



SAINT STEPHEN'S CHURCH

PROVIDENCE, RHODE ISLAND

THE THIRD SUNDAY OF EASTER

14 April 2024

MORNING PRAYER & LOW MASS AT 8AM

MORNING PRAYER

¶ The Officiant may begin with a sentence of Scripture.

THE INVITATORY

Officiant O Lord, ✠ open thou our lips.

People **And our mouth shall show forth thy praise.**

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son,
and to the Holy Ghost;

**As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be :
world without end. Amen.**

PASCHA NOSTRUM

Alleluia. Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us; :
therefore let us keep the
feast, Not with old leaven,
neither with the leaven of malice and wickedness, :
but with the unleavened bread of sincerity and truth. Alleluia.
Christ being raised from the dead dieth no more; :
death hath no more dominion over him.
For in that he died, he died unto sin once;
but in that he liveth, he liveth unto God.
Likewise reckon ye also yourselves to be dead indeed unto sin, :
but alive unto God through Jesus Christ our Lord. Alleluia.
Christ is risen from the dead, :
and become the first fruits of them that slept.
For since by man came death, :
by man came also the resurrection of the dead.
For as in Adam all die, :
even so in Christ shall all be made alive. Alleluia. .

PSALM 98:1-5 *Cantate Domino* ¶ *Read responsively by whole verse.*

O sing unto the LORD a new song :
for he hath done marvellous things.

**With his own right hand, and with his holy arm :
hath he gotten himself the victory.**

The LORD declared his salvation :

his righteousness hath he openly shewed in the sight of the heathen.

**He hath remembered his mercy and truth toward the house of Israel :
and all the ends of the world have seen the salvation of our God.**

Shew yourselves joyful unto the LORD, all ye lands :

sing, rejoice, and give thanks.

**Glory be to the Father, and to the Son :
and to the Holy Ghost.**

**As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be :
world without end. Amen.**

THE FIRST LESSON

Acts 4:5-12

On the morning of the day after Peter and John healed the man lame from birth, the rulers and elders and scribes were gathered together in Jerusalem, with Annas the high priest and Ca'iaphas and John and Alexander, and all who were of the high-priestly family. And when they had set them in the midst, they inquired, "By what power or by what name did you do this?" Then Peter, filled with the Holy Spirit, said to them, "Rulers of the people and elders, if we are being examined today concerning a good deed done to a cripple, by what means this man has been healed, be it known to you all, and to all the people of Israel, that by the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth, whom you crucified, whom God raised from the dead, by him this man is standing before you well. This is the stone which was rejected by you builders, but which has become the head of the corner. And there is salvation in no one else, for there is no other name under heaven given among men by which we must be saved."

Reader The Word of the Lord.

People Thanks be to God.

TE DEUM LAUDAMUS ¶ *Said by all, standing*

We praise thee, O God; we acknowledge thee to be the Lord.

All the earth doth worship thee, the Father everlasting.

To thee all Angels cry aloud,

the Heavens and all the Powers therein.

To thee Cherubim and Seraphim continually do cry:

Holy, holy, holy, Lord God of Sabaoth;

Heaven and earth are full of the majesty of thy glory.

The glorious company of the apostles praise thee.
The goodly fellowship of the prophets praise thee.
The noble army of martyrs praise thee.
The holy Church throughout all the world doth acknowledge thee,
the Father, of an infinite majesty,
thine adorable, true, and only Son,
also the Holy Ghost the Comforter.
Thou art the King of glory, O Christ.
Thou art the everlasting Son of the Father.
When thou tookest upon thee to deliver man,
thou didst humble thyself to be born of a Virgin.
When thou hadst overcome the sharpness of death,
thou didst open the kingdom of heaven to all believers.
Thou sittest at the right hand of God, in the glory of the Father.
We believe that thou shalt come to be our judge.
We therefore pray thee, help thy servants,
whom thou hast redeemed with thy precious blood.
Make them to be numbered with thy saints, in glory everlasting.

