



the well

Order of Worship

CHRIST CHURCH CATHEDRAL

April 12, 2026
5:00 p.m.

*We welcome you to Christ Church Cathedral. Since 1839,
this Christian community has gathered for worship.*

 *The Cathedral is equipped with a hearing loop for assisted listening via telecoil.*

Second Sunday of Easter

five o'clock in the evening

THE REV. RAY WILSON, *Affiliated Clergy*
Celebrant

JADON CAMPOS, *Cantor*

BECKY BAXTER, *Music Coordinator and Harpist for The Well*

LAUREN KAVANAUGH, *flautist*

BRADY MEYER, *cellist*

*Good evening and welcome to The Well. The order of service has been adapted
to observe the season of Easter. We are so glad that you are here.
Come close, draw near, and receive the grace of God.*

OPENING MUSIC

TRADITIONAL SCOTTISH AND IRISH TUNES

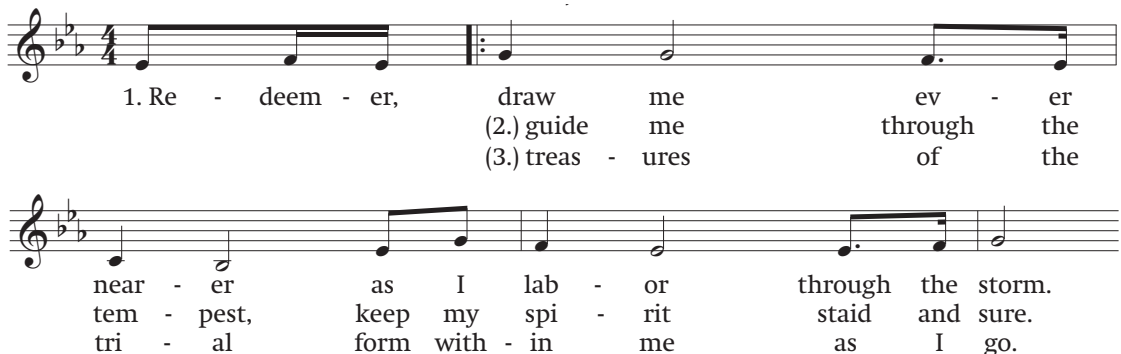
WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRAYER FOR THE EVENING

Christ, you are risen from the dead. We are risen with you. May our life never deny this eternal life, this peace and hope and joy. Praise and glory to the God of life who is stronger than all kinds of death. Alleluia. **Amen.**

Please stand.

HYMN



1. Re - deem - er, draw me ev - er
(2.) guide me through the
(3.) treas - ures of the
near - er as I lab - or through the storm.
tem - pest, keep my spi - rit staid and sure.
tri - al form with - in me as I go.

You have called me to this pas - sage,
 When the mid - night meets the mor - ning,
 And at the end of this long pas - sage,
 and I'll fol - low though I'm worn.
 let me love You e - ven more.
 let me leave them at Your throne.
 May this jour - ney bring a bless - ing,
 may I rise on wings of faith;
 and at the end of my heart's test - ing,
 with Your like - ness let me wake. 2. Re - deem - er, (3.) wake.
 3. Let the

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COLLECT OF THE DAY

Alpha and Omega, our beginning and our end, you break through the locks of gated communities and hardened hearts: accept our doubts, heal our desire for certainty, and by your Spirit's gentle touch, make us a people forgiven and forgiving; through Jesus Christ, the Giver of Peace. **Amen.**

Please be seated.

PSALM 16

Conserva me, Domine

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

I have said to the Lord, "You are my Lord,
 my good above all other."

All my delight is upon the godly that are in the land, *
 upon those who are noble among the people.

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

Their libations of blood I will not offer, *
 nor take the names of their gods upon my lips.

