

St. Stephen's 
Episcopal Church
Welcoming Worshiping Working

The Holy Eucharist
for the Sundays from
Easter Day to Pentecost and Trinity Sunday



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ststephensslo.org

Introduction to Easter, Pentecost and Trinity Sunday



The feast of Easter is a season of 50 days, from Easter Eve through the Day of Pentecost. From early times the Greek word pentecost (50th day) was used also for the whole Paschal season. During this season there is no fasting. The Council of Nicaea (325) directed Christians to pray standing. "Alleluia" (praise the Lord) is said or sung repeatedly. The color of liturgical vestments and hangings is white or gold. It is customary for the Paschal candle to burn at all services of the Easter season. "Alleluia, alleluia" may be added to the dismissals and their responses during the Great 50 Days. On the Day of Pentecost, the Holy Spirit came to the Disciples (Acts 2:1), shortly after Jesus' Death, Resurrection and Ascension. The

day is considered the "birthday of the Church". Trinity Sunday is the feast that celebrates "the one and equal glory" of Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, "in Trinity of Persons and in Unity of Being" (BCP p380). It is celebrated on the first Sunday after Pentecost and is one of the seven principal feasts of the church year. – *"An Episcopal Dictionary of the Church, A User-Friendly Reference for Episcopalians", Church Publishing Incorporated*

St. Stephen's Episcopal Church welcomes all persons to an open, caring Christian community that seeks to follow the example of Jesus Christ. Wherever you may be on your spiritual path, you are invited to worship, study and work with us. St. Stephen's is a congregation of families and singles, children and seniors, and a diversity of ethnicities, races, sexual orientations, interests, and backgrounds. We are followers of Jesus, guided by His teaching and example to love God and our neighbor. We welcome all people regardless of age, gender, sexual orientation, marital status, racial background, mental or physical ability, recovery, political belief, economic condition, and all other expressions of what it means to be human. We invite you to worship with us and walk with us no matter where you are on your spiritual journey.

- This booklet contains the order of service and prayers and music that are used every Sunday for a certain period. There is also a smaller insert with this Sunday's hymns and readings. Hymns are in the blue book in the pew rack: The Hymnal 1982.
- We have two services on Sunday morning: 8am and 10am. At 10am, children can remain with you in the service, or participate in Sunday School classes. Ask the usher for directions.
- After the service you are invited to be seated for the Postlude music or go quietly in peace after the blessing.
- Refreshments are provided in the Parish Hall behind the church after the 10am service.

*Whoever you are, and wherever you are on your spiritual journey,
St. Stephen's welcomes you!*

The Episcopal Church is related to the Church of England and part of the worldwide Anglican Communion. We are part of the Diocese of El Camino Real, which is a grouping churches from San Luis Obispo County to Santa Clara County.

St. Stephen's was founded in 1867 as the first organized Protestant church in San Luis Obispo County. The original church building, locally known as a "carpenter gothic" gem, was built of Monterey Pine beams from Cambria, CA and covered with redwood on this site, which cost \$10. The rich hues of our memorial stained-glass windows reflect both a pioneer heritage and a radiant future. The building today still retains the lines and flavor of the original structure.

Sunday Morning Services:

8am Quiet, contemplative Holy Eucharist

10am Holy Eucharist with music and Sunday School

Please check the weekly bulletin or our website for other services and activities.

www.ststephensslo.org

Land Acknowledgement

We acknowledge that we gather on the traditional territory and homelands of the yak tit'yu tit'yu yak tiłhini (ytt) Northern Chumash people, the first peoples of San Luis Obispo, who are still here, and we honor with gratitude the land itself and the life of the Chumash Tribe. Acknowledging the land is a transformative act that works to undo the intentional erasure of indigenous peoples.

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Mission Statement

Our mission as a parish is to open our hearts to God and to share Christ's unconditional love with the world. We do this by following three pathways:

Welcoming

We invite all to join us at every stage on their spiritual journeys.

Worshiping

We cultivate a living tradition of liturgy and a life made holy by the sacraments.

Working

We share our abundance, we strive for justice, and we accept our calling to protect God's creation.



The Liturgy of the Word

Processional Hymn

*Hymns numbers are listed on the hymn board above the first pew on the righthand side.
Most hymns are in the blue "Hymnal 1982".*

Opening Acclamation

Alleluia. Christ is risen.

The Lord is risen indeed. Alleluia!

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.

The Gloria

The People and Ministers say at 8am and sing at 10am

Glory to God in the highest, and peace to His people on earth.

Lord God, heavenly King, almighty God and Father,

we worship You, we give You thanks, we praise You for Your glory.

Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father, Lord God, Lamb of God,

You take away the sin of the world: have mercy on us;

You are seated at the right hand of the Father: receive our prayer.

For You alone are the Holy One, You alone are the Lord, You alone are the Most High,

Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit, in the glory of God the Father. Amen.

