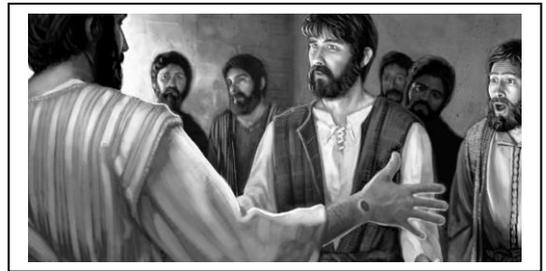


St. Stephen Presbyterian Church
Fort Worth, Texas
Service for the Lord's Day
April 18, 2021 – 11:00 a.m.
Children's Sabbath

† – Please stand, if able.



GATHERING IN THE NAME OF THE LORD

PRELUDE: *Tryggare kan ingen vara* (2002)

Robert A. Hobby (b. 1962)

PEAL OF THE TOWER BELLS

GREETING AND OPENING SENTENCES

Jackson Miles

Loving God, open our hearts and minds for the message you have for us today.
Help us to build our lives on the sturdy foundation of your grace. Amen.

† HYMN 301

Let Us Build a House (All Are Welcome)

TWO OAKS

PRAYER OF ADORATION

Joshua & Joseph Park

Leader: Almighty God, how wonderful you are. The universe shines with your glory and greatness.
Almighty Lord, how majestic you are. Every creation speaks of your breathtaking beauty.
Almighty God, how awesome you are. The mountains reflect the height of your mercy and
in the valleys the depth of your mercy.

People: **Almighty, Lord, how amazing you are. Each tree and flower are filled with your wonder.
I will lift my eyes to you, God, who is wonderful, majestic, awesome and amazing to all your
children and all your creation. Amen.**

PRAYER OF CONFESSION (*kneeling or bowing down*)

Zoe Jones

Leader: O, God, give us the vision to see ourselves as you see us. You see us in our goodness; you watch
us as we make mistakes daily.

People: **Give us the grace to be truly sorry for our sins. Give us the ability to admit our sins and
ask for forgiveness for our mistakes. Help us to learn kindness, gentleness and love. Amen.**

CHORAL RESPONSE 157: *I Danced in the Morning*

LORD OF THE DANCE

*They cut me down and I leapt up high. I am the life that will never, never die. I'll live in you if you'll live in
me. I am the Lord of the Dance, said he. Dance, then, wherever you may be; I am the Lord of the Dance, said
he, and I'll lead you all, wherever you may be, and I'll lead you all in the dance said he.*

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Rexy Fryman

Leader: Beloved, we are God's children now. Hear and believe the good news:

People: **In Jesus Christ we are forgiven. Amen.**

Leader: Please stand in place and turn to your neighbor to pass the peace of Christ.

† From where you are standing, turn and greet your neighbors in front and behind you as a sign of Christ's love
saying *The peace of Christ be with you.*"

† GLORIA PATRI

SCOTTISH

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost:
As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.

LITURGY OF THE WORD

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

Hudson Sapp

OLD TESTAMENT LESSON

Jeremiah 29:11-14

Easton & Everett Sapp

Leader: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

SPECIAL MUSIC “Kum Ba Ya” on Steel Drums and “Step by Step” on Chimes and Steel Drums
Children’s Choir, Accompanied by Amy Kats

LESSON FROM THE EPISTLE I John 3:1–7 **Joy Harris**

Leader: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

† **GOSPEL LESSON** Luke 24:36–48 **Burkley Massey**

Leader: This Gospel of the Lord.

People: Praise to you, O Christ.

Children’s Church: Children 5th grade and under are welcome to exit for Godly Play Bible story in the narthex.

SERMON: Resurrection: From Despair to Respair The Rev. Dr. Warner Bailey, Parish Associate

† **HYMN 377** *I Want to Walk as a Child of the Light* **HOUSTON**

† **AFFIRMATION OF FAITH - The Apostles’ Creed** **Rexy Fryman**

I believe in God the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth, and in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord; who was conceived by the Holy Ghost, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried; he descended into Hell; the third day he rose again from the dead; he ascended into heaven and sitteth on the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead. I believe in the Holy Ghost; the holy catholic church; the communion of saints; the forgiveness of sins; the resurrection of the body and the life everlasting. Amen.

