

**April 27, 2025  
10:00 AM**

**The Second Sunday  
of Easter**

## **Morning Prayer**



### ***St. Stephen's in-the-Field Episcopal Church***

7269 Santa Teresa Boulevard  
San Jose, CA 95139  
(408) 629-1836  
[www.ssitf.org](http://www.ssitf.org)

**We the people of Saint Stephen's in-the-Field  
seek to know Christ, to share Christ, and to serve Christ,  
recognizing his presence in all people,  
and reaching out in love to each other and to the world around us.**



***Opening Hymn:*** Glorify Thy Name – YSB page 16

***Opening Sentence***

*Officiant:* Let the words of my mouth and the meditation of my heart be acceptable in your sight, O Lord, my strength and my redeemer.

***Confession***

*Officiant:* Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

**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**

***Absolution***

*Officiant:* 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.**

***Opening Versicle*** (*stand*)

*Officiant:* Lord, open our lips.

*People:* **And our mouth shall proclaim your praise.**

**Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit: as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be for ever. Amen.**

## ***Invitatory Psalm***

*Officiant:* The mercy of the Lord is everlasting:

*People:* Come let us adore him.

## ***Venite Psalm 95:1-7***

*Officiant and people*

**Come, let us sing to the Lord:\***

**Let us shout for joy to the Rock of our salvation.**

**Let us come before his presence with thanksgiving\***

**And raise a loud shout to him with psalms.**

**For the Lord is a great God,\***

**And a great King above all gods.**

**In his hand are the caverns of the earth,\***

**And the heights of the hills are his also.**

**The sea is his, for he made it,\***

**And his hands have molded the dry land.**

**Come, let us bow down, and bend the knee,\***

**And kneel before the Lord our Maker.**

**For he is our God,**

**and we are the people of his pasture and the sheep of his hand.\***

**Oh, that today you would hearken to his voice!**

***Psalm:***

***Psalm 118:14-29***

14 The LORD is my strength and my song, \*  
and he has become my salvation.

15 There is a sound of exultation and victory \*  
in the tents of the righteous:

16 "The right hand of the LORD has triumphed! \*  
the right hand of the LORD is exalted!  
the right hand of the LORD has triumphed!"

17 I shall not die, but live, \*  
and declare the works of the LORD.

18 The LORD has punished me sorely, \*  
but he did not hand me over to death.

- 19 Open for me the gates of righteousness; \*  
I will enter them;  
I will offer thanks to the LORD.
- 20 "This is the gate of the LORD; \*  
he who is righteous may enter."
- 21 I will give thanks to you, for you answered me \*  
and have become my salvation.
- 22 The same stone which the builders rejected \*  
has become the chief cornerstone.
- 23 This is the LORD's doing, \*  
and it is marvelous in our eyes.
- 24 On this day the LORD has acted; \*  
we will rejoice and be glad in it.
- 25 Hosannah, LORD, hosannah! \*  
LORD, send us now success.
- 26 Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord; \*  
we bless you from the house of the LORD.
- 27 God is the LORD; he has shined upon us; \*  
form a procession with branches up to the horns of the altar.
- 28 "You are my God, and I will thank you; \*  
you are my God, and I will exalt you."
- 29 Give thanks to the LORD, for he is good; \*  
his mercy endures for ever.

*Officiant and people*

**Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit;\***  
**As it was in the beginning, is now, and will be for ever. Amen.**

### ***The Lessons*** *(please be seated)*

#### ***First Reading***

***Acts 5:27-32***

A reading from the Acts of the Apostles.

When 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."

**All:**           The Word of the Lord.  
                  **Thanks be to God.**

### ***Second Reading***

***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.

**All:**           The Word of the Lord.  
                  **Thanks be to God.**

*Please stand*

***Gospel Gradual:*** Seek Ye First – YSB page 48

### ***Gospel Reading***

***John 20:19-31***

A reading from the Gospel of John.

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.

The word of the Lord.

**All: Thanks be to God**

## ***Sermon***

### ***The Apostles' Creed*** *(please stand as you are able)*

**I believe in God, the Father almighty,  
creator of heaven and earth.**

**I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord,  
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,  
born of the Virgin Mary,  
suffered under Pontius Pilate,  
was crucified, died, and was buried;  
he descended to the dead.  
On the third day he rose again;  
he ascended into heaven,**

he is seated at the right hand of the Father,  
and he will come again to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit,  
the holy catholic Church,  
the communion of saints,  
the forgiveness of sins,  
the resurrection of the body,  
and the life everlasting. Amen.

### *The Prayers*

*Officiant* The Lord be with you.

*People* And also with you.

*Officiant* Let us pray.

### *Lord's Prayer*

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.

### *Suffrages*

*Leader:* Show us your mercy, O Lord;

*People:* And grant us your salvation.

*Leader:* Clothe your ministers with righteousness;

*People:* Let your people sing with joy.

*Leader:* Give peace, O Lord, in all the world;

*People:* For only in you can we live in safety.

*Leader:* Lord, keep this nation under your care;

*People:* And guide us in the way of justice and truth.

*Leader:* Let your way be known upon earth;

*People:* Your saving health among all nations.

*Leader:* Let not the needy, O Lord, be forgotten;

*People:* Nor the hope of the poor be taken away.

*Leader:* Create in us clean hearts, O God;

*People:* And sustain us with your Holy Spirit.



