



THE EPISCOPAL CHURCH
OF THE
NATIVITY

THE FIFTH SUNDAY OF EASTER
HOLY EUCHARIST, RITE II
MAY 3, 2026
11:00AM

*Quiet in the nave before the service helps us to mark sacred space and time.
We invite you to use this time to prayerfully prepare for worship.
Please remember to silence your cell phone.*

Voluntary

Toccata in F, BWV 540i

Johann Sebastian Bach

The Word of God

Hymn 194, *Standing, sung by all*

Jesus lives! thy terrors now ST. ALBINUS

The Opening Acclamation

Celebrant Alleluia. Christ is risen.

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

Gloria S278, *Sung by all*

William Mathias

The 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 First Reading, *Seated*

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.**

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

The Holy Gospel

John 14:1-14

Gospeler 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."

Gospeler The Gospel of the Lord.

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

The Sermon

The Right Reverend Dr. Glenda S. Curry

The Nicene Creed, *Standing*

358

The Prayers of the People, *Standing or kneeling*

Leader In this season 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*

The Holy Communion

The undesignated offering from today's service will be gifted to the Bishop's Discretionary Fund. Checks can be made to the Diocese of Alabama, with "Bishop's Discretionary Fund" in the memo line.

The Offertory Anthem

Alleluia

Fredrik Sixten

Alleluia.

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,

All **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*

364

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.
Gluten free wafers available upon request.*

Music during Communion

Tanto tempore

Plainsong

When I have been with you so long, do you still not know me? Philip, he who has seen me has seen Father, alleluia; do you not believe that I am in the Father, and the Father is in me? Alleluia, alleluia. *Ps.* Rejoice in the Lord, you righteous; it is good for the just to sing praises. (John 14; Psalm 33)

Hymn 487

Come, my Way, my Truth, my Life THE CALL

When Lay Eucharistic Visitors are sent forth to take communion to the sick or homebound, the following is offered:

Celebrant We send you forth bearing these holy gifts, that those to whom you go may share with us in the communion of Christ's Body and Blood.

People **We who are many are one body, because we all share one bread, one cup.**

The Postcommunion Prayer, Said by all, standing or kneeling

365

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 518, Standing, sung by all

Christ is made the sure foundation
WESTMINSTER ABBEY

The Dismissal

The Deacon offers a dismissal followed by:

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

Voluntary

Fugue in F, BWV 540ii

Bach

*The flowers on the altar are given to the Glory of God
and in loving memory of Ginny McLeod by Paige McLeod.*

CELEBRANT & PREACHER The Rt. Rev. Dr. Glenda S. Curry

ASSISTING The Rev. Michael Goldsmith, The Rev. Dr. Melissa M. Hartley

DEACON The Rev. Dn. Dr. Robert A. Serio

DIRECTOR OF MUSIC Dr. Aaron Tan



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



where faith holds wide the door

208 Eustis Avenue SE, Huntsville, AL

35801 • 256-533-2455

www.nativity-hsv.org