



Saint Mary's Episcopal Church
The Second Sunday of Easter
Holy Eucharist
Sunday, April 12, 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 or check out our [Facebook Page](#).

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

Voluntary Andante in B flat

op.4 no.4

GF Handel

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



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.

Almighty and everlasting God, who in the Paschal mystery established the new covenant of reconciliation: Grant that all who have been reborn into the fellowship of Christ's Body may show forth in their lives what they profess by their faith; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, 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

2:14a, 22-32

Peter, standing with the eleven, raised his voice and addressed the crowd, “You that are Israelites, listen to what I have to say: Jesus of Nazareth, a man attested to you by God with deeds of power, wonders, and signs that God did through him among you, as you yourselves know— this man, handed over to you according to the definite plan and foreknowledge of God, you crucified and killed by the hands of those outside the law. But God raised him up, having freed him from death, because it was impossible for him to be held in its power. For David says concerning him,

‘I saw the Lord always before me,
for he is at my right hand so that I will not be shaken;
therefore my heart was glad, and my tongue rejoiced;
moreover my flesh will live in hope.

For you will not abandon my soul to Hades,
or let your Holy One experience corruption.

You have made known to me the ways of life;
you will make me full of gladness with your presence.’

“Fellow Israelites, I may say to you confidently of our ancestor David that he both died and was buried, and his tomb is with us to this day. Since he was a prophet, he knew that God had sworn with an oath to him that he would put one of his descendants on his throne. Foreseeing this, David spoke of the resurrection of the Messiah, saying,

‘He was not abandoned to Hades,
nor did his flesh experience corruption.’

This Jesus God raised up, and of that all of us are witnesses.”

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

Psalm 16

Conserva me, Domine

Henry Lawes



Protect me, O God, for I take | refuge • in | you; *

I have said to the Lord, "You are my Lord,
my | good a-| bove all | other."

2 All my delight is upon the godly that are | in the | land, *
upon those who are | noble • a-| mong the | people.

3 But those who run after | other | gods *
shall | have their | troubles | multiplied.

4 Their libations of blood I | will not | offer, *
nor take the names of their | gods up-| on my | lips.

5 O Lord, you are my | portion • and my | cup; *
 it is | you who • up- | hold my | lot.
 6 My boundaries enclose a | pleasant | land; *
 indeed, I | have a | goodly | heritage.

7 I will bless the Lord who | gives me | counsel; *
 my heart | teaches • me, | night • after | night.
 8 I have set the Lord | always • be- | fore me; *
 because he is at my | right hand • I | shall not | fall.

Second half of the chant

9 My heart, therefore, is glad, and my | spirit • re- | joices; *
 my body | also • shall | rest in | hope.

10 For you will not a- | bandon me • to the | grave, *
 nor let your | holy • one | see the | Pit.
 11 You will show me the | path of | life; *
 in your presence there is fullness of joy,
 and in your right hand are | pleasures • for | ever- | more.

A Reading from the First Letter of Peter

1:3-9

Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ! By his great mercy he has given us a new birth into a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead, and into an inheritance that is imperishable, undefiled, and unfading, kept in heaven for you, who are being protected by the power of God through faith for a salvation ready to be revealed in the last time. In this you rejoice, even if now for a little while you have had to suffer various trials, so that the genuineness of your faith-- being more precious than gold that, though perishable, is tested by fire-- may be found to result in praise and glory and honor when Jesus Christ is revealed. Although you have not seen him, you love him; and even though you do not see him now, you believe in him and rejoice with an indescribable and glorious joy, for you are receiving the outcome of your faith, the salvation of your souls.

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

Please stand, as you are able.

Hymn 184 Christ the Lord is risen again!

Alleluia



Choir

After eight days, when the doors of the house were shut, Jesus came and stood among them and said, "Peace be with you."

All sing Alleluia.

The Gospel

John 20:19-31

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

When it was evening on that day, the first day of the week, and the doors of the house where the disciples had met were locked for fear of the Jews, Jesus came and stood among them and said, "Peace be with you." After he said this, he showed them his hands and his side. Then the disciples rejoiced when they saw the Lord. Jesus said to them again, "Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, so I send you." When he had said this, he breathed on them and said to them, "Receive the Holy Spirit. If you forgive the sins of any, they are forgiven them; if you retain the sins of any, they are retained."

