

**WELCOME TO ST. STEPHEN'S!**  
**Second Sunday after Easter**  
**April 12th, 2026 -11:00 AM**

*Processional Hymn: Christ Who's Glories Fill the Skies*

Hymnal 7

*Celebrant:* Alleluia! Christ is risen!

*People:* ***The Lord is risen indeed! Alleluia!***

*Celebrant:* There is one Body and one Spirit

*People:* ***There is one hope in God's call to us***

*Celebrant:* One Lord, one Faith, one Baptism

*People:* ***One God and Father of all***

*Celebrant:* The Lord be with you.

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

*Celebrant:* Let us pray.

**Collect of the Feast:**

Almighty and everlasting God, who in the Paschal mystery established the new covenant of reconciliation: Grant that all who have been reborn into the fellowship of Christ's Body may show forth in their lives what they profess by their faith; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever.

*Amen.*

**1<sup>st</sup> Lesson: Acts 2:14a, 22-32**

Peter, standing with the eleven, raised his voice and addressed the crowd, "You that are Israelites, listen to what I have to say: Jesus of Nazareth, a man attested to you by God with deeds of power, wonders, and signs that God did through him among you, as you yourselves know— this man, handed over to you according to the definite plan and foreknowledge of God, you crucified and killed by the hands of those outside the law. But God raised him up, having freed him from death, because it was impossible for him to be held in its power. For David says concerning him,

‘I saw the Lord always before me,  
for he is at my right hand so that I will not be shaken;  
therefore my heart was glad, and my tongue rejoiced;  
moreover my flesh will live in hope.

For you will not abandon my soul to Hades,  
or let your Holy One experience corruption.

You have made known to me the ways of life;  
you will make me full of gladness with your presence.’

“Fellow Israelites, I may say to you confidently of our ancestor David that he both died and was buried, and his tomb is with us to this day. Since he was a prophet, he knew that God had sworn with an oath to him that he would put one of his descendants on his throne. Foreseeing this, David spoke of the resurrection of the Messiah, saying,

‘He was not abandoned to Hades,  
nor did his flesh experience corruption.’

This Jesus God raised up, and of that all of us are witnesses.”

**Psalm 16 (congregation to respond with verses in bold)**

1 Protect me, O God, for I take refuge in you; \*

**I have said to the LORD, "You are my Lord, my good above all other."**

2 All my delight is upon the godly that are in the land, \*

**upon those who are noble among the people.**

3 But those who run after other gods \*

**shall have their troubles multiplied.**

4 Their libations of blood I will not offer, \*

**nor take the names of their gods upon my lips.**

5 O LORD, you are my portion and my cup; \*

**it is you who uphold my lot.**

6 My boundaries enclose a pleasant land; \*

**indeed, I have a goodly heritage.**

7 I will bless the LORD who gives me counsel; \*

**my heart teaches me, night after night.**

8 I have set the LORD always before me; \*

**because he is at my right hand I shall not fall.**

9 My heart, therefore, is glad, and my spirit rejoices; \*

**my body also shall rest in hope.**

10 For you will not abandon me to the grave, \*

**nor let your holy one see the Pit.**

11 You will show me the path of life; \*

**in your presence there is fullness of joy, and in your right hand are pleasures for evermore.**

**Epistle Lesson: 1 Peter 1: 3-0-9**

Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ! By his great mercy he has given us a new birth into a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead, and into an inheritance that is imperishable, undefiled, and unfading, kept in heaven for you, who are being protected by the power of God through faith for a salvation ready to be revealed in the last time. In this you rejoice, even if now for a little while you have had to suffer various trials, so that the genuineness of your faith-- being more precious than gold that, though perishable, is tested by fire-- may be found to result in praise and glory and honor when Jesus Christ is revealed. Although you have not seen him, you love him; and even though you do not see him now, you believe in him and rejoice with an indescribable and glorious joy, for you are receiving the outcome of your faith, the salvation of your souls.

**Hymn:** *Shepherd of Souls, Refresh and Bless*

Hymnal 343, verses 1-2 before, 3-4 after

***Holy Gospel***                      ***John 20: 19-31***

When it was evening on that day, the first day of the week, and the doors of the house where the disciples had met were locked for fear of the Jews, Jesus came and stood among them and said, "Peace be with you." After he said this, he showed them his hands and his side. Then the disciples rejoiced when they saw the Lord. Jesus said to them again, "Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, so I send you." When he had said this, he breathed on them and said to them, "Receive the Holy Spirit. If you forgive the sins of any, they are forgiven them; if you retain the sins of any, they are retained."

