

St. Stephen Presbyterian Church

Fort Worth, Texas
Service for THE LORD'S Day

4th Sunday of Easter

April 21, 2024 – 11:00 A.M.

Bold text: All | Regular text: Leader | †: Please stand in body or spirit.

GATHERING IN GOD'S PRESENCE

PRELUDE: *Meditation* (2008)

Lauren Hanifan, oboist

Chaminade/Callahan

PEAL OF THE TOWER BELLS

LITANY FOR EASTER

from *Brother Roger of Taizé*

The risen Christ meets us at the tomb and turns our tears to joy.

For your love and goodness, we give you thanks, O God.

Christ comes through our locked doors and turns our fear to courage.

For your love and goodness, we give you thanks, O God.

Christ comes to daily life and work and turns our failure to new vision.

For your love and goodness, we give you thanks, O God.

Christ breaks the bread and turns our despair to hope.

For your love and goodness, we give you thanks, O God.

†PROCESSIONAL HYMN: 394 *Christ Is Made the Sure Foundation*

WESTMINSTER ABBEY

†PRAYER OF THE DAY

from *Lent and Beyond: an Anglican Prayer Blog*

If you were not risen, LORD Christ, to whom would we go to discover a radiance of the face of God? If you were not risen we would not be together seeking your communion. We would not find in your presence forgiveness, wellspring of a new beginning. If you were not risen, where would we draw the energy for following you right to the end of our existence, for choosing you again and anew? LORD Jesus, remind us daily of the truth of your resurrection that we might live in its fullness, and wondering afresh and experiencing the amazing truth that your resurrection power is real and at work every day in the lives of each of us who has been baptized into your death and resurrection!

Hear our prayer, O God, through Jesus Christ our LORD, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

†PASSING THE PEACE OF CHRIST

May the peace of the LORD Jesus Christ be with you.

And also with you.

Please greet your neighbors with a sign of Christ's peace.

†GLORIA PATRI 580

SCOTTISH

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.

HEARING THE WORD OF GOD

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

Betty Arvin

LESSON FROM THE NEW TESTAMENT: Acts 4:5-12

Pew Bible NT p. 121

Testimony for the church from Jesus, the Alpha and Omega.

Thanks be to God.

LESSON FROM THE PSALMS: Psalm 80:1-7

Setting by Thomas Attwood

LESSON FROM THE EPISTLES: 1 John 3:16-24

Pew Bible NT p. 240

Testimony for the church from Jesus, the Alpha and Omega.
Thanks be to God.

All children 5th grade and younger are invited into the center of the sanctuary to surround the Gospeler during the Gospel Processional Hymn.
Afterwards, the children will be led out of the sanctuary to the Chapel for Godly Play and return during the hymn that follows the sermon.

†GOSPEL PROCESSIONAL HYMN: 187 *Savior, like a Shepherd Lead Us*, stanzas 1-2 | 3-4

BRADBURY

†LESSON FROM THE GOSPEL: John 10:11-18

Pew Bible NT p. 103

Testimony for the church from Jesus, the Alpha and Omega.
Praise to you, O Christ.

SERMON: "Abiding In Love"

The Rev. Dr. Elizabeth J. Callender, *Interim Pastor*

TIME OF REFLECTION

RESPONDING TO THE WORD OF GOD

†HYMN: 703 *Jesus, Thy Boundless Love to Me*

ST. CATHERINE

†AFFIRMATION OF FAITH: *A Brief Statement of Faith*

In life and in death we belong to God.

Through the grace of our LORD Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit, we trust in the one triune God, the Holy One of Israel, whom alone we worship and serve.

We trust in Jesus Christ, fully human, fully God. Jesus proclaimed the reign of God: preaching good news to the poor and release to the captives, teaching by word and deed and blessing the children, healing the sick and binding up the brokenhearted, eating with outcasts, forgiving sinners, and calling all to repent and believe the gospel. Unjustly condemned for blasphemy and sedition, Jesus was crucified, suffering the depths of human pain and giving his life for the sins of the world. God raised this Jesus from the dead, vindicating his sinless life, breaking the power of sin and evil, delivering us from death to life eternal.

