

**April 21, 2024
10:00 AM**

**The Fourth Sunday
of Easter**

Morning Prayer



St. Stephen's in-the-Field Episcopal Church

7269 Santa Teresa Boulevard
San Jose, CA 95139
(408) 629-1836
www.ssitf.org

**We the people of Saint Stephen's in-the-Field
seek to know Christ, to share Christ, and to serve Christ,
recognizing his presence in all people,
and reaching out in love to each other and to the world around us.**

Opening Hymn:

As a Fire is Meant for Burning

Ruth C. Duck (1947 -)

Hymns of Glory, Songs of Praise #252

BEACH SPRING
traditional American

$\text{♩} = 72$

1. As a fire is meant for burn - ing with a bright and warming flame, so the
2. We are learn - ers; we are teach - ers; we are pil - grims on the way. We are
3. As a green bud in the spring-time is a sign of life re - newed, so may

Church is meant for mis - sion, giv - ing glo - ry to God's name. Preaching
seek - ers; we are giv - ers; we are ves - sels made of clay. By our
we be signs of one - ness 'midearth's peo - ples, ma - ny - hued. As a

Christ, and not our cus - toms, let us build a bridge of care, join - ing
gen - tle, lov - ing ac - tions, we will show that Christ is light. In a
rain - bow lights the hea - vens when a storm is past and gone, so may

hands a - cross the na - tions, find - ing neigh - bors ev - ery - where.
hum - ble, lis - tening Spi - rit, we will live to God's de - light.
we re - flect the ra - diance of God's new and glo - rious dawn.

Opening Sentence

Officiant: Let the words of my mouth and the meditation of my heart be acceptable in your sight, O Lord, my strength and my redeemer.

Confession

Officiant: Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

**Most merciful God,
we confess that we have sinned against you,
in thought word, and deed,
by what we have done,
and by what we have left undone.
We have not loved you with our whole heart;
We have not loved our neighbors as ourselves.
We are truly sorry and we humbly repent.
For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ,
Have mercy on us and forgive us:
That we may delight in your will,
And walk in your ways,
To the glory of your Name. Amen**

Absolution

Officiant: Almighty God have mercy on us, forgive us all our sins through our Lord Jesus Christ, strengthen us in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep us in eternal life. **Amen.**

Opening Versicle (stand)

Officiant: Lord, open our lips.

People: **And our mouth shall proclaim your praise.**

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit: as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be for ever. Amen.

Invitatory Psalm

Officiant: The mercy of the Lord is everlasting:

People: **Come let us adore him.**

Venite Psalm 95:1-7

Officiant and people

Come, let us sing to the Lord:*

Let us shout for joy to the Rock of our salvation.

Let us come before his presence with thanksgiving*

And raise a loud shout to him with psalms.

For the Lord is a great God,*

And a great King above all gods.

In his hand are the caverns of the earth,*

And the heights of the hills are his also.

The sea is his, for he made it,*

And his hands have molded the dry land.

Come, let us bow down, and bend the knee,*

And kneel before the Lord our Maker.

For he is our God,

and we are the people of his pasture and the sheep of his hand.*

Oh, that today you would hearken to his voice!

Psalm of the Day:

Psalm 23

1 The LORD is my shepherd; *

I shall not be in want.

2 He makes me lie down in green pastures *

and leads me beside still waters.

3 He revives my soul *

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

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

I shall fear no evil; *

for you are with me;

your rod and your staff, they comfort me.

5 You spread a table before me in the presence of those who trouble me; *

you have anointed my head with oil,

and my cup is running over.

6 Surely your goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life, *

and I will dwell in the house of the LORD for ever.

Officiant and people

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit;*

As it was in the beginning, is now, and will be for ever. Amen. Alleluia.

The Lessons *(please be seated)*

First Reading

Acts 4:5-12

A reading from the Acts of the Apostles.

The rulers, elders, and scribes assembled in Jerusalem, with Annas the high priest, Caiaphas, John, and Alexander, and all who were of the high-priestly family. When they had made the prisoners stand in their midst, they inquired, "By what power or by what name did you do this?" Then Peter, filled with the Holy Spirit, said to them, "Rulers of the people and elders, if we are questioned today because of a good deed done to someone who was sick and are asked how this man has been healed, let it be known to all of you, and to all the people of Israel, that this man is standing before you in good health by the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth, whom you crucified, whom God raised from the dead. This Jesus is

`the stone that was rejected by you, the builders;
it has become the cornerstone.'

