

Second Sunday of Easter April 27, 2025 10:30am

The Rt. Reverend Russell Kendrick, Bishop The Reverend William M. Lowry III, Rector The Reverend Doctor Steve Campbell, Worship Leader

An Order for the Administration of Communion Under Special Circumstances

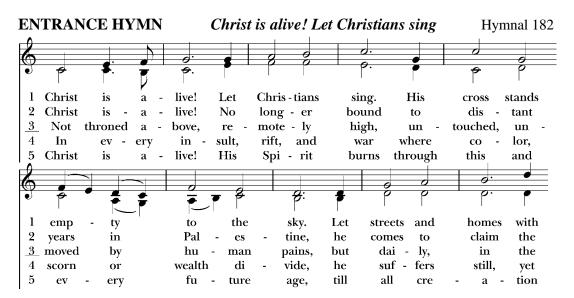
This service may be celebrated at a service on Sunday morning or on other occasions with the Bishop's permission. It is intended primarily for rural congregations where no priest is available and not for congregations where there are priests available in nearby towns. This adapted use of Communion Under Special Circumstances is authorized for use beginning July 1, 2021.

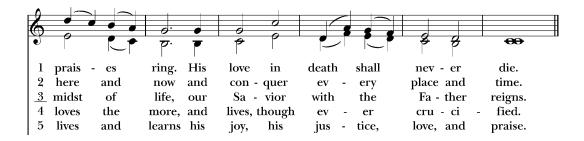
The Presider for this liturgy shall be a diocesan licensed Lay Worship Leader or Deacon and is denoted throughout this worship with the title 'Leader'.

The consecrated elements are reverently placed on the altar before the congregation arrives. The elements shall be placed in a chalice and paten unveiled and without a burse. No other vessels or missal shall be placed on the altar.

The Leader begins the service with the following directions,

Dear friends in Christ, we have come together in the presence of God to offer praise and thanksgiving, to hear and receive the Word of God, to bring before God the needs of the world and to ask for the forgiveness of our sins. Today the bread and wine for our Communion were consecrated for us prior to our services. For centuries, the church has reserved consecrated elements in order to include those unable, because of infirmity or distance, to be present at Eucharist, and also to include worshiping communities on occasions when no priest is available to preside.





OPENING SENTENCES

The people standing, the Leader says

Blessed be God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit.

People And blessed be God's kingdom, now and for ever. Amen.

All Almighty God, to you all hearts are open, all desires known, and from you no secrets are hid: Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you, and worthily magnify your holy Name; through Christ our Lord. Amen.

THE COLLECT OF THE DAY

The Leader says to the people

The Lord be with you.

People And also with you.

Leader Let us pray.

The congregation prays the collect of the day in unison

Almighty and everlasting God, who in the Paschal mystery established the new covenant of reconciliation: Grant that all who have been reborn into the fellowship of Christ's Body may show forth in their lives what they profess by their faith; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. *Amen*.

The Readings

The people sit.

THE FIRST LESSON: Acts 5:27-32

A Reading from the Acts of the Apostles.

When [the captain and the temple police] had brought [the apostles,] they had them stand before the council. The high priest questioned them, saying, "We gave you

strict orders not to teach in this name, yet here you have filled Jerusalem with your teaching and you are determined to bring this man's blood on us." But Peter and the apostles answered, "We must obey God rather than any human authority. The God of our ancestors raised up Jesus, whom you had killed by hanging him on a tree. God exalted him at his right hand as Leader and Savior that he might give repentance to Israel and forgiveness of sins. And we are witnesses to these things, and so is the Holy Spirit whom God has given to those who obey him."

Reader The Word of the Lord.
People Thanks be to God.

PSALM: Psalm 150

Please read with me the Psalm responsively by half verse. (Responses in bold.)

¹Hallelujah! Praise God in his holy temple; *

praise him in the firmament of his power.