O Lord, you are my portion and my cup; *
it is you who uphold my lot.
My boundaries enclose a pleasant land; *
indeed, I have a goodly heritage.
I will bless the Lord who gives me counsel; *
my heart teaches me, night after night.
I have set the Lord always before me; *
because he is at my right hand I shall not fall.
My heart, therefore, is glad, and my spirit rejoices; *
my body also shall rest in hope.
For you will not abandon me to the grave, *
nor let your holy one see the Pit.
You will show me the path of life; *
in your presence there is fullness of joy,
and in your right hand are pleasures for evermore.

Please stand.

THE HOLY GOSPEL

John 20:19-31

Priest 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.

Priest The Gospel of the Lord.

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

All sit.

THE REFLECTION

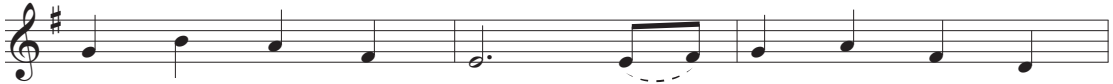
A period of silence is observed following the Reflection.

The People remain seated.

HYMN



1. This fra - gile ves - sel you have made no__
2. I__ seek the treas - ures of your love, it's__



hand on earth can fill, for the wa - ters of this
not that far to see. I__ heard a mel - o -



world have__ failed, and__ I am thir - sty still.
dy a - bove; a__ gift from you to me.



We__ can be wor - thy of God's love, wis - dom and



mer - cy. Take this bread and__ wine, as we



share Christ's cross and crown. Re - ceive the grace sent down.

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THE NICENE CREED

The People stand.

Let us now stand and join the tradition of the saints who have gone before us, affirming our faith together by saying the ancient 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.**

INTERCESSIONS FOR EASTER

The intercessor says

Jesus has risen from the dead! Alleluia!

By his cross he has defeated the power of evil; and through his resurrection we are set free. Alleluia! Lord, without your resurrection our faith would be empty and without hope. But you are alive, and we rejoice and dance and wonder in the mystery of your presence among us.

We pray for your church: free us from the shackles of guilt and legalism, and help us to proclaim the message of healing and forgiveness for which you died.

Risen Lord,

Hear our prayer.

Lord, your friends and disciples must have been utterly bereft at your death, with all their hope and purpose broken. So we pray now for those who are in darkness and pain today: those facing the keen disappointment of broken hopes; lives damaged by broken relationships and broken trust; people with broken hearts; bodies broken by torture; and spirits broken by injustice;

Risen Lord,

Hear our prayer.

We pray, Lord, for broken communities, and we ask your forgiveness for our own apathy, and our desire to wash our hands of involvement in the plight of others.

Risen Lord,

Hear our prayer.

Accept our prayers, and take them up into your creative energy of love which you let loose into the world on those extraordinary Passover days.

Risen Lord,

Hear our prayer.

SILENT PRAYER AND CANDLE LIGHTING

Following the Intercessions during the instrumental music, you are welcome to come forward to light a votive candle as a symbol of your prayer. As we see others light candles, we recognize that we are all carrying prayer concerns known to us alone, and we are reminded to treat one another with kindness and care. Tapers and votives are located to the right of the altar and in front of the transept to the left. Please feel free to go to either of these places to light a candle.

The Celebrant will be available to anoint with oil all those who wish to come forward for healing prayer.

CONCLUDING COLLECT

O Risen Christ, you breathe your Holy Spirit upon us like a gentle breeze and tell us: "Peace be yours." We open ourselves to your peace, letting it penetrate the harsh and rocky ground of our hearts. Come and lead us to wait in silence, to let a ray of hope shine through in our world. **Amen.**

THE PEACE

The Celebrant says

Christ descended to death and hell, passed through doors locked by fear to breathe the Spirit of peace and make us one humanity; nothing can now separate us from the love of God.

Celebrant The peace of the Lord be always with you.

People **And also with you.**

*The people greet one another in the name of the Lord,
after which they may be seated.*

To support the ministry outreach of the
Cathedral, please scan to donate.



