



Saint Benedict's Episcopal Church
The Fifth Sunday of Easter
May 6 and 7, 2023 | 6pm, 8am, and 10am

*Welcome to Saint Benedict's Episcopal Church, a church that feels like family! We are glad to have you worship with us today. If you are a newcomer, please complete a Welcome Card and place it in the offering plate so we can extend our welcome beyond this service. Additional information about Saint Benedict's and our ministries may be found online at www.saintbenedicts.org. The people's responses can be found in **BOLD**. The music for the service is taken from The Hymnal 1982 (H-1982) and Lift Every Voice and Sing (LEVAS). Let us prepare our hearts to celebrate in Word and Sacrament, the Risen Lord.*

THE HOLY EUCHARIST

Rite I of The Holy Eucharist begins on **page 323** of the Book of Common Prayer - and Rite II begins on **page 355**.

Prelude:

Processional Hymn: *They'll Know We Are Christians*

We are one in the Spirit, we are one in the Lord,
We are one in the Spirit, we are one in the Lord,
And we pray that all unity may one day be restored.

Refrain:

*And they'll know we are Christians by our love, by our love
Yes, they'll know we are Christians by our love.*

We will walk with each other, we will walk hand in hand,
We will walk with each other, we will walk hand in hand,
And together we'll spread the news that God is in our land. [*Refrain:*]

We will work with each other, we will work side by side,
We will work with each other, we will work side by side,
And we'll guard each man's dignity and save each man's pride. [*Refrain:*]

All praise to the Father from whom all things come,
And all praise to Christ Jesus, His only Son,
And all praise to the Spirit, who makes us one. [*Refrain:*]

Opening Acclamation

The people standing, the Celebrant says

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

Celebrant: Almighty God, to you all hearts are open, all desires known, and from you no secrets are hid: Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you, and worthily magnify your holy Name; through Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Gloria in Excelsis (*Refrain*)

J. Chepponis

The image shows two staves of musical notation in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. The first staff contains the melody for the words "Glo - ry to God in the high - est and". The second staff contains the melody for the words "peace to his peo - ple on earth." The notes are simple, using quarter and eighth notes, with a few rests. The lyrics are printed below the notes.

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***(8:00 am - Rite I)** Glory be to God on high, and on earth peace, good will towards men.

We praise thee, we bless thee, we worship thee, we glorify thee, we give thanks to thee for thy great glory, O Lord God, heavenly King, God the Father Almighty. O Lord, the only-begotten Son, Jesus Christ; O Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Father, that takest away the sins of the world, have mercy upon us. Thou that takes away the sins of the world, receive our prayer. Thou that sittest at the right hand of God the Father, have mercy upon us. For thou only art holy; thou only art the Lord; thou only, O Christ, with the Holy Ghost, art most high in the glory of God the Father. Amen.

THE WORD OF GOD

The Collect for the Day

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

***(8:00 am):** And with thy spirit.

Celebrant: 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.*

A Reading from the Acts of the Apostles

Acts 7:55-60

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.

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

Psalm 31:1-5, 15-16 *In te, Domine, speravi*

- 1 In you, O LORD, have I taken refuge;
let me never be put to shame; *
deliver me in your righteousness.
- 2 Incline your ear to me; *
make haste to deliver me.
- 3 Be my strong rock, a castle to keep me safe,
for you are my crag and my stronghold; *
for the sake of your Name, lead me and guide me.
- 4 Take me out of the net that they have secretly set for me, *
for you are my tower of strength.

5 Into your hands I commend my spirit, *
**for you have redeemed me,
O LORD, O God of truth.**

15 My times are in your hand; *
**rescue me from the hand of my enemies,
and from those who persecute me.**

16 Make your face to shine upon your servant, *
and in your loving-kindness save me.

A Reading from the First Letter of Peter

1 Peter 2:2-10

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.

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

Gradual Hymn: *Alleluia, Alleluia! Give Thanks To the Risen Lord*

Hymnal 178

The Gospel Alleluia

Traditional

+The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to John

John 14:1-14

People: 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."

Deacon: The Gospel of the Lord. *People: Praise to you, Lord Christ.*

Sermon

The Reverend Robert Deshaies

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.

The Prayers of the People (Form VI)

In peace, we pray to you, Lord God...

For all people in their daily life and work;
For our families, friends, and neighbors, and for those who are alone.

For this community, the nation, and the world;
For all who work for justice, freedom, and peace.

