

Fifth Sunday of Easter



St. Aidan's Episcopal Church
May 18, 2025 8:00 a.m.

The Liturgy of the Word

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 Savior. ***Amen.***

Christ Our Passover

Deacon Let us pray together,

Alleluia,

***Christ our Passover has been sacrificed for us; *
therefore let us keep the feast,***

***Not with the old leaven, the leaven of malice and evil, *
but with the unleavened bread of sincerity and truth. Alleluia.***

***Christ being raised from the dead will never die again; *
death no longer has dominion.***

***The death that Christ died was death to sin, once for all; *
but the life Christ lives, is life to God.***

***So also consider yourselves dead to sin, *
and alive to God in Christ Jesus. Alleluia.***

***Christ has been raised from the dead, *
the first fruits of those who have fallen asleep.***

***For since by a human being came death, *
by a human being has come also the resurrection of the dead.***

***For as in Adam all die, *
so also in Christ shall all be made alive. Alleluia.***

The Collect of the Day

Presider God be with you.

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

Presider Let us pray.

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

The First Reading

Lector A reading from Acts (11:1-18).

Now the apostles and the believers who were in Judea heard that the Gentiles had also accepted the word of God. So when Peter went up to Jerusalem, the circumcised believers criticized him, saying,

"Why did you go to uncircumcised men and eat with them?" Then Peter began to explain it to them, step by step, saying, "I was in the city of Joppa praying, and in a trance I saw a vision. There was something like a large sheet coming down from heaven, being lowered by its four corners; and it came close to me. As I looked at it closely I saw four-footed animals, beasts of prey, reptiles, and birds of the air. I also heard a voice saying to me, 'Get up, Peter; kill and eat.' But I replied, 'By no means, Lord; for nothing profane or unclean has ever entered my mouth.' But a second time the voice answered from heaven, 'What God has made clean, you must not call profane.' This happened three times; then everything was pulled up again to heaven. At that very moment three men, sent to me from Caesarea, arrived at the house where we were. The Spirit told me to go with them and not to make a distinction between them and us. These six brothers also accompanied me, and we entered the man's house. He told us how he had seen the angel standing in his house and saying, 'Send to Joppa and bring Simon, who is called Peter; he will give you a message by which you and your entire household will be saved.' And as I began to speak, the Holy Spirit fell upon them just as it had upon us at the beginning. And I remembered the word of the Lord, how he had said, 'John baptized with water, but you will be baptized with the Holy Spirit.' If then God gave them the same gift that he gave us when we believed in the Lord Jesus Christ, who was I that I could hinder God?" When they heard this, they were silenced. And they praised God, saying, "Then God has given even to the Gentiles the repentance that leads to life."

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

Psalm 148

The Deacon introduces the Psalm and reads the Antiphon at the beginning and ending of the Psalm. All join in reading the bolded text.

Antiphon The Name of the Most High is exalted above heaven and earth. **Hallelujah.**

- 1 Praise God from the heavens and in the heights,***
- 2 praise God all you angel hosts.**
- 3 Praise God, sun and moon and all you shining stars,***
- 4 praise God, heaven of heavens, and you waters above the heavens.**
- 5 Let them praise your Name, O Most High;*
for you commanded, and they were created.**
- 6 You made them stand fast for ever and ever;*
you gave them a law which shall not pass away.**
- 7 Praise our God from the earth,* you seamonsters and all deeps;**
- 8 Fire and hail, snow and fog,* tempestuous winds, doing God's will;**
- 9 Mountains and all hills,* fruit trees and all cedars;**
- 10 Wild beasts and all cattle,* creeping things and winged birds;**
- 11 Kings of the earth and all peoples,* princes and all rulers of the world;**
- 12 Young men and maidens,* old and young together**
- 13 Let them praise your Name, O Most High,*
for your Name only is exalted, your splendor is over earth and heaven.**
- 14 You have raised up strength for your people and praise for all your loyal servants,*
the children of Israel, a people who are near you. Hallelujah.**

Antiphon The Name of the Most High is exalted above heaven and earth. Hallelujah.

The Second Reading

Lector A reading from Revelation (21:1-6).