## ***Collect of the Day***

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.**

## ***Prayers of the People (Form III)***

**Leader:** Father, we pray for your holy Catholic Church;

**People:** **That we all may be one.**

**Leader:** Grant that every member of the Church may truly and humbly serve you;

**People:** **That your Name may be glorified by all people.**

**Leader:** We pray for all bishops, priests, and deacons;

**People:** **That they may be faithful ministers of your Word and Sacraments.**

**Leader:** We pray for all who govern and hold authority in the nations of the world;

**People:** **That may be justice and peace on the earth.**

**Leader:** Give us grace to do your will in all that we undertake;

**People:** **That our works may find favor in your sight.**

**Leader:** Have compassion on those who suffer from any grief or trouble;

**People:** **That they may be delivered from their distress.**

**Leader:** Give to the departed eternal rest.

**People:** **Let light perpetual shine upon them.**

**Leader:** We praise you for your saints who have entered into joy;

**People:** **May we also come to share in your heavenly kingdom.**

**Leader:** Let us pray for our own needs and those of others.

*The People may add their own petitions, silently or aloud.*

**All:** **God and Father of all, hear our prayers for all in need and fill your hungry people with bread from heaven, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

## ***The Peace***

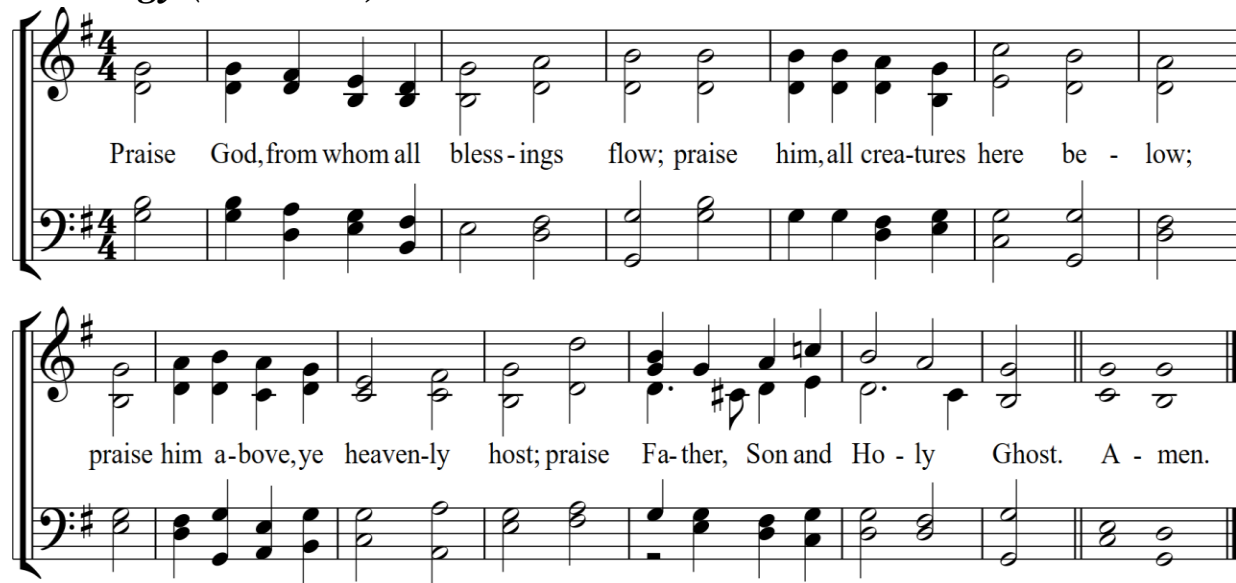
**Officiant:** The peace of the Lord be always with you.

**People:** And also with you.

*Exchange peace.*

**Offertory:** The Servant Song – YSB page 62

## ***Doxology (Old 100<sup>th</sup>):***



Praise God, from whom all bless-ings flow; praise him, all crea-tures here be - low;

praise him a-bove, ye heaven-ly host; praise Fa-ther, Son and Ho - ly Ghost. A - men.

## ***The General Thanksgiving***

Almighty God, Father of all mercies,  
we your unworthy servants give you humble thanks  
for all your goodness and loving-kindness  
to us and to all whom you have made.  
We bless you for our creation, preservation,  
and all the blessings of this life;  
but above all for your immeasurable love  
in the redemption of the world by our Lord Jesus Christ;  
for the means of grace, and for the hope of glory.  
And, we pray, give us such an awareness of your mercies,  
that with truly thankful hearts we may show forth your praise,  
not only with our lips, but in our lives,  
by giving up our selves to your service,  
and by walking before you  
in holiness and righteousness all our days;

through Jesus Christ our Lord,  
to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit,  
be honor and glory throughout all ages. Amen.

### *A Prayer of St. Chrysostom*

Almighty God, you have given us grace at this time with one accord to make our common supplication to you; and you have promised through your well-beloved Son that when two or three are gathered together in his Name you will be in the midst of them: Fulfill now, O Lord, our desires and petitions as may be best for us; granting us in this world knowledge of your truth, and in the age to come life everlasting. Amen.

### *Announcements (please be seated)*

### *Prayers for Celebrations*

Loving Creator, You are the source of life and the source of love. We thank you for all who celebrate birthdays, anniversaries, and special events today. Watch over them as their days increase, bless and guide them wherever they may be. May your peace which passes understanding abide all the days of their lives, and may your love for the world shine through them and the deep relationships they cherish, through Jesus Christ our Savior. Amen.

*Please stand*

### *Concluding Versicle and Response*

*Officiant* Let us bless the Lord.

*People* Thanks be to God.

### *Concluding Sentence*

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

*Mission Song:* They'll Know We Are Christians – YSB page 54

## **Mark your calendar**

- Wednesday Book Group will begin again after Easter
- Wednesday, May 7 – Lazy Dog Fundraiser, all day

## **Vestry Members**

Janet Thorsrud, *Senior Warden* • Anthony Francis •  
Andy Lief, *Treasurer/Finance* • Maggie Stedman, *Clerk*