



FIFTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

APRIL 28, 2024 • 7:45 A.M.

HOLY EUCHARIST RITE I

212 N. Tulane Avenue, Oak Ridge, TN 37830 • Tel: 865-483-8497 • www.ststephensor.org

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

Welcome to all who worship with us this morning.

We are delighted that you are here!

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

THE LITURGY OF THE WORD

OPENING ACCLAMATION

BCP 323

Presider Alleluia. Christ is risen.

People The Lord is risen indeed. Alleluia.

COLLECT FOR PURITY

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.**

Hear what our Lord Jesus Christ saith:

Thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy mind. This is the first and great commandment. And the second is like unto it: Thou shalt love thy neighbor as thyself. On these two commandments hang all the Law and the Prophets.

GLORIA

BCP 324

Glory be to God on high, and on earth peace, good will towards men.

We praise thee, we bless thee, we worship thee, we glorify thee, we give thanks to thee for thy great glory, O Lord God, heavenly King, God the Father Almighty.

O Lord, the only-begotten Son, Jesus Christ; O Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Father, that takest away the sins of the world, have mercy upon us. Thou that takest away

the sins of the world, receive our prayer. Thou that sittest at the right hand of God the Father, have mercy upon us. For thou only art holy; thou only art the Lord; thou only, O Christ, with the Holy Ghost, art most high in the glory of God the Father. Amen.

The Collect of the Day, New Testament, Psalm, Epistle, and Gospel readings can be found in the insert.

THE COLLECT OF THE DAY

NEW TESTAMENT

ACTS 8:26-40

Lector **The Word of the Lord.**

People **Thanks be to God.**

PSALM 22:24-30*(said in unison)*

INSERT OR BCP 612

EPISTLE

1 JOHN 4:7-21

Lector **The Word of the Lord.**

People **Thanks be to God.**

Please stand for the reading of the Gospel

Gospeller **The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to John.**

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

THE GOSPEL

JOHN 15:1-8

Gospeller **The Gospel of the Lord.**

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

THE SERMON

FR. BAILEY NORMAN

THE NICENE CREED

BCP 326

**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

BCP 328

The Presider or other person appointed says

Let us pray for the whole state of Christ's Church and the world.

Almighty and everliving God, who in thy holy Word hast taught us to make prayers, and supplications, and to give thanks for all men: Receive these our prayers which we offer unto thy divine Majesty, beseeching thee to inspire continually the Universal Church with the spirit of truth, unity, and concord; and grant that all those who do confess thy holy Name may agree in the truth of thy holy Word, and live in unity and godly love.

Give grace, O heavenly Father, to all bishops and other ministers especially Justin, the Archbishop of Canterbury, Michael, our Presiding Bishop, Brian, our Bishop, and Jonathan, Bishop of our companion diocese of South Dakota; for Bailey, Ashton and Steve, our clergy, and Adam, our seminarian, that they may, both by their life and doctrine, set forth thy true and lively Word, and rightly and duly administer thy holy Sacraments.

And to all thy people give thy heavenly grace, and especially to this congregation here present; that, with meek heart and due reverence, they may hear and receive thy holy Word, truly serving thee in holiness and righteousness all the days of their life.

We beseech thee also so to rule the hearts of those who bear the authority of government in this and every land, especially Joe, our President, and Bill, our Governor, that they may be led to wise decisions and right actions for the welfare and peace of the world. Open, O Lord, the eyes of all people to behold thy gracious hand in all thy works, that, rejoicing in thy whole creation, they may honor thee with their substance, and be faithful stewards of thy bounty.

And we most humbly beseech thee, of thy goodness, O Lord, to comfort and succor all those who in this transitory life, are in trouble, sorrow, need, sickness, or any other adversity, especially Mike Bautz.

In the Diocese of East Tennessee, we pray for Grace, Chattanooga.

In our companion Diocese of South Dakota, we pray for St. John's, Deadwood, our sister parish and St. John the Evangelist, Eagle Butte, South Dakota.

We pray for the Diocese of Haiti, St. John the Evangelist Church and Medical Clinic.

