

Saint Mary's Episcopal Church  
The Fourth Sunday of Easter  
Holy Eucharist  
Sunday, April 26, 2026  
11:00am

*Welcome to Saint Mary's! We are glad you are joining us today for either in person or online worship. If you're new to the Episcopal Church, know that we follow an ancient and enduring pattern of worship called Liturgy, which is designed to give glory to God and draw people closer to God. We sing and pray together, and stand, sit and kneel at different times using our bodies, minds and voices as we worship in the Spirit. All of those directions are in this guide, which is drawn from the Book of Common Prayer you see in the pew racks in front of you. We have communion every Sunday (and sometimes more often!) and everyone is invited to the altar, regardless of membership or from what denomination they've come. If you haven't been baptized, or aren't sure you're ready to receive communion, we invite you to come forward for a blessing and talk to a priest after the service about getting baptized. For more information about Saint Mary's, please see our website at [www.stmaryshighpoint.org](http://www.stmaryshighpoint.org) or check out our [Facebook Page](#).*

The liturgy begins on page 355 in *The Book of Common Prayer*.

**Voluntary** from *Sonata 31, Op. 110* Ludwig van Beethoven  
Adagio ma non troppo  
Recitativo  
Arioso dolente (*sorrowful song*)  
Fugue: Allegro ma non troppo  
The same tempo of the Arioso, *losing strength, sorrowful*  
The same tempo of the Fugue, *more and more to new life*

## Welcome & Announcements

### The Word of God

*All stand, as able.*

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

*The Celebrant says*

Alleluia, Christ is risen.

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

*The Celebrant continues*

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.**

# Gloria in excelsis Deo

William Mathias

1. Glo-ry to God in the high-est, and  
peace to his peo-ple on earth. 2. Lord God, heaven-ly King, al-  
might-y God and Fa-ther, we wor-ship you, we give you thanks, we  
praise you for your glo-ry. 3. Lord Je-sus Christ,  
on-ly Son of the Fa-ther, Lord God, Lamb of God, 4. you  
take a-way the sin of the world: have mer-cy on us;  
5. you are seat-ed at the right hand of the Fa-ther: re-  
ceive our prayer. 6. For  
you a-lone are the Ho-ly One, you a-lone are the Lord,  
7. you a-lone are the Most High, Je-sus Christ, with the  
Ho-ly Spi-rit, in the glo-ry of  
God the Fa-ther. A - men.

## The Collect of the Day

p. 224

*Celebrant* The Lord be with you.  
*People* And also with you.  
*Celebrant* Let us pray.

O God, whose Son Jesus is the good shepherd of your people: Grant that when we hear his voice we may know him who calls us each by name, and follow where he leads; who, with you and the Holy Spirit, lives and reigns, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

*Children depart for Children's Chapel.*

## The Lessons

*All are seated.*

### A reading from The Acts of the Apostles

2:42- 47

Those who had been baptized devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching and fellowship, to the breaking of bread and the prayers.

Awe came upon everyone, because many wonders and signs were being done by the apostles. All who believed were together and had all things in common; they would sell their possessions and goods and distribute the proceeds to all, as any had need. Day by day, as they spent much time together in the temple, they broke bread at home and ate their food with glad and generous hearts, praising God and having the goodwill of all the people. And day by day the Lord added to their number those who were being saved.

*Reader*            The Word of the Lord.

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

### Psalm 23

*Dominus regit me*

*Chant: Charles Stewart*



The LORD | is my | shepherd; \*

therefore | can I | lack | nothing.

2 He shall feed me in a | green | pasture, \*

and lead me | forth be•side the | waters • of | comfort.

3 He shall con-|vert | my soul, \*

and bring me forth in the paths of | righteous•ness | for his | Name's sake.

4 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 they | comfort me.

5 Thou shalt prepare a table before me in the presence of | them that | trouble • me; \*

thou hast anointed my head with | oil,

and my | cup shall • be | full.

6 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.

