



St. Simon's
EPISCOPAL CHURCH



The Fifth Sunday of Easter
Sunday, May 3, 2026



Welcome to St. Simon's

Celebrating God's love for all. Embodying Christ in the world.

If you are here today, you belong, no matter where you are on your journey of faith. Welcome.

St Simon's is a joyful and hopeful congregation that invites all who seek God into community, questions and doubts included. Please feel free to participate as fully in the worship of God as you wish. Lift your voice in praise, respond to the prayers and readings, and come to the altar for communion or a blessing. Or, if you prefer, sit back quietly and allow God's Spirit to speak to you in the way that feels most comfortable.

Welcome, Children. You are invited as full participants in our worship just as you are. God delights in you.

Welcome, Elders. Your wisdom and experience are valued in our community. God has shaped you and you are beautiful.

Welcome, you.

Welcome, everyone, to God's table. This is the table of the risen Lord Jesus Christ, and all who seek God are invited to share in communion. If you wish to participate, but prefer not to receive communion, please join everyone coming forward. Cross your arms over your chest and we will be glad to give you a blessing instead. If you wish to have communion brought to you at your seat, or if you desire a gluten-free wafer, please notify an usher.

Wherever you find yourself on the journey, there is a place for you here.

May you encounter God in this community.

The Holy Eucharist

** Indicates the assembly stands, if able.*

*All portions of the service in **Bold** are spoken by the assembly.*

Prelude

Words of Welcome

Opening Hymn 362

“Holy, holy, holy!”

Nicaea



1 Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly! Lord — God Al - might - y!
*2 Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly! All the saints a - dore thee,



Ear - ly in the morn - ing our song shall rise to thee:
cast - ing down their gold - en crowns a - round the glass - y sea;



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly! Mer - ci - ful and might - y,
cher - u - bim and ser - a - phim fall - ing down be - fore thee,



God in three Per - sons, bless - ed Trin - i - ty.
which wert, and art, and ev - er - more shalt be.

Alleluia. Christ is risen.

The Lord is risen indeed. Alleluia.

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.

The Gloria

**Glory to you, Lord God of the ages; *
you are worthy of praise; glory to you.**

**Glory to you for the radiance of your holy Name; *
we will praise you and highly exalt you for ever.**

**Glory to you in the splendor of your temple; *
on the throne of your majesty, glory to you.**

**Glory to you, seated between the Cherubim; *
we will praise you and highly exalt you for ever.**

**Glory to you, beholding the depths; *
in the high vault of heaven, glory to you.**

**Glory to you, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit; *
we will praise you and highly exalt you for ever.**

The Word of God

The Collect of the Day

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Let us pray.

Almighty God, whom truly to know is everlasting life: Grant us so perfectly to know your Son Jesus Christ to be the way, the truth, and the life, that we may steadfastly follow his steps in the way that leads to eternal life; through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord, who lives and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

The Lessons

The Assembly is seated

The First Lesson

Acts 7:55-60

A reading from the book of the Acts of the Apostles.

Filled with the Holy Spirit, Stephen gazed into heaven and saw the glory of God and Jesus standing at the right hand of God. "Look," he said, "I see the heavens opened and the Son of Man standing at the right hand of God!" But they covered their ears, and with a loud shout all rushed together against him. Then they dragged him out of the city and began to stone him; and the witnesses laid their coats at the feet of a young man named Saul. While they were stoning Stephen, he prayed, "Lord Jesus, receive my spirit." Then he knelt down and cried out in a loud voice, "Lord, do not hold this sin against them." When he had said this, he died.

Hear what the Spirit is saying to God's people.

Thanks be to God.

The Psalter

Psalm 31:1-5, 15-16

**A Shelter me, Lord,
save me from shame.**

**B Let there be justice:
save me!**

**A Help me! Listen! Be quick to the rescue!
Be my fortress, my refuge.**

**B You, my rock and fortress, prove your good name.
Guide me, lead me, free me from their trap.**

**A You are my shelter;
I put myself in your hands,**

**B knowing you will save me,
Lord God of truth.**

**A My life is in your hands:
Snatch me from the enemy, ruthless in their chase.**

**B Look on me with love,
save your servant.**

The Second Lesson

1 Peter 2:2-10

A reading from the first letter of Peter.

Like newborn infants, long for the pure, spiritual milk, so that by it you may grow into salvation— if indeed you have tasted that the Lord is good. Come to him, a living stone, though rejected by mortals yet chosen and precious in God's sight, and like living stones, let yourselves be built into a spiritual house, to be a holy priesthood, to offer spiritual sacrifices acceptable to God through Jesus Christ. For it stands in scripture:

“See, I am laying in Zion a stone,
a cornerstone chosen and precious;
and whoever believes in him will not be put to shame.”

