

St. Barnabas

EPISCOPAL PARISH

The Holy Eucharist

June 1, 2025

The Seventh Sunday of Easter

THE PRELUDE

"The head that once was crowned with thorns"

Organ setting by C. S. Lang

The Liturgy of Gathering

As the bell is rung, please stand in body or spirit.

THE GATHERING HYMN *

As We Gather at Your Table ELW-522

As we gath - er at your ta - ble, as we lis - ten to your word,
Turn our wor - ship in - to wit - ness in the sac - ra - ment of life;
Gra - cious Spi - rit, help us sum - mon oth - er guests to share that feast

help us know, O God, your pres - cence; let our hearts and minds be stirred.
send us forth to love and serve you, bring - ing peace where there is strife.
where tri - um - phant Love will wel - come those who had been last and least.

Nour - ish us with sa - cred sto - ry till we claim it as our own; -
Give us Christ, your great com - pas - sion to for - give as you for - gave; -
There no more will en - vy blind us nor will pride our peace de - stroy, -

teach us through this ho - ly ban - quest how to make Love's vic - t'ry known.
may we still be - hold your im - age in the world you died to save.
as we join with saints and an - gels to re - peat the sound - ing joy.

THE OPENING ACCLAMATION

Alleluia! Christ is risen.

Christ is risen indeed. Alleluia!

THE COLLECT FOR PURITY

Let us pray.... Almighty God, to you all hearts are open, all desires are 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.

THE HYMN OF PRAISE

Glory to God

The musical score for 'Glory to God' is written for a single melodic line on a treble clef staff. It begins with a key signature of one flat (B-flat) and a common time signature (C). The melody is marked with a '2' above the first measure, indicating a second ending. The lyrics are written below the staff, with hyphens indicating syllables that span across measures. The hymn concludes with a '3' above a final measure, indicating a third ending. The lyrics are: Glo - ry to God in the high - est, and peace to his peo - ple on earth. Lord God, heaven - ly King, al - might - y God and Fa - ther, we wor - ship you, we give you thanks, we praise you for your glo - ry. Lord Je - sus Christ, on - ly Son of the Fa - ther, Lord God, Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the world: have mer - cy on us; you are seat - ed at the right hand of the Fa - ther: re - ceive our prayer. For you a - lone are the Ho - ly One, you a - lone are the Lord, 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.

THE SALUTATION AND COLLECT OF THE DAY

God be with you.

And also with you.

Let us pray...O God, the King of glory, you have exalted your only Son Jesus Christ with great triumph to your kingdom in heaven: Do not leave us comfortless, but send us your Holy Spirit to strengthen us, and exalt us to that place where our Savior Christ has gone before; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, in glory everlasting. **Amen.**

Please be seated.

The Liturgy of the Word

THE FIRST READING

Acts 16:16-34

A reading from the Acts of the Apostles.

With Paul and Silas, we came to Philippi in Macedonia, a Roman colony, and, as we were going to the place of prayer, we met a slave girl who had a spirit of divination and brought her owners a great deal of money by fortune-telling. While she followed Paul and us, she would cry out, "These men are slaves of the Most High God, who proclaim to you a way of salvation." She kept doing this for many days. But Paul, very much annoyed, turned and said to the spirit, "I order you in the name of Jesus Christ to come out of her." And it came out that very hour.

But when her owners saw that their hope of making money was gone, they seized Paul and Silas and dragged them into the marketplace before the authorities. When they had brought them before the magistrates, they said, "These men are disturbing our city; they are Jews and are advocating customs that are not lawful for us as Romans to adopt or observe." The crowd joined in attacking them, and the magistrates had them stripped of their clothing and ordered them to be beaten with rods. After they had given them a severe flogging, they threw them into prison and ordered the jailer to keep them securely. Following these instructions, he put them in the innermost cell and fastened their feet in the stocks.