### A Reading from the First Letter of Peter

2:19-25

It is a credit to you if, being aware of God, you endure pain while suffering unjustly. If you endure when you are beaten for doing wrong, what credit is that? But if you endure when you do right and suffer for it, you have God's approval. For to this you have been called, because Christ also suffered for you, leaving you an example, so that you should follow in his steps.

“He committed no sin,  
and no deceit was found in his mouth.”

When he was abused, he did not return abuse; when he suffered, he did not threaten; but he entrusted himself to the one who judges justly. He himself bore our sins in his body on the cross, so that, free from sins, we might live for righteousness; by his wounds you have been healed. For you were going astray like sheep, but now you have returned to the shepherd and guardian of your souls.

*Reader*           The Word of the Lord.  
**People**           **Thanks be to God.**

*Please stand, as you are able.*

**Hymn 478**   Jesus, our mighty Lord

### Alleluia



*Choir*

I am the good Shepherd: I know my own and my own know me.

*All sing Alleluia.*

## The Gospel

**John 10:1-10**

*Gospeller*           The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to John.  
**People**           **Glory to you, Lord Christ.**

Jesus said, “Very truly, I tell you, anyone who does not enter the sheepfold by the gate but climbs in by another way is a thief and a bandit. The one who enters by the gate is the shepherd of the sheep. The gatekeeper opens the gate for him, and the sheep hear his voice. He calls his own sheep by name and leads them out. When he has brought out all his own, he goes ahead of them, and the sheep follow him because they know his voice. They will not follow a stranger, but they will run from him because they do not know the voice of strangers.” Jesus used this figure of speech with them, but they did not understand what he was saying to them.

So again Jesus said to them, “Very truly, I tell you, I am the gate for the sheep. All who came before me are thieves and bandits; but the sheep did not listen to them. I am the gate. Whoever enters by me will be saved, and will come in and go out and find pasture. The thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy. I came that they may have life, and have it abundantly.”

*Gospeller*           The Gospel of the Lord.  
**People**           **Praise to you, Lord Christ.**

**The Sermon**

*All are seated.*

The Rev’d Robert P. Travis

*All stand and say together*

## The Nicene Creed

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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

*The Leader and People pray responsively.*

In peace, we pray to you, Lord God.

*Silence*

For all people in their daily life and work;

**For our families, friends, and neighbors, and for those who are alone.**

For this community, the nation, and the world;

**For all who work for justice, freedom, and peace.**

For the just and proper use of your creation;

**For the victims of hunger, fear, injustice, and oppression.**

For all who are in danger, sorrow, or any kind of trouble; especially Kim, Carlin, Jess, Claire, Katharyn, Laura, Suzanne, Belen, Brenda, Ben and Meredith and family, and all those on our Parish Prayer List and all those on the Daughters of the King Prayer List.

**For those who minister to the sick, the friendless, and the needy.**

For the peace and unity of the Church of God; especially The Church of Nigeria (Anglican Communion), Church of the Holy Innocents, St. John's, Henderson, our companion dioceses of Botswana and Costa Rica, most especially Santa Maria Siquierres.

**For all who proclaim the Gospel, and all who seek the Truth.**

For Sean our Presiding Bishop, and Sam and Jennifer our Bishops; and for all bishops and other ministers;

**For all who serve God in his Church.**

For the special needs and concerns of this congregation.

*Silence*

*The People may add their own petitions.*

Hear us, Lord;  
**For your mercy is great.**

We thank you, Lord, for all the blessings of this life.

*Silence*

*The People may add their own thanksgivings.*

We will exalt you, O God our King;  
**And praise your Name for ever and ever.**

We pray for all who have died, especially Judy Jarrell and Stephen Burke, that they may have a place in your eternal kingdom.

*Silence*

*The People may add their own petitions.*

Lord, let your loving-kindness be upon them;  
**Who put their trust in you.**

We pray to you also for the forgiveness of our sins.

*Silence may be kept.*

*Leader and People*

**Have mercy upon us, most merciful Father;  
in your compassion forgive us our sins,  
known and unknown,  
things done and left undone;  
and so uphold us by your Spirit  
that we may live and serve you in newness of life,  
to the honor and glory of your Name;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

*Standing, the Celebrant says*

Almighty God have mercy on you, forgive you all your sins through our Lord Jesus Christ, strengthen you in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep you in eternal life. **Amen.**

**The Peace**

*All stand.*

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*Celebrant*     The peace of the Lord be always with you.

