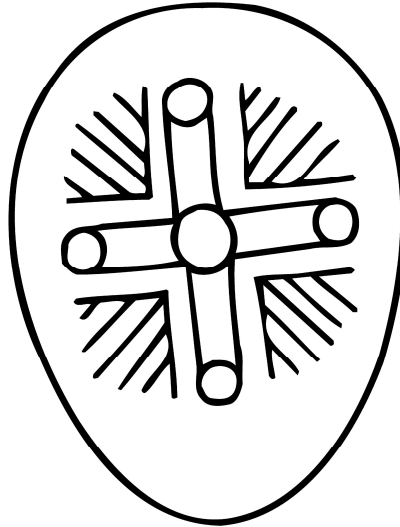




*A growing, faithful, inclusive,  
and caring community  
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## **The Fourth Sunday of Easter**

### **Holy Eucharist Rite Two**

Sunday, April 26<sup>th</sup>, 2026

10:30 AM

Please know that this service is being live-streamed through Facebook Live,  
and those attending in person may be visible during the service.

**Prelude**

*Holy, Holy, Holy*

Dykes/Livingston

## ENTRANCE HYMN

*Love Divine, All Loves Excelling (vv 1-2)*

H 657

1 Love di - vine, all loves ex - cell - ing, joy of heaven, to  
2 Come, al - might - y to de - liv - er, let us all thy  
3 Fi - nish then thy new cre - a - tion; pure and spot - less

earth come down, fix in us thy hum - ble dwell - ing, all thy  
life re - ceive; sud - den - ly re - turn, and nev - er, nev - er -  
let us be; let us see thy great sal - va - tion per - fect -

faith - ful mer - cies crown. Je - sus, thou art all com - pas - sion,  
more thy tem - ples leave. Thee we would be al - way bless - ing,  
ly re - stored in thee: changed from glo - ry in - to glo - ry,

pure, un - bound - ed love thou art; vis - it us with  
 serve thee as thy hosts a - bove, pray, and praise thee  
 till in heaven we take our place, till we cast our

thy sal - va - tion, en - ter ev - ery trem - bling heart.  
 with - out ceas - ing, glo - ry in thy per - fect love.  
 crowns be - fore thee, lost in won - der, love, and praise.


**OPENING ACCLAMATION**

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

**COLLECT FOR PURITY**

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.*







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

*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.*

## FIRST READING: Acts 5:12–16

A Reading from the Acts of the Apostles.

*The people sit.*

<sup>12</sup> Now many signs and wonders were done among the people through the apostles. And they were all together in Solomon's Portico. <sup>13</sup> None of the rest dared to join them, but the people held them in high esteem. <sup>14</sup> Yet more than ever believers were added to the Lord, great numbers of both men and women, <sup>15</sup> so that they even carried out the sick into the streets and laid them on cots and mats, in order that Peter's shadow might fall on some of them as he came by. <sup>16</sup> A great number of people would also gather from the towns around Jerusalem, bringing the sick and those tormented by unclean spirits, and they were all cured.

*Reader*            The Word of the Lord.

*People*            Thanks be to God.

## Psalm 119:97-103

97 Oh, how I love your law; \*  
    all the day long it is in my mind.

98 Your commandment has made me wiser than my enemies, \*  
and it is always with me.

99 I have more understanding than all my teachers, \*  
for your decrees are my study.

100 I am wiser than the elders, \*  
because I observe your commandments.

101 I restrain my feet from every evil way, \*  
that I may keep your word.

102 I do not shrink from your judgments, \*  
because you yourself have taught me.

103 How sweet are your words to my taste; \*  
they are sweeter than honey to my mouth.

104 Through your commandments I gain understanding; \*  
therefore I hate every lying way.

**SECOND READING: Romans 6:5–11**

A Reading from Paul's Letter to the Romans

<sup>5</sup>For if we have been united with him in a death like his, we will certainly be united with him in a resurrection like his. <sup>6</sup>We know that our old self was crucified with him so that the body of sin might be destroyed, so we might no longer be enslaved to sin. <sup>7</sup>For whoever has died is freed from sin. <sup>8</sup>But if we

died with Christ, we believe that we will also live with him. <sup>9</sup> We know that Christ, being raised from the dead, will never die again; death no longer has dominion over him. <sup>10</sup> The death he died, he died to sin once for all, but the life he lives, he lives to God. <sup>11</sup> So you also must consider yourselves dead to sin and alive to God in Christ Jesus.