About midnight Paul and Silas were praying and singing hymns to God, and the prisoners were listening to them. Suddenly there was an earthquake, so violent that the foundations of the prison were shaken; and immediately all the doors were opened and everyone's chains were unfastened. When the jailer woke up and saw the prison doors wide open, he drew his sword and was about to kill himself, since he supposed that the prisoners had escaped. But Paul shouted in a loud voice, "Do not harm yourself, for we are all here." The jailer called for lights, and rushing in, he fell down trembling before Paul and Silas. Then he brought them outside and said, "Sirs, what must I do to be saved?" They answered, "Believe on the Lord Jesus, and you will be saved, you and your household." They spoke the word of the Lord to him and to all who were in his house. At the same hour of the night he took them and washed their wounds; then he and his entire family were baptized without delay. He brought them up into the house and set food before them; and he and his entire household rejoiced that he had become a believer in God.

A brief silence, then:

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

Thanks be to God.

PSALM 97

Dominus regnavit

The LORD is King;
let the earth rejoice; *
let the multitude of the isles be glad.

Clouds and darkness are round about him, *
righteousness and justice are the foundations of his throne.

A fire goes before him *
and burns up his enemies on every side.

His lightnings light up the world; *
the earth sees it and is afraid.

The mountains melt like wax at the presence of the LORD, *
at the presence of the Lord of the whole earth.

The heavens declare his righteousness, *
and all the peoples see his glory.

Confounded be all who worship carved images
and delight in false gods! *
Bow down before him, all you gods.

Zion hears and is glad, and the cities of Judah rejoice, *
because of your judgments, O LORD.

For you are the LORD,
most high over all the earth; *
you are exalted far above all gods.

The LORD loves those who hate evil; *
he preserves the lives of his saints
and delivers them from the hand of the wicked.

Light has sprung up for the righteous, *
and joyful gladness for those who are truehearted.

Rejoice in the LORD, you righteous, *
and give thanks to his holy Name.

THE SECOND READING *Revelation 22:12-14, 16-17, 20-21*

The reading is introduced.

A reading from the Revelation to John.

At the end of the visions I, John, heard these words:

"See, I am coming soon; my reward is with me, to repay according to everyone's work. I am the Alpha and the Omega, the first and the last, the beginning and the end."

Blessed are those who wash their robes, so that they will have the right to the tree of life and may enter the city by the gates.

"It is I, Jesus, who sent my angel to you with this testimony for the churches. I am the root and the descendant of David, the bright morning star."

The Spirit and the bride say, "Come."
And let everyone who hears say, "Come."

And let everyone who is thirsty come.
Let anyone who wishes take the water of life as a gift.

The one who testifies to these things says, "Surely I am coming soon."

Amen. Come, Lord Jesus!

The grace of the Lord Jesus be with all the saints. Amen.

A brief silence, then:

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

Thanks be to God.

Please rise in body or spirit.

THE GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Halle, Halle, Hallelujah



THE HOLY GOSPEL *John 17:20-26*

The Holy Gospel of Our Lord Jesus Christ according to John.

Glory to you, O Christ.

Jesus prayed for his disciples, and then he said. "I ask not only on behalf of these, but also on behalf of those who will believe in me through their word, that they may all be one. As you, Father, are in me and I am in you, may they also be in us, so that the world may believe that you have sent me. The glory that you have given me I have given them, so that they may be one, as we are one, I in them and you in me, that they may become completely one, so that the world may know that you have sent me and have loved them even as you have loved me. Father, I desire that those also, whom you have given me, may be with me where I am, to see my glory, which you have given me because you loved me before the foundation of the world.

"Righteous Father, the world does not know you, but I know you; and these know that you have sent me. I made your name known to them, and I will make it known, so that the love with which you have loved me may be in them, and I in them."

A brief silence, then:

The Gospel of Christ.

Praise to you, O Christ.

Please be seated.

THE HOMILY

Stephanie Kopsch

Please stand in body or spirit.

THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

It is our custom to light candles for those who are sick or distressed and to remember those who have died.

The prayer stations are on either side of the Altar. The refrain is sung once.

Celtic Alleluia



Officiant: This Easter Season we pray to you, Gracious God, knowing that the power of the Easter message can transform us and those for whom we pray.

