



the well

Order of Worship

CHRIST CHURCH CATHEDRAL

April 26, 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.*

Fourth Sunday of Easter

five o'clock in the evening

THE REV. LIZ KRONENBERG, *Canon Vicar*
Celebrant

TRAVIS FALKNOR, *Cantor*

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

AMY WIGGS, *flautist*

FRAN KOINER, *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

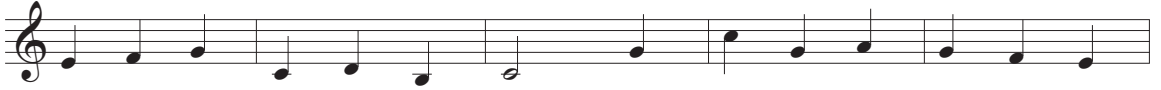
Christ, you are risen from the dead. We are risen with you. May our life never deny this eternal life, this peace and hope and joy. Praise and glory to the God of life who is stronger than all kinds of death. **Amen. Alleluia.**

Please stand.

HYMN



1. Great Shep - herd of ___ your peo - ple, hear! your
2. With - in these walls ___ let ho - ly peace and
3. May we in faith ___ re - ceive ___ your word, in
4. The hear - ing ear, ___ the see - ing eye, the



pres - ence now ___ dis - play; as you ___ have giv - en a
love ___ and friend - ship dwell; here give ___ the trou - bled
faith ___ pres - ent ___ our prayers; and in ___ the pres - ence
con - trite heart ___ be - stow; and shine up - on ___ us



place ___ for prayer, so give ___ us hearts to pray.
con - science ease, the wound - ed spir - it heal.
of ___ our Lord un - bur - den all ___ our cares.
from ___ on high, that we ___ in grace ___ may grow.

Text J. Newton (1725-1807) from *Hymns For Today's Church* ~ ©1990 Westminster/John Knox Press ~ Reprinted by permission. All rights reserved. CCL # 11426131 and OneLicense.net #726591-A

COLLECT OF THE DAY

Life abundant, God of grace, you call us by name to live without fear: in peace may we resist all who kill and despoil your people, that their hearts might be turned to the only source of life; through Jesus Christ, the gateway. **Amen.**

Please be seated.

PSALM 23

Dominus regit me

The Lord is my shepherd; *

I shall not be in want.

He makes me lie down in green pastures *

and leads me beside still waters.

He revives my soul *

and guides me along right pathways for his Name's sake.

Though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death,

I shall fear no evil; *

for you are with me;

your rod and your staff, they comfort me.

You spread a table before me in the presence of those who trouble me; *
 you have anointed my head with oil,
 and my cup is running over.
 Surely your goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life, *
 and I will dwell in the house of the Lord for ever.

Please stand.

THE HOLY GOSPEL

John 10:1-10

Priest 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."

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



Christ in my heart__ and my__ heart in Christ,
 Christ in my heart__ and my__ heart in Christ,
 Christ in my heart__ and my__ heart in Christ,



An - chor my soul in Your hope - ful - ness_____
 An - chor my soul in Your peace - ful - ness._____
 An - chor my soul in Your joy - ful - ness._____

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 are seated for the offertory hymn.*

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



OFFERTORY HYMN



1. Lov - ing Shep - herd of Your sheep, may we in Your
2. Lov - ing Shep - herd, You did give Your own life that
3. Lov - ing Shep - herd, ev - er near, teach us still Your
4. Where You guide us we shall go, in Your foot - steps



safe - ty keep; noth - ing can Your power with - stand;
we might live; we shall praise You eve - ry day,
voice to hear; suf - fer not our steps to stray
here be - low; then be - fore God's Glo - rious throne



none can pluck us from Your hand.
glad - ly all Your will o - bey.
from the straight and nar - row way.
Sav - iour, claim us for Your own.