With believers in every time and place, we rejoice that nothing in life or in death can separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our LORD. Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit. Amen.

INVITATION TO DISCIPLESHIP

PRESENTATION OF TITHES AND OFFERINGS

How does God's love abide in anyone who has the world's goods yet refuses to help a person in need? 1 John 3:17

OFFERTORY: *The Lord is my shepherd* from *Requiem* (1985)

John Rutter (b. 1945)

Lauren Hanifan, oboist

The Lord is my shepherd: therefore can I lack nothing. He shall feed me in a green pasture: and lead me forth beside the waters of comfort. He shall convert my soul: and bring me forth in the paths of righteousness, for his Name's sake. Yea, though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil: for thou art with me; thy rod and thy staff comfort me. Thou shalt prepare a table before me against them that trouble me: thou has anointed my head with oil, and my cup shall be full. But thy loving-kindness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life: and I will dwell in the house of the Lord for ever.

†DOXOLOGY 606

OLD HUNDREDTH

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; Praise God, all creatures here below;
Praise God above, ye heavenly host; Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

CELEBRATING THE EUCHARIST

INVITATION TO THE SACRAMENT OF THE LORD'S SUPPER

The LORD'S Supper is open to all who seek to know God through Jesus Christ, regardless of religious background. It is served by intinction, coming forward to the servers and dipping the bread into the chalice of wine, held by the inside servers, or the chalice of grape juice, held by the outside servers. Gluten-free bread is available by speaking to the minister. If you wish to be served in your seat, let the usher know when your row is released to come forward. The server will say "The Bread of Life and the Cup of Salvation for you" or the like, to which you may respond, "Thanks be to God" or "Amen."

GREAT PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

The LORD be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the LORD.

Let us give thanks to the LORD our God.

It is right to give God thanks and praise.

(Prayer continues...)

SANCTUS

Ho-ly, ho-ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow-er
God of might, heav-en and earth are full of your glo-ry.____ Ho - san - na in the
high- est.____ Bless-ed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.____ Ho - san - na
in the high- est,____ ho - san - na in the high - est.

MEMORIAL ACCLAMATION

Christ has died; Christ is ris-en; Christ will come a - gain.
Christ has died; Christ is ris-en; Christ will come a - gain.

PRAYER OF INTERCESSION FOR THE CHURCH AND THE WORLD *(kneeling or bowing down)*

Response: God of resurrection life,
Renew our hearts and minds.

THE LORD'S PRAYER (*kneeling or bowing down*)

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 debts as we forgive our debtors;

And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.

For thine is the Kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.

WORDS OF INSTITUTION AND THE LORD'S SUPPER

COMMUNION HYMNS

802 *The King of Love My Shepherd Is*

523 *You Satisfy the Hungry Heart*

ST. COLUMBA
BICENTENNIAL

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Holy God, through our Savior Christ Jesus you have assured your children of eternal life and in baptism have made us one with him. Deliver us from the death of sin and raise us to new life in your love, in the communion of the Holy Spirit, by the grace of our LORD Jesus Christ. Amen.

SENDING INTO THE WORLD

†HYMN: 315 *In the Midst of New Dimensions*

NEW DIMENSIONS

†CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

PEAL OF THE TOWER BELLS

POSTLUDE: *Rigaudon* (1712)

André Campra (1660-1744)

ALL MEMBERS ARE ASKED TO REMAIN FOR THE CONGREGATIONAL MEETING AND VOTING.

MUSIC FOR CONGREGATIONAL MEETING

837 *What a Fellowship, What a Joy Divine*

839 *Blessed Assurance, Jesus Is Mine!*



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SCAN ME

MISSION STATEMENT OF ST. STEPHEN PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

St. Stephen Presbyterian Church celebrates liturgical worship to the glory of God, embraces a progressive theology, engages in mission, serves with compassion, and intentionally includes all with love.