

Welcome to Christ *Episcopal* Church

Downtown Cape Girardeau

# Easter Sunday

with Holy Communion



April 5, 2026

# The flowers that beautify our worship this Easter Day are given to the glory of God:

## In loving memory of:

- AJ McDonald
- Bruce E. Miller
- Cay Sikes
- Dan Fetherston
- Ernest West
- Gayle VanCleve Ozbirn
- Judi Naeter
- Karen Schlosser
- Kelley McGowan
- Keytty Jacobs
- Mike & Connie Hayward Stem
- The Parents of Tanya Davis
- Thomas Washburn Ozbirn

*Rest eternal grant to them, O Lord;  
and let light perpetual shine upon them.*

## In thanksgiving for:

- The glory of God and for our church family
- The people of Christ *Episcopal* Church

*We give you thanks, O Lord, for all the blessings of this life,  
and for the love that surrounds us each day.*

## **Welcome! Beinvenido! Karibu!**

---

Scattered in the world we gather together as God's people in worship. We bring the fragments of our lives to be healed and made whole in Christ as we gather in community.

Worship lies at the heart of the Christian life. It is in worship that we express our theology and define our identity. It is through encountering God within worship that we are formed and transformed as God's people. One of the glories of the Episcopal/Anglican Church is its liturgical worship. Liturgy refers to the patterns, forms, words and actions through which public worship is conducted.

As we gather, we bring our diverse gifts: gifts of music, dance, prophecy, teaching, preaching, and friendship. We present these gifts in the form of our most precious offering to God, our very selves, that all that we do may be for God's glory in the unity of Christ's church.

## **About Today's Worship**

---

Today we celebrate the Resurrection of our Lord Jesus Christ. In Word and Sacrament, we proclaim the good news of Easter: that Christ is risen, that love has overcome death, and that new life is given to all.

As we gather at Christ's table, we are nourished by his Body and Blood and sent into the world to live as Easter people—bearing hope, joy, and resurrection life wherever we go.

## Welcome & Announcements

### The Prelude

Organist: Michelle Surh

### The Processional Hymn

*We begin by praising God through song and prayer*

**#207** *Jesus Christ is risen today, Alleluia!*

### Opening Acclamation

*Celebrant:* Alleluia. Christ is risen.

***People:* The Lord is risen indeed. Alleluia.**

### Collect for Purity

*Celebrant:* 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.**

### Song of Praise

**#S-280** *Gloria in excelsis*

### Collect of the Day

*Celebrant:* The Lord be with you.

***People:* And also with you.**

*Celebrant:* Let us pray.

*Silence is kept for a time*

O God, who for our redemption gave your only-begotten Son to the death of the cross, and by his glorious resurrection 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 Jesus Christ your Son our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

## **We Hear the Sacred Stories**

*We hear the stories of the experience of God from our spiritual ancestors  
The assembly is then seated*

### **The First Reading**

Acts 10:34-43

*A reading from the New Testament Writings*

<sup>34</sup>Then Peter began to speak to them: “I truly understand that God shows no partiality, <sup>35</sup>but in every nation anyone who fears him and does what is right is acceptable to him. <sup>36</sup>You know the message he sent to the people of Israel, preaching peace by Jesus Christ—he is Lord of all. <sup>37</sup>That message spread throughout Judea, beginning in Galilee after the baptism that John announced: <sup>38</sup>how God anointed Jesus of Nazareth with the Holy Spirit and with power; how he went about doing good and healing all who were oppressed by the devil, for God was with him. <sup>39</sup>We are witnesses to all that he did both in Judea and in Jerusalem. They put him to death by hanging him on a tree; <sup>40</sup>but God raised him on the third day and allowed him to appear, <sup>41</sup>not to all the people but to us who were chosen by God as witnesses, and who ate and drank with him after he rose from the dead. <sup>42</sup>He commanded us to preach to the people and to testify that he is the one ordained by God as judge of the living and the dead. <sup>43</sup>All the prophets testify about him that everyone who believes in him receives forgiveness of sins through his name.”

*Lector:* Hear what the Holy Spirit is saying to God’s people.

***People:* Thanks be to God.**

# The Psalm of the Day

Psalm 118:1-2,14-24

*The psalms are a part of the poetry of the Hebrew people*

1 Give thanks to the Lord, for he is good; \*

**his mercy endures for ever.**

2 Let Israel now proclaim, \*

**“His mercy endures for ever.”**

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.**

## The Second Reading

Colossians 3:1-4

*A reading from the New Testament Writings*

1So if you have been raised with Christ, seek the things that are above, where Christ is, seated at the right hand of God. 2Set your minds on things that are above, not on things that are on earth, 3for you have died, and your life is hidden with Christ in God. 4When Christ who is your life is revealed, then you also will be revealed with him in glory.

