



# St. Stephen's Episcopal Church

The Church on Main Street...  
where love begets love

---

Welcome to St. Stephen's Church. We are delighted that you are here, whether you are with us in the building or joining us from home. We invite you to enter fully into worship by joining in the prayers and responses. If you are with us in the building, we ask that you join us in showing our love for each other by refraining from any singing and by following the current health and safety guidelines. Streaming music is by permission under OneLicense.net A-707966.

## Third Sunday of Easter

Sunday, April 18, 2021

Liturgy of the Word

**ORGAN PRELUDE**

*Now the green blade rises*

*Wilbur Held*

**GATHERING HYMN 205**

*Good Christians all, rejoice and sing!*

*Gelobt sei Gott*

1 Good Chris - tians all, re - joice and sing! Now is the  
 \*2 The Lord of life is risen to - day! Sing songs of  
 3 Praise we in songs of vic - to - ry that love, that  
 4 Your Name we bless, O ris - en Lord, and sing to -  
 5 To God the Fa - ther, God the Son, to God the

1 tri - umph of our King! To all the world glad news we bring:  
 2 praise a - long his way; let all the earth re - joice and say:  
 3 life which can - not die, and sing with hearts up - lift - ed high:  
 4 day with one ac - cord the life laid down, the life re - stored:  
 5 Spi - rit, al - ways One, we sing for life in us be - gun:

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

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 Lord be with you.

**And also with you.**

Let us pray.

## **COLLECT OF THE DAY**

O God, whose blessed Son made himself known to his disciples in the breaking of bread: Open the eyes of our faith, that we may behold him in all his redeeming work; who lives and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

## **THE LESSON**

A Reading from the Book of Acts

3:12-19

Peter addressed the people, "You Israelites, why do you wonder at this, or why do you stare at us, as though by our own power or piety we had made him walk? The God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob, the God of our ancestors has glorified his servant Jesus, whom you handed over and rejected in the presence of Pilate, though he had decided to release him. But you rejected the Holy and Righteous One and asked to have a murderer given to you, and you killed the Author of life, whom God raised from the dead. To this we are witnesses. And by faith in his name, his name itself has made this man strong, whom you see and know; and the faith that is through Jesus has given him this perfect health in the presence of all of you.

"And now, friends, I know that you acted in ignorance, as did also your rulers. In this way God fulfilled what he had foretold through all the prophets, that his Messiah would suffer. Repent therefore, and turn to God so that your sins may be wiped out."

The Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

## **THE RESPONSE**

Psalm 4

1 Answer me when I call, O God, defender of my cause; \*

**you set me free when I am hard-pressed;**

**have mercy on me and hear my prayer.**

2 "You mortals, how long will you dishonor my glory; \*

**how long will you worship dumb idols**

**and run after false gods?"**

3 Know that the Lord does wonders for the faithful; \*  
**when I call upon the Lord, he will hear me.**

4 Tremble, then, and do not sin; \*  
**speak to your heart in silence upon your bed.**

5 Offer the appointed sacrifices \*  
**and put your trust in the Lord.**

6 Many are saying, "Oh, that we might see better times!" \*  
**Lift up the light of your countenance upon us, O Lord.**

7 You have put gladness in my heart, \*  
**more than when grain and wine and oil increase.**

8 I lie down in peace; at once I fall asleep; \*  
**for only you, Lord, make me dwell in safety.**

**SEQUENCE HYMN**     *Bless the Lord, my soul*

Bless the Lord my soul and bless God's ho - ly name.

The first system of musical notation is for the first line of the hymn. It consists of a treble clef staff and a bass clef staff, both in 4/4 time. The treble staff contains the melody with lyrics underneath. The bass staff provides a harmonic accompaniment. The key signature has one flat (B-flat). The melody starts with a quarter rest, followed by a quarter note G4, a quarter note A4, and a quarter note B4. The accompaniment starts with a quarter rest, followed by a quarter note G3, a quarter note A3, and a quarter note B3. The system ends with a double bar line.

Bless the Lord my soul, Who leads me in - to life.

