

## The Seventh Sunday of Easter



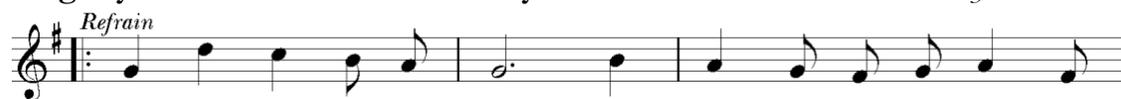
**St. Aidan's Episcopal Church**  
**May 16, 2021 10:00 a.m.**

# The Liturgy of the Word

## Opening Hymn: Hail Thee Festival Day

*The Hymnal 1982, #216*

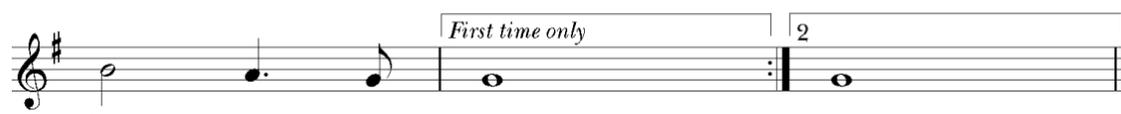
*Refrain*



Hail thee, fes - ti - val day! blest day that art hal - lowed for



ev - er, day when the Christ a - scends, high in the



hea - vens to reign. *First time only* *2* reign.



1 He who was nailed to the cross is Lord and the  
3 God the Cre - a - tor, the Lord who rul - est the  
5 Spi - rit of life and of power, now flow in us,



ru - ler of na - ture; all things cre -  
earth and the hea - vens, guard us from  
fount of our be - ing, light that dost



*Repeat Refrain*

a - ted on earth sing to the glo - ry of God:  
harm with - out, cleanse us from e - vil with - in:  
light - en all, life that in all dost a - bide:



2 Dai - ly the love - li - ness grows, a - dorned with the  
4 Je - sus the health of the world, en - light - en our  
6 Praise to the Giv - er of good! Thou Love who art

## Opening Acclamation

*Presider* Alleluia! Christ is risen!  
*People* **Christ is risen indeed! Alleluia!**

*Presider* 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.**

## Song of Praise: Alleluia! Give Thanks to the Risen Lord

*The Hymnal 1982 #178*

The musical score is written in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. It consists of four systems of music, each with a vocal line and a piano accompaniment line.

- System 1:** Features a *Descant* on the piano line. The vocal line begins with the lyrics "Al - le - lu - ia, al - le -".
- System 2:** The vocal line continues with "lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia! Give thanks to the".
- System 3:** The vocal line continues with "ris - en Lord. Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia! Give".
- System 4:** The vocal line concludes with "Praise to his Name. Name." and includes a *Final Ending* section. The piano accompaniment includes a section marked "1-4".

Below the main score, there is a separate system of music for a second part of the hymn:

- System 5:** The piano accompaniment line for the lyrics "2 Spread the good news o'er all the earth:".



## The Collect of the Day

*Presider* God be with you.  
*People* **And also with you.**  
*Presider* Let us pray.

Almighty God, whose blessed Son our Savior Jesus Christ ascended far above all heavens that he might fill all things: Mercifully give us faith to perceive that, according to his promise, he abides with his Church on earth, even to the end of the ages; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, in glory everlasting. **Amen.**

## The First Reading

*Lector* A reading from the Acts of the Apostles (1:1-11).

In the first book, Theophilus, I wrote about all that Jesus did and taught from the beginning until the day when he was taken up to heaven, after giving instructions through the Holy Spirit to the apostles whom he had chosen. After his suffering he presented himself alive to them by many convincing proofs, appearing to them during forty days and speaking about the kingdom of God. While staying with them, he ordered them not to leave Jerusalem, but to wait there for the promise of the Father. "This," he said, "is what you have heard from me; for John baptized with water, but you will be baptized with the Holy Spirit not many days from now."

So when they had come together, they asked him, "Lord, is this the time when you will restore the kingdom to Israel?" He replied, "It is not for you to know the times or periods that the Father has set by his own authority. But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you; and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth." When he had said this, as they were watching, he was lifted up, and a cloud took him out of their sight. While he was going and they were gazing up toward heaven, suddenly two men in white robes stood by them. They said, "Men of Galilee, why do you stand looking up toward heaven? This Jesus, who has been taken up from you into heaven, will come in the same way as you saw him go into heaven."

*Lector* Hear what the Spirit is saying to God's people.  
*People* **Thanks be to God**

## Psalm 1

*The Deacon introduces the Psalm and leads the congregation in the antiphon. The first reader then recites the odd verses of the Psalm, and the second reader recites the even verses.*

*Antiphon:* God knows the way of the righteous. Hallelujah.

- 1 Happy are they who have not walked in the counsel of the wicked,\*  
nor lingered in the way of sinners, nor sat in the seats of the scornful
- 2 Their delight is in the law of the Most High,\* and they meditate on that law day and night.
- 3 They are like trees planted by streams of water, bearing fruit in due season, with leaves that do  
not wither;\* everything they do shall prosper.
- 4 It is not so with the wicked;\* they are like chaff which the wind blows away.
- 5 Therefore the wicked shall not stand upright when judgment comes,\*  
nor the sinner in the council of the righteous.
- 6 For God knows the way of the righteous,\* but the way of the wicked is doomed.