*Lector:* Hear what the Holy Spirit is saying to the church.

***People:* Thanks be to God.**

## Preparing to Hear the Gospel

*We stand, as we are able, for the Gospel reading to show the particular importance we place on Jesus' words and actions*

## Sequence Hymn

**#208** *The strife is o'er, the battle done*

## The Reading of the Gospel

Matthew 28:1-10

*Presider:* The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew.

***People:* Glory to you, Lord Christ.**

1After the sabbath, as the first day of the week was dawning, Mary Magdalene and the other Mary went to see the tomb. 2And suddenly there was a great earthquake; for an angel of the Lord, descending from heaven, came and rolled back the stone and sat on it. 3His appearance was like lightning, and his clothing white as snow. 4For fear of him the guards shook and became like dead men. 5But the angel said to the women, "Do not be afraid; I know that you are looking for Jesus who was crucified. 6He is not here; for he has been

raised, as he said. Come, see the place where he lay. <sup>7</sup>Then go quickly and tell his disciples, 'He has been raised from the dead, and indeed he is going ahead of you to Galilee; there you will see him.' This is my message for you." <sup>8</sup>So they left the tomb quickly with fear and great joy, and ran to tell his disciples.<sup>9</sup>Suddenly Jesus met them and said, "Greetings!" And they came to him, took hold of his feet, and worshiped him. <sup>10</sup>Then Jesus said to them, "Do not be afraid; go and tell my brothers to go to Galilee; there they will see me."

*Presider:* The Gospel of the Lord.

*People:* **Praise to you, Lord Christ.**

*The congregation is then seated*

## **The Sermon**

The Reverend Jay Kanzler

## **The Renewal of Baptismal Vows**

*We stand, as we are able*

*Presider:* Through the Paschal mystery, dear friends, we are buried with Christ by Baptism into his death, and raised with him to newness of life. I call upon you, therefore, now that our Lenten observance is ended, to renew the solemn promises and vows of Holy Baptism, by which we once renounced Satan and all his works, and promised to serve God faithfully in his holy Catholic Church.

*Presider:* Do you reaffirm your renunciation of evil and renew your commitment to Jesus Christ?

*People:* **I do.**

*Presider:* Do you believe in God the Father?

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

*Presider:* Do you believe in Jesus Christ, the Son of God?

*People:* **I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.**

**He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit  
and born of the Virgin Mary.**

**He 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,**

**and is seated at the right hand of the Father.**

**He will come again to judge the living and the dead.**

*Presider:* Do you believe in God the Holy Spirit?

*People:* **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.**

*Presider:* Will you continue in the apostles' teaching and fellowship,  
in the breaking of bread, and in the prayers?

*People:* **I will, with God's help.**

*Presider:* Will you persevere in resisting evil, and, whenever you fall  
into sin, repent and return to the Lord?

*People:* **I will, with God's help.**

*Presider:* Will you proclaim by word and example the Good News of  
God in Christ?

*People:* **I will, with God's help.**

*Presider:* Will you seek and serve Christ in all persons, loving your  
neighbor as yourself?

*People:* **I will, with God's help.**

*Presider:* Will you strive for justice and peace among all people, and respect the dignity of every human being?

***People:* I will, with God's help.**

*Presider:* May Almighty God, the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has given us a new birth by water and the Holy Spirit, and bestowed upon us the forgiveness of sins, keep us in eternal life by his grace, in Christ Jesus our Lord. **Amen.**

## **The Prayers of the People**

*The concerns of the community and wider world, including those who are sick, in need, or in want, are named*

*Presider:* “Do not be afraid; I know that you are looking for Jesus who was crucified. He is not here; for he has been raised.” In the light of resurrection’s power, we are given new birth in Christ Jesus. Having been made new, let us offer our prayers to the Holy One.

*Lector:* You who in dawn’s first light summoned creation anew through the resurrection of Jesus from the dead; summon us afresh to be sentinels of light, hope and resurrection, that in a world gripped by death, despair and desolation we may be beacons of life, joy and love. Christ be our light.