²Praise him for his mighty acts; *

praise him for his excellent greatness.

³Praise him with the blast of the ram's-horn; *

praise him with lyre and harp.

⁴Praise him with timbrel and dance; *

praise him with strings and pipe.

⁵Praise him with resounding cymbals; *

praise him with loud-clanging cymbals.

⁶Let everything that has breath *

praise the LORD. Hallelujah!

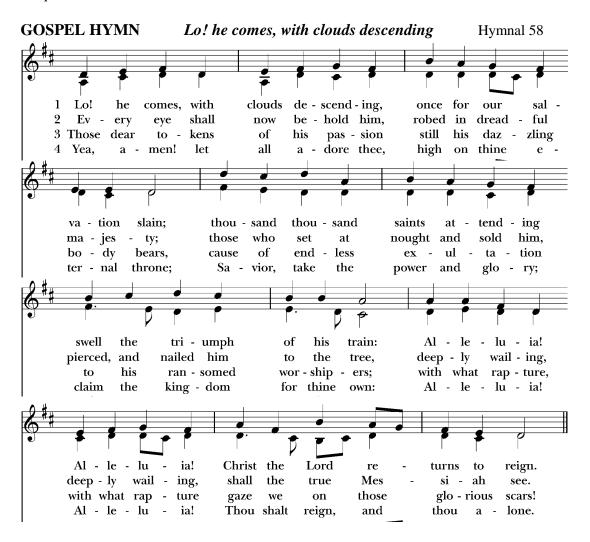
THE SECOND LESSON: Revelation 1:4-8

A Reading from the Revelation to John.

John to the seven churches that are in Asia: Grace to you and peace from him who is and who was and who is to come, and from the seven spirits who are before his throne, and from Jesus Christ, the faithful witness, the firstborn of the dead, and the ruler of the kings of the earth. To him who loves us and freed us from our sins by his blood, and made us to be a kingdom, priests serving his God and Father, to him be

glory and dominion forever and ever. Amen. Look! He is coming with the clouds; every eye will see him, even those who pierced him; and on his account all the tribes of the earth will wail. So it is to be. Amen. "I am the Alpha and the Omega," says the Lord God, who is and who was and who is to come, the Almighty.

Reader The Word of the Lord.
People Thanks be to God.



THE GOSPEL LESSON: John 20:19-31

A Reading from The Gospel according to John.

Because this is not a celebration of the Holy Eucharist, the congregation shall remain seated during the reading of the Gospel

When it was evening on that day, the first day of the week, and the doors of the house where the disciples had met were locked for fear of the Jews, Jesus came and stood among them and said, "Peace be with you." After he said this, he showed them his hands and his side. Then the disciples rejoiced when they saw the Lord. Jesus said to them again, "Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, so I send you." When he had said this, he breathed on them and said to them, "Receive the Holy Spirit. If you forgive the sins of any, they are forgiven them; if you retain the sins of any, they are retained." But Thomas (who was called the Twin), one of the twelve, was not with them when Jesus came. So the other disciples told him, "We have seen the Lord." But he said to them, "Unless I see the mark of the nails in his hands, and put my finger in the mark of the nails and my hand in his side, I will not believe." A week later his disciples were again in the house, and Thomas was with them. Although the doors were shut, Jesus came and stood among them and said, "Peace be with you." Then he said to Thomas, "Put your finger here and see my hands. Reach out your hand and put it in my side. Do not doubt but believe." Thomas answered him, "My Lord and my God!" Jesus said to him, "Have you believed because you have seen me? Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have come to believe." Now Jesus did many other signs in the presence of his disciples, which are not written in this book. But these are written so that you may come to believe that Jesus is the Messiah, the Son of God, and that through believing you may have life in his name.

Reader The Word of the Lord.
People Thanks be to God.

THE HOMILY

The Reverend Dr. Steve Campbell

A licensed lay preacher may comment upon the lessons or the occasion. Alternatively, the congregation may be invited to share their reactions to the text.