*Reader*        The Word of the Lord.

*People*        Thanks be to God.

**SEQUENCE HYMN**    *Earthen Vessels (vv 1-2)*                      John Foley, SJ

Refrain

We hold a trea-sure, not made of gold, in earth-en  
 ves-sels, wealth un-told; one trea-sure on - ly: the  
 Lord, the Christ, in earth - en ves - sels.

Verses

1. Light has shone in our dark-ness:      God has shone in our heart  
 2. God has cho-sen the low - ly              who are small in this world;

1. with the light of the glo-ry      of Je - sus, the Lord.  
 2. in this weak-ness is glo-ry      in Je - sus, the Lord.

to Refrain

**GOSPEL: Matthew 22:23-33**

*All stand.*

*Deacon*        The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew.

*People*        Glory to you, Lord Christ.

<sup>23</sup> The same day some Sadducees came to him saying there is no resurrection, and they asked him a question: <sup>24</sup> “Teacher, Moses said, ‘If a man dies childless, his brother shall marry the widow and raise up children for his brother.’ <sup>25</sup> Now there were seven brothers among us; the first married and died childless, leaving the widow to his brother. <sup>26</sup> The second did the same, so also the third, down to the seventh. <sup>27</sup> Last of all, the woman herself died. <sup>28</sup> In the resurrection, then, whose wife of the seven will she be? For all of them had married her.”

<sup>29</sup> Jesus answered them, “You are wrong because you know neither the scriptures nor the power of God. <sup>30</sup> For in the resurrection people neither marry nor are given in marriage but are like angels of God in heaven. <sup>31</sup> And as for the resurrection of the dead, have you not read what was said to you by God, <sup>32</sup> ‘I am the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob’? He is God not of the dead but of the living.” <sup>33</sup> And when the crowds heard it, they were astounded at his teaching.

*Deacon*        The Gospel of the Lord.

*People*        Praise to you, Lord Christ.

**CHILDREN’S SERMON!**

**The Reverend Benedict Varnum**

*Children, Littles, and Youth are welcome to come up and sit with Fr Ben for a sermon. You can come with if someone needs a buddy!*

## PRESENTATION AND EXAMINATION OF THE CANDIDATE

### *The Celebrant says*

The Candidate for Holy Baptism will now be presented

*Sponsor*        I present Elena Montoya to receive the Sacrament of  
Baptism.

### *The Celebrant asks the parents and godparents*

Will you be responsible for seeing that the child you present is brought up in the Christian faith and life?

*Parents and Godparents*

I will, with God's help.

*Celebrant*

Will you by your prayers and witness help this child to grow into the full stature of Christ?

*Parents and Godparents*

I will, with God's help.

*Question*        Do you renounce Satan and all the spiritual forces of  
wickedness that rebel against God?

*Answer*            I renounce them.

*Question*        Do you renounce the evil powers of this world which  
corrupt and destroy the creatures of God?

*Answer*            I renounce them.

*Question* Do you renounce all sinful desires that draw you from the love of God?

*Answer* I renounce them.

*Question* Do you turn to Jesus Christ and accept him as your Savior?

*Answer* I do.

*Question* Do you put your whole trust in his grace and love?

*Answer* I do.

*Question* Do you promise to follow and obey him as your Lord?

*Answer* I do.

*The Celebrant addresses the congregation, saying*

Will you who witness these vows do all in your power to support these persons in their life in Christ?

*People* We will.

*The Celebrant then says*

Let us join with those who are committing themselves to Christ and renew our own baptismal covenant.

## THE BAPTISMAL COVENANT

*Celebrant*

Do you believe in God the Father?

*People*

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

*Celebrant*

Do you believe in Jesus Christ, the Son of God?

*People*

*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.*

*Celebrant*

Do you believe in God the Holy Spirit?

*People*

*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.*

*Celebrant*

Will you continue in the apostles' teaching and fellowship, in the breaking of the bread, and in the prayers?

*People*

*I will, with God's help.*

*Celebrant*

Will you persevere in resisting evil, and, whenever you fall into sin, repent and return to the Lord?