***People:* Shine in our hearts.**

*Lector:* You who framed the brightness of the first light in creation; dispel the arrogance, animosity and anger that shatters the unity of your holy Church. Fill your faithful people with the radiant light of truth, that we may be made one in faith, hope and love. Christ be our light.

***People:* Shine in our hearts.**

*Lector:* You who delivered your people from the misery of bondage in slavery to the land of promise; set us free from enslavement to division, disunity and distrust in our public life and labor. Illumine those in authority with the light of vision, that they may lead the peoples of the nations to greater unity and concord.

Christ be our light.

***People:* Shine in our hearts.**

*Lector:* You who patterned the stars and called the sun into being, who appointed the moon and chartered the cosmos, pattern the hearts of people everywhere to see in each other the beauty of the universe and the splendor of creation, that divisions of race, class, gender, and ethnicity may dissolve into one common humanity.

Christ be our light.

***People:* Shine in our hearts.**

*Lector:* You who shower comfort and hope to the lowest, the lost and the least; shower the light of compassion on the sick, the sorrowful and the suffering, especially those we name [\_\_\_\_\_]. Help us to be your compassion and hope in the world.

Christ be our light.

***People:* Shine in our hearts.**

*Lector:* You who welcome into the brilliant light of eternity the souls of those who have died; welcome those whose lives have been cut short by violence, warfare and strife. Shine the light of hope on our faithful dead, especially those we now name [\_\_\_\_\_].

Christ be our light.

***People:* Shine in our hearts.**

*Lector:* You who delight in the complexity of creation and the splendor of each creature; help us to delight in the diversity of the earth our island home. Inspire your people to care for the earth and its creatures and repent and return when we abuse, misuse and neglect our fellow creatures.

Christ be our light.

***People:* Shine in our hearts.**

*Presider:* May Christ, the Morning-Star who knows no setting, find us ever burning with the light of love, the spirit of truth and the wellspring of hope; that following the way of Jesus and filled with the flame of the Holy Spirit, we may be a holy people whose lives and living inspire, incite and inflame your world with compassion and care. Through Jesus the Christ the light of the world. **Amen.**

## **The Exchange of the Peace**

*We are a community of reconciliation and peace; therefore, we greet each other with a sign of our desire for peace*

*Presider:* The Peace of Christ be always with you.

***People:* And also with you.**

*Presider:* Let us offer each other a sign of Christ's peace.

## **The Offertory**

*Presider:* Walk in love, as Christ loved us and gave himself for us, an offering and sacrifice to God.

*The assembly is then seated*

## **The Offertory Hymn**

**#205** *Good Christians all, rejoice and sing*

*The ushers will receive the people's offerings*

# The Doxology

*The congregation stands, in body or spirit*

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; praise God, all creatures here be - low;  
praise God a - bove, ye heaven - ly host; praise Father, Son, and Ho - ly Ghost.

# The Great Thanksgiving

Eucharistic Prayer A

*Presider:* The Lord be with you

*People:* **And also with you.**

*Presider:* Lift up your hearts.

*People:* **We lift them to the Lord.**

*Presider:* Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

*People:* **It is right to give him thanks and praise.**

*Presider:* It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and every where to give thanks to you, Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth.

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:

# The Sanctus

#S-129 *Holy, holy, holy Lord*

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow - er and  
might, hea - ven 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. —

*Presider:* Holy and gracious Father: In your infinite love you made us for yourself; and, when we had fallen into sin and become subject to evil and death, you, in your mercy, sent Jesus Christ, your only and eternal Son, to share our human nature, to live and die as one of us, to reconcile us to you, the God and Father of all

He stretched out his arms upon the cross, and offered himself in obedience to your will, a perfect sacrifice for the whole world.

On the night he was handed over to suffering and death, our Lord Jesus Christ took bread; and when he had given thanks to you, he broke it, and gave it to his disciples, and said, “Take, eat: This is my Body, which is given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me.”

After supper he took the cup of wine; and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, and said, “Drink this, all of you: This is my Blood of the new Covenant, which is shed for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me.”

Therefore we proclaim the mystery of faith:

***People:* Christ has died.**

**Christ has risen.**

**Christ will come again.**

*Presider:* We celebrate the memorial of our redemption, O Father, in this sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving. Recalling his death, resurrection, and ascension, we offer you these gifts.

