



**St. Christopher's
Episcopal Church**

SEEK SERVE SHARE

FOURTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

**Celebrant
Deacon
Family Minister
Vergers
Music**

**The Rev. Alyssa Stebbing
The Rev. Vicki Knipp
Lyssa Williford, Director
Scott Cummings
Ann Vail, Director of Music
Nikki Birdsong, Piano
John Cotten, Guitar
St. Christopher's Choir**

Welcome to St. Christopher's!

We are so happy you're here to celebrate with us today! Whether this is your very first visit or your church home, we are glad to welcome you on this joyful morning as we celebrate the good news: **Christ is risen!**

St. Christopher's is a family-friendly community, and children of all ages are welcome in every worship service. For those who prefer, childcare is available. **Children ages 4-10** are invited to follow the cross during the Gloria and will process to the Godly Play room for a lectionary based mini service and return at the Peace. Quiet Bags filled with activities for our youngest visitors during the service are available in the narthex (lobby). We kindly ask you return the bag for others to enjoy.

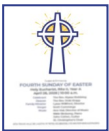
At Holy Communion, **all are invited to come forward.** If you would like to receive the bread, please hold out your hands. If you would prefer a blessing, simply **cross your arms over your chest**, and the priest will offer a blessing.

After the service, the celebration continues! Please stay and join us for a time of **fellowship.**

We'd love to stay in touch! If you're visiting today, we invite you to connect with us in whatever way is easiest for you. **Scan the QR code, email us, send a text, or fill out a Connect Card in the pew.** We'd be delighted to welcome you, answer any questions, and help you learn more about our church community.

If you'd simply like to know what's happening without sharing all of your contact information, just **scan the QR code to receive our weekly e-newsletter.**

Thank you for spending this morning with us. We hope you feel at home here and leave filled with Easter joy!



Large print bulletins available in the narthex (lobby).

Digital bulletins available on the home page @ stchristophersaustin.org



network | **St. Christopher's**

password | **StChristophers8724**

Sunday | 9a Nursery | 9a Adult Form. | 10a Children's Form. | 10a Holy Eucharist, Rite II | 11a Fellowship

Monday | 9a Morning Prayer **Wednesday** | noon House of Prayer

Office | Mon-Thu: 9:30am – 2:30pm | 512.288.0128 | office@stchrisatx.org | rector@stchrisatx.org

FOURTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

As the Prelude begins we invite you to you to finish conversations and find a place in the nave to prepare for worship.

PRELUDE

Nikki Birdsong, piano, John Cotton, guitar

WELCOME

(Please kneel as you are able)

MOMENT OF SILENT PRAYER

(Please stand as you are able and join in singing.)

PROCESSIONAL HYMN

Hymnal 1982, # 192

1 This joyful Eastertide,
away with sin and sorrow!
My Love, the Crucified,
hath sprung to life this morrow.

2 Death's flood hath lost its chill,
since Jesus crossed the river:
Lord of all life, from ill
my passing life deliver.
Refrain

Refrain
Had Christ, that once was slain,
ne'er burst his three-day prison,
our faith had been in vain;
but now is Christ arisen.

3 My flesh in hope shall rest,
and for a season slumber,
till trump from east to west
shall wake the dead in number.
Refrain

LITURGY OF THE WORD

OPENING ACCLAMATION

BCP, p. 355

Alleluia. Christ is risen.
The Lord is risen indeed. Alleluia.

COLLECT FOR PURITY

BCP, p. 355

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.

During the singing of the Gloria the children will follow the cross and return at the Peace.

GLORIA



Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!
He is risen, He is risen, Alleluia!

Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!

The Celebrant says to the people.

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Let us pray

COLLECT FOR FOURTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

BCP, p. 224

See insert (Contemporary)

(Please be seated for the lessons)

FIRST LESSON:

Acts 2:42-47

A reading from the Acts of the Apostles

See insert

The Word of the Lord

Thanks be to God

RESPONSE

Psalm 23

The response appointed for today is Psalm 23, please read responsively by whole verse.

1 The LORD is my shepherd; *

I shall not be in want.

2 **He makes me lie down in green pastures ***

and leads me beside still waters.

3 He revives my soul *

and guides me along right pathways for his Name's sake.

4 **Though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death,**

I shall fear no evil; *

for you are with me;

your rod and your staff, they comfort me.

5 You spread a table before me in the presence of those who trouble me; *

you have anointed my head with oil,

and my cup is running over.

