



St. Stephen's E-NEWS

WHERE GOD IS SEEN, LOVE IS FELT, LIVES ARE CHANGED.

April 15, 2022

EASTER WORSHIP

On Saturday evening, we celebrate the **GREAT EASTER VIGIL**, which tells the dramatic story of the Resurrection of our Lord Jesus Christ! We trace our beginnings and lineage as followers of Christ, from Genesis to Jesus' resurrection, and we ring the bells at the Christ is risen! The readings include:

- The Story of Creation (Genesis 1:1-2:4a)
- Israel's Deliverance at the Red Sea (Exodus 14:10-15:1)
- Salvation Offered Freely to All (Isaiah 55:1-11)
- The Valley of Dry Bones (Ezekiel 27:1-14)
- The Gathering of God's People (Zephaniah 3:14-20)
- Dying and Rising with Christ (Romans 6:3-11)
- The Resurrection of Jesus (Matthew 28:1-10)

On **EASTER SUNDAY**, we celebrate a Festal Choral Eucharist - all the grand music! Our readings will be:

- Gentiles Hear the Good News (Acts 10:34-43)
- A Song of Victory (Psalm 118:1-2 14-24)
- The Resurrection of the Dead (1 Corinthians 15:19-26)
- The Resurrection of Jesus and His Appearance to Mary Magdalene (John 29:1-18)



WEEKLY PRAYERS

WE PRAY FOR PARISH MEMBERS

Elwood and Roslyn Gift
Dominic and Lynn Giuliano,
Daphne, Mila and Robert
Johnny Goshen

Please include these people in your prayers.

Good Friday & Easter Schedule

DATE	TIME	EVENT
Friday, April 15	12:00 p.m.	Seven Last Words: 3 Hour Service (Livestream)
	7:00 p.m.	Good Friday Liturgy
Saturday, April 16	9:00 a.m.	Holy Saturday, St. Alban's Chapel
	7:00 p.m.	Great Easter Vigil
Sunday, April 17	8:30 a.m.	Easter Sunday Festal Choral Eucharist
	10:00 a.m.	Easter Egg Hunt
	11:00 a.m.	Easter Sunday Festal Choral Eucharist (Livestream)

FLOWERING THE CROSS

We return to an old tradition this year of inviting our children to follow the opening procession of our Easter Sunday service to flower the special Easter cross at the front of the church. If you have any flowers in your garden or yard, please bring a few to put on the cross. If not, we will have extra flowers so everyone is able to participate! All children in attendance are invited. Parents are encouraged to process with their kids, but we will have adults who will assist them in placing the flowers. We will flower the cross at both the 8:30 and 11 services on Easter Sunday. Look forward to seeing all of our kids for this great celebration!

MITE BOXES

During Lent, we have been continuing a tradition in which we make a special offering, which will be collected and blessed on Easter Sunday. This year the offering will be given to benefit peace in Ukraine and Russia.

Please be sure to bring your Mite Boxes to church on either Saturday evening, at the Great Easter Vigil, or on Easter Sunday at either the 8:30 a.m. or 11 a.m. worship services.

COMMUNION WINE TO RETURN AT EASTER

Beginning at our celebrations of Easter, **wine** will return as part of our celebration of Holy Communion. A few things to keep in mind as we bring back this familiar tradition:

Firstly, it remains perfectly right and good if you prefer **NOT** to take the wine and simply receive the bread. You will still be getting the fullness of communion. After you have received bread from the priest, as the chalice bearer comes to you, just cross your arms over your chest as a sign you do not wish to receive the wine.

Secondly, we **STRONGLY** discourage you from intinction, i.e., dipping the bread into the wine cup. From a germ perspective, placing your hands into the cup is a far greater spreader of germs than sipping the wine. Consume the bread before the chalice gets to you. If you wish to receive wine, please be prepared to drink it out of the chalice.





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BISHOP COLE VISIT

The Right Reverend Brian Lee Cole, Bishop of the Diocese of East Tennessee,



will be visiting St. Stephen's on Sunday, May 1, 2022. We will have our usual 7:45 and 10 a.m. worship services with several confirmations at the 10 a.m. service.

ORDINATION OF ASHTON SIMS TO THE SACRED ORDER OF PRIESTS

Mark your calendars for a very festive occasion for our own Ashton Sims! The Right Reverend Brian Lee Cole, Bishop of the Diocese of East Tennessee, will ordain Ashton Lane-Ross Sims to the Sacred Order of Priests on **Saturday, May 7, 2022 at 11 a.m.** We are delighted to invite the congregation to celebrate his ordination!

We are also collecting a purse for Ashton's ordination gift. If you would like to contribute to his ordination gift, please indicate "Ordination Gift" on the memo line of your check.



OFFICE CLOSED

The Parish Office will be CLOSED on Monday, April 18, 2022, and Staff will be taking a well-earned short break after Easter! Wishing everyone a blessed Easter week!

COFFEE CONCERT

The Oak Ridge Civic music Association (ORCMA) will present its first coffee concert in two years at St. Stephen's Episcopal Church, **Sunday, April 24, 2022, at 7:30 p.m.** The group Trillium and Friends, a group composed of Robert Bonham, piano, Shelby Shankland, flute and Alicia Randisi-Hooker, cello will perform music by Haydn, Villo Lobos and von Weber. The concert is free and open to the public.