THE NICENE CREED

All stand as able.

Leader As able, let us stand and affirm our faith in the words of the Nicene Creed.

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

All remain standing as able.

Leader: Almighty God, we gather together today on the first day of the week as witnesses of the resurrection of your Son Jesus Christ: Be present with us and breathe the peace of Christ's Holy Spirit upon us as we pray: Let everything that has breath, praise God. Hallelujah!

Litanist: Gracious One, you have made your Church to be a kingdom of priests to serve our God: Bless our bishops and all your ministers and people, that we may extend your gift of forgiveness to all creation, and through believing, may have life in your name. We pray especially for Sean, our Presiding Bishop; Russell, our Bishop; Will, our Rector; and all other clergy and ministers of your church. Let everything that has breath,

praise God. Hallelujah!

Almighty One, you have overcome all powers and authorities to reveal yourself in Christ as the Alpha and Omega: Visit our secular leaders and all who exercise power throughout the world, that they may embrace your Spirit of peace and extend your reconciliation to everyone. We pray especially for Donald, our President; Kay, our Governor; Robert, our Mayor and Tony, Mayor of Orange Beach. Let everything that has breath,

praise God. Hallelujah!

Compassionate One, you visited the disciples in their fear and comforted the grief of your servant Thomas: Be present with all who live lives haunted by painful memories and with those who huddle in fear behind locked doors; breathe your healing Spirit of peace upon them. We pray especially for our brothers and sisters in Ukraine and Russia, in Israel and Palestine and all victims of violence. Bring your peace to our world. We pray for all First Responders, Law Enforcement and Members of the Armed Forces, both at home and abroad, especially our parishioner Chris.

Let everything that has breath,

praise God. Hallelujah!

Loving One, you are in the midst of us in this community and you invite us to welcome and include as friends those who have not yet experienced the reality of Christ's risen life: Help us to offer our acceptance and love to all of our neighbors, that we may be a community of reconciliation and peace. Let everything that has breath,

praise God. Hallelujah!

Healing One, you have absorbed all human suffering and pain into your body through Jesus and raised him with power to become our wounded healer: Grant the comfort of your grace to those for whom we pray, especially our parishioners Cal, Carol, Mike, Norma, Betty, Al, Norma, Kimberly, Wiley, Jane, Jackie, Ava, Dawn, Pam, Daphne, Anne, Sonya, Sara, Evie, Joy, Doris and all on our prayer list.

You have loved us and freed us, O God: Hear our grateful thanks for all the blessings of our lives.

You have overcome death through the victory of Christ: Grant your resurrection life to those whom we remember.

Let everything that has breath,

praise God. Hallelujah!

At the conclusion of the prayers, the Leader adds a concluding Collect:

Honor our doubts, O God, and let the Risen One visit us with divine healing presence in our lives, filling us with your joy and making us grateful witnesses of Christ's resurrection; breathe the liberating breath of your Holy Spirit upon us, extending forgiveness and peace throughout creation, for to you is glory and dominion for ever and ever. **Amen.**

CONFESSION OF SIN

The Leader says

Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

Silence may be kept.

Leader and People

Most merciful God,

we confess that we have sinned against you

in thought, word, and deed,

by what we have done,

and by what we have left undone.

We have not loved you with our whole heart;

we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves.

We are truly sorry and we humbly repent.

For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ,

have mercy on us and forgive us;

that we may delight in your will,

and walk in your ways,

to the glory of your Name. Amen.

The Leader says

Almighty God have mercy on us, forgive us all our sins through our Lord Jesus Christ, strengthen us in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep us in eternal life. *Amen*.

THE PEACE

All stand as able.