*Antiphon:* God knows the way of the righteous. Hallelujah.

## The Second Reading

*Lector* A reading from the letter to the Ephesians (1:15-23).

I have heard of your faith in the Lord Jesus and your love toward all the saints, and for this reason I do not cease to give thanks for you as I remember you in my prayers. I pray that the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory, may give you a spirit of wisdom and revelation as you come to know him, so that, with the eyes of your heart enlightened, you may know what is the hope to which he has called you, what are the riches of his glorious inheritance among the saints, and what is the immeasurable greatness of his power for us who believe, according to the working of his great power. God put this power to work in Christ when he raised him from the dead and seated him at his right hand in the heavenly places, far above all rule and authority and power and dominion, and above every name that is named, not only in this age but also in the age to come. And he has put all things under his feet and has made him the head over all things for the church, which is his body, the fullness of him who fills all in all.

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

*People* ***Thanks be to God.***

Hymn: The Savior Leaves

*Iona, The Enemy of Apathy, #87-88*

**Majestically**

1. For - sak - ing  
2. He has to  
3. So, Christ as -  
4. Let an - gel

char - i - ots of fire                      And fan - fared brass,  
go, as from the grave                    He had to rise:  
cends; air cra - dles him,                Dis - ci - ples stare.  
har - mo - nies re - sound;                Let trum - pets blare;

As strange - ly si - lent as he came,  
In or - der to be ev - 'ry - where  
Their Eas - ter joy, his sev'n - weeks' stay  
Let heav - en's ban - quet guests ap - plaud

The Sav - ior leaves And God, with heav'n's ca -  
 He must de - part To live, not in one  
 Seem now to end. But no! The Spir - it's  
 The wel - comed Word. And earth an - tic - i -

ress, The Son re - ceives.  
 place, But in each heart.  
 send - ing They por - tend.  
 pate - Her com - ing Lord.

## The Gospel

*Deacon* The Holy Gospel of our Savior Jesus Christ according to Luke (24:44-53).

*People* **Glory to you, O Christ.**

Jesus said to his disciples, "These are my words that I spoke to you while I was still with you-- that everything written about me in the law of Moses, the prophets, and the psalms must be fulfilled." Then he opened their minds to understand the scriptures, and he said to them, "Thus it is written, that the Messiah is to suffer and to rise from the dead on the third day, and that repentance and forgiveness of sins is to be proclaimed in his name to all nations, beginning from Jerusalem. You are witnesses of these things. And see, I am sending upon you what my Father promised; so stay here in the city until you have been clothed with power from on high."

Then he led them out as far as Bethany, and, lifting up his hands, he blessed them. While he was blessing them, he withdrew from them and was carried up into heaven. And they worshiped him, and returned to Jerusalem with great joy; and they were continually in the temple blessing God.

*Deacon* The Gospel of our Savior.  
*People* ***Praise to you, O Christ***

**The Sermon**

The Rev. Don Fox

**Sung Creed**



1. We be- lieve in God Al- migh -ty, Au- thor  
2. We be- lieve that Je- sus suf- fered, scourged and  
3. We be- lieve in God's own Spi- rit, bon- ding



of all things that be, Ma- ker of the earth and  
scorned and cru- ci- fied; ta- ken from the cross was  
all the saints with- in one church cath- o- lic and



hea- ven, Kee- per of the sky and sea.  
Bur- ied True life there had tru- ly died.  
ho- ly, where for- give- ness frees from sin;



We be- lieve in God's Son, Je- sus, now for  
We be- lieve that on the third day Christ was  
in the bo- dy's re- sur- rec- tion for the



us both Lord and Christ, of the Spi- rit and of  
Raised up from the grave, then as- cen- ded to God's  
Break- ing of death's chain gives the life that's ev- er -



Ma- ry born to bring a- bun- dant life  
right hand. He will come to judge and save.  
last- ing. This the faith that we have claimed.

## Prayers of the People

*Deacon* We are Easter People striving to love as the Body of Christ.

*Intercessor* We pray for our ecclesial body, the church and its leaders.... [*as named in our prayer list*]... and others we now name either silently or by unmuting and praying aloud.

We are the Body of Christ.

***May Christ's love live through us.***

*Intercessor* We pray for our civic body and our elected leaders.... [*as named in our prayer list*]... and others we now name either silently or by unmuting and praying aloud.

*Pause*

We are the Body of Christ.

***May Christ's love live through us.***

*Intercessor* We pray for our congregational body, its leaders and ministries .... [*as named in our prayer list*]... and others we now name either silently or by unmuting and praying aloud.

*Pause*

We are the Body of Christ.

***May Christ's love live through us.***

*Intercessor* We pray for our body that struggles with hardship.... [*as named in our prayer list*] ... and others we now name either silently or by unmuting and praying aloud.

*Pause*

We are the Body of Christ.

***May Christ's love live through us.***

*Intercessor* We pray for our body that is wounded by hatred.... [*as named in our prayer list*]... and others we now name either silently or by unmuting and praying aloud.

*Pause*

We are the Body of Christ.

***May Christ's love live through us.***

*Intercessor* We pray for our body striving to transform injustice.... [*as named in our prayer list*]... and others we now name either silently or by unmuting and praying aloud.