I saw a new heaven and a new earth; for the first heaven and the first earth had passed away, and the sea was no more. And I saw the holy city, the new Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God, prepared as a bride adorned for her husband. And I heard a loud voice from the throne saying,

"See, the home of God is among mortals.
He will dwell with them as their God;
they will be his peoples,
and God himself will be with them;
he will wipe every tear from their eyes.
Death will be no more;
mourning and crying and pain will be no more,
for the first things have passed away."

And the one who was seated on the throne said, "See, I am making all things new." Also he said, "Write this, for these words are trustworthy and true." Then he said to me, "It is done! I am the Alpha and the Omega, the beginning and the end. To the thirsty I will give water as a gift from the spring of the water of life."

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

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

The Gospel

Deacon The Holy Gospel of our Savior Jesus Christ according to John (13:31-35).

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

At the last supper, when Judas had gone out, Jesus said, "Now the Son of Man has been glorified, and God has been glorified in him. If God has been glorified in him, God will also glorify him in himself and will glorify him at once. Little children, I am with you only a little longer. You will look for me; and as I said to the Jews so now I say to you, 'Where I am going, you cannot come.' I give you a new commandment, that you love one another. Just as I have loved you, you also should love one another. By this everyone will know that you are my disciples, if you have love for one another."

Deacon The Gospel of our Savior.

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

The Sermon

David Mealy

Silence *After the sermon, a bell will sound to mark a period of silence. The bell will sound a second time to mark the conclusion of this time.*

Nicene Creed

Deacon Together, let us join in saying 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 human.
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;
Who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified;
Who 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.*

Prayers of the People

Deacon or Presider

God of wonder, we come to you like the women on the first Easter, transformed by the resurrection, remembering and sharing Jesus' words as they returned from the tomb.

Intercessor

God of renewal, we pray for the universal church. In response to the increasing mean spiritedness of world governments, help your church recommit to justice and good will for all peoples.

Deacon or officiant reads the church cycles of prayer and invites additional prayers

Like the women at the empty tomb,

We remember his words.

God of compassion, we pray for our divided nation amid political disaster and lift up all whose lives and livelihoods are under threat. Strengthen our resolve to seek justice, love mercy, and walk humbly with our God.

Deacon or officiant reads the prayers for justice and invites additional prayers

Like the women at the empty tomb,

We remember his words.

God of healing, we pray for all who are troubled and suffering. May they know your restorative love. Strengthen us as wounded healers to aid in the recovery of others.

Deacon or officiant reads the names of those who have asked for our prayers, inviting additional names

Like the women at the empty tomb,

We remember his words.

God of resurrection we pray for those who have died to this life, that they may be received in the splendor of your heavenly embrace.

Deacon or officiant reads the names of those who have recently died, inviting additional names

Like the women at the empty tomb,

We remember his words.

God of abundance, we give thanks for the progress of the Community Kitchen Capital Campaign and pray that our new kitchen will strengthen community and open up new opportunities for hospitality.

Deacon or officiant and invites additional thanksgivings and reads the names of those with birthdays in the coming week

Like the women at the empty tomb,

We remember his words.

Creator and holder of all mysteries, we give thanks for the wonders of this world. Help us to be good stewards of the earth.

Deacon or officiant reads the land acknowledgment and invites additional prayers.

Like the women at the empty tomb,

We remember his words.

Deacon or Presider

Risen Christ who declared, “you are witnesses of these things”: we lift our prayers, our hearts, and our lives to you. ***Amen.***

The Peace

Presider The Peace of the risen Christ be always with you.

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

We greet each other in the name of Christ.

Announcements

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.

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 our God.

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

Presider

All thanks and praise are yours at all times and in all places, our true and loving God; through Jesus Christ, your eternal Word, the Wisdom from on high by whom you created all things. You laid the

foundations of the world and enclosed the sea when it burst out from the womb. You brought forth all creatures of the earth and gave breath to humankind.

Wondrous are you, Holy One of Blessing, all you create is a sign of hope for our journey. And so as the morning stars sing your praises we join the heavenly beings and all creation as we shout with joy:

***Holy, Holy, Holy, God of power and might,
heaven and earth are full of your glory.
Hosanna in the highest.
Blessed is the one who comes in the name of our God.
Hosanna in the highest.***

Presider

Glory and honor are yours, Creator of all. Your Word has never been silent; you called a people to yourself, as a light to the nations, you delivered them from bondage and led them to a land of promise.