There is salvation in no one else, for there is no other name under heaven given among mortals by which we must be saved."

All: The Word of the Lord.
 Thanks be to God.

Second Reading

1 John 3:16-24

A reading from the first letter of John.

We know love by this, that he laid down his life for us-- and we ought to lay down our lives for one another. How does God's love abide in anyone who has the world's goods and sees a brother or sister in need and yet refuses help?

Little children, let us love, not in word or speech, but in truth and action. And by this we will know that we are from the truth and will reassure our hearts before

him whenever our hearts condemn us; for God is greater than our hearts, and he knows everything. Beloved, if our hearts do not condemn us, we have boldness before God; and we receive from him whatever we ask, because we obey his commandments and do what pleases him.

And this is his commandment, that we should believe in the name of his Son Jesus Christ and love one another, just as he has commanded us. All who obey his commandments abide in him, and he abides in them. And by this we know that he abides in us, by the Spirit that he has given us.

The Word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God.

Please stand



Gospel Gradual:

David Was a Daring Shepherd

Songs for the Cycle, p. 87

IRBY

Michael Hudson (2004)

Henry John Gauntlett (1805-1876)

1. Da - vid was a dar - ing shep - herd long be - fore he was a king,
2. Je - sus al - so was a shep - herd; peo - ple were his con - stant care.
3. We can grow up strong like Da - vid, we can love like Je - sus, too,

best - ing lions and bears in bat - tle, armed with sticks and stones and sling.
And he al - so bat - tled dan - ger, more than wolves or li - ons or bears.
join - ing hands with God the Shep - herd tend - ing all that's just and true

Strong, re - source - ful, rud - dy - cheeked, Da - vid grew up tend - ing sheep.
He fought an - y - thing at all that made God's great love seem small.
till the whole world, wide and deep, makes a place for all God's sheep.

Gospel Reading

John 10:11-18

A reading from the Gospel of John.

Jesus said, "I am the good shepherd. The good shepherd lays down his life for the sheep. The hired hand, who is not the shepherd and does not own the sheep, sees the wolf coming and leaves the sheep and runs away—and the wolf snatches them and scatters them. The hired hand runs away because a hired hand does not care for the sheep. I am the good shepherd. I know my own and my own know me, just as

the Father knows me and I know the Father. And I lay down my life for the sheep. I have other sheep that do not belong to this fold. I must bring them also, and they will listen to my voice. So there will be one flock, one shepherd. For this reason the Father loves me, because I lay down my life in order to take it up again. No one takes it from me, but I lay it down of my own accord. I have power to lay it down, and I have power to take it up again. I have received this command from my Father.”

The word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God

Sermon: *The Good Shepard*, by Rev. Jazzy Bostock

The Apostles' Creed (please stand as you are able)

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

**I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord,
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,
born of the Virgin Mary,
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,
he is seated at the right hand of the Father,
and he will come again to judge the living and the dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy catholic Church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting. Amen.**

The Prayers

Officiant The Lord be with you.

People **And also with you.**

Officiant Let us pray.

Lord's Prayer

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy Name, thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, for ever and ever. Amen.

Suffrages

Leader: Show us your mercy, O Lord;

People: **And grant us your salvation.**

Leader: Clothe your ministers with righteousness;

People: **Let your people sing with joy.**

Leader: Give peace, O Lord, in all the world;

People: **For only in you can we live in safety.**

Leader: Lord, keep this nation under your care;

People: **And guide us in the way of justice and truth.**

Leader: Let your way be known upon earth;

People: **Your saving health among all nations.**

Leader: Let not the needy, O Lord, be forgotten;

People: **Nor the hope of the poor be taken away.**

Leader: Create in us clean hearts, O God;

People: **And sustain us with your Holy Spirit.**

Collect of the Day

Lord of the sheepfold, whose love is not for hire, who calls to himself the victims of the world: we thank you that Christ laid down his life for us when we could not help ourselves; in the weakness of his love give us strength to work for peace in the world he came to serve, through Jesus Christ, the good shepherd. **Amen.**

Prayers of the People (please stand as you are able)

Leader: Lead your church into the way of love. Teach us to hear and follow your voice and your vision for the world.

In the diocesan cycle of prayer, we pray for all who work toward the goal of ensuring environmental stability; for St. George of Salinas; and for St. Mark of King City.

Tender Shepherd,

People: **call us each by name and lead us home.**

Leader: Guide those around the world who make decisions that impact the lives of individuals and nations.