*Pause*

We are the Body of Christ.  
***May Christ's love live through us.***

*Intercessor* We pray for the caretakers of our body.... [*as named in our prayer list*]... and others we now name either silently or by unmuting and praying aloud.

*Pause*

We are the Body of Christ.  
***May Christ's love live through us.***

*Intercessor* We pray for the members of our body who have asked for our prayers, who are in need of healing .... [*as named in our prayer list*]... and others we now name either silently or by unmuting and praying aloud.

*Pause*

We are the Body of Christ.  
***May Christ's love live through us.***

*Intercessor* We pray for members of our body who have died and for all who grieve their loss.... [*as named in our prayer list*]... and others we now name either silently or by unmuting and praying aloud.

*Pause*

We are the Body of Christ.  
***May Christ's love live through us.***

*Intercessor* We pray for our body celebrating joys of this life [*especially those with birthdays this week*]....and others we now name either silently or by unmuting and praying aloud.

*Pause*

We are the Body of Christ.  
***May Christ's love live through us.***

*Presider* As Easter People we seek to embody the love of Jesus Christ together. Grant that as members of Christ's body we may know and share with resurrection joy that life in love is stronger than death. May we live the proclamation and prayer that love reigns!  
***Amen.***

## The Peace

*Presider* Christ descended to the dead, passed through the 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. The Peace of Christ be always with you.

*People* **And also with you.**

*We greet each other in the name of Christ and are sprinkled with the water of new life.*

## Blessing of the Gaffney Family

*Presider*

Gracious God, your heart is our eternal home, and your love is with us in all times and places. We give you great thanks for bringing John, Stefan, and Liam Gaffney into our lives at St. Aidan's. We thank you for their creativity and musicality, their thoughtfulness, resourcefulness, companionship, compassion, and joy. Please be with them as they make their way to Georgia to be closer to family. Let them feel the gratitude and support of this community as they prepare for this journey.

*The congregation is invited to unmute and share prayers and sentiments of support for John, Stefan, and Liam.*

*Presider*

God our Creator, redeemer, and sustainer, please be with John, Stefan, and Liam as they make their way into a new life chapter. Buoy them with your love and root them anew in your heart as they arrive in their new home. Bless their journey, we pray, and keep us connected, that we all may continue to abide with one another as you call us always to abide in you, even as you abide in us. All this we ask in the name of Christ. **Amen.**

## Offertory Sentence

*Presider* Christ is risen from the dead trampling down death by death and on those in the tombs bestowing life! Let us lift up offerings of our life and labor to God.

## Offertory Hymn: Alleluia, Gracious Jesus!

*The New Century Hymnal, #257*

The image shows a musical score for the Offertory Hymn "Alleluia, Gracious Jesus!". It consists of two staves: a treble clef staff at the top and a bass clef staff at the bottom. The time signature is 3/4. The melody is written in the treble staff, and the bass line is in the bass staff. The lyrics are written below the treble staff, with four different vocal parts indicated by numbers 1, 2, 3, and 4. The lyrics are: "1 Al - le - lu - ia! Gra - cious Je - sus! Yours the", "2 Al - le - lu - ia! Not as or - phans are we", "3 Al - le - lu - ia! Bread of an - gels, you on", "4 Al - le - lu - ia! Christ e - ter - nal, noth - ing".

scep - ter, yours the throne! Al - le - lu - ia! Yours the  
 left in sor - row now. Al - le - lu - ia! You are  
 earth our food, our stay. Al - le - lu - ia! Here the  
 can dis - rupt your reign; Al - le - lu - ia! Born of

tri - umph, yours the vic - to - ry a - lone!  
 near us; faith be - lieves, nor ques - tions how.  
 sin - ful flee to you from day to day.  
 Mar - y, heaven and earth are your do - main.

Hark! the songs of peace - ful Zi - on  
 Though the cloud from sight re - ceived you  
 In - ter - ces - sor, friend of sin - ners,  
 Hu - man life you ful - ly en - tered,

thun - der like a might - y flood; Je - sus, out of  
 when the for - ty days were o'er, shall our hearts for -  
 earth's Re - deem - er, plead for me, and the songs that  
 tend - ing those we count the least, serv - ing both as



*The Presider sets the table*

## The Liturgy of the Table

*Presider* God be with you.

*People* ***And also with you.***

*Presider* Lift up your hearts.

*People* ***We lift them to God.***

*Presider* Let us give thanks to God.

*People* ***It is right to give our thanks and praise.***

*Presider* God of all power, Ruler of the Universe, you are worthy of glory and praise.

*People* ***Glory to you for ever and ever.***

*Presider* At your command all things came to be: the vast expanse of interstellar space, galaxies, suns, the planets in their courses, and this fragile earth, our island home.

*People* ***By your will they were created and have their being.***

*Presider* From the primal elements you brought forth the human race, and blessed us with memory, reason, and skill. You made us the stewards of creation. But we turned against you, and betrayed your trust; and we turned against one another.

*People* ***Have mercy, Lord, for we are sinners in your sight.***

*Presider* Again and again, you called us to return. Through prophets and sages you revealed your righteous Law. And in the fullness of time you sent your only Son, born of a woman, to fulfill your Law, to open for us the way of freedom and peace.