Of your grace, you gave Jesus to be human, to share our life, to proclaim the coming of your holy reign and give himself for us, a fragrant offering. Through Jesus Christ our Redeemer, you have freed us from sin, brought us into your life, reconciled us to you, and restored us to the glory you intend for us.

We thank you that on the night before he died for us Jesus took bread, and when he had given thanks to you, he broke it, gave it to his friends and said: "Take, eat, this is my Body, broken for you. Do this for the remembrance of me."

After supper Jesus took the cup of wine, said the blessing, gave it to his friends and said: "Drink this, all of you: this cup is the new Covenant in my Blood, poured out for you and for all for the forgiveness of sin. Do this for the remembrance of me."

And so, remembering all that was done for us: the cross, the tomb, the resurrection and ascension, longing for Christ's coming in glory, and presenting to you these gifts your earth has formed and human hands have made, we acclaim you, O Christ:

Presider and People

Dying, you destroyed our death.

Rising, you restored our life.

Christ Jesus, come in glory!

Presider

Send your Holy Spirit upon us and upon these gifts of bread and wine that they may be to us the Body and Blood of your Christ. Grant that we, burning with your Spirit's power, may be a people of hope, justice and love. Giver of Life, draw us together in the Body of Christ, and in the fullness of time gather us with blessed Aidan and all your people into the joy of our true eternal home.

Through Christ and with Christ and in Christ, by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, we worship you our God and Creator in voices of unending praise.

Presider and People

Blessed are you now and for ever. AMEN.

Deacon

As our Savior taught us, we now pray,

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 and forgive us our debts
as we forgive our debtors.***

Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil.

For the kingdom, the power and the glory are yours, now and forever. 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. All are welcome at God's table.

This Altar belongs to God and all are welcome to partake, wherever you are on your journey of faith.

*If you choose to not receive the bread or wine, you are also welcome to come forward for a blessing;
simply cross your arms over your chest.*

The Bread and wine are shared with these words:

The Body of Christ, the bread of heaven. The Blood of Christ, the cup of salvation.

During Communion, those present via Zoom are encouraged to pray the following prayer for Spiritual Communion:

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.

The Deacon or officiant removes the bread and wine from the table.

Post-Communion Prayer

Presider Let us pray.

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

Healing Prayer

The people are invited to share a request for healing prayer.

You may make a request for yourself or on behalf of another. The Presider then offers a prayer.

Easter Blessing

Presider

May the blessing of the God of Abraham and Sarah, and of Jesus Christ born of our sister Mary, and of the Holy Spirit, who broods over the world as a mother over her children, be upon you and remain with you always. ***Amen.***

The Dismissal

Deacon Let us go out into the world rejoicing in the power of the Spirit. Alleluia, Alleluia!

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

Serving St. Aidan's

The Rev. Cameron Partridge, *Presider*

The Rev. Margaret Dyer-Chamberlain, *Deacon*

David Mealy, *Preacher*

Kit Cameron, *Altar Guild*

Barbara Stevenson, *Bread Baker*

LITURGY ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

- The cover image is a compilation of photos taken between February 2022 and March 2024 by Cameron and Deacon Margaret of the flowers of St. Aidan's, as planted and tended by our Good News Gardens team, with joyful thanksgiving for all their efforts and for those of St. Aidanites who have gone home to God.
- 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 Prayers of the People for Easter 2025 were written by Doug Barnett and edited by Cameron, drawing upon the resurrection account of the Gospel of Luke.
- The Eucharistic Prayer is Prayer 3 from *Enriching Our Worship I* (New York: Church Publishing, 1998), 62-65.
- The Post Communion Prayer is from *Enriching Our Worship I*, p. 69.
- The prayer for Spiritual Communion is adapted from the version 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 from *Enriching Our Worship I*, p. 70.