BATTISHILL, simplified version of a melody by Jonathan Battishill, 1738-1801; harm. Compilers of Church Hymnary, 1898 and others
Text: Jane Elizabeth Leeson, 1809-1881, adapt. Gaetano Raphael (Anthony) Petti, 1932-1985. onelicense.net # 726591-A
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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 Savior 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. God a - bove, God be - low, God be - fore and be -
2. Be my thoughts, be my deeds, be my ebb and my
3. Morn - ing Star, Per - fect Lamb, Ris - en King o - ver

hind; God with - in all of my life, in my heart, in my
flow; make me seed that is plant - ed, to be wheat that will
death; Word of God, Son of Mar - y be our life, be our

mind. Mer - ci - ful, migh - ty King, hea - ven's Son we will
grow. Je - sus Christ, Liv - ing Hope, Lord of sea and of
breath. Full of truth, full of grace, Ho - ly God, Love su -

praise. God en - folds, God sur - rounds through - out all of our days
sky be our health while we live, be our new life when we die.
preme; King of kings, Pre - cious One, fill us with your peace se - rene.

TUNE: THE DARK ISLAND (traditional Scottish melody, arr. Keith Duke) ~ Words: Paul Neeley, alt.

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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 ENGLISH COUNTRY DANCE TUNE

Portions of this service for the Intercessions: come from "Book of a Thousand Prayers, pg. 669" for the prayer for the evening; "Prayer at Night's Approaching" by Jim Cotter, pg 112-113; for the The Blessing come from Prayer at Night's Approaching" by Jim Cotter, pg 117; and for the Dismissal, are adapted from Claiborne, Shane; Wilson-Hartgrove, Jonathan; Okoro, Enuma. Common Prayer: A Liturgy for Ordinary Radicals (p. 386). Zondervan. Kindle Edition.

Please be advised that our services are Livestreamed to Vimeo and Facebook. Your participation in the service serves as your consent to the broadcast of your image and voice and to the broadcast of the image and voice of your participating minor children.

Pursuant to Section 30.06, Penal Code (trespass by license holder with a concealed handgun), a person licensed under Subchapter H, Chapter 411, Government Code (handgun licensing law), may not enter this property with a concealed handgun. Pursuant to Section 30.07, Penal Code (trespass by license holder with an openly carried handgun), a person licensed under Subchapter H, Chapter 411, Government Code (handgun licensing law), may not enter this property with a handgun that is carried openly.

Welcome

Sunday, April 26, 2026

Announcements

❖ TODAY

The Dean's Hour: Living Faithfully in a Complex Community • This morning the Dean's Hour continued its April conversations on Living Faithfully in a Complex Community with Constance and Dain Perry as part of our Traces of the Trade series.

Día Mundial del Niño/Children's Day • Latino Ministry will be celebrating Día Mundial del Niño/Children's Day today during the 1 p.m. service and during the reception in Reynolds Hall. All are invited to join in the celebration.

❖ **Neighborhood Gatherings Have Sprung 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 two more evenings to choose from: 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.

❖ **May Fete is coming — Volunteer With Us** • Mark your calendars for Sunday, May 3, to celebrate one of the oldest, and most beloved, Cathedral traditions. Gather at Christ Church for a Sunday filled with special worship, favorite foods, fun games, and the crowning of the May Fete King and Queen. To volunteer, register at: christchurchcathedral.org/announcements.

❖ **News for Children & Families and 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 Movable Feast (family, food, and fun in June and July!).

❖ **20s & 30s Cookout** • Cathedral young adults (in their 20s & 30s) are invited to hotdogs and hangs on Saturday, May 9, from 2-5 p.m. No cost to attend, but please plan to bring drinks and/or cookout-worthy sides and snacks to share. Hosted by Eliza Poggi. To receive the address, RSVP by Friday, May 8 at: christchurchcathedral.org/announcements.

❖ **Historic Tour of Texas Plantations** • You're invited to experience 19th century Texas life at the Levi Jordan and Varner-Hogg Plantations in Brazoria County on Saturday, May 16. Of special focus will be the enslaved quarters and work sites at the Levi Jordan Plantation which are currently undergoing archeological exploration. Adult admission is \$12 and covers entrance to both sites and a tour of Levi Jordan. For further information, and to register by May 3, visit: christchurchcathedral.org/announcements.