The second system of musical notation is for the second line of the hymn. It consists of a treble clef staff and a bass clef staff, both in 4/4 time. The treble staff contains the melody with lyrics underneath. The bass staff provides a harmonic accompaniment. The key signature has one flat (B-flat). The melody starts with a quarter rest, followed by a quarter note G4, a quarter note A4, and a quarter note B4. The accompaniment starts with a quarter rest, followed by a quarter note G3, a quarter note A3, and a quarter note B3. The system ends with a double bar line.

## **THE GOSPEL**

The Holy Gospel of Our Lord Jesus Christ according to John

24:36b-48

### **Glory to you, Lord Christ**

Jesus himself stood among the disciples and said to them, "Peace be with you." They were startled and terrified, and thought that they were seeing a ghost. He said to them, "Why are you frightened, and why do doubts arise in your hearts? Look at my hands and my feet; see that it is I myself. Touch me and see; for a ghost does not have flesh and bones as you see that I have." And when he had said this, he showed them his hands and his feet. While in their joy they were disbelieving and still wondering, he said to them, "Have you anything here to eat?" They gave him a piece of broiled fish, and he took it and ate in their presence.

Then he said to them, "These are my words that I spoke to you while I was still with you—that everything written about me in the law of Moses, the prophets, and the psalms must be fulfilled." Then he opened their minds to understand the scriptures, and he said to them, "Thus it is written, that the Messiah is to suffer and to rise from the dead on the third day, and that repentance and forgiveness of sins is to be proclaimed in his name to all nations, beginning from Jerusalem. You are witnesses of these things.

The Gospel of the Lord.

**Praise to you, Lord Christ.**

## **THE SERMON**

*The Rt. Rev. Carlye J. Hughes*

## **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.

## **PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE**

BCP, Form III

Father, we pray for your holy Catholic Church, including our siblings in the Evelyn Underhill District: St. George's, Maplewood; Grace, Madison; St. Paul's, Chatham; Christ Church, Short Hills; and Calvary, Summit.

**That we all may be one.**

Grant that every member of the Church may truly and humbly serve you. We pray for Cross Roads, a place of formation and transformation;

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

We pray for all bishops, priests, and deacons, including Michael, our Presiding Bishop; Carlye, our Bishop Diocesan; Paula, our Rector; and Karen, Deacon in your Church;

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

We pray for all who govern and hold authority in the nations of the world, including Joe, our President, Kamala, our Vice-President; and Philip, our Governor;

**That there may be justice and peace on the earth.**

Give us grace to do your will in all that we undertake. We pray for our partners in ministry: Family Promise of Essex County, North Porch, Apostles' House, and First Friends;

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

Have compassion on those who suffer from any grief or trouble, especially

*Ian Janeczko*

*The Blanchard Family*

*The Fitzgerald Family*

*Lucille B.*

*Grisette B.*

*Sue K.*

*Mary Jo Zarance*

*The McManus Family*

*Bernard and Nathan*

*Felder Dorn*

*Jack Moreno*

*The May Family*

*Alexandra Shuss*

*Donna Riggi*

*Peggy Thompson*

*Hailey Rose Fout*

*Jim Freeman*

*Walter Fields*

*Addie Cassar*

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

Give to the departed eternal rest.

**Let light perpetual shine upon them.**

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

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

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

*Please add your intercessions, either silently or aloud.*

We pray for the victims of gun violence, both those who have been injured and those who have been killed, that they might find rest and peace. Today we remember those injured or killed this week in this country:

- *The eight people killed in Indianapolis on Friday, including the gunman, and the five physically injured;*

- *For those killed by police: Daunte Wright in Brooklyn Center, Minnesota; Miles Jackson in Columbus, Ohio; and Adam Toledo in Chicago, whose story is being told this week after his death two weeks ago, and for the officers who shot them or were otherwise involved;*
- *For the 185 known to be killed and 37 known to be injured in other incidents between April 11<sup>th</sup> and 15<sup>th</sup>, and for those who shot them; we mourn the reality that there are too many to name now.*

**Loving and Forgiving God, heal and transform our broken hearts. Inspire us to act to end this violence against your beloved children.**