Tender Shepherd,

People: **precede us all in the ways of justice and peace.**

Leader: Lighten the burden of those suffering loss, illness, and anxiety, those whom we know and love and those who are unknown to us. We especially pray for ...

Silence

Tender Shepherd,

People: **comfort them and shower them with your healing grace.**

Leader: We pray for those who have died. Carry those who have finished their earthly journey into the next life and gently place them in God's eternal embrace. We especially pray for ...

Silence

Tender Shepherd,

People: **hold them close to your heart forever.**

All: **Grant, we pray, Almighty God, that we who celebrate with awe the Paschal feast may be found worthy to attain to everlasting joys; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen**

The Peace

Officiant: The peace of the Lord be always with you.

People: **And also with you.**

Exchange peace.

Offertory:

I Come With Joy

Brian A. Wren (1936 -)

H# 304

LAND OF REST
American Folk Melody

1. I come with joy_ to meet my Lord, for - giv - en, loved and free,___
2. I come with Chris-tians far and near_ to find, as all_ are fed,___
3. As Christ breaks bread and bids us share, each proud di - vi - sion ends. ___
4. To - geth - er met, to - geth - er bound, we'll go our dif - ferent ways,___
5. in awe and won - der to re - call_ his life laid down for me. ___
6. the new com mu - ni - ty of love_ in Christ's com - mun - ion bread. ___
7. That love that made_ us makes us one, and stran - ger's now_ are friends. ___
8. and as this peo - ple in the world we'll live_ and speak his praise. ___

Doxology (Old 100th):

Praise God, from whom all bless - ings flow; praise him, all crea - tures here be - low;
praise him a - bove, ye heav - en - ly host; praise Fa - ther, Son and Ho - ly Ghost. A - men.

The General Thanksgiving

**Almighty God, Father of all mercies,
we your unworthy servants give you humble thanks
for all your goodness and loving-kindness
to us and to all whom you have made.
We bless you for our creation, preservation,
and all the blessings of this life;
but above all for your immeasurable love
in the redemption of the world by our Lord Jesus Christ;
for the means of grace, and for the hope of glory.
And, we pray, give us such an awareness of your mercies,
that with truly thankful hearts we may show forth your praise,
not only with our lips, but in our lives,
by giving up our selves to your service,
and by walking before you
in holiness and righteousness all our days;
through Jesus Christ our Lord,
to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit,
be honor and glory throughout all ages. Amen.**

A Prayer of St. Chrysostom

**Almighty God, you have given us grace at this time with one accord to make
our common supplication to you; and you have promised through your well-
beloved Son that when two or three are gathered together in his Name you
will be in the midst of them: Fulfill now, O Lord, our desires and petitions as
may be best for us; granting us in this world knowledge of your truth, and in
the age to come life everlasting. Amen.**

Announcements (please be seated)

Prayers for Celebrations

Loving Creator, You are the source of life and the source of love. We thank you for all who celebrate birthdays, anniversaries, and special events today. Watch over them as their days increase, bless and guide them wherever they may be. May your peace which passes understanding abide all the days of their lives, and may your love for the world shine through them and the deep relationships they cherish, through Jesus Christ our Savior. Amen.

Please stand

Concluding Versicle and Response

Officiant Let us bless the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

Concluding Sentence

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit, be with us all evermore. **Amen.**



Mission Song:

Cyril A. Alington (1872-1955) **Good Christians All, Rejoice** GELOBT SEI GOTT
♩. = 44 H # 205 Melchior Vulpius (1560?-1616)

1. Good Chris-tians all, re-joyce and sing! Now is the tri - umph of our
2. The Lord of life is risen to - day! Singsongs of praise a - long his

King! To all the world glad news we bring: Al - le - lu -
way; let all the earth re - joyce and say: Al - le - lu -

ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!
- lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!
ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!

Mark your calendar

- Wednesday Book Group, every Wednesday morning at St. John's, 11am
- Saturday, May 4th – Spring Fundraiser and BBQ at St. Stephen's, 5pm

Buy tickets at ssitf.org or use this QR code with your phone:



- Sunday, June 9th – Picnic at St. John's after the service
- Sunday, June 16th – Pride Potluck at St. Stephen's after the service

Vestry Members

Janet Thorsrud & Susan Zaballos, *Senior Wardens* • Rob van der Molen, *Junior Warden* • Andy Lief, *Treasurer/Finance* • Jill Vaughn, *Clerk* • Anthony Francis •
Jessica Dickinson Goodman