℣ O Lord, save thy people and bless thine heritage;
℞ Govern them and lift them up for ever.
℣ Day by day we magnify thee;
℞ And we worship thy Name ever, world without end.
℣ Vouchsafe, O Lord, to keep us this day without sin;
℞ O Lord, have mercy upon us, have mercy upon us.
℣ O Lord, let thy mercy be upon us;
℞ As our trust is in thee.
℣ O Lord, in thee have I trusted;
℞ Let me never be confounded.

A COLLECT FOR EASTER

O God, who for our redemption didst give thine only-begotten Son to the death of the cross, and by his glorious resurrection hast delivered us from the power of our enemy: Grant us so to die daily to sin, that we may evermore live with him in the joy of his resurrection; through the same thy Son Christ our Lord, who liveth and reigneth with thee and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.
Amen.

INTERCESSIONS

Anglican Cycle of Prayer

Intercession Paper for the Confraternity of the Blessed Sacrament

Intercession Paper for the Guild of All Souls

May their souls, ✠ and the souls of all the faithful departed, through the mercy of God, rest in peace. **Amen.**

CONCLUDING VERSICLES

Officiant The Lord be with you.

People **And with thy Spirit.**

Officiant Let us bless the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

The grace ✠ of our Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God, and the fellowship of the Holy Ghost, be with us all evermore. **Amen.**

LOW MASS

OPENING ACCLAMATION

Celebrant 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.**

SUMMARY OF THE LAW

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.

KYRIE ELEISON

Kyrie eleison. **Kyrie eleison.** Kyrie eleison.

Khriste eleison. Christe eleison. **Christe eleison.**

Kyrie eleison. **Kyrie eleison.** Kyrie eleison.

GLORIA IN EXCELSIS

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.

COLLECT OF THE DAY

Celebrant The Lord be with you.

People And with thy spirit.

Celebrant Let us pray.

O God, whose blessed Son did manifest himself to his disciples in the breaking of bread: Open, we pray thee, the eyes of our faith, that we may behold him in all his redeeming work; through the same thy Son Jesus Christ our Lord, who liveth and reigneth with thee, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen.

THE LITURGY OF THE WORD

THE EPISTLE

1 John 1:1-2:2

That which was from the beginning, which we have heard, which we have seen with our eyes, which we have looked upon and touched with our hands, concerning the word of life -- the life was made manifest, and we saw it, and testify to it, and proclaim to you the eternal life which was with the Father and was made manifest to us -- that which we have seen and heard we proclaim also to you, so that you may have fellowship with us; and our fellowship is with the Father and with his Son Jesus Christ. And we are writing this that our joy may be complete. This is the message we have heard from him and proclaim to you, that God is light and in him is no darkness at all. If we say we have fellowship with him while we walk in darkness, we lie and do not live according to the truth; but if we walk in the light, as he is in the light, we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus his Son cleanses us from all sin. If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just, and will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness. If we say we have

not sinned, we make him a liar, and his word is not in us. My little children, I am writing this to you so that you may not sin; but if any one does sin, we have an advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ the righteous; and he is the expiation for our sins, and not for ours only but also for the sins of the whole world.

Reader The Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

THE HOLY GOSPEL

Luke 24:36-48

Celebrant The Lord be with you.

People **And with thy spirit.**

Celebrant The Holy Gospel ✠ of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Luke.

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

While the disciples were telling how they had seen Jesus risen from the dead, Jesus himself stood among them. But they were startled and frightened, and supposed that they saw a spirit. And he said to them, "Why are you troubled, and why do questionings rise in your hearts? See my hands and my feet, that it is I myself; handle me, and see; for a spirit has not flesh and bones as you see that I have." And while they still disbelieved for joy, and wondered, he said to them, "Have you anything here to eat?" They gave him a piece of broiled fish, and he took it and ate before them. Then he said to them, "These are my words which I spoke to you, while I was still with you, that everything written about me in the law of Moses and the prophets and the psalms must be fulfilled." Then he opened their minds to understand the scriptures, and said to them, "Thus it is written, that the Christ should suffer and on the third day rise from the dead, and that repentance and forgiveness of sins should be preached in his name to all nations, beginning from Jerusalem. You are witnesses of these things."