Reader: For the church of God, that its voice may be energized by the Easter message to proclaim the Kingdom of God at hand. We offer this prayer,

Trusting in Your Grace.

For all those who seek a deeper faith — especially those in the Anglican Communion and those who will choose the next Archbishop, and for the Episcopal Church — for Presiding Bishop Sean and our Bishop Kym, that they may devoutly lead us through the Easter Season. We offer this prayer,

Trusting in Your Grace.

For the Earth, our island home, that our leaders may discover what needs to be done to cherish and protect it, showing us the way. We offer this prayer,

Trusting in Your Grace.

For the leaders of the world, that they may come together to find ways to hold its people in peace. We offer this prayer,

Trusting in Your Grace.

For our country, that those in positions of power may be mindful of their responsibilities to serve the needs of all the people, and for those who are trying to hold their leaders accountable. We offer this prayer,

Trusting in Your Grace.

For all of us at St. Barnabas, that we may lovingly care for each other as we listen for our call as a community. We offer this prayer,

Trusting in Your Grace.

For the process of searching for the next rector at St. Barnabas, that all may recognize the guidance of the Holy Spirit. We offer this prayer,

Trusting in Your Grace.

For all the ways we at St Barnabas seek to reach out to those in need, especially The Center on Colfax in their service to provide a safe and welcoming place for Colorado's proud, diverse LGBTQ community. We offer this prayer,

Trusting in Your Grace.

For those for whom our prayers have been requested, especially Selah, Atlee, Meghann and Kai, the Alden family, Brian, Irene, those imprisoned or expelled from the country without due process, the people of Ukraine, the people of Sudan, all victims of gun violence, the people in the Middle East, those who suffer from conflict and natural and human disaster and those we name aloud or in silence. We offer this prayer,

Trusting in Your Grace.

For those now held completely by you, we pray for their peace and for the healing of our grief, especially Lynne, and for those we name in silence or aloud. We offer this prayer,

Trusting in Your Grace.

Celebrant: We offer all these prayers grateful for the power of transformation you patiently hold out to each of us. **Amen.**

The refrain is sung once more.

THE PEACE

The peace of the risen Christ be always with you.

And also with you.

All share a greeting of peace.

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

THE PRAYERS FOR BIRTHDAYS, ANNIVERSARIES, AND TRAVELERS

For our St. Barnabas family, here and elsewhere.

Birthday Prayer

Watch over your children, O God, as their days increase; bless and guide them wherever they may be, strengthen them when they stand; comfort them when discouraged or sorrowful; raise them up if they fall; and in their hearts may your peace which passes understanding abide all the days of their lives; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Anniversary Prayer

Send, O God, your blessing upon these your servants, that they may so love, honor, and cherish each other in faithfulness and patience, in wisdom and true godliness, that their homes may be

havens of blessing and peace; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

A Prayer for Travelers

Almighty God, whose glory fills the whole creation, and whose presence we find wherever we go: Preserve those who travel; surround them with your loving care; protect them from every danger; and bring them to their journey's end; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

THE OFFERTORY SENTENCE

The Liturgy of the Meal

The Presentation of the Bread and Wine

The Choir Anthem

Make Our Church One Joyful Choir

Paul Laubengayer

Choir

Please stand in body or spirit.

The Presentation of the Gifts

The Offertory Hymn

As the Grains of Wheat ELW-465

As the grains of wheat once scat-tered on the hill were gath-ered in - to one to be - come our bread;

so may all your peo - ple from all the ends of earth be gath-ered in - to one in you.

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

Eucharistic Prayer C

The Preface

God be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them up to God.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give God thanks and praise.

God of all power, Ruler of the Universe, you are worthy of glory and praise.

Glory to you for ever and ever.

At your command all things came to be: the vast expanse of interstellar space, galaxies, suns, the planets in their courses, and this fragile earth, our island home.

By your will they were created and have their being.

From the primal elements you brought forth the human race and blessed us with memory, reason, and skill. You made us the rulers of creation. But we turned against you, and betrayed your trust; and we turned against one another.