For the just and proper use of your creation;
For the victims of hunger, fear, injustice, and oppression.

For all who are in danger, sorrow, or any kind of trouble;
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, and all who seek the Truth.

For +Michael our Presiding Bishop, and +Peter our Bishop; and all bishops, priests, deacons and other ministers;
For all who serve God in his Church.

For the special needs and concerns of this congregation.
(The People may add their own petitions)

Hear us, Lord;
For your mercy is great.

We thank you, Lord, for all the blessings of this life.
(Feel free to add your prayers of Thanksgiving)

We will exalt you, O God our King;
And praise your Name for ever and ever.

We pray for all who have died, that they may have a place in your eternal kingdom.
Silence

Lord, let your loving-kindness be upon them;
Who put their trust in you.

We pray for those celebrating Birthdays and Anniversaries this week...

The Peace

The Peace of the Lord be always with you.
And also with you. *(8:00 am): And with thy spirit.

Announcements by the Parish Priest / Rector

*An offering is now taken for the work of the parish. Please be generous – We count on your support all year!
Feel free to make a secure donation ONLINE www.saintbenedicts.org and go to “Online giving “or give by clicking on
the QR CODE below... God bless you for your generous support!*



Offertory Hymn: Just A Closer Walk With Thee

LEVAS 72

Doxology

Old Hundredth

Praise God from whom all blessings flow, Praise Him all creatures here below: Praise Him above ye heavenly hosts, Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen!

THE HOLY COMMUNION

The Great Thanksgiving

Celebrant: The Lord be with you.

All: And also with you.

***(8:00 am):** And with thy spirit.

Celebrant: Lift up your hearts.

All: We lift them up to the Lord.

***(8:00 am):** We lift them up unto the Lord.

Celebrant: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

All: It is right to give him thanks and praise.

***(8:00 am):** It is meet and right so to do.

Preface

Sanctus

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.

***(8:00am Rite I):** Holy, holy, holy Lord God of hosts: heaven and earth are full of Thy glory. Glory be to Thee, O Lord Most High. +Blessed is he that cometh in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.

The Lord's Prayer

Fraction Anthem at the Breaking of the Bread

by Douglas Major (b. 1953)

Al - le - lu - ia. Christ our Pass - o - ver is sac - ri - ficed for us;
there - fore let us keep the feast. Al - le - lu - ia.

Agnus Dei

by David Hurd

Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world: have mercy on us.
Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world: have mercy on us.
Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world: grant us Thy peace.

***(8:00 am):** Prayer of Humble Access

All: We do not presume to come to this thy Table, O merciful Lord, trusting in our own righteousness, but in thy manifold and great mercies. We are not worthy so much as to gather up the crumbs under thy Table. But thou art the same Lord, whose property is always to have mercy: Grant us therefore, gracious Lord, so to eat the flesh of thy dear Son Jesus Christ, and to drink his blood, that we may evermore dwell in him, and he in us. Amen.

Communion Hymns: *Here I Am Lord*

1. I, the Lord of sea and sky,
I have heard my people cry.
All who dwell in dark and sin,
My hand will save.
I, who made the stars of night,
I will make their darkness bright.
Who will bear my light to them?
Whom shall I send?

2. I, the Lord of snow and rain,
I have borne my people's pain.
I have wept for love of them.
They turn away.
I will break their hearts of stone,
Give them hearts for love alone.
I will speak my words to them.
Whom shall I send? [*Refrain:*]

Refrain:

*Here I am, Lord. Is it I, Lord?
I have heard you calling in the night.
I will go, Lord, if you lead me.
I will hold your people in my heart.*

3. I, the Lord of wind and flame,
I will send the poor and lame.
I will set a feast for them.

My hand will save.
Finest bread I will provide,
'Til their hearts be satisfied.
I will give my life to them.
Whom shall I send? [*Refrain:*]

Communion Hymn: *I Am The Bread of Life*

Hymnal 335

The Post Communion Prayer

Eternal God, heavenly Father, you have graciously accepted us as living members of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ, and you have fed us with spiritual food in the Sacrament of his Body and Blood. Send us now into the world in peace, and grant us strength and courage to love and serve you with gladness and singleness of heart; through Christ our Lord. Amen.