But Thomas (who was called the Twin), one of the twelve, was not with them when Jesus came. So the other disciples told him, "We have seen the Lord." But he said to them, "Unless I see the mark of the nails in his hands, and put my finger in the mark of the nails and my hand in his side, I will not believe."

A week later his disciples were again in the house, and Thomas was with them. Although the doors were shut, Jesus came and stood among them and said, "Peace be with you." Then he said to Thomas, "Put your finger here and see my hands. Reach out your hand and put it in my side. Do not doubt but believe." Thomas answered him, "My Lord and my God!" Jesus said to him, "Have you believed because you have seen me? Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have come to believe."

Now Jesus did many other signs in the presence of his disciples, which are not written in this book. But these are written so that you may come to believe that Jesus is the Messiah, the Son of God, and that through believing you may have life in his name.

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

p. 358

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 David, Jane, Denni, Shirley, Greg, Ray, Hannah, Linda, Carter, Tom, Grace, 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 Igreja Anglicana de Mocambique e Angola, St. Andrew's, St. Barnabas', St. Francis', Greensboro, 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, 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 Rite 13 Ceremony: A Celebration of Journey

Be seated. The Celebrities come forward together with their Parents, Sponsors, and other participants in the Rite 13 class.

Sponsors

We present to you Ford Ramsay, and Kellen Rose, who this day leave behind childhood on their journey to adulthood.

Celebrant

Dear People of God: the transformation from childhood to adulthood marks one of God's great gifts. Today, we celebrate this gift with Ford and Kellen as they begin their journey to adulthood. By the grace of God, you have lived through the pains and joys of childhood, and have grown strong. Now, as young people journeying to adulthood, it is given to you to share God's power of creation. Human beings, because they are made in God's image, are the only creatures on earth who can choose how to use their creative power—not only to create new life, but also to shape the world according to God's purpose. God calls us to use this gift to build and not to destroy. Are you aware of God's gift to you and the responsibility to use it wisely?

Celebrities

I am.

The Psalm Reading

Celebrant

Let us join with Ford and Kellen and the other members of Rite 13 in reading a portion of Psalm 139. The congregation is asked to join in the antiphon.

Psalm 139 *Domine, probasti*

Celebrities

O God, you have searched me out and known me; you know my sitting down and my rising up; you discern my thoughts from afar. If I take the wings of the morning and dwell in the uttermost parts of the sea, Even there your hand will lead me and your right hand hold me fast.

Antiphon

Your works are wonderful, and I know it well.

Celebrities

For you yourself created my inmost parts; you knit me together in my mother's womb. I will thank you because I am marvelously made; your works are wonderful, and I know it well.

Antiphon

Your works are wonderful, and I know it well.

Celebrities

My body was not hidden from you, while I was being made in secret and woven in the depths of the earth. Your eyes beheld my limbs, yet unfinished in the womb; all of them were written in your book. They were fashioned day by day, when as yet there were none of them.

Antiphon

Your works are wonderful, and I know it well.

Celebrities

Search me out, O God, and know my heart; try me and know my restless thoughts. Look well whether there be any wickedness in me and lead me in the way that is everlasting.

Antiphon

Your works are wonderful, and I know it well.

The Prayer for the Parents

Celebrant

When Mary and Joseph searched for Jesus and found him in the temple, talking with the elders, they realized that he was a child no longer. So, too, these parents stand, watching their young ones grow beyond childhood. Let us pray for them.

O God, bless the parents/sponsors of Ford and Kellen, Kerr and Palmer Ramsay and Nathan and Katie Rose. Rejoice with them as their children begin the journey to adulthood; strengthen them that they may support these young people on their way; uphold them by your Spirit, that they may comfort their teenagers although they can neither walk their road for them nor shield them from pain. Carry them all safely through this journey, so that one day they may stand together as adults and friends, a joy and a comfort to each other all the days of their lives.