Announcements

Community Kitchen Capital Campaign Update

The response of the St. Aidan's community to our proposal for a Community Kitchen has been truly amazing and heartwarming. The Kitchen Campaign dinner on April 5 turned into a grand celebration as we announced we were close to having the funds needed. Since the dinner, other pledges and gifts have come forth, and we are now confident that we can proceed with construction. At its April meeting, the vestry voted to go ahead and authorize the rector to enter into a contract with Midglen Studio. The next step will be to finalize drawings and apply for permits, with construction expected to start in the summer.

Now that we know we will have the funds for construction, we are beginning to flesh out what else we will need to go along with the new kitchen, such as utensils and furnishings for a fully functional kitchen, plus new storage to replace what we are losing in the existing space. In the weeks ahead, the Capital Campaign Committee will be contacting members who have not yet had an opportunity to pledge or make a donation to this transformative project. We hope everyone will want to be a part of this community effort.

Margaret Dyer-Chamberlain, Kate Fritz, David Mealy, Dave Frangquist, Cameron Partridge

'The Episcopal Church in Conversation With: The Rev. Cameron Partridge of TransEpiscopal' **Friday, May 23 from 10-10:30 AM**

Cameron will be on a webinar/podcast, the first in a new series hosted by the Episcopal Church's Office of Government Relations. As OGR's ad for the event describes it:

Join the church's Office of Government Relations for a new series highlighting church leaders in conversation about current issues. This inaugural webinar will feature the Rev. Cameron Partridge, a founding member of TransEpiscopal and a rector in San Francisco. [Learn more and register online.](#)

Cameron will speak about his experiences as a trans clergy person, the current political environment, and the work of TransEpiscopal. We will share ways to learn more about the threats to the trans community and offer ways for you to stay informed, engaged, and supporting.

Wrestling with the Scriptures now meets every fourth Tuesday at 10:30 am (via Zoom). The next meeting will be on **May 27**. Please feel free to reach out to the office for the Zoom access information: office@staidansf.org.

Pride Poster Pizza Party! Friday, June 6 from 6-8 PM

Join us on Friday evening, June 6th for a poster-making party to prepare for LGBTQIA+ Pride gatherings and parades in San Francisco and around the Bay Area in the weeks to come! We'll listen to music, eat pizza and get creative in community as we make posters. Our goal is to show up as queer, trans and allied Episcopalians, Christians, and people of faith at Pride events this year in a spirit of support, love, and unabashed queer joy. As Jesus declared to Lazarus... COME OUT!!

Good News Gardens

Our next gardening date is: **Saturday, June 14. Timing – 12:30-2 pm.** Please feel free to reach out to Deacon Margaret with any questions at mdyerc@stanford.edu.

Save the Date: Come & See - a Retreat for Young Adults by DioCal's Young Adult Ministry Working Group

The Young Adult Ministry Working Group is organizing a retreat for young adults (18-39) to fellowship, connect, pray, and rest.

Date: Friday, August 29 - Sunday, August 31

Place: Bishop's Ranch

Please fill out this form if you would like to be contacted when registration opens in

June: bit.ly/ComeSeeRetreat

St. Aidan's Gourmet Book Club

We will continue to meet via zoom with LeeAnn DeSalles serving as our zoom master. If you need the link or would like help with zoom, please contact LeeAnn at leeanndesalles@comcast.net. If you would like to be on the Book Group's mailing list, please contact elaine@mannon.com.

- **Monday, June 2, 2025. 7:00 p.m.**
 - *Horse* – by Geraldine Brooks – A story about humanity in all its ugliness and beauty as it depicts our unfinished reckoning with racism. Based on the true story of a record-breaking thoroughbred, Lexington. (416 pages)
- **Monday, June 30, 2025. 7:00 p.m.**
 - *The Light Eaters: How the Unseen World of Plant Intelligence Offers New Understanding of Life on Earth* - by Zoe Schlanger (298 pages)

Contemplative Prayer: Tuesday & Thursday from 9-10 AM via Zoom

We offer Contemplative prayer 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. Please feel free to reach out to the office for the Zoom access information: office@staidansf.org.

Morning Prayer: M/W/F at 7:30 AM (Mon & Wed Hybrid, Fri Zoom)

We offer Morning Prayer in hybrid mode (at church and via Zoom) on Mondays and Wednesdays, and on Fridays via Zoom only. Please feel free to reach out to the office for the Zoom access information: office@staidansf.org.