To you then who believe, he is precious; but for those who do not believe,

“The stone that the builders rejected
has become the very head of the corner”,

and

“A stone that makes them stumble,
and a rock that makes them fall.”

They stumble because they disobey the word, as they were destined to do.

But you are a chosen race, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, God’s own people,
in order that you may proclaim the mighty acts of him who called you out of
darkness into his marvelous light.

Once you were not a people,
but now you are God’s people;
once you had not received mercy,
but now you have received mercy.

Hear what the Spirit is saying to God’s people.

Thanks be to God.

The Assembly stands as they are able to face the Gospeler.

*The Gospel Procession

The chant is sung several times before and after the gospel reading

Introduction = 2 measures

1. Al - le - lu - ia! Christ is ris - en! Al-le-lu - ia!

The first system of musical notation is for a four-part setting in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. It consists of a vocal line and a basso continuo line. The vocal line begins with a two-measure introduction, followed by the lyrics: "1. Al - le - lu - ia! Christ is ris - en! Al-le-lu - ia!". The basso continuo line provides harmonic support with chords and single notes.

Al - le - lu - ia! Christ is ris - en! Al-le-lu - ia!

The second system of musical notation continues the four-part setting. It features the same vocal and basso continuo parts. The lyrics are: "Al - le - lu - ia! Christ is ris - en! Al-le-lu - ia!". The system concludes with a double bar line and repeat dots.

*The Holy Gospel

John 14:1-14

The Holy Gospel of our Savior Jesus Christ according to John.

Glory to you, Lord Christ.

Jesus said, "Do not let your hearts be troubled. Believe in God, believe also in me. In my Father's house there are many dwelling places. If it were not so, would I have told you that I go to prepare a place for you? And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again and will take you to myself, so that where I am, there you may be also. And you know the way to the place where I am going." Thomas said to him, "Lord, we do not know where you are going. How can we know the way?" Jesus said to him, "I am the way, and the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me. If you know me, you will know my Father also. From now on you do know him and have seen him."

Philip said to him, “Lord, show us the Father, and we will be satisfied.” Jesus said to him, “Have I been with you all this time, Philip, and you still do not know me? Whoever has seen me has seen the Father. How can you say, ‘Show us the Father’? Do you not believe that I am in the Father and the Father is in me? The words that I say to you I do not speak on my own; but the Father who dwells in me does his works. Believe me that I am in the Father and the Father is in me; but if you do not, then believe me because of the works themselves. Very truly, I tell you, the one who believes in me will also do the works that I do and, in fact, will do greater works than these, because I am going to the Father. I will do whatever you ask in my name, so that the Father may be glorified in the Son. If in my name you ask me for anything, I will do it.”

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, Lord Christ.

Introduction = 2 measures

1. Al - le - lu - ia! Christ is ris - en! Al-le-lu - ia!

The first system of the musical score is written in treble and bass clefs with a key signature of two sharps (F# and C#) and a 4/4 time signature. It consists of two staves. The melody is primarily in the treble clef, while the bass clef provides a harmonic accompaniment. The lyrics are: "1. Al - le - lu - ia! Christ is ris - en! Al-le-lu - ia!".

Al - le - lu - ia! Christ is ris - en! Al-le-lu - ia!

The second system of the musical score continues the melody and accompaniment from the first system. It is written in the same key signature and time signature. The lyrics are: "Al - le - lu - ia! Christ is ris - en! Al-le-lu - ia!".

A period of silence is shared after the sermon.

***The Apostle's Creed**

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

**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.**

**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. Amen.**

*The Prayers of the People

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 those who have been disappeared, and all who are in danger, sorrow, or any kind of trouble;

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

For the peace and unity of the Church of God;

For all who proclaim the Gospel.

For Sean, our Presiding Bishop, and Paula, our Bishop; and for all bishops and other ministers;

For all who serve God in his Church.

For the special needs and concerns of this congregation, especially Martin, Mary Edith, Jan, Sunita, Jerry, Judy, Maria, Ken and Sherry, Grayson, James, Sandy, Marc, Pat, Trish and all patients, family members and staff at Northwest Community Hospital.

The people may add their own petitions; silently, spoken or in the chat

Hear us, Lord;

For your mercy is great.

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

The people may add their own petitions; silently, spoken or in the chat

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.

The people may add their own petitions; silently, spoken or in the chat

Lord, let your loving-kindness be upon them;

Who put their trust in you.

Celebrant concludes with a suitable Collect.

In keeping with the tradition of the early church, the confession is omitted during the Great 50 Days of Easter.