OFFERTORY HYMN

1. As we break the bread and
2. Grain is sown to die; it
3. Pass from hand to hand the
5. Hav - ing shared the bread that

taste the life of wine, we
ris - es from the dead, be -
liv - ing love of Christ! Ma -
died to rise a - gain, we

bring to mind our Lord,
comes through hu - man toil
chine and man pro - vide
rise to serve the world,

man of all time.
our com - mon bread.
bread for this feast.
scat - tered as grain.

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The Holy Communion

The people stand.

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

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 God thanks and praise.**

We praise you, God of freedom, for you breathed life into the void and showed yourself as the one who loves in freedom.

From the nothingness of slavery you called a people into being and led them to springs of life; the presence of your glory went with shattered exiles into strange and distant lands and gathered from the valley of despair the flesh and blood of living hope. In Jesus you confronted the powers that killed and oppressed; you spoke to those considered dead and helped them stand again; he taught us to die that we might live.

He gave himself for us tortured and forsaken, but he could not be confined by death; in the garden he speaks our name; in the breaking of the bread he shows himself among us; by the lakeside, in the new day, he calls us to take up his work.

Therefore, with all who lost faith, all who walked away in sadness, with the women at the tomb, and the men who hid in fear we confess ourselves surprised by the suddenness of dawn and join the undying song of heaven:

**Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,
heaven and earth are full of your glory.**

Hosanna in the highest.

Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord.

Hosanna in the highest.

We ask that your Holy Spirit will fall upon us and upon these gifts that these fragile, earthly things may be to us the body and blood of our lord and brother, Jesus Christ; who, on the night that he was betrayed, gathered with his faltering friends for a meal that tasted of freedom.

Calling them to his table, he took bread, gave thanks, broke it and said: "This is my body, which is given for you. Do this to remember me." In the same way after supper, he took the cup, saying: "This cup is the new covenant in my blood. Do this, whenever you drink it, to remember me." As on that night, so here and now he offers himself in touch and taste beyond all words can hold.

Great is the mystery of faith:

Christ has died.

Christ is risen.

Christ will come again.

Therefore we come in memory and hope, responding to your call and the promise that echoes from the dawn of all time. May mind and heart be held by your self-giving love as we stand before the cross, approach the empty tomb and praise the one whose name is lifted high above all earthly power.

Receive our broken offering through his all-powerful grace, and bind us in communion with all who share your gifts; through Jesus Christ, in whom all ages and all the worlds are drawn into the ceaseless love of Father, Son and Holy Spirit. **AMEN.**

THE LORD'S PRAYER

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

**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

Celebrant We break this bread to share in the Body of Christ;

People **We who are many are one body, for we all share in the one bread.**

Celebrant Bread and wine; the gifts of God for the people of God.

People **May we who share these gifts be found in Christ and Christ in us.**

At the direction of the ushers you are invited to form a single line in the central aisle to receive Communion in front of the altar.

The sacrament of Holy Communion has been precious to Christians for 2,000 years. It is a way in which many sense the reality of God's forgiveness, our union with God and each other, and the eternal life to which we belong. Please know that you do not have to be an Episcopalian to receive Communion. Receive the Bread in the palm of your hand and the Wine either by drinking from the cup or by intinction, touching the Bread to the Wine. Gluten-free Bread is available; simply ask. If you need Communion brought to you in the pew, please tell an usher.

The People stand.

POST COMMUNION PRAYER

Celebrant Let us pray.

Risen Christ, whom we have seen with our eyes and touched with our hands; the word of life in whom our joy is complete: send us out to declare your truth, your unshakable faith in the world you love. Amen.

THE BLESSING

May the living God remove the suffocating shroud that lies upon our world; may the risen Saviour draw the sting of death, bringing all to life in him; may the flowing Spirit set us and all creation free and seal our hearts with faith; and the blessing of God, Creator, Redeemer and Sustainer, be with you this night and always. **Amen.**

HYMN



1. With you a - lone, with none but you I jour - ney on my
2. You know the time left me to live and Death will keep his
3. My life I yield to your de - cree, and bow to your con -
4. When fear of death is o - ver - come then we are free to



way. I have no fear when you are near, O King of dark and
hour; did sol - diers shield me with their steel they could not stay his
trol. I peace - ful am, for from your arm no pow'r can wrest my
give our lives to you to build on earth your king - dom, there to



day. I am more safe with - in your hand than if guards round me stand.
pow'r. There's no de - fence in walls of stone for he can beat them down.
soul: no earth - ly o - men can ap - pal the one who heeds your call.
live. I ce - le - brate the vic - to - ry your death has won for me.