*People* ***By his blood, he reconciled us. By his wounds, we are healed.***

*Presider*

And therefore we praise you, joining with the heavenly chorus, with prophets, apostles, and martyrs, and with all those in every generation who have looked to you in hope, to proclaim with them your glory, in their unending hymn:

The image shows a musical score for a hymn. It consists of four systems of music, each with a vocal line (treble clef) and a piano accompaniment line (bass clef). The key signature has one flat (B-flat) and the time signature is 6/8. The lyrics are: "Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow'r and might, heav - en and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho - san - na in the high - est. Bless - ed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est." The score includes various musical notations such as notes, rests, and dynamic markings.

*Presider*

And so, O God, we who have been redeemed by him, and made a new people by water and the Spirit, now bring before you these gifts. Sanctify them by your Holy Spirit to be the Body and Blood of Jesus Christ our Lord.

On the night he was betrayed he took bread, said the blessing, broke the bread, and gave it to his friends, 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, gave thanks, 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."

Remembering now his work of redemption, and offering to you this sacrifice of thanksgiving,

*People*            ***We celebrate his death and resurrection, as we await the day of his coming.***

*Presider*        Lord God of our forebears: God of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob; God of Sarah, Hagar, Rebecca, Rachel, and Leah; God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ: Open our eyes to see your hand at work in the world about us. Deliver us from the presumption of coming to this Table for solace only, and not for strength; for pardon only, and not for renewal. Let the grace of this Holy Communion make us one body, one spirit in Christ, that we may worthily serve the world in his name.

*People*            ***Risen Lord, be known to us in the breaking of the Bread.***

*Presider*        Accept these prayers and praises through Jesus Christ our great High Priest, to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit, your Church gives honor, glory, and worship, from generation to generation. ***AMEN.***

### **The Lord's Prayer**

*Deacon*            As our Savior Christ has taught us, we now pray,

*All assembled*    ***God in heaven,  
hallowed be your Name,  
your kingdom come, your will be done,  
on earth as in heaven.  
Give us today our daily bread.  
Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us.  
Save us from the time of trial, and deliver us from evil.  
For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours, now and for ever.  
Amen.***

### **The Fraction**

*Presider*        Alleluia! Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us.

*People*            ***Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia!***

### **The Invitation**

*Lifting the bread and cup, the Presider invites the people, saying*

*Presider*        The gifts of God for the people of God: take them in remembrance that Christ lived, died, and rose for you, and feed on Christ in your hearts by faith with thanksgiving.

*All pause for a moment of silent prayer, beholding the consecrated bread and wine. Then all continue,*

All

*In union, O God, with your people at every altar of your Church, we offer you praise, giving thanks for your presence in the holy gifts of bread and wine. In our spatial distance we invite you to come spiritually into our hearts, nourishing and strengthening us as members of your body. Amen*

Communion Hymn: Lo, I Am With You

Meditatively

1. Lo, I am with you to the end of the world;  
2. Lo, I am with you when you leave self be - hind;  
3. Lo, I am with you in the strug - gle for peace;  
4. Lo, I am with you when you suf - fer for love;  
5. Lo, I am with you in the way of the cross;  
6. Lo, I am with you in the dark - ness of death;  
7. Lo, I am with you to the end of the world;

1. Lo, I am with you to the end of the world;  
2. Lo, I am with you when you leave self be - hind;  
3. Lo, I am with you in the strug - gle for peace;  
4. Lo, I am with you when you suf - fer for love;  
5. Lo, I am with you in the way of the cross;  
6. Lo, I am with you in the dark - ness of death;  
7. Lo, I am with you to the end of the world;

1. Lo, I am with you, Lo, I am with you,  
 2. Lo, I am with you, Lo, I am with you,  
 3. Lo, I am with you, Lo, I am with you,  
 4. Lo, I am with you, Lo, I am with you,  
 5. Lo, I am with you, Lo, I am with you,  
 6. Lo, I am with you, Lo, I am with you,  
 7. Lo, I am with you, Lo, I am with you,

1. Lo, I am with you to the end of the world.  
 2. Lo, I am with you when you leave self be - hind.  
 3. Lo, I am with you in the strug - gle for peace.  
 4. Lo, I am with you when you suf - fer for love.  
 5. Lo, I am with you in the way of the cross.  
 6. Lo, I am with you in the dark - ness of death.  
 7. Lo, I am with you to the end of the world.

*The Presider removes the consecrated elements from the altar.*

## Postcommunion Prayer

*Presider* Let us pray.

*Presider & People* ***Risen Christ, whom we have seen with our eyes, who has nourished us in spirit, the word of life in whom our joy is complete: embolden us to declare your truth, your unshakable faith in the world you love. Amen.***

## Easter Blessing

May the God who shakes heaven and earth  
whom death could not contain,  
who lives to disturb and heal us,  
bless you with power to live  
and proclaim the gospel. ***Amen.***

## Closing Hymn: We All Are One in Mission

*Wonder, Love, and Praise #778*

1. We all are one in mis - sion, we all are one in call,  
2. We all are called for ser - vice to wit - ness in God's name.  
3. We all be - hold one vi - sion, a stark re - al - i - ty;  
4. Now let us be u - nit - ed and let our song be heard.

our var - ied gifts u - nit - ed by Christ, the Lord of all.  
Our min - is - tries are dif - f'rent, our pur - pose is the same:  
the stew - ard of sal - va - tion was nailed up - on a tree.  
Now let us be a ves - sel for God's re - deem - ing Word.