Generous God, you have blessed us with abundant sustenance and opportunity. We humbly pray that we may always prove ourselves a people mindful of your favor and glad to do your will. Bless this nation with honorable industry, sound learning, and pure manners. Save us from violence, discord, and confusion; from pride and arrogance, and from every evil way. Defend our liberties, and fashion into one united people the multitudes brought together from many kindreds and tongues. Imbue with the spirit of wisdom those to whom we entrust the authority of government, that there may be justice and peace at home, and that, through obedience to your law, we may share the blessings of living by our faith in you with all the nations of the earth. In times of prosperity, fill our hearts with thankfulness, and in times of trouble let our hope be in your grace; all this we ask through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

*BCP page 820, adapted*

## **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.**

## **THE PEACE**

## **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

## **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 the newness of life, make you holy and worthy to be united with Christ forever. **Amen.**

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

And the blessing of God Almighty, the Creator, the Redeemer, and the Sustainer, be upon you and remain with you for ever. **Amen.**

## **SENDING HYMN**

*Hymn 204*

*Now the green blade riseth*

*Noël nouvelet*



1 Now the green blade ris - eth from the bur - ied grain,  
2 In the grave they laid him, Love whom hate had slain,  
3 Forth he came at Eas - ter, like the ris - en grain,  
4 When our hearts are win - try, griev - ing, or in pain,



wheat that in dark earth man - y days has lain;  
think - ing that nev - er he would wake a - gain,  
he that for three days in the grave had lain,  
thy touch can call us back to life a - gain,



love lives a - gain, that with the dead has been:  
laid in the earth like grain that sleeps un - seen:  
quick from the dead my ris - en Lord is seen:  
fields of our hearts that dead and bare have been:



Love is come a - gain like wheat that spring - eth green.

Words: John Macleod Campbell Crum (1872-1958), alt., from *The Oxford Book of Carols*, Copyright ©1964, Oxford University Press.  
Music: *Noël nouvelet*, medieval French carol; harm. Marcel Dupré (1886-1971); based on "Variation sur un Noël" for organ Marcel Dupré  
Copyright © Alphonse Leduc, Paris; adapt. Roy F. Kehl (b. 1935) Copyright ©1983, Roy F. Kehl. All rights reserved. Used with permission.

## THE DISMISSAL

Alleluia, alleluia. Let us go forth rejoicing in the love of the Risen Lord.

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

**ORGAN POSTLUDE** *Good Christians all, rejoice and sing!*

*Jan Bender*

*A friendly reminder that during this difficult time of pandemic, the work of the church continues.  
Giving in faith as we live our faith is as important as ever.*

You may give online at <https://ststephensmillburn.org/give/> or mail your pledge to the church at 119  
Main Street, Millburn, NJ 07041

## **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

### **Upcoming Events**

*All events are virtual unless otherwise noted; details can be found in the weekly e-newsletter.*

4/18 – 12 PM – Coffee Hour

4/18 - 1 PM – Vestry Meeting

4/20 – 7:30 PM – Sacred Ground

4/21 – 7:30 PM – Finance Committee Meeting

4/25 - 10 AM - Sunday Service & Annual Meeting

### **Liturgical Stewardship**

Officiant: The Rev. Paula J. Toland

Tech Verger: Ron Toland

Music Director: Kim Williams

Organist: John Schucker

Lectors: Kathy Conway, Ladi Owolabi

Usher: Pete Soltys

Screeener: Irene Soltys

Vocalist: Kim Williams

## **St. Stephen's Church**

*"A diverse Episcopal parish, a life-giving sanctuary, a place where love begets love. Seekers, doubters, and believers find a comfortable place in our midst."*

119 Main Street, Millburn, NJ 07041 / 973-376-0688 / [ststephensmillburn.org](http://ststephensmillburn.org)

Rector: The Rev. Paula J. Toland; Emergency Contact: 508-542-1327

Music Director: Kim Williams; Organist: John Schucker

Members of the Vestry

Maryalice Chech: Warden, People & Programs; Roger Riedel, Property Warden

Fran Taber: Finance & Investment; Don Stanford: Treasurer

Kira Hanson: Parish Life & Personnel; Eugene Foley: Programs & Cemetery;

Barbara Riedel: Recording Secretary & Clerk; Steve Moran

If you wish to receive the weekly e-newsletter, please contact the parish office at 973-376-0688 or [church@ststephensmillburn.org](mailto:church@ststephensmillburn.org).