Celebrant The Gospel of the Lord.

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

SERMON

The Rev'd Fr. Benjamin Straley

NICENE CREED *¶ Said by all, standing*

I believe in one God,

**the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth,
and of all things visible and invisible;**

And in one Lord Jesus Christ,

**the only-begotten Son of God,
begotten of his Father before all worlds,
God of God, Light of Light,**

very God of very God,
begotten, not made,
being of one substance with the Father;
by whom all things were made;
who for us men and for our salvation
came down from heaven,
and was incarnate by the Holy Ghost of the Virgin Mary, | *(Genuflect or*
and was made man; | *bow)*
and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate;
he suffered and was buried;
and the third day he rose again according to the Scriptures,
and ascended into heaven,
and sitteth on the right hand of the Father;
and he shall come again, with glory,
to judge both the quick and the dead;
whose kingdom shall have no end.
And I believe in the Holy Ghost the Lord, and Giver of Life,
who proceedeth from the Father and the Son;
who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped and glorified;
who spake by the Prophets.
And I believe one holy Catholic and Apostolic
Church; I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins;
and I look for the resurrection of the dead,
and the life ✠ of the world to come. Amen.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

g Celebrant

In joy and hope let us pray to the Lord.

That our risen Savior may fill us with the joy of his glorious and life-giving resurrection, we pray to the Lord.

Lord, hear our prayer.

That God may grant us humility to be subject to one another in Christian love, we pray to the Lord.

Lord, hear our prayer.

That by his power war and famine may cease through all the world, we pray to the Lord.

Lord, hear our prayer.

That he may reveal the light of his presence to the sick, the weak and the dying, to comfort and strengthen them, we pray to the Lord.

Lord, hear our prayer.

That, according to his promises, all who have died ✠ in the faith of the resurrection may be raised on the last day, we pray to the Lord.

Lord, hear our prayer.

That he may send the fire of the Holy Spirit upon his people, so that we may bear faithful witness to his resurrection, we pray to the Lord.

Lord, hear our prayer.

Celebrant

O God, the living God, who has given unto us a living hope by the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead: Grant that we, being risen with him, may seek the things which are above, and be made partakers of the life eternal; through the same Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

THE PEACE

Celebrant The Peace of the Lord be always with you.

People **And with thy spirit.**

OFFERTORY PRAYERS (*Please be seated*)

Celebrant Blessed art thou, Lord God of all creation; through thy goodness we have this bread to offer, which earth hath given and human hands have made. It will become for us the bread of life.

People **Blessed be God for ever.**

Celebrant Blessed art thou, Lord God of all creation; through thy goodness we have this wine to offer: fruit of the vine and work of human hands. It will become our spiritual drink.

People **Blessed be God for ever.**

ORATE, FRATRES (*Standing*)

Celebrant Pray, brothers and sisters, that this my sacrifice and yours may be acceptable to God the Father Almighty.

People **May the Lord receive this sacrifice at thy hands, to the praise and glory of his Name, both to our benefit and that of all his holy Church.**

SURSUM CORDA

Celebrant The Lord be with you.

People **And with thy spirit.**

Celebrant Lift up your hearts.

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

Celebrant Let us give thanks unto our Lord God.

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

It is very meet, right, and our bounden duty, to glorify thee, O Father, and to give thanks unto thee, for thou alone art God, living and true, dwelling in light inaccessible from before all time and for ever. Fountain of life and Source of all goodness, thou hast made all things and didst fill them with thy blessing, creating them to rejoice in the splendor of thy radiance. Countless throngs of angels stand before thee to serve thee night and day; and, beholding the glory of thy presence, they offer thee unceasing praise. Joining with them, and giving voice to every creature under heaven, we praise thee, and glorify thy Name, saying,

SANCTUS ET BENEDICTUS

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.

EUCHARISTIC PRAYER *¶ All kneel.*

WE ACCLAIM THEE, HOLY LORD, glorious in power, whose mighty works reveal thy wisdom and love. Thou hast formed us in thine own image, giving the whole world into our care, that in obedience unto thee, our Maker, we might rule and serve all thy creatures. When our disobedience took us far from thee, thou didst not abandon us to the power of death, but in thy mercy thou didst come to our help, that in seeking thee we might find thee. Again and again thou didst call us into covenant with thee, and through the prophets thou didst teach us to hope for salvation.