But Thomas (who was called the Twin), one of the twelve, was not with them when Jesus came. So the other disciples told him, "We have seen the Lord." But he said to them, "Unless I see the mark of the nails in his hands, and put my finger in the mark of the nails and my hand in his side, I will not believe."

A week later his disciples were again in the house, and Thomas was with them. Although the doors were shut, Jesus came and stood among them and said, "Peace be with you." Then he said to Thomas, "Put your finger here and see my hands. Reach out your hand and put it in my side. Do not doubt but believe." Thomas answered him, "My Lord and my God!" Jesus said to him, "Have you believed because you have seen me? Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have come to believe."

Now Jesus did many other signs in the presence of his disciples, which are not written in this book. But these are written so that you may come to believe that Jesus is the Messiah, the Son of God, and that through believing you may have life in his name.

*Homily*

*Fr. Timothy Griffin*

*Presentation and Examination of the Candidates*

Prayer Book 301

Celebrant: The Candidate for Holy Baptism will now be presented: Please come to the Altar

**Baby: Brynn Marcial**

**Father: Saul Marcial**

**Mother: Haley Marcial**

**God Father: Jared Martin**

**God Mother: Shannon Hauser**

**Parents and Godparents say:    *I present Brynn to receive the Sacrament of Baptism***

Celebrant: Will you be responsible for seeing that the child you present is brought up in the Christian faith and life?

**Parents and Godparents:            *I will, with God's help.***

Celebrant: Will you by your prayers and witness help this child to grow into the full stature of Christ?

**Parents and Godparents:            *I will, with God's help.***

Celebrant: Do you renounce Satan and all the spiritual forces of wickedness that rebel against God?

**Parents and Godparents:            *I renounce them.***

Celebrant: Do you renounce the evil powers of this world which corrupt and destroy the creatures of God?

**Parents and Godparents:            *I renounce them.***

Celebrant: Do you renounce all sinful desires that draw you from the love of God?

**Parents and Godparents:            *I renounce them.***

Celebrant: Do you turn to Jesus Christ and accept him as your Savior?

**Parents and Godparents:            *I do.***

Celebrant: Do you put your whole trust in his grace and love?

**Parents and Godparents:**            *I do.*

Celebrant: Do you promise to follow and obey Him as your Lord?

**Parents and Godparents:**            *I do.*

Celebrant to the congregation: Will you who witness these vows do all in your power to support this child in her life in Christ?

**People:**                                    *We will*

Celebrant: Let us join with those who are committing themselves to Christ and renew our own baptismal covenant.

The Baptismal Covenant:

Prayer Book 304

Celebrant: Do you believe in God the Father?

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

Celebrant: Do you believe in Jesus Christ, the Son of God?

**People:**    *I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.*

*He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit and born of the Virgin Mary.*

*He 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, and is seated at the right hand of the Father.*

*He will come again to judge the living and the dead.*

Celebrant: Do you believe in God the Holy Spirit?

**People:**    *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.*

Celebrant: Will you continue in the apostles' teaching and fellowship, in the breaking of bread, and in the prayers?

**People:**    *I will, with God's help.*

Celebrant: Will you persevere in resisting evil, and, whenever you fall into sin, repent and return to the Lord?

**People:**    *I will, with God's help.*

Celebrant: Will you proclaim by word and example the Good News of God in Christ?

**People:**    *I will, with God's help.*

Celebrant: Will you seek and serve Christ in all persons, loving your neighbor as yourself?

**People:**    *I will, with God's help.*

Celebrant: Will you strive for justice and peace among all people, and respect the dignity of every human being?

**People:**    *I will, with God's help.*

*The Prayers for the Candidates*

Prayer Book 305

Celebrant: Let us now pray for Brynn, who is to receive the Sacrament of new birth.

Celebrant: Deliver her, O Lord, from the way of sin and death.

**People:**    *Lord, hear our prayer.*

Celebrant: Open her heart to your grace and truth.

**People:**    *Lord, hear our prayer.*

Celebrant: Fill her with your holy and life-giving Spirit.

**People:** *Lord, hear our prayer.*

Celebrant: Keep her in the faith and communion of your holy Church.

**People:** *Lord, hear our prayer.*

Celebrant: Teach her to love others in the power of the Spirit.

**People:** *Lord, hear our prayer.*

Celebrant: Send her into the world in witness to your love.

**People:** *Lord, hear our prayer.*

Celebrant: Bring her to the fullness of your peace and glory.