The musical score consists of two systems. Each system includes a vocal line (treble clef) and a piano accompaniment (grand staff with treble and bass clefs). The key signature is B-flat major (two flats) and the time signature is 4/4. The lyrics are printed below the vocal line.

A sin - gle, great com - mis - sion com - pels us from a - bove  
to touch the lives of oth - ers by God's sur - pris - ing grace,  
Yet res - ur - rect - ed Jus - tice gives rise that we may share  
We all are one in mis - sion, we all are one in call,

to plan and work to - geth - er that all may know Christ's love.  
so peo - ple of all na - tions may feel God's warm em - brace.  
free re - con - cil - i - a - tion and hope a - mid de - spair.  
our var - ied gifts u - nit - ed by Christ, the Lord of all.

## The Dismissal

*Deacon* Let us bless God. Alleluia, Alleluia!

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

## Serving St. Aidan's

The Rev. Cameron Partridge & The Rev. Susan Stanton, *Co-Presiders*

The Rev. Don Fox, *Preacher*

The Rev. Margaret Dyer-Chamberlain, *Deacon*

Amy Newell-Large, *Seminarian*

Barry Koron, *Music Minister*

Barbara Stevenson and Margaret Tait, *Lectors*

Peter Fairfield, *Intercessor*

Betty Carmack, *Greeter*

Christine Powell, *Sound Muter* & David Mealy, *Liturgical DJ*

## LITURGY ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

- \* The cover image is a 15<sup>th</sup> Century Italian illuminated manuscript image of the Ascension. Cameron found it online here (as part of a blogged sermon on the Ascension which you might read!): <https://harasprice.com/2017/05/28/ascension/>
- \* The Liturgy of the Word is the *Book of Common Prayer*, modified to reflect our use of inclusive language.
- \* Psalm translation is from the *CSF Office Book* (Community of St. Francis, 1995). The antiphon is from *The Saint Helena Breviary* (New York: Church Publishing, 2006), 166.
- \* The text of the Sung Creed is by Sylvia Dunston and can be found in *Wonder, Love, and Praise* (New York: Church Publishing, 1997), #760. Our version is put to the tune of *Nettleton*, #686 in the *Hymnal 1982* (New York: Church Publishing, 1982).
- \* The Prayers of the People were written by Amy Newell-Large and edited by Cameron.
- \* The introduction to the Peace is by Steven Shakespeare, *Prayers for an Inclusive Church* (Church Publishing, 2009), p. 158.
- \* The Prayer of Blessing for the Gaffney Family uses some language from *Changes: Prayers and Services Honoring Rites of Passage* (New York: Church Publishing, 2007), p. 54.
- \* The Eucharistic Prayer is Prayer C from *The Book of Common Prayer* (New York: Church Publishing, 1979), 369-372.
- \* The Post Communion Prayer is adapted from *Prayers for an Inclusive Church* by Steven Shakespeare, p. 142.
- \* The prayer at the conclusion of the Eucharistic Prayer was adapted from prayers for Spiritual Communion located in St. Augustine's Prayer Book, published by Forward Movement Press which can be found online at <https://news.forwardmovement.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/03/Spiritual-Communion.pdf>.
- \* The Easter Blessing is by Steven Shakespeare from *Prayers for an Inclusive Church*, p. 161.
- \* All music is reproduced with permission under the auspices of OneLicense number A-721562, unless otherwise noted.

## Announcements

### Preparing for Regathering: Transitional Phase to Begin May 23rd

Bishop Marc Andrus and the diocesan COVID 19 Team have released new guidelines for congregations across the diocese as we all work on our plans for re-gathering for in-person worship and other activities. At St. Aidan's, a Regathering Committee is working on our own plans. We anticipate at least two stages to our re-gathering: a transitional phase, which will be a time of experimentation as we begin to open up in-person activities, and a fuller re-opening phase. See announcement below for our first such experiment.

### Combined 9 AM Worship for Pentecost, May 23<sup>rd</sup>

One week from ***Sunday, May 23<sup>rd</sup>***, for our celebration of Pentecost, we will once again celebrate with a combined ***9 AM worship service***. Our worship will also be hybrid, taking place both in-person at 101 Gold Mine Drive and via Zoom (our same Sunday morning Zoom link). The in-person service will be **limited to 40 people**. All who are in-person will be asked to wear masks, maintain a distance of six feet (with distanced gestures at the Peace but not hugs), and refrain from congregational singing. Communion will take place with bread but without a common cup, and because eating indoors is not otherwise allowed in our diocese, we will refrain from Welcome Café. This is an experiment in hybrid worship. The Sundays following, we will return to all virtual/Zoom worship, and our Regathering Team will explore our learning in preparation for further experiments in hybrid worship as the summer unfolds. We look forward to leaning into a return to our space, to seeing one another in person as possible, to learning how to incorporate in-person and online worship, and to welcoming newer members who have joined St. Aidan's during the pandemic.