*Presider:* Holy and gracious Father: In your infinite love you made us for yourself; and, when we had fallen into sin and become subject to evil and death, you, in your mercy, sent Jesus Christ, your only and eternal Son, to share our human nature, to live and die as one of us, to reconcile us to you, the God and Father of all

Sanctify them by your Holy Spirit to be for your people the Body and Blood of your Son, the holy food and drink of new and unending life in him. Sanctify us also that we may faithfully receive this holy Sacrament, and serve you in unity, constancy, and peace; and at the last day bring us with all your saints into the joy of your eternal kingdom.

All this we ask through your Son Jesus Christ. By him, and with him, and in him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit all honor and glory is yours, Almighty Father, now and for ever. **AMEN.**

## **The Lord's Prayer**

*The Presider then leads the Assembly in the Lord's Prayer*

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

***People:* 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 the Bread

*The Presider breaks the consecrated Bread*

### Fraction Anthem

# S-155

Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.  
lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia. Christ our Pass - o - ver is  
sac - ri - ficed for us; There-fore let us keep the feast.  
Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

*Presider:* The Gifts of God for the People of God.

## The Invitation to Communion

*Presider:* Come to this table, you who wait and you who long, you who hope for the dawn, and you who rest in the night. Here the Word is made flesh, and the Light of Christ meets us in bread and wine. Come, for all is ready, it is Christ who invites you to meet him here.

*The assembly is then seated*

*All who seek God and a deeper life in Christ are welcome to receive Holy Communion.*

*Gluten-free wafers are available; please let the Presider know.*

*If you wish to receive the bread only, know that you receive the Sacrament fully.*

*If you do not wish to receive Communion, you are welcome to come forward,  
cross your arms over your chest and receive a prayer.*

## **The Communion Hymn**

**#174** *At the Lamb's high feast we sing*

## **The Post Communion Prayer**

*The congregation stands, in body or spirit*

*Presider:* Let us pray.

*Presider:* Eternal God, heavenly Father, you have graciously accepted us as living members of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ, and you have fed us with spiritual food in the Sacrament of his Body and Blood. Send us now into the world in peace, and grant us strength and courage to love and serve you with gladness and singleness of heart; through Christ our Lord.

**Amen.**

## **The Blessing**

*Presider:* May Almighty God, who through the glorious resurrection of our Lord Jesus Christ has given us the victory over sin and death, bless you and keep you in his grace. May Christ, the risen Lord, fill your hearts with joy, your lives with hope, and your spirits with new life. And the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be upon you and remain with you always. **Amen.**

# The Closing Hymn

*I know my Redeemer lives!*

1. I know that my Re - deem - er lives! What joy the  
2. He lives tri - um - phant from the grave; He lives e -  
3. He lives to si - lence all my fears; He lives to  
4. He lives, all glo - ry to his name! He lives, my

1. blest as - sur - ance gives! He lives, he lives, who  
2. ter - nal - ly to save; He lives in maj - es -  
3. wipe a - way my tears; He lives to calm my  
4. Sav - ior, still the same; What joy this blest as -

1. once was dead; He lives, my ev - er - liv - ing head!  
2. ty a - bove; He lives to guide his Church in love.  
3. trou - bled heart; He lives all bless - ings to im - part.  
4. sur - ance gives: I know that my Re - deem - er lives!

Text: LM; based on Job 19:25; Samuel Medley, 1738–1799.  
Music: John Hatton, c. 1710–1793.

## The Dismissal

*Presider:* Let us go forth in the name of Christ. Alleluia, alleluia.

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

## The Postlude

Organist: Michelle Suhr

Thank you for worshiping with us today.

We hope to see you again soon  
as we offer Christ's unfenced love to the world.

## Today's Servers:

Presider.....	The Reverend Jay Kanzler
Assisting Clergy.....	Pastor Carol Brazeale
Eucharistic Minister.....	Gloria Miller
Lector.....	Brooke Clubbs
Host.....	Donna Richardet
Altar Guild.....	All Members
St. Isidore's Guild.....	Bruce & Will Miller
Vestry Counter.....	TBD
Organist.....	Michelle Suhr

## Next Week's Servers:

*If a spot is marked "Open," it still needs to be filled, please reach out if you can serve*

Presider.....	Pastor Carol Brazeale
Eucharistic Minister.....	<i>Open</i>
Lector.....	Tabitha Snowden
Host.....	Tanya Davis, Cindy Maher
Altar Guild.....	Barbara Giddens
St. Isidore's Guild.....	Bruce Mims
Vestry Counter.....	<i>Open</i>
Organist.....	Matt Palisch
Coffee Hour.....	<i>Open</i>