*People*

*I will, with God's help.*

*Celebrant*

Will you proclaim by word and example the Good News of God in Christ?

*People*

*I will, with God's help.*

*Celebrant*

Will you seek and serve Christ in all persons, loving your neighbor as yourself?

*People*

*I will, with God's help.*

*Celebrant*

Will you strive for justice and peace among all people, and respect the dignity of every human being?

*People*

*I will, with God's help.*

## **PRAYERS FOR THE CANDIDATES**

*The Celebrant says*

Let us now pray for Elena who is to receive the Sacrament of new birth.

*A Person appointed leads the following petitions*

*Leader* Deliver her, O Lord, from the way of sin and death.

*People* Lord, hear our prayer.

*Leader* Open her heart to your grace and truth.

*People* Lord, hear our prayer.

*Leader* Fill her with your holy and life-giving Spirit.

*People* Lord, hear our prayer.

*Leader* Keep her in the faith and communion of your holy Church.

*People* Lord, hear our prayer.

*Leader* Teach her to love others in the power of the Spirit.

*People* Lord, hear our prayer.

*Leader* Send her into the world in witness to your love.

*People* Lord, hear our prayer.

*Leader* Bring her to the fullness of your peace and glory.

*People* Lord, hear our prayer.

*The Celebrant says*

Grant, O Lord, that all who are baptized into the death of Jesus Christ your Son may live in the power of his resurrection and look for him to come again in glory; who lives and reigns now and forever. *Amen.*

*As the baptismal party moves to the font, the following is sung:*

Lord, bless this child. Lord,  
bless this child, and keep her in the  
hol-low of your hand, and make the wind blow  
on - ly at his back. O  
Lord, bless this child. *Fine*

### **THANKSGIVING OVER THE WATER**

*The Celebrant blesses the water, first saying*

*Celebrant*      The Lord be with you.  
*People*          And also with you.

*Celebrant*      Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.  
*People*          It is right to give God thanks and praise.

*Celebrant*

We thank you, Almighty God, for the gift of water. Over it the Holy Spirit moved in the beginning of creation. Through it you led the children of Israel out of their bondage in Egypt into the land of promise. In it your Son Jesus received the baptism of John and was anointed by the Holy Spirit as the Messiah, the Christ, to lead us, through his death and resurrection, from the bondage of sin into everlasting life.

We thank you, Father, for the water of Baptism. In it we are buried with Christ in his death. By it we share in his resurrection. Through it we are reborn by the Holy Spirit. Therefore in joyful obedience to your Son, we bring into his fellowship those who come to him in faith, baptizing them in the Name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

*At the following words, the Celebrant touches the water*

Now sanctify this water, we pray you, by the power of your Holy Spirit, that those who here are cleansed from sin and born again may continue for ever in the risen life of Jesus Christ our Savior.

To him, to you, and to the Holy Spirit, be all honor and glory, now and for ever.  
*Amen.*

## **THE BAPTISM**

*The candidate is presented by name to the Celebrant, or to an assisting priest or deacon, pours water upon, the candidate, saying*

Elena I baptize you in the Name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. *Amen.*

*The Priest, in full sight of the congregation, prays over them, saying*

Let us pray.

Heavenly Father, we thank you that by water and the Holy Spirit you have bestowed upon this your servant the forgiveness of sin, and have raised her to the new life of grace. Sustain them, O Lord, in your Holy Spirit. Give her an inquiring and discerning heart, the courage to will and to persevere, a spirit to know and to love you, and the gift of joy and wonder in all your works. *Amen.*

*The Priest places a hand on the person's head, marking on the forehead the sign of the cross and saying to each one*

Elena you are sealed by the Holy Spirit in Baptism and marked as Christ's own for ever. *Amen.*

## **WELCOME THE NEWLY BAPTIZED**

Let us welcome the newly baptized.

*Celebrant and People*

We receive you into the household of God. Confess the faith of Christ crucified, proclaim his resurrection, and share with us in his eternal priesthood.