MOMENT FOR MISSION: Vacation Bible School Volunteers Needed **Maris Miller**

INVITATION TO DISCIPLESHIP **Pastor Warner Bailey & Charlie Miles**

PRESENTATION OF TITHES AND OFFERINGS

OFFERTORY ANTHEM: *Day of Arising* (2013) David M. Cherwien (b. 1957)

*Day of arising, Christ on the roadway, unknown companion walks with his own.
When they invite him, as fades the first day, and bread is broken, Christ is made known.*

*When we are walking, doubtful and dreading, blinded by sadness, slowness of heart,
Yet Christ walks with us, ever awaiting our invitation: Stay, do not part.*

*Lo, I am with you, Jesus has spoken. This is Christ’s promise, this is Christ’s sign:
When the church gathers, when bread is broken, There Christ is with us in bread and wine.*

*Christ, our companion, hope for the journey, bread of compassion, open our eyes.
Grant us your vision, set all hearts burning that all creation with you may rise.*

† **DOXOLOGY**

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; Praise God, all creatures here below;
Praise God above, ye heavenly host; Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

INVITATION TO SACRAMENT OF THE LORD’S TABLE

The Lord’s Supper is open to all who seek to know God through Jesus Christ, regardless of religious background. Safe containers for the elements of bread and wine are located in the pew racks. There are two seals: one on the very top reveals a wafer and the one beneath it opens the grape juice. When you receive the elements, dip the wafer into the grape juice, then please drink the remainder of the grape juice. Set the juice containers in the pew racks when you are done.

PRAYER **Joy Harris**

GREAT PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING **Pastor Warner Bailey**

Leader: The Lord be with you.

All: And also with you.
Leader: Lift up your hearts.
All: We lift them to the Lord.
Leader: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
All: It is right to give God thanks and praise. (*prayer continues*)

ASSISTING WITH COMMUNION - Joy Harris, Burkley Massey, and Joshua Park

SANCTUS

Ho-ly, ho-ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow-er
 God of 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, ho - san - na in the high - est.

MEMORIAL ACCLAMATION

Leader: Great is the mystery of faith.

Christ has died; Christ is ris-en; Christ will come a - gain.
 Christ has died; Christ is ris - en; Christ will come a - gain.

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION FOR THE CHURCH AND THE WORLD

Margaret & David Germany

Leader: As God's people, let us pray for love filling the homes or tents or hearts of the all the families on earth.
People: Lord, hear our prayer.
Leader: We should pray for the animals and plants and trees, bugs and things, so that all can breathe and live on a clean earth.
People: Lord, hear our prayer.
Leader: Let us pray for those who provide peace to spread it like peanut butter over all the world.
People: Lord, hear our prayer.
Leader: God, color our community with people of all types so WE CAN BE different and colorfully kind to one another.
People: Lord, hear our prayer.
Leader: Loving God, please provide care for the sick; help us feed the hungry; give shelter to people who are cold or alone; help the world overcome the pandemic. AND maybe we can love like you, too.
People: Lord, hear ALL our prayers today. Amen.

THE LORD'S PRAYER (*kneeling or bowing down*)

Traditional Version

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 debts as we forgive our debtors;
 and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.
 For thine is the Kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.

WORDS OF INSTITUTION AND COMMUNION

COMMUNION INSTRUCTIONS:

Following the Words of Institution, when the pastor says, “**The Gifts of God for the people of God.**”, please partake of the communion by taking the piece of bread and dipping it into your cup. Drink the remaining juice and replace the cup in the pew rack.

If you are celebrating at home with one another, and feel that it is safe, serve the elements to one another.

When you offer or take the bread say: “**The bread of life.**”

When you take the cup say: “**The cup of salvation.**”

After communion, please observe this moment of silence.

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING FOLLOWING COMMUNION

Joshua Park

Leader: Bless the Lord, O my soul.

People: **And all that is in me, bless God’s Holy Name.**

Leader: Bless the Lord, O my soul,

People: **And forget not all God’s benefits.**

All: **Gracious God, may we who have received this sacrament live in the unity of your Holy Spirit, that we may show forth your gifts to all the world. We ask this in the name of Jesus Christ. Amen.**

DEPARTING IN GOD’S GRACE TO SERVE

SPECIAL MUSIC

“*Ode to Joy*”

Ludwig van Beethoven

Mother Daughter Violin Duet, Kim & Ayla Torgul

† PEAL OF THE TOWER BELLS

† BENEDICTION (*congregation facing the rear of the Nave*)

Payten, DJ. & Kennedi Fultz

You loved us so much that you sent Jesus into this world to spend time with us, to teach us, to show us your love, To heal us, to save us, to give us joy, and to give us peace. Send us out to share what you have taught bringing joy and healing to EVERYONE we meet. Amen,

POSTLUDE: *Postlude on ‘Hymn to Joy’* (2015)

Jason D. Payne (b. 1980)

The flowers today are given to the Glory of God in celebration of Children’s Sabbath by Tammy and Jim Hille.

PLEASE EXIT THROUGH THE WEST TRANSEPT DOORS ONLY.



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www.StStephenPresbyterian.com

The Reverend Dr. Fritz Ritsch, *Pastor*
The Reverend Dr. Warner M. Bailey, *Parish Associate*
Jordan Smith, *Organist & Director of Music Ministries*
Beth Fultz, *Director of Christian Education*