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THE DISMISSAL

Celebrant Christ has conquered sin and death. The power of love has overcome the darkness. Let us go forth in the light and life of Christ.

People **Thanks be to God.**

CLOSING MUSIC

TRADITIONAL IRISH TUNE

Welcome

Sunday, April 12, 2026

Announcements

- ❖ **Daily Prayer: How, What, Why** • Prayer is the lifeblood of our relationship with God. But how do we actually pray, especially when time is short and words are lacking? In this three-session class, Canon Bradley Varnell will help participants find both the time to pray and the words to pray by introducing the Episcopal Church's liturgies for daily prayer. Participants will be guided in using these liturgies on their own, and together we'll reflect on the challenges (and gifts) of daily prayer. Those looking to establish a regular rhythm of prayer are especially encouraged to attend, but all are welcome — no matter how long (or short) you've been praying. Sundays, April 12-26, 10 a.m., in the McGehee Conference Room. Register at: christchurchcathedral.org/announcements.
- ❖ **Downtown Lunch** • Come on out on Monday, April 13, at 12 p.m. to Treebeards. Take a midday break with your Cathedral friends! We gather for good food and better company on the second Monday of each month. No RSVP needed — just come as you are.
- ❖ **Collect Writing with Dean Katz — Wednesday, April 15** • Join a monthly gathering over Zoom to hold space for our community to grow in relationship with collects as a means of growing in relationship with God and one another. These sessions will take place from 7-8 p.m. and invite participants to reflect upon collects from the Book of Common prayer before holding space to write their own collects based around prompts from scripture and the seasons (liturgical, natural and otherwise). Please email Louise Langford at llangford@christchurchcathedral.org to obtain the Zoom link.
- ❖ **Neighborhood Gatherings Are About to Spring Up** • This spring Christ Church Cathedral is hosting a series of neighborhood get-togethers — and you're invited. It's a relaxed evening from 6-7:30 p.m. to meet new faces, catch up with old friends, and just enjoy being together outside of Sunday. There are three evenings to choose from: Tuesday, April 21 (Northside area); Wednesday, May 6 (Southwest Houston); and Monday, May 18 (Southwest area). Spots are limited, so RSVP soon. Hosts and RSVP info at: christchurchcathedral.org/announcements.
- ❖ **The Dean's Hour: Living Faithfully in a Complex Community** • The Dean's Hour continues its April conversations next Sunday with Shariq Ghani of Bridges, and closes the month April 26 with Constance and Dain Perry as part of our Traces of the Trade series.
- ❖ **"Traces of the Trade" Film & Discussion** • On April 25, we invite you to a documentary film screening and facilitated dialogue on race in Reynolds Hall from noon to 3 p.m. Info and registration on our announcements page: christchurchcathedral.org/announcements.
- ❖ **The Movable Feast Returns April 26** • This monthly event is designed to help families participate in worship (at 9 a.m.), formation (10 a.m. Sunday School), and fellowship (11 a.m., a "feast" of sorts — sponsored by the Children & Family Ministries Council where food & fun abound)!
- ❖ **News for Children & Families & Youth** • Sunday School for children and youth runs from September through April during the 10 o'clock hour, wrapping up with May Fete — our joyful annual celebration on the first Sunday in May. Stay connected by signing up for the Cathedral Families and/or Treehouse newsletters to learn about summer offerings like Art Space for All (Sundays at 10 a.m. in Reynolds Hall), Summer Shade (youth activities), and Moveable Feast (family, food, and fun in June and July!).