In the Anglican Cycle of Prayer, we pray for The Church of Bangladesh.

We pray for those in assisted living: Mary Rhoades, Roger Derby, Jo Ann Baker, Dianne Davis and Pat Swinney.

We pray for our parish members: Elwood and Roslyn Gift; Dominic and Lynn Giuliano, Daphne, Mila, Robert; Johnny Goshen.

We pray for the women and men who are currently serving in the armed forces at home and abroad, especially Thomas Bautz, Brian Bustle, Courtenay Clary, Reid Hartman, Seth Kosko, Alex Mol, Kyle Zirkel.

And we also bless thy holy Name for all thy servants departed this life in thy faith and fear, beseeching thee to grant them continual growth in thy love and service; and to grant us grace so to follow the good examples of the Blessed Virgin Mary, St. Stephen, St. Alban, and all thy saints, that with them we may be partakers of thy heavenly kingdom.

Grant these our prayers, O Father, for Jesus Christ's sake, our only Mediator and Advocate.

Amen.

BLESSINGS FOR BIRTHDAYS AND WEDDING ANNIVERSARIES

THE PEACE

BCP 332

All stand. The Presider says to the people

Presider The peace of the Lord be always with you

People And with thy spirit.

THE HOLY COMMUNION

OFFERTORY

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING: EUCHARISTIC PRAYER II

BCP 340

The people remain standing. The priest then says

Presider The Lord be with you.

People **And with thy spirit.**

Presider Lift up your hearts.

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

Presider Let us give thanks unto our Lord God.

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

Then the Presider proceeds,

It is very meet, right, and our bounden duty, that we should at all times, and in all places, give thanks unto thee, O Lord, holy Father, almighty, everlasting God.

But chiefly are we bound to praise thee for the glorious resurrection of thy Son Jesus Christ our Lord; for he is the very Paschal Lamb, who was sacrificed for us, and hath taken away the sin of the world; who by his death hath destroyed death, and by his rising to life again hath won for us everlasting life.

Therefore with Angels and Archangels, and with all the company of heaven, we laud and magnify thy glorious Name; evermore praising thee, and saying,

SANCTUS

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 people kneel or stand. Then the Presider continues,

All glory be to thee, O Lord our God, for that thou didst create heaven and earth, and didst make us in thine own image; and, of thy tender mercy, didst give thine only Son Jesus Christ to take our nature upon him, and to suffer death upon the cross for our redemption. He made there a full and perfect sacrifice for the whole world; and did institute, and in his holy Gospel command us to continue, a perpetual memory of that his precious death and sacrifice, until his coming again.

At the following words concerning the bread, the Presider is to hold it, or lay a hand upon it; and at the words concerning the cup, to hold or place a hand upon the cup and any other vessel containing wine to be consecrated.

For in the night in which he was betrayed, he took bread; and when he had given thanks to thee, he broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying, "Take, eat, this is my Body, which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me."

Likewise, after supper, he took the cup; and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, saying, "Drink this, all of you; for this is my Blood of the New Covenant, which is shed for you, and for many, for the remission of sins. Do this, as oft as ye shall drink it, in remembrance of me."

Wherefore, O Lord and heavenly Father, we thy people do celebrate and make, with these thy holy gifts which we now offer unto thee, the memorial thy Son hath commanded us to make; having in remembrance his blessed passion and precious death, his mighty resurrection and glorious ascension; and looking for his coming again with power and great glory.

And we most humbly beseech thee, O merciful Father, to hear us, and, with thy Word and Holy Spirit, to bless and sanctify these gifts of bread and wine, that they may be unto us the Body and Blood of thy dearly-beloved Son Jesus Christ.

And we earnestly desire thy fatherly goodness to accept this our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving, whereby we offer and present unto thee, O Lord, our selves, our souls and bodies. Grant, we beseech thee, that all who partake of this Holy Communion may worthily receive the most precious Body and Blood of thy Son Jesus Christ, and be filled with thy grace and heavenly benediction; and also that we and all thy whole Church may be made one body with him, that he may dwell in us, and we in him; through the same Jesus Christ our Lord; By whom, and with whom, and in whom, in the unity of the Holy Ghost all honor and glory be unto thee, O Father Almighty, world without end. *AMEN.*

And now, as our Savior Christ hath 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 Presider breaks the consecrated Bread and maintains a moment of silence.