**People:** *Lord, hear our prayer.*

Celebrant: Grant, O Lord, that all who are baptized into the death of Jesus Christ your Son may live in the power of his resurrection and look for him to come again in glory; who lives and reigns now and for ever. *Amen*

*The Priest, family and child now head back to the baptismal font.*

### **Thanksgiving over the Water**

**Prayer Book 306**

Celebrant: The Lord be with you.

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

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

**People:** *It is right to give him thanks and praise.*

Celebrant: We thank you, Almighty God, for the gift of water. Over it the Holy Spirit moved in the beginning of creation. Through it you led the children of Israel out of their bondage in Egypt into the land of promise. In it your Son Jesus received the baptism of John and was anointed by the Holy Spirit as the Messiah, the Christ, to lead us, through his death and resurrection, from the bondage of sin into everlasting life.

We thank you, Father, for the water of Baptism. In it we are buried with Christ in his death. By it we share in his resurrection. Through it we are reborn by the Holy Spirit. Therefore in joyful obedience to your Son, we bring into his fellowship those who come to him in faith, baptizing them in the Name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

Now sanctify this water, we pray you, by the power of your Holy Spirit, that those who here are cleansed from sin and born again may continue for ever in the risen life of Jesus Christ our Savior.

To him, to you, and to the Holy Spirit, be all honor and glory, now and for ever. *Amen*

### **The Baptism:**

**Prayer Book 307**

Celebrant: Brynn, I baptize you in the Name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

**People:** *Amen*

Celebrant: Let us pray.

Heavenly Father, we thank you that by water and the Holy Spirit you have bestowed upon this your servant the

forgiveness of sin, and have raised her to the new life of grace. Sustain her, O Lord, in your Holy Spirit. Give her an inquiring and discerning heart, the courage to will and to persevere, a spirit to know and to love you, and the gift of joy and wonder in all your works. *Amen*

Celebrant: Brynn, you are sealed by the Holy Spirit in Baptism and marked as Christ's own for ever. *Amen*

Celebrant: Let us welcome the newly baptized, Brynn.

Celebrant and the People say together:

*We receive you into the household of God, Confess the faith of Christ crucified, proclaim his resurrection, and share with us in his eternal priesthood.*

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

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

*The Peace*

*Announcements*

*Offertory: Doxology of Praise (sung to the tune 'All Creatures of our God and King)*

Praise God from whom all blessings flow,

Praise him all creatures here below, Alleluia! Alleluia!

Praise him above ye heavenly host,

Praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost. Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

***It is desirable that we stand rather than kneel during the Great 50 Days of Easter.***

*Great Thanksgiving Eucharist Prayer*

Prayer Book 367

*Sanctus*

Hymnal S-130

*Lord's Prayer*

Prayer Book 364

The Celebrant breaks the consecrated Bread

Fractional Hymn

Hymnal S-155

### **Prayer of Humble Access**

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

Facing the people, the Celebrant gives the following Invitation:

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.



**We pray for healing:**

**in our fellowship for:** Kelly, Monica, Donald, Connie, Joan, Paula, Carlos, Fr. Abraham, Lynette, Eileen, Anna, Gabby, Shirley and Brenda

**In our extended fellowship we pray for:** Katie, Jennifer, Matthew, Deborah, Mary, Diane, Dorothy, Delores, Letiticia, Robert, Ceil, Carol, Frank, John, Eileen, Pete, Joseph, Tammy, Ed, Brooke, Joseph W., Donnie, Bill, Ron, Linda, David and Dale.

**In the food pantry community:**

Dan and Carolyn

**In our diocese, we pray for:**

Trinity Episcopal Church, Easton, PA  
All clergy Widow and Widowers

**In the greater Anglican communion,**  
**we pray for:**

St. John Limi Parish, Kajo Keji ; and  
The Peace of Jerusalem and the  
Anglican Church of Mozambique, Angola

**Dates to remember:**

**April 12<sup>th</sup> -** Healing prayers at the altar immediately following service

**April 18<sup>th</sup> -** Lasagna takeout dinner 4-5:30pm

**April 19<sup>th</sup> -** Vestry Meeting following coffee hour after service

**May 19<sup>th</sup> -** Iron Pigs outing. Gates open at 4:30. Game begins at 6:05

**May 30<sup>th</sup> -** Community Yard Sale 8am-1:00pm

Attendance for last week 04/05/26 service:  
in person 40, at least 4 on line

Mid-week Eucharist will resume this Wed, 4/15

There are two spots available for the Iron Pigs outing. Please let Val know if you are interested.  
Cost is \$55 per person.

**A hearty welcome to any who are visiting with us today.**

**Please join us for coffee hour and fellowship in the parish hall.**

***We are so pleased that you are with us!***