Have mercy, Lord, for we are sinners in your sight.

Again and again, you called us to return. Through prophets and sages you revealed your righteous Law. And in the fullness of time you sent your only Son, born of a woman, to fulfill your Law, to open for us the way of freedom and peace.

By his blood, he reconciled us.

By his wounds, we are healed.

And therefore we praise you, joining with the heavenly chorus, with prophets, apostles, and martyrs, and with all those in every generation who have looked to you in hope, to proclaim with them your glory, in their unending hymn:

The Sanctus

Holy, holy, holy God

Ho - ly, Ho - ly, ho - ly God, God of power and might,___
heaven and earth are full___ of your glo - ry. Ho-san-na in the high - est.
Bless-ed is the one who comes in the name of___ God. Ho-san-na in the high-est.

The Celebrant continues

And so, gracious God, we who have been redeemed by him, and made a new people by water and the Spirit, now bring before you these gifts. Sanctify them by your Holy Spirit to be the Body and Blood of Jesus Christ for us.

On the night he was betrayed he took bread, said the blessing, broke the bread, 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."

After supper, he took the cup of wine, gave thanks, and said, "Drink this, all of you: This is my Blood of the new Covenant, which is shed for you and for all for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me."

Remembering now Christ's work of redemption, and offering to you this sacrifice of thanksgiving,
We celebrate his death and resurrection,
as we await the day of his coming.

God of our Ancestors: God of Sarah and Abraham; of Rebekkah and Isaac; of Leah and Rachel and Jacob; God of our Lord Jesus Christ: Open our eyes to see your hand at work in the world about us. Deliver us from the presumption of coming to this Table for solace only, and not for strength; for pardon only, and not for renewal. Let the grace of this Holy Communion make us one body, one spirit in Christ, that we may worthily serve the world in his name.

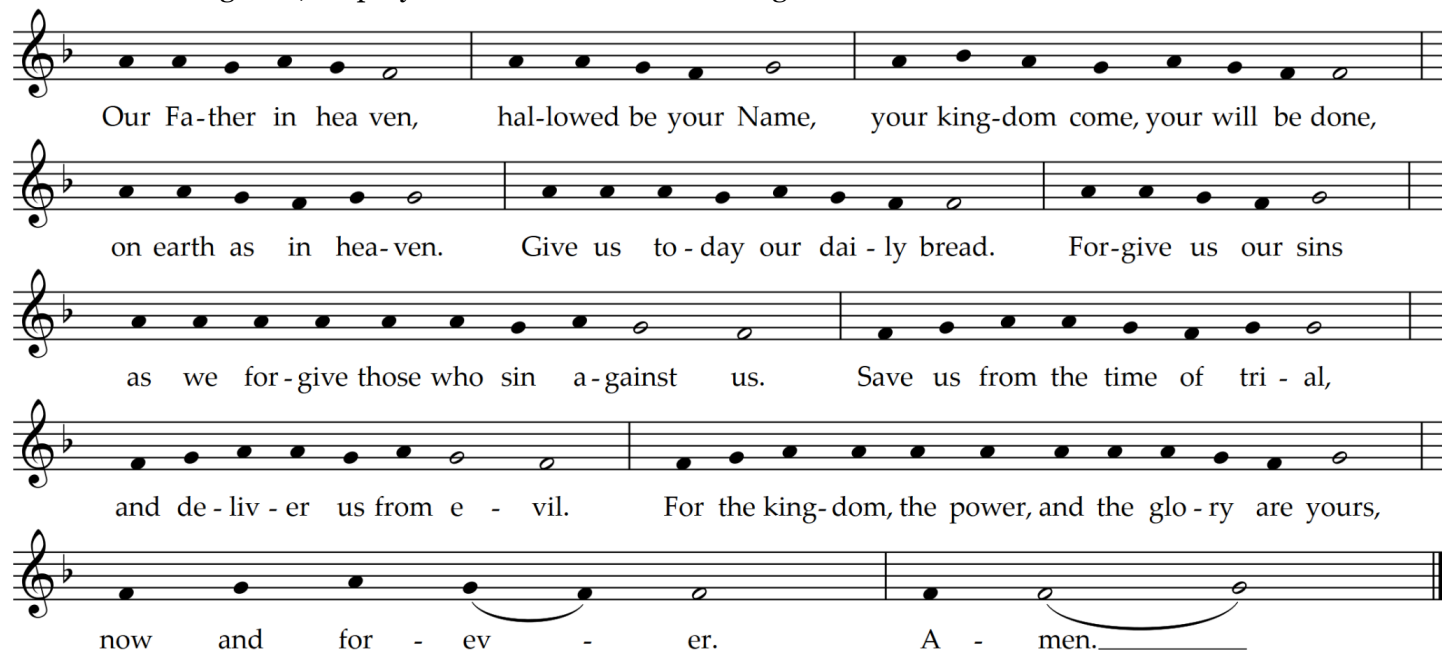
Risen Lord, be known to us in the breaking of the Bread.