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

*Then the Ministers and the People may greet one another in the name of the Lord.*

**The Holy Communion**

## Offertory

*Harold Friedell*

Draw us in the Spirit's tether;  
For when humbly, in thy name,  
Two or three are met together,  
Thou art in the midst of them:  
Alleluya! Alleluya!  
Touch we now thy garment's hem.

As the brethren used to gather  
In the name of Christ to sup,  
Then with thanks to God the Father  
Break the bread and bless the cup,  
Alleluya! Alleluya!  
So knit thou our friendship up.

All our meals and all our living  
Make as sacraments of thee,  
That by caring, helping, giving,  
We may true disciples be.  
Alleluya! Alleluya!  
We will serve thee faithfully. ~ *Percy Dearmer*

*Scan this QR code with your smart phone to give or to make a pledge payment. We appreciate your support of St. Mary's and our parish's ministries which serve our community and beyond.*



## The Great Thanksgiving

### *Eucharistic Prayer B*

p. 361

*Celebrant*      The Lord be with you.  
*People*          **And also with you.**  
*Celebrant*      Lift up your hearts.  
*People*          **We lift them to the Lord.**  
*Celebrant*      Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.  
*People*          **It is right to give him thanks and praise.**

#### *The Celebrant continues*

It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth;

#### *The Celebrant prays the appointed 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 & Benedictus qui venit

William Mathias

Ho - ly, ho - ly,  
ho - ly Lord, God of power and might,  
heaven 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.

*The people kneel as able.*

*Then the Celebrant continues*

We give thanks to you, O God, for the goodness and love which you have made known to us in creation; in the calling of Israel to be your people; in your Word spoken through the prophets; and above all in the Word made flesh, Jesus, your Son. For in these last days you sent him to be incarnate from the Virgin Mary, to be the Savior and Redeemer of the world. In him, you have delivered us from evil, and made us worthy to stand before you. In him, you have brought us out of error into truth, out of sin into righteousness, out of death into life.

On the night before he died for us, 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, according to his command, O Father,

**We remember his death**

**We proclaim his resurrection**

**We await his coming in glory**

*The Celebrant continues*

And we offer our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving to you, O Lord of all; presenting to you, from your creation, this bread and this wine. We pray you, gracious God, to send your Holy Spirit upon these gifts that they may be the Sacrament of the Body of Christ and his Blood of the new Covenant. Unite us to your Son in his sacrifice, that we may be acceptable through him, being sanctified by the Holy Spirit. In the fullness of time, put all things in subjection under your Christ, and bring us to that heavenly country where, with the Ever-Blessed Virgin Mary and all your saints, we may enter the everlasting heritage of your sons and daughters; through Jesus Christ our Lord, the firstborn of all creation, the head of the Church, and the author of our salvation. 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.**

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

**All** 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, forever and ever. Amen.


## The Breaking of the Bread

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### Fraction Anthem (sung by the Choir) S171

*This setting is not used in Lent.*

*Antiphon: Cantor; then All*




Be known to us, Lord Je - sus, in the break - ing of the bread.

*Cantor*



1. The bread which we break, al - le - lu - ia,



is the com - mun - ion of the bo - dy of Christ. [Ant.]

*Cantor*



2. One bo - dy are we, al - le - lu - ia,



for though man - y we share one bread. [Ant.]

*The Celebrant says*

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.

*All are welcome at God's holy Altar. If you normally receive communion in another church, of any denomination, you are welcome to do so here. If you are drawn to Jesus, but not yet baptized into any Christian community, you are invited to come forward for a blessing. In that case, simply cross your arms over your chest at the rail, or ask the priest, and you will be given a blessing. Ask the priest afterwards about baptism and joining St. Mary's. We offer gluten-free wafers as well. Please let the priest know if you need one.*

### Music at the Communion

Hymn 304 I come with joy to meet my Lord

*After Communion, all stand and the Celebrant says*

Let us pray.