Holy Eucharist for the Sundays from Easter Day to Pentecost and Trinity Sunday

1. Glo - ry to God in the high - est, and
peace to his peo - ple on earth. 2. Lord God, heaven - ly
King, al - mighty God and Fa - ther, we wor - ship you, we
give you thanks, we praise you for your glo - ry. 3. Lord Je - sus
Christ, on - ly Son of the Fa - ther, Lord God, Lamb of God, 4. you
take a - way the sin of the world: have mer - cy
on us; 5. you are seat - ed at the right hand of the Fa - ther: re -
ceive our prayer. 6. For you a - lone are the Ho - ly One,
you a - lone are the Lord, 7. you a - lone are the Most
High, Je - sus Christ, with the Ho - ly Spi - rit, in the
glo - ry of God the Fa - ther. A - men.

Holy Eucharist for the Sundays from Easter Day to Pentecost and Trinity Sunday

The Collect of the Day

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Let us pray.

The priest says the Collect of the Day, and all respond

Amen.

All sit.

The Lessons

A Reading from...

After each Reading, the Reader may say

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

The Psalm

A Psalm is said or sung together.

Robert Knox Kennedy
(b. 1945)



Holy Eucharist for the Sundays from Easter Day to Pentecost and Trinity Sunday

Sequence Hymn

The Gospel

The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to...

Glory to you, Lord Christ.

After the Gospel, the Reader says

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, Lord Christ.

The Sermon

We receive a response to the day's readings from the Preacher.

The Nicene Creed

All standing and facing the altar.

**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,
was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the Virgin Mary and became truly human.
For our sake He was crucified under Pontius Pilate; He suffered death and was buried.**

Holy Eucharist for the Sundays from Easter Day to Pentecost and Trinity Sunday

**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,
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.

The Prayers of the People

The People are invited to pray.

We pray to Jesus who is present with us to eternity.

The Intercessor leads the People in prayer.

Risen Lord, we pray for Your holy Catholic Church;

That we all may be one.

Grant that, our Vestry, Lay Ministers, those of the many ministries at St Stephen's,
and every member of the Church may truly and humbly serve You;

That Your Name may be glorified by all people.

Holy Eucharist for the Sundays from Easter Day to Pentecost and Trinity Sunday

We pray for (*our clergy*)

and for all bishops, priests, and deacons;

That they may be faithful ministers of Your Word and Sacraments.

We pray for the President, our Legislators in Washington, DC,

the Governor and our State Legislators, the Judiciary

and for all who govern and hold authority in the nations of the world;

That there may be justice and peace on the earth.

Give us grace to do Your will in all that we undertake;

That our works may find favor in Your sight.

Have compassion on [*...those in need are named here...*]

and those persons whom the congregation now names...

and all those who suffer from any grief or trouble;

That they may be delivered from their distress.

Give eternal rest to [*...those who have died are named here...*]

and those persons whom the congregation now names...

and to all the departed.

Let light perpetual shine upon them.

We praise You for Your saints who have entered into joy;

May we also come to share in Your heavenly kingdom.

Let us pray for our own needs and those of others.

Silence is kept during which the People offer their own prayers, either silently or aloud.

Holy Eucharist for the Sundays from Easter Day to Pentecost and Trinity Sunday

The Presider adds the concluding collect

Jesus Christ,

keep the Church in the unity of the Spirit and in the bond of peace,
and bring the whole created order to worship at Your feet;
for You are alive and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever.

Amen.

There is no Confession during the Easter Season.

The Peace

The risen Christ came and stood among his disciples and said, 'Peace be with you.'

Then were they glad when they saw the Lord.

The peace of Christ be always with you.

And also with you.

Then the Ministers and People may greet one another in the name of the Lord.

Holy Eucharist for the Sundays from Easter Day to Pentecost and Trinity Sunday

Welcome, Birthdays, Anniversaries, Announcements

Birthdays

O God, our times are in your hand:

Look with favor, we pray, on Your servant *N.* as s/he begins another year.

Grant that s/he may grow in wisdom and grace,

and strengthen his/her trust in Your goodness all the days of his/her life;

through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Anniversaries

Most gracious God,

we praise You for the tender mercy and unfailing care

revealed to us in Jesus the Christ

and for the great joy and comfort bestowed upon us in the gift of human love.

We give You thanks for *N.* and *N.*, and the covenant of faithfulness they have made.

Pour out the abundance of Your Holy Spirit upon them.

Keep them in Your steadfast love; protect them from all danger;

fill them with Your wisdom and peace;

lead them in holy service to each other and the world;

through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

The Holy Communion

The Offertory

Walk in love, as Christ loved us and gave Himself for us, an offering and sacrifice to God.

The Choir sings an anthem as a collection is taken for the work of St Stephen's. Representatives of the congregation bring the people's offerings of bread and wine, and money or other gifts, to the altar.

The Offering of the Gifts

The people stand after the offerings are presented and placed on the Altar.

At 8am

Yours, Lord, is the greatness, the power, the glory, the splendor, and the majesty; for everything in heaven and on earth is Yours.

All things come from You, and of Your own do we give You.

At 10am

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; Praise Him, all creatures here be -
low; Al-le - lu - ia! Al-le - lu - ia! Praise Him a - bove, ye Heaven - ly host; Praise
Fa - ther, Son and Ho - ly Ghost. Oh_ praise Him, Oh_ praise Him, Al - le -
lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia!