## **THE PEACE**

*All stand.*

*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.*

## **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

### **BIRTHDAYS & ANNIVERSARIES**

**Birthdays:** Ben Varnum, Taylor Huston, Trish Keepers, Ada McClure, Abigail McKee, Sophia Messineo, Cash Stubbendieck

**Anniversaries:** Jim and Sarah Krueger

O God, our times are in your hand: Look with favor, we pray, on your servants as they begin another year. Grant that they may grow in wisdom and grace, and strengthen their trust in your goodness all the days of their lives; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

## **The Holy Communion**

### **OFFERTORY SENTENCE**

Walk in love, as Christ loved us and gave himself for us, an offering and sacrifice to God. *Ephesians 5:2*

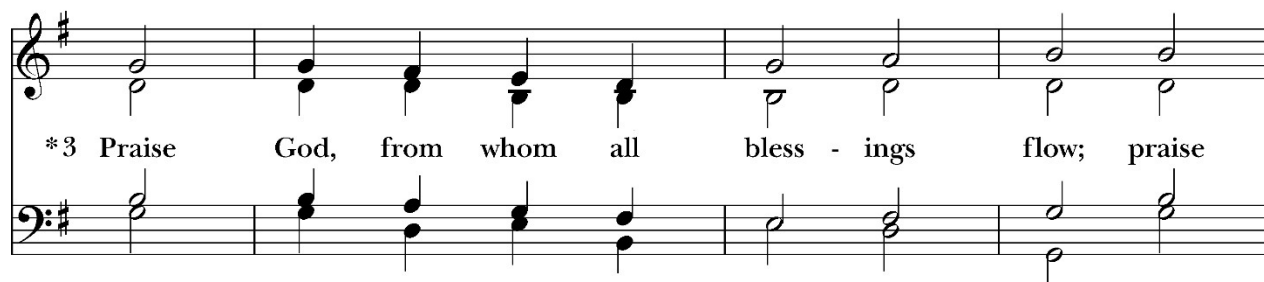
**ANTHEM**

*A Life of Faith*

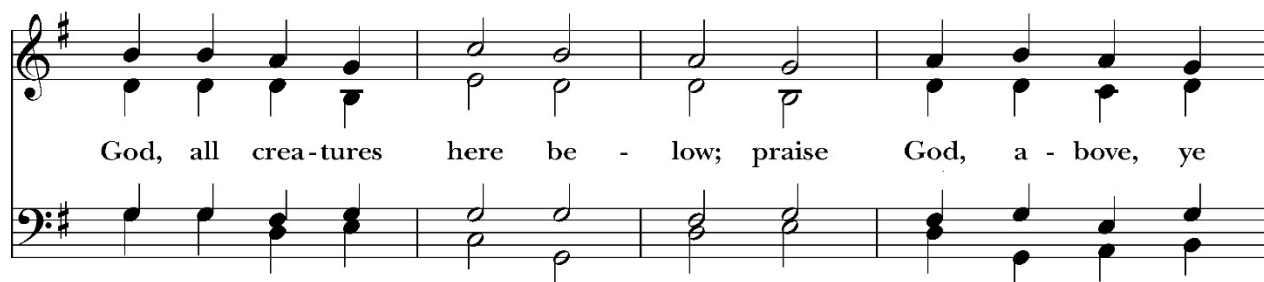
Philip Gabriel

OFFERTORY RESPONSE


*Doxology (H 380, v3)*



\*3 Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; praise



God, all creatures here below; praise God, above, ye



heaven-ly host: praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.

# The Great Thanksgiving

## SURSUM CORDA

*EOMI (Hurd)*

*Celebrant* *People*

The Lord be with you. And al - so with you.

*Celebrant* *People*

Lift up your hearts. We lift them to the Lord.

*Celebrant*

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

*People*

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

## PROPER PREFACE

It is truly right to glorify you, Father, and to give you thanks; for you alone are God, living and true, dwelling in light inaccessible from before time and for ever.

Fountain of life and source of all goodness, you made all things and fill them with your blessing; you created them to rejoice in the splendor of your radiance.

Countless throngs of angels stand before you to serve you night and day; and, beholding the glory of your presence, they offer you unceasing praise. Joining

with them, and giving voice to every creature under heaven, we acclaim you,  
and glorify your Name, as we say,

**SANCTUS S 125 Holy, holy, holy (Proulx)**

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow - er and might,  
heaven and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho -  
san - na in the high - est. Ho - san - na in the high - est.  
Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Ho -  
san - na in the high - est. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

**WORDS OF INSTITUTION**

We acclaim you, holy Lord, glorious in power. Your mighty works reveal your wisdom and love. You formed us in your own image, giving the whole world into our care, so that, in obedience to you, our Creator, we might rule and serve

all your creatures. When our disobedience took us far from you, you did not abandon us to the power of death. In your mercy you came to our help, so that in seeking you we might find you. Again and again you called us into covenant with you, and through the prophets you taught us to hope for salvation.