Congregation

Amen.

The Charge to the Young People

Celebrant

Dear friends of Ford and Kellen: As they journey beyond the circle of their families, they will need loyal friends. Will you walk with them, knowing that there may be times when your support means more than any other?

Young People

We will.

The Charge to the Congregation

All who are able please stand.

Celebrant

As the living Body of Christ, we have been empowered by the Holy Spirit to do God's work in the world. Will you, as a community of God that spans the generations, share your knowledge and experience with Ford and Kellen as they journey to adulthood?

Congregation

We will.

Celebrant

Will you guide, guard, and sustain them as they grow into the full stature of Christ?

Congregation

We will.

The Blessings

Celebrant

Ford and Kellen, you have been armed by Almighty God with both the imagination of childhood and the strength, energy, and creative power of adolescence; now you must journey forth to gain the skills you will need to assume full responsibility as an adult.

The celebrities take turns kneeling. The parents (and/ or sponsors) come forward and lay hands on their shoulders. The celebrant lays hands on the celebrity's head and says:

(Ford, Kellen), may Almighty God fill you with courage, wisdom, and joy. May Jesus Christ, your strong companion and never-failing friend, make you strong in faith and defend you on every side. May the Holy Spirit guide you in truth and peace, and the blessing of God, who creates, redeems, and sustains, rest upon you this day and for evermore.

Congregation

Amen.

The Celebrities go to sit with their friends and the parents/ sponsors return to their seats.

The Peace

All stand.

p. 360

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

Arr. Andrew Carter

Joy is come! Eastertide! Sing we all far and wide, see the stone rolled aside, Christ our Lord is risen, bursting from his prison. Let the sound, sound, sound, ring a-round, round, round, and the song now rebound: Christ the Lord is risen! Joy is come! Easter Day! Join the dance, homage pay, Christ the Lord lights our way, from the tomb now breaking, Satan's power shaking. Let the song, song, song, echo long, long, long, shout it loud, sing it strong: Christ the Lord is risen! Joy is come! Easter morn! With your Lord greet the dawn, he endured crown of thorn and the bitter nailing, faithful and unflinching. Tidings tell, tell, tell, chant it well, well, well, risen Christ in us

dwell, o'er the cross prevailing. Easter joy may we bring, welcome, Lord, heaven's King, winter turns into spring, darkness overtaking, and our spirits waking. Praises flow, flow, flow, voices grow, grow, grow, sounding far 'Gloria in excelsis Deo!'

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,
 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,

Celebrant and people

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

p. 364

Fraction Anthem

David Hurd

Lamb of God, you take a - way the sins of the world:
have mer - cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a - way the
sins of the world: have mer - cy on us. Lamb of God,
you take a - way the sins of the world: grant us peace.

The Choir sings

Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us,
therefore let us keep the feast.

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.

Music at the Communion

Chorale Prelude on *Christ lag in Todesbanden* and
Hymn 194 Jesus lives!

Sending Out Prayer

Celebrant and People

As the people of Saint Mary's, we send you forth bearing these holy gifts that those to whom you go may share with us in the communion of Christ's body and blood. We who are many are one body, because we all share one bread one cup. Amen.

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 206 O sons and daughters, let us sing!

Voluntary Christ est resuscitate *Johann Fisher*

Altar flowers: The flowers on the altar are given by Candy Fenn to the glory of God and in heartfelt thanksgiving for the life of Bill Fenn

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.



Participants in the Liturgy

Celebrant

The Rev'd Louis Patrick Mua

Preacher

The Rev'd Robert P. Travis

Lector

Kathy Conrad

Vergers

Kathy Conrad

Chalicers

Jean Almos, Martha Stewart

Acolytes

Henry Simcox

Pianist & Choirmaster

Christopher Brayne

Virtual Vergers

Paula Cash

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, Bill Fenn, 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, the family of Robert Swab, Brenda B, Ben and Meredith Jenkins and family, Diane Rankin, Stephanie Gardner-Cole, Angel Berdiales, Mike Cook, Judy Jarrell, 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. 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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