6 **Surely your goodness and mercy shall follow me all the | days of my life, ***

and I will dwell in the | house of the LORD for ever.

Glory to the Father, and to the | Son, and to the Holy | Spirit, *

as it was in the beginning, is | now, and will be forever. A | men.

EPISTLE:

1 Peter 2:19-25

A reading from the first letter of Peter.

See insert

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

(Please stand as you are able and join in singing.)

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Hymnal 1982, # 205

Repeat 3 times

Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!

Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!

The image shows a musical score for the Gospel Acclamation. It consists of a single staff with a treble clef. The melody is written in a simple, hymn-like style. The lyrics 'Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!' are written above the staff. Below the staff, the lyrics are repeated: 'Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!'. The music is in a 4/4 time signature and features a mix of quarter and eighth notes, with some rests.

GOSPEL:

John 10:1-10

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

Glory to you, Lord Christ

See insert

The Gospel of the Lord

Praise to you Lord Christ

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Hymnal 1982, # 205

Repeat 3 times

Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!

Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!

This is a duplicate of the musical notation for the Gospel Acclamation shown above, featuring the same melody and lyrics.

(Please be seated for the sermon.)

SERMON

The Rev Alyssa Stebbing

(Please stand as you are able)

NICENE CREED

BCP, p 358

The Deacon says,

In sure and certain hope of the resurrection, let us proclaim 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.

(Please kneel or stand as you are able)

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Deacon

Hear us Lord as we lift our voices in common cause saying, Lord in your mercy, hear our prayer.

The Leader and People pray responsively

We pray for the church universal, that the circumstances of this world will lead us into new ways of being the good dream of God; a body of people who love and serve God and neighbor.

We pray for the whole Anglican Communion, and for Sarah, Archbishop of Canterbury.

We pray for our church, for Sean our Presiding Bishop, for Andy, Kai, Jeff, Hector, and Brian, our bishops, for St. Alban's, Houston, St. James', Houston, St. Luke the Evangelist, Houston, and for our whole diocese.

We pray for our parish, for Alyssa our priest; Vicki our deacon, Lyssa, our family minister, Casey and Christina, our seminarians, and all our leaders and ministers

Lord in your mercy,

hear our prayer.

We pray for our nation, and all nations, that we might live in health, safety, and peace. We pray for those who govern, that they keep the needs of all people as their first priority; and that truth and mercy are their closest companions.

Lord in your mercy,

hear our prayer.

We pray for the poor, the hungry and the marginalized and for those whose life's work is to help them with basic needs and the ability to thrive.

Lord in your mercy,
hear our prayer.

We pray for our unique situations and needs. For health, for the safety and happiness of our families, for our coworkers, friends, neighbors. We pray especially for those things that bring us fear or anxiety, asking that we might shed our concerns and be at peace.

Lord in your mercy,
hear our prayer.

We pray in thanksgiving for this life and, in faith, for the life to come. Bless the dying with your grace and welcome. Grant us also the hope of heavenly reunion in the age to come.

Lord in your mercy,
hear our prayer.

Silence

The Deacon concludes with Intercessions

Celebrant

God of love; you know our needs greater than we know them ourselves; hear us and answer us as you have always done and clothe us in your loving grace that we might fully be your son's continuing work in the world; and all this through Christ, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, One God, now and always. **Amen.**

PEACE

The peace of the Lord be always with you.
And also with you.

The Ministers and People may greet one another in the name of Jesus Christ.

(Please be seated for the announcements)

ANNOUNCEMENTS

See insert

We invite our visitors to fill out a Connect Card located in the pew rack in front of you or text STCHRISATX to 833-488-4578 to learn more about St. Christopher's events and ministries.

BIRTHDAY AND ANNIVERSARY BLESSING

HOLY COMMUNION

OFFERTORY SENTENCE

The Celebrant continues

It is right, and a good and joyful thing, ...

The Celebrant continues with the Proper Preface

Therefore we praise you, joining our voices with Angels and Archangels and with all the company of heaven, who for ever sing this hymn to proclaim the glory of your Name:

SANCTUS

Hymnal 1982, # S 130

Ho - ly, Ho - ly, Ho - ly Lord, God of power and
might. Ho - ly, Ho - ly, Ho - ly Lord,
God of power and might, hea-ven and earth are
full, full of your glo - ry. Ho-
san - na in the high - est. Ho - san - na
in the high - est. Bles - sed is he who comes
in the name of the Lord. Ho - san - na
in the high - est. Ho - san - na in the high - est

(Please stand or kneel as you are able)

The Celebrant continues

Holy and gracious Father: ...