*Celebrant and People*

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.

*The Celebrant blesses the people and then they are dismissed, responding*

**People**           **Thanks be to God. Alleluia, Alleluia!**

**Hymn 664**    My shepherd will supply my need

**Voluntary**    Etude-tableau in E-flat Minor, Op. 33           *Sergei Rachmaninoff*

**Altar flowers:** The flowers are given by Beverly Burke to the glory of God and in thanksgiving for the life of Stephen Burke

## Participants in the Liturgy

### *Celebrant*

The Rev'd Louis Patrick Mua

### *Preacher*

The Rev'd Robert P. Travis

### *Lector*

Jason Johnson

### *Vergers*

Kathy Conrad

### *Eucharistic Ministers*

Candice Greig, Brenda Jones

### *Acolytes*

Jonathan Richardson, Aaron Sparks, Alex Brehm, Kellen Rose, Haven Rose

### *Pianist & Choirmaster*

Dr. Charles Hogan

### *Virtual Vergers*

Kerr Ramsay

### Acknowledgements

Text for the liturgy from *The Book of Common Prayer*, New York: Church Publishing, 1979, 231, 355-365, 388-389; Search committee prayer: *Prayers for Pastor & People*, Compiled and edited by Carl G. Carozzi, New York: Church Publishing Incorporated, 1984, 139. Used with permission. The Bible text is from the New Revised Standard Version Bible, © 1989 by the Division of Christian Education of the National Council of the Churches of Christ in the USA, and used by permission. Originated in riteplanning.com, © 2020 Church Publishing Inc. All rights reserved.

**Amanda Gane – Senior Warden**  
**Jason Johnson**  
**Julian Weston**  
**Will Moore**  
**Patrick Simcox**  
**Ellen Walsh**  
**Mike Boggs – Clerk**

**Vestry 2026**  
**Tim Yates – Junior Warden**  
**Alicia Archibald**  
**Dale Strayhorn**  
**Lenora Sparks**  
**Mark Penley**  
**Kathy Conrad**

***Keeping in Prayer this Week:*** We pray for those whose needs are closely linked with ours and for those who suffer from any sickness, grief or distress, also remembering and praying for those on our parish prayer list, including Helen Congdon, Linda Nitz, Emily Finch Johnson, Anne Miressi, Trish, Thea Oglesby, Steve, Jerri Phillips, Elizabeth White, Richard Glover, Rick and Margaret Lewis, Frankie Gurganus, Nancy Jenkins, Kathy, Diane Kearns, Joan Cardwell, Cheryl Warren, Debbie Ewing, Barry, Pat Hayes, Clara Blythe, Susan Hayne, Sam Hawley, Robert Eamon Kelly, David Stewart, Jane Gill-Shaler, Denni Mikola, Shirley, Greg Denison, Ray, Hannah, Linda Focarelli, Carter, Tom Peterson, Loyd, Mike Hennen, Connie Strader, Em, Kim Williams and family, Land Hurley, Erin McDonough, Gary King, Betty Jean and Les Ipock, Kim Susnik, Kim, Carlin, Jess, Claire, Katharyn Ernst, Laura Covington Marsh, Suzanne Swadener, Belen Perez, Brenda B, Ben and Meredith Jenkins and family, Diane Rankin, Stephanie Gardner-Cole, Angel Berdiales, Mike Cook, James Pardue, Laura Simcox, Jack, Joe P., Deb Bingham, Bob, Ari Shaver, Grace Reitzel.

***About St Mary's Prayer List:*** St Mary's maintains a published prayer list, which is added to the service leaflet and to the e-news each week. To add someone, please secure permission to use either the first and/or last names from the person to be added, and then contact Denise Story at 336.884-4730 or by email at [admin@stmaryshighpoint.org](mailto:admin@stmaryshighpoint.org). Denise needs your name and contact information so we can get pastoral updates periodically. Individuals will be updated at the end of the month unless the request is renewed, which you are welcome to do at any time.

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