Father, you loved the world so much that in the fullness of time you sent your only Son to be our Savior. Incarnate by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, he lived as one of us, yet without sin. To the poor he proclaimed the good news of salvation; to prisoners, freedom; to the sorrowful, joy. To fulfill your purpose he gave himself up to death; and, rising from the grave, destroyed death, and made the whole creation new.

And, that we might live no longer for ourselves, but for him who died and rose for us, he sent the Holy Spirit, his own first gift for those who believe, to complete his work in the world, and to bring to fulfillment the sanctification of all.

When the hour had come for him to be glorified by you, his heavenly Father, having loved his own who were in the world, he loved them to the end; at supper with them he 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."

Father, we now celebrate this memorial of our redemption. Recalling Christ's death and his descent among the dead, proclaiming his resurrection and ascension to your right hand, awaiting his coming in glory; and offering to you, from the gifts you have given us, this bread and this cup, we praise you and we bless you.

*All We praise you, we bless you, we give thanks to you, and we pray to you,  
Lord our God.*

### **EPICLESIS**

Lord, we pray that in your goodness and mercy your Holy Spirit may descend upon us, and upon these gifts, sanctifying them and showing them to be holy gifts for your holy people, the bread of life and the cup of salvation, the Body and Blood of your Son Jesus Christ.

Grant that all who share this bread and cup may become one body and one spirit, a living sacrifice in Christ, to the praise of your Name.

Remember, Lord, your one holy catholic and apostolic Church, redeemed by the blood of your Christ. Reveal its unity, guard its faith, and preserve it in peace.

And grant that we may find our inheritance with the Blessed Virgin Mary, with matriarchs and patriarchs, prophets, apostles, and martyrs, with St Augustine and all the saints who have found favor with you in ages past. We praise you in union with them and give you glory through your Son Jesus Christ our Lord.

Through Christ, and with Christ, and in Christ, all honor and glory are yours, Almighty God and Father, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, for ever and ever.

*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,  
forever and ever. Amen.

## **The Breaking of the Bread**

### **FRACTION ANTHEM**

Alleluia. Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us;  
*Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia.*

### **INVITATION**

*The Celebrant says*

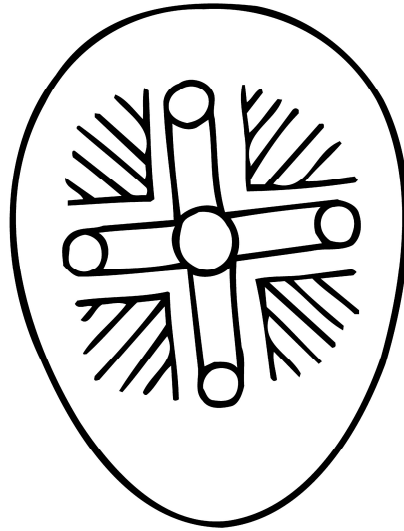
The Gifts of God for the People of God.

### **DISTRIBUTION**

*The ministers receive the Sacrament in both kinds, and then immediately deliver it to the people.*

*The Bread and the Cup are given to the communicants with these words*

The Body (Blood) of our Lord Jesus Christ keep you in everlasting life. [*Amen.*]



COMMUNION HYMN

Here At This Table

Whitaker & Whitaker

Refrain

Come and be filled here at this ta-ble.

Food for all who hun-ger and drink for all who thirst.

Drink of his love, wine of sal - va - tion.

\*Final time: repeat from here

You shall live for - ev - er in Je - sus Christ the Lord.