***(8:00am Rite I):**

Almighty and everliving God, we most heartily thank thee for that thou dost feed us, in these holy mysteries, with the spiritual food of the most precious Body and Blood of thy Son our Savior Jesus Christ; and dost assure us thereby of thy favor and goodness towards us; and that we are very members incorporate in the mystical body of thy Son, the blessed company of all faithful people; and are also heirs, through hope, of thy everlasting kingdom. And we humbly beseech thee, O heavenly Father, so to assist us with thy grace, that we may continue in that holy fellowship, and do all such good works as thou hast prepared for us to walk in; through Jesus Christ our Lord, to whom with thee and the Holy Ghost, be all honor and glory, world without end. Amen.

Sending out the Lay Eucharistic Visitors:

Celebrant: N. (and N.) we send you out to share Communion this week with (names).

People: May you carry the prayers of all of us as you take this sacrament of Christ's body and blood.

Celebrant: May those who receive it from you be strengthened and encouraged in the community we have together in our Lord Jesus Christ.

People. Amen.

Final Blessing:

The blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be upon you and remain with you for ever. *Amen.*

Recessional Hymn: *Because He Lives*

LEVAS 43, Vs. 1 & 3

The Dismissal

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord! Alleluia Alleluia!
Thanks be to God. Alleluia! Alleluia!

Postlude:

NEWS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Nurses' Week:

Nurses' week is May 5th -12th. We want to express our deepest gratitude to all the nurses in our spiritual family, as well as all of those who work so faithfully to care for the sick, and those undergoing special treatments and procedures. Thank you for your heroic work!

ECW Meeting:

ECW will hold its May meeting on Sunday, May 7th immediately following the 10:00 am service. All women are part of ECW and we need you to attend our meeting to continue our strong ministry. We will be in St. Elizabeth's room and refreshments will be served. We welcome all women to join us!

Confirmation for Youth and Adults

Deacon Debra will be teaching Confirmation Class for all youth and adults who desire to receive the Sacrament of Confirmation this year. Classes will be held following the 10:00 am service on May 7th and 21st. Confirmations will be on June 4th, 2023, at the 10:00 am service. Adults who desire to be received as members of The Episcopal/Anglican Church (who have been previously confirmed in the Roman Catholic or Orthodox traditions) should speak to Father Albert or Deacon Debra no later than May 15th, 2023.

DOK Meeting:

The DOK Chapter Meeting will be on Saturday, May 13th, 2023, at 10:00 am in Stevens Hall.

Mission of the Month:

May Mission of the Month is **Women of Madagascar**. The women of Madagascar need your support through prayers and financial aid, no contribution is too small. Donations may be placed in the Mission's box at the back of the church. Checks are made payable to SAMSUSA or Online at: samsua.org, look for the name Jackie Lowe, instructions will appear. Thank you. Any questions about Missions please contact Alicia Kelley at 954-439-0666 or Alicia.kelley@bellsouth.net.

Church Periodical Club (CPC):

The Church Periodical Club, better known as CPC, consists of two parts. The first is the "National Book Fund," which through grants provides printed and audio-visual materials to individuals, Churches and organizations affiliated with the Anglican Communion worldwide. The second part is the "Miles of Pennies" and this fund serves the needs of children from kindergarten through high school with books and related materials. Please help the work of CPC by making donations to both funds from May 7th to August 27th, 2023. If you have any questions, please contact Gretal McCullars.

ECW will be hosting a Faith Walk on Saturday, May 20th at 8:00 am, to raise awareness and funds for the ministry of Madagascar. Parishioner, Jackie Lowe, plans to return to Madagascar soon to provide support to the women and children of Madagascar as she has done for many years. We will have FOOTPRINTS available and are suggesting a donation of \$5.00 or more. We invite you to also join us for our Walk; either to walk or cheer on our walkers, leaving from the church and walking to Liberty Park which is right around the corner. Please see any ECW member if you would like to donate and/or receive a Footprint. We will also be available with our Footprints in the Narthex in the coming weeks. We appreciate your support of this important ministry!

Art in the Narthex:

Please take time to contemplate the artwork in the hall. The artist is portraying "The Word of God through Art" and each painting has a QR code explaining what the artist is portraying. The artist is donating 30% of the proceeds from the sale of the art to the church.

Yoga in the Sanctuary:

Classes are every Saturday from 9:30 am to 10:30 am.

LAST WEEK'S OFFERING TO GOD:

Online: \$4,219.00
Operating: \$5,158.02
Building: \$820.00
Total: \$10,197.00

Thank you for your dedication to your parish, and may God bless you for your generosity.

To sign up for ONLINE GIVING please visit our website and select the "Giving" tab

www.saintbenedicts.org