Evening Prayer: Wednesdays at 6:30 PM via Zoom

We offer Evening Prayer via Zoom. Readings for the day are from the Episcopal Church's daily lectionary or calendar of saints, and the service includes a brief reflection time on the readings. Please feel free to reach out to the office for the Zoom access information: office@staidansf.org

Mask Policy: We respect the preference of anyone who feels safer by masking. We will also maintain a well-ventilated sanctuary by opening doors and windows. Our mask policy may be modified again as appropriate.

To add an announcement to the weekly bulletin of the Flame, please send your edited text no later than 11:00 am Wednesday to office@staidansf.org

Calendar for the Week of May 18, 2025

Sunday, May 18	Holy Eucharist (Hybrid) at 8 & 10 AM
Monday, May 19	Morning Prayer (Hybrid) at 7:30 AM
Tuesday, May 20	Contemplative Prayer (via Zoom) at 9 AM
Wednesday, May 21	Morning Prayer (Hybrid) at 7:30 AM Evening Prayer (Hybrid) at 6:30 PM
Thursday, May 22	Contemplative Prayer (via Zoom) at 9 AM Kaffeeklatsch (via Zoom) at 3 PM
Friday, May 23	Morning Prayer (via Zoom) at 7:30 AM Food Pantry (at church) from 1-2 PM
Saturday, May 24	

St. Aidan's Vestry

Barbara Stevenson, *Senior Warden*;
Lee Hammack, *Junior Warden*
Dave Frangquist, *Treasurer*;
Susan Spencer, *Clerk*
Gilbert Chavez, Sarah Glover, Janet Lohr,
Roya Rettberg, Margaret Tait, Margie Wolcott

Staff e-mail addresses

Cameron: rector@staidansf.org
Cary: office@staidansf.org
Mina Marie: music@staidansf.org

St. Aidan's Prayers

In Your Prayers, Please Remember:

In acknowledgment that St. Aidan's is located within the unceded ancestral land of the Yelamu tribe of the Ramaytush Ohlone people, with gratitude for their ongoing relationship with this holy place.

In the Episcopal Church: For Sean our Presiding Bishop; for Julia, President of the House of Deputies, and for the Executive Council of the Episcopal Church.

In the Anglican Cycle of Prayer: For the Episcopal Church in Jerusalem & The Middle East.

In the Diocesan Cycle of Prayer: For Austin, our bishop; for Grace, Martinez

In our Parish Cycle of Prayer: For the Christian Formation Ministries.

For those with birthdays this week: Emily, Caitlin, Lee, Deborah.

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

For those who have asked for our prayers: Albert T, Aubrey M., Audrey D., Bernard D., Denise, Doris, Harlean D., Isaac C., Jaime, Janice T., Jean W., Jenny M., Jim O., Joe, Joelle, Judy B., Lynne and Meg S., Margarita, Marc L., Mark, Matthew G., Mercedes, Mina Marie, Nicole M., Owen, Pat K., Patricia, Paul M. and family, Pete M., Peter G., Rebecca, Richie and family, Sarah G., Susan R., Tim F., and in the St. Cyprian's community for Adrian W., and Jasmine H.

Thanksgiving for healing: Don F.

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

For our work in the world in our daily lives and for the ministries of the Friday Food Pantry and Diamond Diners.

For our congregation as we embrace our call to practice sanctuary: may we commit ourselves to prayer, education, and support for immigrants to this country and for all who are estranged, excluded, or threatened in 21st century America. We pray in thanksgiving for the numerous gifts our refugee and immigrant siblings have brought, and continue to bring, to our country.

For all who are struggling in this time of intensified injustice and polarization in our country and around the world: for strengthened relationships and deepened commitment to our common life and the well-being of our planet.

For those who have recently died: Lois Roach, Shirley Sabin, Angela Hunkler, The Rev. Robert Cromeey, Irma Pride, Marilyn Joyce Thomte, Father John Shozawa, Alton Woo, Kathy Randlett, Michelle Henry, and in the St. Cyprian's community for Pia Harris.

To place a name on our prayer list, please contact the church office at 415-285-9540, ext. 3 or 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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