Thou didst so love the world, O Father, that in the fullness of time thou didst send thine only-begotten Son to be our Savior. Incarnate by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, he lived as one of us, yet without sin. To the poor he proclaimed the good news of salvation; to prisoners, freedom; to the sorrowful, joy. That thy purpose might be fulfilled, he gave himself up unto death; and rising from the grave he destroyed death and made the whole creation new.

And, that we might live no longer unto ourselves, but unto him who died for us and rose again, he sent the Holy Spirit, his own first gift for those who believe, to complete his work in the world, bringing to fulfillment the sanctification of all.

When the hour had come for him to be glorified by thee, his heavenly Father, having loved his own who were in the world, he loved them to the end: At supper with them he took bread, and when he had given thanks unto thee, he brake it, and gave it to his disciples, saying, "Take, eat,

THIS IS MY BODY,
WHICH IS GIVEN FOR YOU.
Do this for the remembrance of me."



Likewise, after supper he took the cup; and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, saying, "Drink ye all of this:

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, for the remembrance of me."



And now, O Father, we celebrate this memorial of our redemption. Recalling Christ's death and his descent among the dead, proclaiming his resurrection and ascension to thy right hand, awaiting his coming in glory, and offering unto thee, from the gifts which thou hast given us, this bread and this cup, we praise thee and we bless thee.

Celebrant and People

**We praise thee, we bless thee
we give thanks to thee,
and we pray to thee, Lord our God.**

We beseech thee, O Lord, that in thy goodness and mercy thy Holy Spirit may descend upon us and upon these gifts, sanctifying them and revealing them as holy gifts for thy holy people, the bread of life and the cup of salvation, the Body and Blood of thy Son Jesus Christ our Lord.

Grant that all who share this bread and this cup may become one body and one spirit, a living sacrifice in Christ, to the praise of thy Name. Remember, O Lord, thy one holy catholic and apostolic Church, redeemed by the Blood of thy Christ. Reveal her unity, guard her faith, and preserve her in peace. And grant that we may find our inheritance with the ever-blessed Virgin Mary, with patriarchs, prophets,

apostles, and martyrs, with blessed Stephen our patron, and with all the saints who have found favor with thee in ages past. We praise thee in union with them and give thee glory through thy Son Jesus Christ our Lord.

Through Christ and with Christ and in Christ all honor and glory be unto thee, Almighty God and Father, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, world without end.
AMEN.

THE LORD'S PRAYER

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 BREAKING OF BREAD

Celebrant Alleluia. Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us:

People Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia.

AGNUS DEI

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.

INVITATION TO COMMUNION: ECCE AGNUS DEI

Celebrant Behold ✠ the Lamb of God; behold him that taketh away the sins of
the world.

People Lord, I am not worthy that thou shouldst come under my roof:
but speak the word only, and my soul shall be healed.

THE ADMINISTRATION OF HOLY COMMUNION

Please come forward to the altar rail and then return to your pew via the passageway on the right. If you are unable to come forward, communion can be brought to you in your pew. All baptized Christians are welcome to receive the Eucharist at the Lord's Table. Gluten-free wafers are available. If you are not receiving, you are invited to come forward for a blessing (indicated by crossing your arms over your chest). If you have not been baptized and find yourself drawn to Jesus Christ and life in him, please let one of our clergy know. We would be honored to have a conversation with you about baptism or answer any other questions. Baptism and life in the Body of Christ is open to all.

POST-COMMUNION PRAYER ¶ *All kneel.*

Celebrant Let us pray.

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 everlasting 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.**

THE BLESSING

Celebrant The Lord be with you.

People **And with thy Spirit.**

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 Ghost, be amongst you and remain with you always. **Amen.**

DISMISSAL ¶ *Please stand.*

Celebrant Let us go forth in the Name of Christ. Alleluia, Alleluia.

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