Verses 1, 2, 4

1. You	who	la - bor	for	jus - tice,	you	who	la - bor	for
2. You	with	lives	full	of	pain,	you	who	sor - row
4. You,	the	a - ged	a - mong	us,	ho - ly,	faith - ful	and	

1. peace,	you	who	stead - y	the	plow	in	the
2. weep,	you,	be - lov - ed	of	Christ,	come	to	
4. wise,	may	the	wis - dom	you	share	form	our



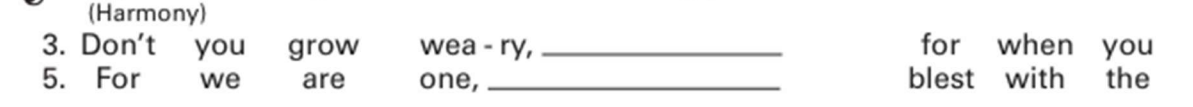
1. field of the Lord,  
 2. him, come to him!  
 4. lives and our world!



3. Chil - dren of ev - 'ry col - or in ev - 'ry land,  
 5. Let each wom - an and man learn from the strang - er;



3. you are his own, he gath - ers you gent - ly.  
 5. we're not so dif - f'rent and so much u - nites us.



3. Don't you grow wea - ry, for when you  
 5. For we are one, blest with the



3. run, you run with the Lord!  
 5. Spir - it and the pow - er of love!

## **POST-COMMUNION PRAYER**

Let us pray.

Loving God,  
we give you thanks  
for restoring us in your image  
and nourishing us with spiritual food  
in the Sacrament of Christ's Body and Blood.  
Now send us forth  
a people, forgiven, healed, renewed;  
that we may proclaim your love to the world  
and continue in the risen life of Christ our Savior. Amen.

## **BLESSING**

Holy eternal Majesty,  
Holy incarnate Word,  
Holy abiding Spirit,  
Bless you for evermore. *Amen.*

**POST-COMM. HYMN** *The King of Love, My Shepherd Is* H 645



1 The King of love my shep-herd is, whose good-ness  
 2 Where streams of liv-ing wa-ter flow, my ran-somed  
 \* 3 Per-verse and fool-ish oft I strayed, but yet in  
 \* 4 In death's dark vale I fear no ill with thee, dear  
 5 Thou spread'st a ta-ble in my sight; thy unc-tion  
 6 And so through all the length of days thy good-ness



1 fail-eth nev-er; I noth-ing lack if  
 2 soul he lead-eth, and where the ver-dant  
 3 love he sought me, and on his shoul-der  
 4 Lord, be-side me; thy rod and staff my  
 5 grace be-stow-eth; and oh, what trans-port  
 6 fail-eth nev-er: Good Shep-herd, may I



1 I am his, and he is mine for ev-er.  
 2 pas-tures grow, with food ce-less-tial feed-eth.  
 3 gent-ly laid, and home, re-joic-ing, brought me.  
 4 com-fort still, thy cross be-fore to guide me.  
 5 of de-light from thy pure chal-ice flow-eth!  
 6 sing thy praise with-in thy house for ev-er.

**DISMISSAL**

Let us go forth in the name of Christ. Alleluia, alleluia.

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

**POSTLUDE**

*All Glory Be To God On High*

Decius/Burkhardt

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

### **April Special Collection: Magdalene Omaha**

Our April Outreach donation goes to [Magdalene Omaha](#). This group has survivor-led-and- centered programs for survivors of drug addiction, trafficking, and sexual violence and exploitation, and their efforts include education, a campus with support programming, state-wide awareness initiatives, and a home for survivors to complete a multi-year program of support and restoration. Donations placed in the basket or designated to "Magdalene Omaha" in the memo line of checks will go to fund this program as our April special offering. Thank you for supporting COPE in March – our special giving totaled \$1070!

### **Sunday Nursery Help**

Some of our youngest members are getting old enough to enjoy playing in the nursery! To allow their parents to enjoy the church service without distraction, we would like to get a nursery volunteer rotation started again. If you enjoy reading books, coloring, singing songs, and playing games, this opportunity may be for you! With enough volunteers, we usually volunteer every 6 weeks. If you haven't already received safeguarding training, it's now online! Contact Kate Kielion, our Director of Ministries, if you would enjoy this opportunity!