### Good News from Susan Stanton!

As you know, the Reverend Susan Stanton, our former seminarian who was ordained to the priesthood last September, has been continuing to serve with us while working as a Hospital Chaplain at UCSF this year. We knew she would eventually shift to a new ministry, and now we

know what that will be: as the Finance Director for the Episcopal Diocese of Los Angeles. As it so happens, the person who formerly held that position, the Reverend Michele Racusin, recently became the Chief Financial Officer here in DioCal. She will be officially with us for a few more weeks, and we will celebrate her new life chapter with a St. Aidan's blessing on Trinity Sunday, May 30th. In the meantime, the Diocese of Los Angeles' announcement about Susan's position, among two others on their diocesan finance team, can be found at: <https://myemail.constantcontact.com/New-finance-team-will-empower-ministries-around-the-diocese.html?soid=1101307179673&aid=rrCO8H2CtpY>

### **Women's Spirituality Group**

Our St. Aidan's Women's Spirituality Group will next meet via zoom on **Saturday, May 22nd from 10:00 - 11:30 AM**. As before, we will have time for both checking in and personal sharing as well as time for spiritual growth. We are certainly open to formats and approaches such as reflections on a poem, scripture, narrative passage or another focus for our growth. We want our group to meet the needs and desires of those who participate. If you want to join us, and we hope you will, please contact Elaine Mannon at [elaine@mannon.com](mailto:elaine@mannon.com) to get the information for signing into our meeting.

### **Starting Next Saturday: Good News Gardens Monthly Gardening Group On Site at St. Aidan's!**

Our Good News Gardens group, which has been growing produce for our Diamond Diners group each month, is expanding its reach! We're going to sponsor monthly garden spruce-up Saturdays at the church (this is a "fancy" way of saying that there is always weeding to be done...) Our gardening days will be the 4th Saturday of each month (for the next four months that's May 22, June 26, July 24 and August 28) from 11:30-2 pm. We thought we could start the days by each of us bringing a picnic lunch and sitting in the driveway to catch up, have lunch, and plan our work together. Our thought is that this will be a nice way to be back together, safely masked and outdoors – kind of a bridge to being back in person, and a way to enjoy God's creation - right on our church grounds.

If you have questions, please contact Deacon Margaret, [mdyerc@stanford.edu](mailto:mdyerc@stanford.edu) or 650-619-0781.

### **The New Jim Crow Anti-Racist Book Group**

Our next meeting is **Sunday, May 23 at 4 pm**, on Zoom. We are reading *The Hidden Wound* by Wendell Berry. Please contact Deacon Margaret, [mdyerc@stanford.edu](mailto:mdyerc@stanford.edu), for the zoom link.

### **1900 Diamond Proposed Development**

As you may know from previous announcements, a new development has been proposed for the property at the corner of Diamond and Diamond Heights Boulevard just down the street from St. Aidan's. It would be the largest proposed development to be constructed in the neighborhood in fifty years. The property is owned by the Cesar Chavez Foundation that owns Vista Del Monte which is situated next to the proposed new building. Concerned neighbors are calling upon the city to conduct a more in-depth environmental review and have listed a number of concerns about its impact on the neighborhood and the environment at this website: <https://1900diamondforall.com>. Their website includes a petition that those who share their concerns can sign. For more information about the ongoing neighborhood conversation about this proposal and the petition, please be in touch with Betsy Eddy at [betsy.eddy@gmail.com](mailto:betsy.eddy@gmail.com).

### **A Reflection from Amy Newell-Large**

As my first year academic with St. Aidan's is drawing to a close, I wanted to take a moment to reflect on my experiences. I have been in such a unique position to only get to know St. Aidan's

via Zoom, and yet I feel that I have been able to get to know you, grow with you, and become part of this incredible community. I remember, in one of the first formation series I participated in, Scot Sherman led us in a discussion around Bishop Mariann Edgar Budde's book *Receiving Jesus: The Way of Love*. One night the discussion turned to reflection on the St. Aidan's community. People shared how this community has been there for them through grief and struggles, never letting them hide away, but always showing up with love. Another person said that even when they had an injury and could not walk to receive healing prayer the prayer team walked down the aisle to meet them where they were. Still another person commented that during the pandemic new ways of being together, such as the Contemplative Prayer group, offered lifelines of connection with people and God that were sources of strength during this time. A few people noted that on their spiritual journeys while they have not always known how to pray, the community has been a place for communion with Christ, inviting spiritual healing and growth. I was so touched to hear these stories of compassion, care, support, strength, and spirit. In fact, I took this event to my field ed class with the question: How can I, as a future leader, build this kind of community? How does a community hold itself to the love of Christ? When I brought the question to Cameron, he affirmed that he is so appreciative of the community that is historically rooted at St. Aidan's, because it is an entire way of being that is unique to this church.