Presider Alleluia. Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us;

People Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia.

FRACTION ANTHEM

O Lamb of God that takest away the sins of the world, have mercy upon us.
 O Lamb of God that takest away the sins of the world, have mercy upon us.
 O Lamb of God that takest away the sins of the world, grant us thy peace.

Facing the people, the Presider says the following Invitation

The Gifts of God for the People of God. Take them in remembrance that Christ died for you, and feed on him in your hearts by faith, with thanksgiving.

POST COMMUNION PRAYER

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 ever-

lasting 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.

SENDING FORTH THE EUCHARISTIC VISITOR

Presider: In the name of this congregation, I 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: Though we are many, we are one, because we share one bread and one cup.

THE BLESSING

The God of peace, who brought again from the dead our Lord Jesus Christ, the great Shepherd of the sheep, through the blood of the everlasting covenant, make you perfect in every good work to do his will, working in you that which is well-pleasing in his sight; and the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be among you, and remain with you always. *Amen.*

THE DISMISSAL

Presider Let us go forth in the name of Christ. Alleluia, Alleluia.

People Thanks be to God. Alleluia, Alleluia.

*The Altar flowers are given by James and Amelia Knight to the glory of God
and in loving memory of their son Richard Knight.*

The Ambry Candle is given to the glory of God.

THOSE WHO SERVE TODAY — APRIL 28, 2024

	7:45 A.M.	10:00 A.M.
CRUCIFER		Diane Sams
ACOLYTES	Jack Lee	Thomas Hillis, Arwyn Welch
LECTORS	Roni Boyd	Bill Petersen
EUCCHARISTIC MINISTERS	Jack Lee	Gary Dreier, Lou Volk
USHERS	Jim Rousey, John Cox	James Welch, Ed Johnson
GREETERS	Mary Shepard	Mary Cooper, Ashley Hillis
COUNTERS		Roni Boyd, Wes Delaney
EUCCHARISTIC VISITOR		Cameron Ellis
ALTAR GUILD	Barbara Steele, Nancy Anderson, Susan Meredith	
AV TECH		Matthew Doane
SOURCE MATERIAL	The source material for this service is the Book of Common Prayer, Year B and The Book of Occasional Services.	
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WEEKLY SCHEDULE — APRIL 29 - MAY 4, 2024

Parish Office Hours: 9:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m. Monday - Thursday.

DATE	TIME	EVENT
Monday, April 29	9:00 a.m.	Staff meeting
	11:00 a.m.	Wardens' meeting
Tuesday, April 30	10:00 a.m.	Tuesday Bible Study
	11:30 a.m.	Holy Eucharist + Healing Service
Wednesday, May 1	8:30 a.m.	Men's Group
	9:00 a.m.	WOW
	6:00 p.m.	Service of Confirmation
	7:00 p.m.	Coffee with Bishop Cole
Thursday, May 2	4:00 p.m.	Contemplative Prayer (Zoom)
Friday, May 3		Office closed
Saturday May 4	11:00 a.m.	Pack Memorial Service
	2:00 p.m.	World Labyrinth Day

ANNOUNCEMENTS - SUNDAY, APRIL 28, 2024

LOOSE PLATE OFFERINGS

APRIL

Today the loose plate offering will go to support the summer Clearfork Learning Camp.

WHAT IS CLEARFORK LEARNING CAMP?

JULY 8 - JULY 12

Clearfork Learning Camp is a week-long summer program that provides educational and recreational opportunities for children and youth in Clairfork, Tennessee. This Appalachian community faces many challenges, such as poverty, unemployment, and a lack of resources. St Stephen's Church organizes the camp in partnership with the local Clearfork Community Institute, which aims to empower the residents of Clairfork through education, advocacy, and community development. The camp offers arts and crafts, music, and sports activities.