### **Outreach Committee Notes from March**

Our Outreach Committee works with ministries of mercy (direct relief) and justice (awareness of how needs accumulate) and meets monthly. Our February meeting was held on Sunday, March 8, and reviewed how the Blood Drive went, plans to host breakfast with COPE (Christian Outreach Program of Elkhorn), Saturday, April 18, and gathering a team for events leading up to Pride in July. If you're interested in joining the planning team for the COPE breakfast by assembling burritos Friday or serving on Saturday, or would like to join the team to plan Pride events, please contact [Kate](#). The next meeting date will be **Sunday, May 3 at 11:45 AM.**

## **Learning Opportunity - Immigration**

**Tuesdays, May 5, 12, 19, 7-8:30 pm**

The Nebraska Synod (ELCA)'s "Let's Talk" series, which seeks to "create space for thoughtful, respectful, and informed conversation, rather than debate or persuasion," is hosting a series of learning webinars in May. Each session covers a different aspect of US Immigration history and experience, concluding with conversation with local immigration centers about current needs.

<https://nebraskasynod.org/event/lets-talk-about-immigration/2026-05-05/>

## **The Elaine Randall Book Club**

The Elaine Randall Book Club, a monthly fellowship book club, will meet on Tuesday, April 28<sup>th</sup>, to review **The Maid, by Nita Prose**, a murder mystery with an unlikely protagonist. The book is available here at church through the Omaha Public Library's Book Bag program for reading groups. For information, please contact Rhonda Vest (info available through the parish office at 402-289-4058).

## **COPE Classic Golf Tournament**

**Thursday, May 7<sup>th</sup>**

COPE (The Christian Outreach Program of Elkhorn) is holding their Annual Golf Tournament and fundraiser on Thursday, May 7<sup>th</sup>. This 18-hole, 4-person scramble has a number of ticket levels that all go towards supporting COPE with a fun day at Tiburon Golf Course. See flyer on the parish bulletin board or [copeinfo.org/golf](http://copeinfo.org/golf) for more information!

## **We Love The Eagles, Man – breakfast for COPE on May 31st**

The local Eagles chapter will be hosting a breakfast with raised funds assisting COPE! This breakfast will be held on Sunday, May 31<sup>st</sup> (the same day as our parish picnic lunch – a good day to plan some meals around church!).

### **Outreach Drive for COPE!**

Outreach is holding a Personal Care/Cleaning Product Drive through the month of April! COPE(Christian Outreach Program of Elkhorn) needs some home staples.

**Personal Care:** Menstruation products, deodorant, shaving cream, razors, lotion, tooth paste/brushes, shampoo/conditioner, body wash, soap, wet wipes

**Cleaning Products:** all purpose cleaner (counter spray), laundry soap, dishwasher soap, clorox wipes, bathroom cleaner, toilet bowl cleaner, toilet paper, paper towels, kleenex, & trash bags

**Helpful tip:** shop the dollar store, look for the combination products like Hair & Body Wash, they will be the best buy for your money.

If you have the means to pick up these items, please leave them in the large white box near the bulletins any time between now and the last Sunday in April. Thank you!

### **(First Annual?) Parish Potluck and Talent Show!**

**On Wednesday, May 6th**, we're launching a parish talent show! Can you sing, dance, juggle, or cast out spirits? We want to see (most of those)! We'll have a microphone and set up a "stage" to the east of our parish hall. Is your talent cooking instead? Good news! It's a potluck dinner, so you can show off your gift as well! Save the date and start rehearsing! Please let Mother Lisa know if you'd like to sign up for an act ([lisa@sainta.net](mailto:lisa@sainta.net)), and please let Kate know if you'd like to contribute to our potluck dinner ([ministries@sainta.net](mailto:ministries@sainta.net)).

### **Plants Needed for Church Garden!**

Your Church's Hitchcock Memorial Garden and Prayer Walk/Quiet Garden needs additional hostas and other perennial plants. So, this Spring, when you divide up these plants, please set aside a few for our church garden beds.

Contact Jim Keepers at 402-618-8837 or email him if you have any plants to donate. We will be celebrating our gardens' 25th Anniversary on the 31st of May with a combined service and picnic. More information to follow.

## **Spring Picnic and 25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Garden Celebration!**

### **Sunday, 5/31 — Combined 10:30 Worship and Celebration After!**

This year, our annual end-of-year picnic will take place on **Sunday, May 31<sup>st</sup>** (this is the week AFTER Memorial Day Monday). We'll have a combined worship service at 10:30 am, followed by a picnic in and out of our parish hall (weather permitting), with some special celebrations of our parish's Hitchcock Memorial Garden's 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary. Please save the date and stay tuned for more details!

