit:**

Mary Hendricks, Barbara Ward, Nancy Robinson, Dennis Difranco, Everett Hatcher, Anna Blair, Charles Johnson, Alyce Smith, Deborah Moore, Roger Holliday, Hallie Crawford, Nell Moyers, Savannah Berry, Larry Smith, Judy Vann, Lucy Cotten, Bill Strain, Preston Lewis, Ed Cobb, Hillary Steiner, Linda Martin, Tamara Thomson, Sue Ragland, Wayne Cutler, Jackie Ryall, Ann Oaks, Susan Rutenberg, Javier Fabrega, Gail Richardson, Liz Moorman, Brian Bick, Margaret Lichty

**For the homebound:** Ann Bishop, Ann Epps, Carol Jean Exby, Rae Starnes

**For those deployed with the military:** J.B. Hutchison, Greg Riddle

**For the birthdays of our children:** Trey Schiber III, Ralph Hornsby III,

Harry Cantey, Caroline Steigner, Christian Pita

**We pray for** our seminarians Amanda Boyce, Jessi Lane Johnson



You may scan the QR code to be directed to the Shelby Giving Page to make a gift or pledge



The Episcopal Church of the Nativity  
*where faith holds wide the door*  
208 Eustis Avenue SE, Huntsville, AL 35801  
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[www.nativity.dioala.org](http://www.nativity.dioala.org)

**The church office will be closed on Monday, April 6th.**