ADULT EDUCATION-FINDING GOD IN THE GARDEN

THROUGH MAY 5

This adult formation class will gather to share a devotion and gardening wisdom. A plant exchange table will be set up each week to allow participants who wish to share potted plant divisions and seedlings from their garden.

We will meet in the St. Francis Garden behind the St. Stephen's Labyrinth, weather permitting. In case of rain, we will meet in the Parish Hall and the plant exchange table will be set up there. The class will meet at 11:30 on the following dates:

April 28- Companion Planting

May 5- The Soils

Devotional material will be taken from the text, *Devotions from the Garden* by Miriam Drennan. Purchase of the book is not required.

BLESSING BOX IN ACTION!

ITEMS NEEDED THIS WEEK

Thank you to everyone who is supporting the Blessing Box! Please remember the Blessing Box when you shop. This week, we are requesting donations of **peanut butter, canned fruit, fruit cups, cereals**

LITTLE RED WAGON

Many of you may have noticed that the Narthex has a new addition - **a brand new red wagon**, to collect items donated for the Blessing Box. (Details in this week's E-News)

ST. THERESE FLOWER GUILD

The members of St. Therese Flower Ministry want to invite you to take one or more of the flower vases (filled with altar flowers) in the ramp room for someone who is celebrating a special occasion, needs cheering up (including yourself) or that you just want to let know they are being thought of. These are available any time after Monday afternoon.

CONFIRMATION**WEDNESDAY, MAY 1**

Bishop Cole will be with us Wednesday evening for his annual visitation. Please join us as we welcome him and those who will be confirmed, received and reaffirmed. After the service, DOK will host a reception in the Parish Hall serving cake, punch and coffee.

CHORAL EVENSONG**APRIL 28**

Today the University of Tennessee Chamber Singers will offer a service of Choral Evensong at St Stephen's at 4:00 p.m.

ST. STEPHEN'S FINANCIAL STATUS UPDATE**AS OF APRIL 21, 2024**

These numbers reflect the change to track our actual giving vs budgeted expenses. Scan the QR code for online pledging!



Last Week's Offering	\$2,847
2024 YTD offering	\$245,242
2024 YTD budgeted expenses	\$209,408
over/(under)	\$35,835

SMOKIES GAME**JUNE 4TH**

Tickets will be available to purchase on May 19th between the 7:45 and 10:00 services in the parish hall, and in the Grove (weather permitting) after the 10:00 service on May 26 and June 2nd. Tickets are \$21 a person. Additional information is in the E-News.

STAFF

THE REV. BAILEY NORMAN, RECTOR • CLERGY@STSTEPHENSON.ORG

THE REV. ASHTON SIMS, ASSISTANT TO THE RECTOR • ASHTON@STSTEPHENSON.ORG

THE REV. DR. STEVE DAMOS, PASTORAL ASSOCIATE • PASTORALASSOCIATE@STSTEPHENSON.ORG

SIMON BALLINTOY, DIRECTOR OF MUSIC • MUSIC@STSTEPHENSON.ORG
& INTERIM PARISH ADMINISTRATOR • SECRETARY@STSTEPHENSON.ORG

SHERRY BURCHFIELD, DIRECTOR OF CHRISTIAN EDUCATION • CEDCO@STSTEPHENSON.ORG

RACHEL DURFEE, BOOKKEEPER • RACHEL@STSTEPHENSON.ORG

LARRY HOPSON, SEXTON

VESTRY

SENIOR WARDEN - COURTNEY MANROD (2025) • JUNIOR WARDEN - LEAH BAILEY (2025)
SECRETARY - BETSY ELLIS • TREASURER - ALAN LIBY (2026)

(2024) ADAM CAVENDER • TOM CLARY • EMILY DOANE • BETH REED
(2025) CLEON HARTMAN • ASHLEY HILLIS
(2026) CRAIG BRENT • BEN SHASSERE • TYLER WALKER

THE RT. REV. BISHOP BRIAN COLE, BISHOP
THE DIOCESE OF EAST TENNESSEE