Holy Eucharist for the Sundays from Easter Day to Pentecost and Trinity Sunday

The Great Thanksgiving

The Episcopal Church *Enriching Our Worship*: Eucharistic Prayer 1

The people remain standing.

The Lord is here!

God's Spirit is with us!

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give God thanks and praise.

It is truly right, and good and joyful, to give You thanks, all-holy God,
source of life and fountain of mercy.

*The Presider includes the appropriate preface for
Eastertide, Pentecost Sunday and Trinity Sunday.*

Therefore, joining with Angels and Archangels and with the faithful of every generation,
we lift our voices with all creation as we say:

**Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,
heaven and earth are full of Your glory. Hosanna in the highest.
Blessed He who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.**

Holy Eucharist for the Sundays from Easter Day to Pentecost and Trinity Sunday

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.

Blessed are You, gracious God, creator of the universe and giver of life.
You formed us in Your own image and called us to dwell in Your infinite love.
You gave the world into our care that we might be Your faithful stewards
and show forth Your bountiful grace.
But we failed to honor Your image in one another and in ourselves;
we would not see Your goodness in the world around us;
and so we violated Your creation, abused one another, and rejected Your love.
Yet You never ceased to care for us, and prepared the way of salvation for all people.

Through Abraham and Sarah, You called us into covenant with You.
You delivered us from slavery, sustained us in the wilderness,
and raised up prophets to renew Your promise of salvation.
Then, in the fullness of time, You sent Your eternal Word, made mortal flesh in Jesus.
Born into the human family, and dwelling among us, He revealed Your glory.
Giving Himself freely to death on the cross, He triumphed over evil,
opening the way of freedom and life.

Holy Eucharist for the Sundays from Easter Day to Pentecost and Trinity Sunday

On the night before He died for us, Our Savior Jesus Christ took bread,
and when He had given thanks to You, He broke it, 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.”

As supper was ending, Jesus took the cup of wine,
and when He had given thanks, He gave it to them, and said:
“Drink this, all of you: This is my Blood of the new Covenant,
which is poured out for you and for all for the forgiveness of sins.
Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me.”

Therefore we proclaim the mystery of faith:

Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.

Remembering His Death and Resurrection,
we now present to You from Your creation this bread and this wine.
By Your Holy Spirit may they be for us the Body and Blood of our Savior Jesus Christ.
Grant that we who share these gifts may be filled with the Holy Spirit
and live as Christ’s Body in the world.
Bring us into the everlasting heritage of Your daughters and sons,
that with St Stephen and all Your saints, past, present, and yet to come,
we may praise Your Name for ever.
Through Christ and with Christ and in Christ, in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
to You be honor, glory, and praise, for ever and ever.
Amen.

Holy Eucharist for the Sundays from Easter Day to Pentecost and Trinity Sunday

The Lord's Prayer

As at the Day of Pentecost, use any form or language with which you most feel comfortable.

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

Our Father 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 Breaking of the Bread

The Priest breaks the consecrated Bread. Then the following is said at 8am and sung at 10am.

Alleluia. Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us;

Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia.

Congregation
Al - le - lu - ia, Al - le - lu - ia, Al - le - lu - ia.

Verse Cantor
(Verse appointed for the day)

Congregation
Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

The Gifts of God for the People of God.

Take them in remembrance that Christ died for you,

and feed on Him in your hearts by faith, with thanksgiving.

Holy Eucharist for the Sundays from Easter Day to Pentecost and Trinity Sunday

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

At St. Stephen's, all are welcome to come to the altar. If you would like to receive Communion / the Sacrament, please place your hands, palms upward, to receive the bread, and then receive the wine from the chalice. If you would prefer a blessing, please cross your arms over your chest and bow your head for a blessing from the Priest.

The Bread and the Cup are given with these words

The Body of Christ, the bread of heaven. [Amen.]

The Blood of Christ, the cup of salvation. [Amen.]

During the ministration of Communion, hymns or anthems may be sung.

Post-Communion Prayer

After Communion, the Priest says

Let us pray.

**Almighty and everliving God,
we thank You for feeding us with the spiritual food
of the most precious Body and Blood of Your Son our Savior Jesus Christ;
and for assuring us in these holy mysteries
that we are living members of the Body of Your Son, and heirs of Your eternal kingdom.
And now, Father, send us out to do the work You have given us to do,
to love and serve You as faithful witnesses of Christ our Lord.
To Him, to You, and to the Holy Spirit, be honor and glory, now and for ever.
Amen.**

Holy Eucharist for the Sundays from Easter Day to Pentecost and Trinity Sunday

The Sending forth of the Lay Eucharistic Visitors:

**N. In the name of this congregation we send you forth bearing these Holy gifts
that those to whom you go may share with us
in the Communion of Christ's Body and Blood.
We who are many are One body because we share One bread, One cup.
Amen.**

The Blessing

God, who through the resurrection of our Lord Jesus Christ has given us the victory,
give you joy and peace in your faith;
Amen.

Final Hymn

Dismissal

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

Holy Eucharist for the Sundays from Easter Day to Pentecost and Trinity Sunday

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