Therefore we proclaim the mystery of faith:

Celebrant and People say together.

Christ has died.

Christ is risen.

Christ will come again.

The Celebrant continues

We celebrate the memorial of our redemption, ...

... Almighty Father, now and for ever.

A - men. A - men. A - men.

And now, as our Savior Christ has taught us, we are bold to say,

LORD'S PRAYER

BCP, p. 364

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.

BREAKING OF THE BREAD

The Celebrant breaks the consecrated Bread.

A period of silence is kept.

Alleluia. Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us;
Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia.

FRACTION ANTHEM

Hymnal 1982, # S 164

Je - sus, Lamb of God: have mer - cy on us.

Je - sus, bear - er of our sins: have mer - cy on us.

Je - sus, re - deem - er, re - deem - er of the world:

give us your peace, give us your peace.

Facing the people, the Celebrant says the following Invitation

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.

Please follow the guidance of the ushers to approach the altar to receive communion. Gluten free wafers are available. If you would prefer you may receive a blessing by crossing your arms over your chest. Please ask an usher if you need communion brought to you.

(Please sit or kneel as you prefer after receiving Holy Communion)

Communion Hymn

1 The King of love my shepherd is,
whose goodness faileth never;
I nothing lack if I am his,
and he is mine for ever.

5 Thou spread'st a table in my sight;
thy unction grace bestoweth;
and oh, what transport of delight
from thy pure chalice floweth!

Communion Hymn

1 I'm a-going to eat at the welcome table
I'm a-going to eat at the welcome table some of these days
I'm a-going to eat at the welcome table
I'm a-going to eat at the welcome table some of these days
2 I'm a-going to feast on milk and honey (some of these days)
3 I'm a-going to fly all around in heaven (some of these days)
4 I'm a-going to wade cross Jordan' river (some of these days)

Communion Hymn

1 Blessed assurance, Jesus is mine!
O what a foretaste of glory divine!
Heir of salvation, purchase of God,
Born of His spirit, washed in His blood.

Refrain

This is my story, this is my song,
Praising my savior all the day long;
This is my story, this is my song,
Praising my savior all the day long.

(Please kneel or stand as you are able)

POSTCOMMUNION PRAYER

Let us pray.

Almighty and everliving God, we thank you for feeding us with the spiritual food of the most precious Body and Blood of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ; and for assuring us in these holy mysteries that we are living members of the Body of your Son, and heirs of your eternal kingdom. And now, Father, send us out to do the work you have given us to do, to love and serve you as faithful witnesses of Christ our Lord. To him, to you, and to the Holy Spirit, be honor and glory, now and for ever. Amen.

Hymnal 1982, # 645

6 And so through all the length of days
thy goodness faileth never:
Good Shepherd, may I sing thy praise
within thy house for ever.

Lift Every Voice, # 148

Lift Every Voice, # 184

2 Perfect submission, perfect delight,
Visions of rapture now burst on my sight;
Angels descending, bring from above
Echoes of mercy, whispers of love.

Refrain

3 Perfect submission, all is at rest,
I in my savior am happy and blest;
Watching and waiting, looking above,
Filled with His goodness, lost in His love.

Refrain

BCP, p. 366

EASTER BLESSING

May Almighty God, who has redeemed us and made us his children through the resurrection of his Son our Lord, bestow upon you the riches of his blessing. **Amen.**

May God, who through the water of baptism has raised us from sin into newness of life, make you holy and worthy to be united with Christ for ever. **Amen.**

May God, who has brought us out of bondage to sin into true and lasting freedom in the Redeemer, bring you to your eternal inheritance. **Amen.**

And the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be upon you and remain with you for ever. **Amen.**

RECESSIONAL HYMN

Hymnal 1982, # 708

1 Savior, like a shepherd lead us;
much we need thy tender care;
in thy pleasant pastures feed us;
for our use thy folds prepare.
Blessèd Jesus!
Thou hast bought us, thine we are.

2 Early let us seek thy favor,
early let us learn thy will;
do thou, Lord, our only Savior,
with thy love our bosoms fill.
Blessèd Jesus!
Thou hast loved us: love us still. Amen.

DISMISSAL

Alleluia, Alleluia. Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.
Thanks be to God. Alleluia, Alleluia.

POSTLUDE

Nikki Birdsong, piano

Thank you for joining us in worship today.

*Please know that your participation
with us has been a blessing.*