*The Peace

The peace of the Lord be always with you.

And also with you.

The Ministers and Assembly stand to greet one another in the peace of Christ.

Blessing Birthdays and Anniversaries

All those celebrating birthdays or anniversaries of any kind are invited to add their name to the chat on Zoom or feed on Facebook

Watch over your children, O Lord, as their days increase; bless and guide them wherever they may be. Strengthen them when they stand; comfort them when discouraged or sorrowful; raise them up if they fall; and in their hearts may your peace which passes understanding abide all the days of their lives; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

A Litany of Farewell

Good Christian people, I bid you pray and give thanks now for John Pope and Mary Fran Callahan who are leaving this community.

For this portion of your lifelong pilgrimage which you have made with us in this place:

Thanks be to God.

For friendships made, celebrations enjoyed, and for moments of nurture:

Thanks be to God.

For wounds healed, expectations met, gifts given, promises kept:

Thanks be to God.

For trust and confidence shared; times of good humor and moments of gentle and fierce leadership:

Thanks be to God.

For the Table we have shared with Jesus' gift of himself in bread and wine:

Thanks be to God.

And so, to establish a home with other members of the Body of Christ:

Go in peace.

To continue the journey with new friends a new adventure, new gifts to give and receive:

Go in peace.

To offer wisdom and experience, competence and compassion, in the ministry to which you are called:

Go in peace.

With whatever fears, whatever sadness, whatever excitement may be yours:

Go in peace.

With our faith in you, our hope for you, our love for you:

Go in peace.

The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord make his face to shine upon you and be gracious to you.

The Lord lift up his face upon you, and give you peace.

Engagement Opportunities

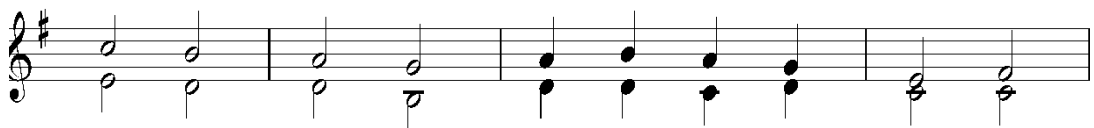
Offertory *Text 73256 to give. In the body of the text type saintsmons*

Offertory Hymn 377 “All people that on earth do dwell” *Old 100th*

Unison or harmony



1 All peo - ple that on earth do dwell, sing to the Lord with
2 Know that the Lord is God in - deed; with - out our aid he

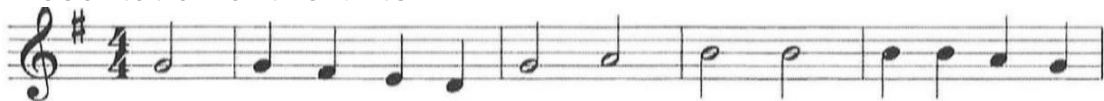


1 cheer - ful voice: him serve with mirth, his praise forth
2 did us make: we are his folk, he doth us



1 tell, come ye be - fore him and re - - jice.
2 feed, and for his sheep he doth us take.

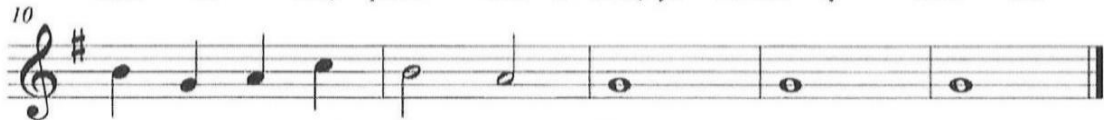
*Presentation of the Gifts



Praise God, from whom all bless - ings flow; praise God, all crea - tures



here be - low; praise God a - bove, ye heaven - ly host: Cre -



a - tor, Christ, and Ho - ly Ghost. A - - men.

*The Great Thanksgiving

BCP Form B

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give God thanks and praise.

It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth. But chiefly are we bound to praise you for the glorious resurrection of your Son Jesus Christ our Lord. By his death he has destroyed death, and by his rising to life again he has won for us everlasting life.

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:

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

Hosanna in the highest.

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

Hosanna in the highest.

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 bondage, and made us free to stand before you. In him, you**

have healed our infirmity, forgiven our sin, and made a way home for us from exile.

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 all 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;**

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 Mary, the God-bearer, Blessed Simon and all your saints, we may enter the everlasting heritage of your children; 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.

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**

The Presider breaks the consecrated Bread.

A period of silence is kept.

Alleluia. Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us;

Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia.

The gifts of God freely given for all.

The Presider consumes the host with those online with these words:

The body of Christ, the bread of heaven.