It is clear that deep care for community through the love of Christ is the character of St. Aidan's across time, beyond any individual or rector; the enduring love unlimited by time, bound to this place. Place, of course, becoming more fluid in this virtual realm. This is so significant- that beyond any rector, clergy, or leader it is the community that maintains the compassion, care, and love that defines St. Aidan's. You. You make St. Aidan's special, enduring, and holy. While you may perceive yourself as "not one to lead" by your commitment to this ethos you lead St. Aidan's forward into its new space. St. Aidan's has shown me what Jesus' flock can be if we lead with love. Compassion, care, support, strength, and spirit have shown up throughout my year- in worship meetings planning the Blue Christmas service with care to grief in community; in the Contemplative series as people vulnerably shared their spiritual struggles and joys; in after church chats about health and family. As St. Aidan's looks to the summer, I know these traits will help guide the transitional regathering phase. Your part in leading this time is essential. As the community building and maintaining community, you are why this work happens. I look forward to joining as I am able over the summer and am so grateful for the opportunity to continue working with and learning from the St. Aidan's community next fall. This community has given me so much to consider as I enter my final year of seminary. It has been an incredible blessing to be with you all.

**Decolonizing Queer Theology Class, Thursdays in May 2021, 6:00-7:30pm Pacific Time**  
(Classes will be held online)

This four-session course will provide participants with a space for reflection on queer theological thinking, and the current importance of taking a decolonial contextual approach to the bible, a tool to build an inclusive and liberating spirituality, and a new biblical accompaniment beyond racism, homophobia, and transphobia, and the sexism of the hegemonic patriarchy. We will discuss the history and shaping of queer theology and the key principles for reading, analysing, and incarnating the biblical text from a decolonial and liberating perspective. The general themes of each session are as follows:

1. Queer theology? The decolonial route
2. A transformative bible reading
3. Queer faith heros
4. A new LGBTQI+ Christian experience

This course will be led by Rev. Álvaro Durán, Anglican priest, theologian and LGBTIQ+ human rights activist in El Salvador. He is fully bilingual and recently led a Spanish-language version of this class that was so well-received that we decided to offer it in English also.

We suggest a \$100 contribution to take these 4 informative and rich sessions, 100% of which will go toward a teaching honorarium for the Rev. Álvaro Durán and also to support the Magdala Community, an inclusive and healing LGBTIQ+ congregation that he leads in El Salvador. However, it's understood that not everyone may afford the fee, so there is a sliding scale; we ask you to pay what you are able to support this ministry, but also please do not let money be an obstacle to participating. [please reach out to Cameron if you would like to participate and cannot afford the fee -- we would be happy to sponsor you!]

Register for the class here: <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/decolonizing-queer-theology-class-tickets-150986305103> -- more information and online links will be emailed to class participants in advance of May 1. For more information, please contact Sarah Lawton at [SarahELawton@gmail.com](mailto:SarahELawton@gmail.com).

### ***A Place for Books: Another Update!***

Thank you to all who have contributed books for the Ohio Reformatory for Women thus far. Seventy-five books were sent earlier this year, five boxes were sent on March 26<sup>th</sup>, and now five more boxes have just been sent, plus Elaine Mannon has just donated 12 bags of books from her home, and Karen Anderson has donated two more bags. Wow! As shared earlier, my mother has written to and visited women in prison, particularly women who are victims of domestic violence, since the 1980s. My sister Deb has supported my mom's ministry by driving her to the prison when she no longer could do so, and continuing her involvement there. Deb's latest project is to send books to the prison – many of the women are avid readers and books are in short supply. In the time of COVID, it's a little harder to make donations, so this is an opportunity for our community to gather up books and find a great home for them. Feel free to be in touch to donate more books, and thank you again to those who have thus far. – Deacon Margaret, [mdyerc@stanford.edu](mailto:mdyerc@stanford.edu).

### **Please send in your recipes for the COVID Connect Cookbook!**

From Peter Fairfield: We are living through a time that will change our world in ways that we cannot yet begin to understand. We can hope that our shared vulnerability to this virus worldwide will help us see that all humanity is connected and that we must all work together. As we shelter in place, many of us are concerned with food. If we are not working, how will we afford it? If we cannot go out, how will we get it? In our community of Saint Aidan's, many are able to feed themselves and to help others get fed. More than that, we appreciate the food that we get and are finding new ways of making the sharing of food as enjoyable as possible. The soup recipes that Cameron has been sharing in the Spark have made our diet much more enjoyable and have given Linnea and I the inspiration to collect recipes from all the congregation and share them. We ask that everyone with a favorite recipe email it to us at [peterlinnea@earthlink.net](mailto:peterlinnea@earthlink.net). We will collect and edit them into a cookbook—the COVID Connect Cookbook—that will be a lasting reminder of this strange and special time in all our lives.

### **Contemplative Prayer:** Tuesday, Thursday, & Saturday from 9-10 AM via Zoom

Contemplative Prayer is silent with the beginning and ending marked by a bell. You can practice meditation, silent prayer, journal, or otherwise enjoy the collective quiet. Thank you to Susan Spencer for offering to anchor this practice once again, especially the Saturday, during this time. Please feel free to reach out to the office for access information: [office@staidansf.org](mailto:office@staidansf.org)

**Morning Prayer:** Mon, Wed, Fri at 7:30 AM via Zoom

Morning Prayer helps sustain and ground us, online/over the phone! Please feel free to reach out to the office for access information: [office@staidansf.org](mailto:office@staidansf.org)

### **St. Aidan's Gourmet Book Group**

The St. Aidan's Gourmet Book Group (usually but not always) meets the last Monday of the month. We will continue to meet via zoom with LeeAnn DeSalles serving as our Zoom master. She will be sending you zoom instructions prior to our meetings. If you would like to be added to the book group e-mail mailing list, please contact Elaine Mannon at [elaine@mannon.com](mailto:elaine@mannon.com)

The upcoming books and dates are:

#### **Monday, May 31, 2021**

7:00 – 9:00 p.m.