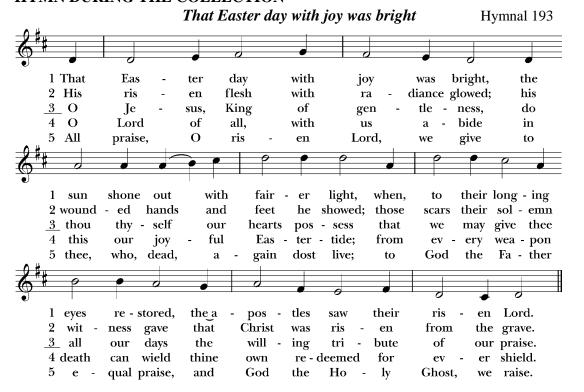
Leader The peace of the Lord be always with you.

People And also with you.

The people greet each other with signs and words of peace. An offering may be collected for the work of the church at this service, but it shall be placed on the empty altar without ceremony. Minimal preparation is to be made at this time from behind the altar.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

HYMN DURING THE COLLECTION



All stand as able. The leader stands in an appointed place near the altar but that is not behind the altar and says:

Sisters and brothers, yesterday/this morning, the bread and wine were consecrated for our use at this service and have been reverently kept that we may share in communion with God and the whole Body of Christ in every place and every time to share the foretaste of the Heavenly Banquet.

Leader Sisters and brothers, the cup of blessing that was blessed People is the communion of the Blood of Christ.

Leader For we were all baptized by one Spirit into one body

People and all made to drink of one Spirit.

Leader The Bread that was broken

People is the Communion of the Body of Christ.

Leader Because there is One Bread

People All:

we who are many are one body, for we all share in the One Bread. Almighty Father, whose dear Son on the night before He suffered, instituted the Sacrament of his Body and Blood; Mercifully grant that we may receive it thankfully in remembrance of Jesus Christ our Lord, Who in these holy mysteries gives us a pledge of eternal life; and Who lives and reigns for ever and ever. *Amen*.

THE LORD'S PRAYER

The Leader says

So, with all who are gathered together today, everywhere throughout the world, and with the great procession of your Saints, we pray to you as our Savior has taught us: 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, forever and ever. Amen.

The Leader says

This is the table, not of the Church but of Jesus Christ. It is made ready for those who love God and who want to love God more. So come, you who have much faith and you who have little, You who have been here often and you who have not been for a long time or ever before, You who have tried to follow and you who have failed. Come, not because the Church invites you; It is Christ who invites you to be known and fed here. The gifts of God for the People of God.

ADMINISTRATION OF COMMUNION

Communion is then administered to all who choose to receive. If someone present comes forward but does not wish to receive, it is appropriate to say a brief prayer of intercession for that person, but not to pronounce a blessing. It is appropriate to offer anointing for healing and prayers for intercession before or during the administration of Communion.



POST-COMMUNION PRAYER

All stand as able.

Leader Let us pray.

All

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.



DISMISSAL

Leader Let us go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

People Thanks be to God.

WELCOME TO HOLY SPIRIT EPISCOPAL CHURCH

Today's flowers were given to the Glory of God and in honor of the marriage of Rebecca Gillespie and Ethan Curvin.

All who seek to know God in a deeper and more meaningful way are welcome to receive Communion. If you do not wish to receive the Sacraments, just cross your arms and a blessing will be given instead. Gluten free communion wafers are available. Please ask the priest as communion is distributed.

NURSERY: We provide a nursery for your convenience for infants and children up to 4 years old. We invite you to bring your child back from the nursery for communion, preferably during the Peace and Announcements.