Everyone has a place at God's table and all are invited to share in communion. You may stand or kneel at the rail. Wine is offered in individual cups around the outside of the tray. Grape juice is offered in the middle. If you prefer a gluten-free wafer, please tell the priest. If you would like to participate but do not wish to receive the bread and wine, simply cross your arms across your chest and the priest will give you a blessing instead.

Both the common cup (chalice) and individual cups are offered. Join the line for the chalice on the left (pulpit) side or the line on the right (screen) side to receive the individual cups. Grape juice is available in the individual cups.

Communion Hymn

“Bless the Lord my soul”

Taizé



Bless the Lord, my soul, and bless God's ho - ly name.

Bless the Lord, my soul, who leads me in - to life.

*Post Communion Prayer

After communion, the Presider says:

*Let us pray.

**God of abundance,
you have fed us
with the bread of life and cup of salvation;
you have united us
with Christ and one another;
and you have made us one
with all your people in heaven and on earth.
Now send us forth
in the power of your Spirit,
that we may proclaim your redeeming love to the world
and continue for ever
in the risen life of Christ our Savior. Amen.**

When members of the community are unable to attend the service, representatives of the people are sent with bread and wine to extend our communion with them.

In the name of this congregation, 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.

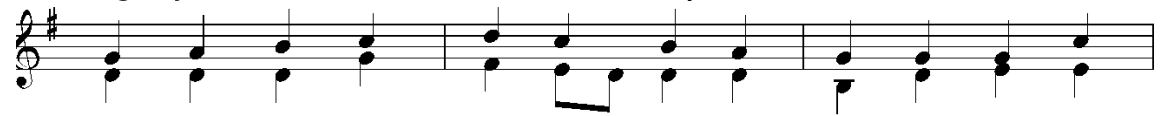
*The Blessing

May Christ, who out of defeat brings new hope and a new future, fill you with his new life; and the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit, be among you, and remain with you always.
Amen.

Closing Hymn 559

“Lead us, heavenly Father”

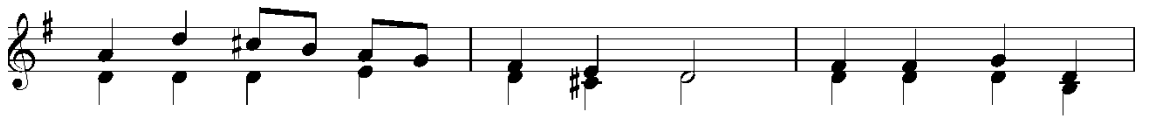
Dulce Carmen



1 Lead us, heaven - ly Fa - ther, lead us o'er the world's tem -
 2 Sa - vior, breathe for - give - ness o'er us; all our weak - ness
 3 Spi - rit of our God, de - scend - ing, fill our hearts with



pes - tuous sea; guard us, guide us, keep us, feed us,
 thou dost know; thou didst tread this earth be - fore us;
 heaven - ly joy; love with ev - ery pas - sion blend - ing,



for we have no help but thee, yet pos - ses - sing
 thou didst feel its keen - est woe; yet un - fear - ing,
 plea - sure that can nev - er cloy; thus pro - vid - ed,



ev - ery bless - ing, if our God our Fa - ther be.
 per - se - ver - ing, to thy pas - sion thou didst go.
 par - doned, guid - ed, noth - ing can our peace des - troy.

*The Dismissal

Alleluia, Alleluia!

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

Thanks be to God. Alleluia, Alleluia!

Postlude

LIVE-STREAM NOTICE

A reminder, this public service will be live-streamed and your image or the image of any children or vulnerable adults in your care may appear in the video. By your entry and presence in this service, you agree on behalf of yourself and any children or vulnerable adults attending with you to be photographed, filmed, and/or otherwise recorded, and also agree to our use of such images in any and all media.

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St. Simon's Episcopal Church

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Parish Office Hours ~ Monday—Thursday ~ 9:00am—3:00pm

The Rt. Rev. Paula Clark, *Bishop of the Diocese of Chicago*

The Rev. Jennifer Hulen, *Rector*

The Rev. Mary Haggerty, *Sabbatical Supply Priest*

Jo Gantzer, *Associate for Parish Ministry*

Martin Pazdoich, *Music Director*

Today's Service Leaders

Presider & Preacher	The Rev. Mary Haggerty
Crucifer	Dave Howley
Chalice Minister	Sara Lewandowski
Readers	Bob Lindquist John Pope
Intercessor	Dianne Shields
Ushers	Cleo Nykol Patricia Grund
Altar Guild	Betty Bacula
Porter	Myk Snider
Flute	Madison Monnette
Viola	Hamilton Avila
Technical Production Team	Mike Krause