*Franklin and Winston: An Intimate Portrait of an Epic Friendship* by Jon Meacham. Meacham explores the fascinating relationship between the two men who piloted the free world to victory in World War II.

#### **Monday, June 28, 2021**

7:00 – 9:00 p.m.

*The House of Mirth* by Edith Wharton. A portrait of New York's "irresponsible, grasping, and morally corrupt" upper class during "The Gilded Age."

#### **Monday, July 26, 2021**

7:00 – 9:00 p.m.

*The Code Breaker: Jennifer Doudna, Gene Editing and the Future of the Human Race* by Walter Isaacson. Focusing on the life and career of Doudna, the co-winner of the 2020 Nobel Prize in Chemistry, Isaacson anguishes over the ethics of gene editing as well as its potential to control future pandemics.

## **Calendar for the Week of May 16, 2021**

Sunday, May 16	Holy Eucharist (via Zoom) at 8 & 10 AM
Monday, May 17	Morning Prayer (via Zoom) at 7:30 AM
Tuesday, May 18	Contemplative Prayer (via Zoom) at 9 AM Vestry (via Zoom) at 7 PM
Wednesday, May 19	Morning Prayer (via Zoom) at 7:30 AM Evening Prayer (via Zoom) at 6:30 PM
Thursday, May 20	Contemplative Prayer (via Zoom) at 9 AM Kaffeeklatsch (via Zoom) from 3-4 PM Christian Formation Meeting (via Zoom) 4 PM Faith in Action Public Liturgy across from City Hall at 5:30 PM

Decolonizing Queer Theology (via Zoom) from 6-7:30 PM

Friday, May 21

Food Pantry (at Church Doors) from 12-1 PM for people 60+ or in need of an accommodation, and from 1-2 PM for all

Saturday, May 22

Contemplative Prayer (via Zoom) at 9 AM

Women's Spirituality Group (via Zoom) from 10-11:30 AM

Good News Gardening (at St. Aidan's) from 11:30-2 PM

## St. Aidan's Vestry

Will Crockett & David Mealy, Co-Wardens

Dave Frangquist, Clerk & Treasurer

Christine Powell, Nicole Miller, Elena Wong,

Anne Edwards, Michael Jennings, Jim Oerther

## Staff e-mail addresses

Cameron: [rector@staidansf.org](mailto:rector@staidansf.org) Parish Administrator: [office@staidansf.org](mailto:office@staidansf.org)

Barry: [music@staidansf.org](mailto:music@staidansf.org)

## St. Aidan's Prayers

**In Your Prayers, Please Remember:**

**In the Episcopal Church:** for Michael our Presiding Presider; Marc our Presider; the clergy of the Diocese; our Rector Cameron; our assisting priests Don, Gary, and Susan; our Deacons Margaret and Mark, our Seminarian Amy; our Music Minister Barry.

**In the Anglican Cycle of Prayer:** Pray for The Anglican Church of Korea

**In the Diocesan Cycle of Prayer:** Pray for Pray for St. Anselm's, Lafayette; St. Mark's, Berkeley; St. Mark's, Palo Alto; and St. Mark's Crockett

**In our Parish Cycle of Prayer:** Pray for the New Jim Crow Antiracist Book Group

**For those with birthdays this week:** Anne E., Travis S., Emily F., Barry, & Caitlin

**For** all striving for mental and emotional balance and wholeness, and for their families and friends;

**For those who have asked for our prayers:** The Littmann Family, Tina R., Arlene S., Shirley S., Natalie, Grace A.M., Erv O., Carol O., Jean O., Jim O., Richard, Travis, Sammy D., Randy C., Anne K., Karen C., Reagan S., Lois C., Amy K.

**For** the ongoing work against intersecting forms of oppression, particularly racism; and in affirmation of human dignity;

**For** Oscar Grant, Trayvon Martin, Michael Brown, Ahmaud Arbery, Breonna Taylor, George Floyd, Rayshard Brooks, Elijah McClain, Walter Wallace, Adam Toledo, Daunte Wright, and all whose lives have borne deep witness that Black Lives Matter, and that systemic racism, white supremacy, and police brutality must be eradicated.

**For our congregation** as we embrace our call to be a sanctuary people, may we commit ourselves to prayer, education, and practices of sanctuary to support immigrants to this country and all people who are estranged, excluded, or threatened in 21st century America.

**For all who are struggling** in this time of pandemic, vulnerability, intensified injustice and division; for strength, support, and community across physical distances and for deepened engagement and commitment to our common life;

**For those who have recently died:** Jason Littmann, Molly Ash, Barry Johnson, Sally Wolcott, Vereta Powell, Sheri Geesey, Ted Wong, Jim McKnight, and all who have died in wars, natural disasters or other violence around the world and for their families.

*To place a name on our prayer list, please contact the church office at 415-285-9540, ext. 3 or [office@staidansf.org](mailto:office@staidansf.org). Names of the living are printed by first name and will be kept on the prayer list for four weeks. To keep someone on the list for longer, please notify the office.*



## **St. Aidan's Episcopal Church**

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