Those for whom we pray: Cal & Carol Hanson, Mike & Norma Minchew, Katherine Stribling (Jan Waggoner), Marilyn Lewis (Lillian Bemis), Carrietta Nelson (Lillian Bemis), Al Vondrasek, Norma Black-Glossop, Kathi Dolder (Sue Wiggins), Judi Kuntz (Ann Lofaro), Kimberly Worthy, Deloma Bigham (Rhonda Barber), Wiley Ashley, Laura Hermecz (Lillian Bemis), Jane Taylor, Jayne Sharp (Lillian Bemis), Abe & Dianne Kattawar (Rose Johnson), Lisa Kanuth (Kimberly Worthy), Mikki Stanley (Kimberly Worthy), Nancy Jones (Marilyn & Bobby Quinn), Terry Kilpatrick (Lillian Bemis), Jackie Jabour, Ava Trivett, Debbie, Dave, Eloise & Gigi Welch (Margaret Divito), Mary Ruth Burnes (Lillian Bemis), Valerie Kot (Lillian Bemis), Valerie Wilk (Lillian Bemis), Dawn Johnson, Pam Webster, Daphne Grimsley, Anne Meydrech, Matthew Gilbertson (Sam Nelson), Sonya Urquhart, Kimberly & Ken Brand (Jan Waggoner), Justin Requena (Carolyn Towery), Sara Walker, Helen Lauderdale & family (Witt Lauderdale), Evie Loftin, Joyce Marie Borck (Norma Black-Glossop), Melissa Mackey (Lillian Bemis), Joy Howell, Doris Kimmerlin, Sherry Jo Johnson (Rose Johnson), Margaret Pickering (Rhonda Barber), Melinda DeGraw (Evie Loftin), Nancy & Mark Varljen (Jan Waggoner), Pat Pickett (Rose Johnson), Josiah Coulson (Muriel deGanahl), A.M. Speed (Bobby & Marilyn Quinn), Pete Overshiner (Ellie Brandon)

For all First Responders, Law Enforcement and Members of the Armed Forces: Phil Gurney (USN), Blake Buskens (USA), Charlie Conner (USA), Chris Miller (GSPD), Joseph Callaway (USN), Savannah Kichler Isenburg (USAF), Jacob Wetzler (USN), Luc Lau (USM), Jack Taylor (USN), Snap Nelson (USMCR), Callaway

Williamson (USN), Zachary Russell (USAF), Cailan Ross Ashley (USCG), Joshua Cooper (USA), Margaret Lloyd (USN)

In Thanksgiving for Birthdays in March: Shauna Howell (1st), Janet Rumbley (2nd), Ashley Hendren (7th), Spencer Pierce (12th), Dave Lamberson (16th), Nancy Lamberson (18th), Jan Waggoner (20th), Dave Liebenow (25th), Vic DeFiori (31st)

In Thanksgiving for Birthdays in April: June Hayles (1st), Joanna Seibert (5th), Steve Campbell (11th), Robert Seibert (21st), Sterling Miller (25th), Lawson Prince (26th), Chuck Rumbley (29th), Linda Ryall (29th), Amber Pierce (30th)

Servers

Acolyte/Chalice Bearer-8am-Dan Ratliff 10:30am-Dave Liebenow

Lectors-8am- Brenda Johnson & Gene Poole

10:30am-Jessie Ganpot & Millie Ericson

Ushers-8am- Gene & Jamie Poole **10:30am-**Steve & Margaret Griffin

Altar Guild- Judy Allen, Joy Branch, Nancy Campbell, June Hayles,

Fr Bill Ericson, Leah Reader

Flower Guild-Rose Johnson

Beadle- Nancy Campbell

Vestry

Dave Liebenow ('26), Sr. Warden Joe Barber ('26)

Sam Nelson ('25), Jr. Warden Margaret DiVito ('27) Nancy Campbell ('25), Clerk Millie Ericson ('27)

John Stomps ('25) Dan Ratliff ('27)

David Adams ('26)

Staff

The Rev. Will Lowry-Rector

The Rev. Dr. Steve Campbell, Assisting Worship Leader

Dr. Julian Jesubatham-Music Director

Greg Engell-Assistant Music Director

Morgen Szapiel-Parish Administrator

Ivee Lowry-Day School Director

Kim Payne-Thrift Shop Manager

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