## **Spring Garden Workdays!**

### **Saturday April 25<sup>th</sup>, Sunday May 3<sup>rd</sup>, or as-you're-able!**

Spring has sprung, and Jim Keepers, our Garden Steward, is inviting the parish into the garden again! We're having a pop-up mulching morning on Saturday, April 25<sup>th</sup> for anyone available to help — Jim will be in the garden early and could use help from 9 am through the morning. Need a bit more notice? We're going to hold a Sunday-after-church workday on Sunday, May 3<sup>rd</sup> -- feel free to dress for gardening at church that day, and after worship, Jim will have various jobs you can help with. If neither of those times work, but you want to help, Jim can give you a job for any skill level and any amount of time you can put in — many hands help make light work of taking care of our beautiful space.

### **Camp Canterbury – July 13-17**

Registration is underway for **Camp Canterbury from July 13<sup>th</sup>-17<sup>th</sup>** at Calvin Crest Camp in Fremont, NE! All youth who are entering 4<sup>th</sup> through 12<sup>th</sup> grades are invited to join us for a faith and fun-filled week. Our theme this year is **Feast with God**, as we look at ways that we encounter God through the metaphor of food. Activities at camp include swimming, crafts, indoor and outdoor games, and archery. For more information and to register, visit <https://campcanterbury.dioneb.org/>

### **Storm Chasers Sunday, May 17 at 2:05 PM**

We are switching our Storm Chasers Outing to a weekend in May rather than Fall when back to school is overwhelming. The May 17th game has an opportunity for kids to run the bases when the game is completed. They also have Wildlife Encounters, Face Painting, and Balloon Artists. Tickets are about \$25 each to sit with the group. We do have a credit from last year, so if you'd like to go, but can't justify the ticket price for the family, please let [Fr. Ben](mailto:Fr. Ben (rector@sainta.net)) (rector@sainta.net) know. RSVP for tickets by Sunday, May 3 via the link in the newsletter or on the paper copy near the bulletins at church.

### **Mary Poppins at the Playhouse, 6/7/26**

Save the Date: Join a group to see Mary Poppins at the Omaha Community Playhouse on Sunday, June 7, 2 p.m. More details to follow in April. Questions can be directed to Sandra Squires, at [sandrasquires1@icloud.com](mailto:sandrasquires1@icloud.com).

## Save the Date

### **April**

Sunday, April 26<sup>th</sup>

Youth and Children's Church at 10:30!

### **May**

Sunday, May 3<sup>rd</sup>

11:45 Outreach Meeting (Conf. Rm)

Wednesday, May 6<sup>th</sup>

6:00 PM Potluck and Talent Show!

Sunday, May 10<sup>th</sup>

Sunday School Mother's Day Craft

Sunday, May 17<sup>th</sup>

Sunday School End of Year Party!

Wednesday, May 20<sup>th</sup>

Last Youth Group Evening of the Year

Sunday, May 31<sup>st</sup>

Eagles Breakfast For COPE

10:30 Combined Worship & Picnic after!

25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of our Garden

### **June**

Saturday, June 6<sup>th</sup>

DOK Women's Brunch

<b>Ministers of the Day</b>	<b>This Week 4/26/26</b>	<b>Next Week 5/3/26</b>
Musicians 8:30am:	Joyful Noise	Joyful Noise
Musicians 10:30	Claire Eason	Gilbert Ward
Deacon:	Rebecca Smith	Rebecca Smith
Liturgical Shepherd:	Erin Vest	Pam Wright
Acolytes 10:30am:	Josie, Danica, Gage	Luke, Ferris, Gage
10:30 am Greeter:	Kathy Pospichal	Vicki Luther
8:30 am Lector:	Judy Tomanek	Mary Jane Smith
10:30 am Lector	Youth Sunday!	Jean Lahti
Altar Guild 8:30 am:	Charlene Freiberg	Judy Tomanek
Altar Guild 10:30 am	Barb DiGiovanni	Kathy Pospichal
A/V Tech 8:30 am	Rich Hill	Dave Wright
A/V Tech 10:30 am	Alice and Joe Threlkeld	Erin Vest and Joe Threlkeld