Accept these prayers and praises, holy God, through Jesus Christ our great High Priest, to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit, your Church gives honor, glory, and worship, from generation to generation. **Amen.**

The Lord's Prayer

It is our custom at St. Barnabas to hold hands during The Lord's Prayer.

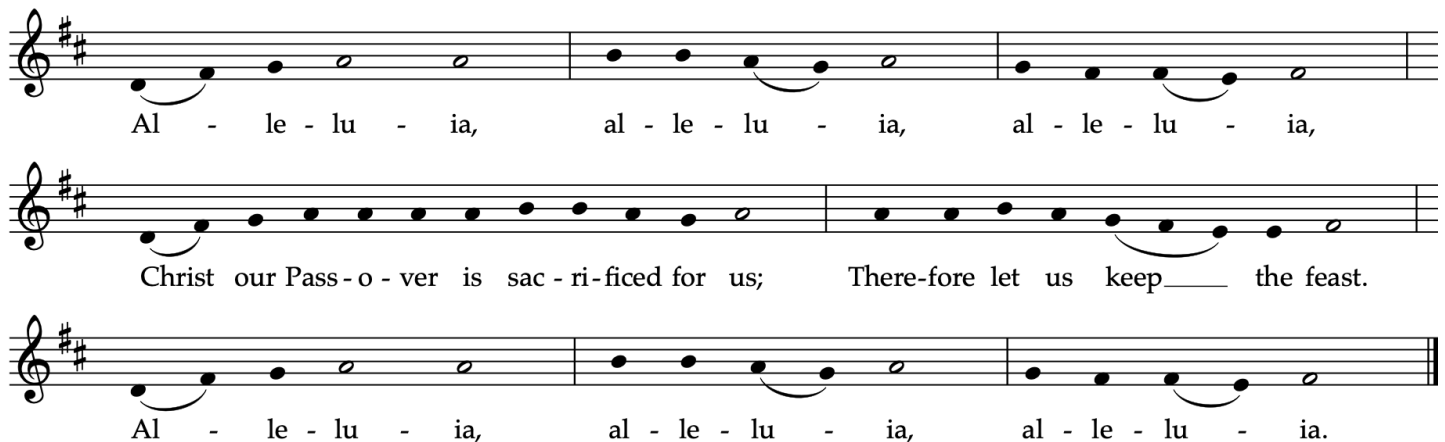
As Jesus has taught us, we pray those words that bind us together:



Our Fa-ther in hea ven, hal-low-ed be your Name, your king-dom come, your will be done,
on earth as in hea-ven. Give us to-day our dai-ly bread. For-give us our sins
as we for-give those who sin a-gainst us. Save us from the time of tri-al,
and de-liv-er us from e-vil. For the king-dom, the power, and the glo-ry are yours,
now and for-ev-er. A-men.

The Breaking of the Bread and the Fraction Anthem

Christ our Passover S-154



The Invitation to Communion

Come and know Christ at this table; receive what you are and become what you receive.

Please be seated. This is the table of God. Jesus welcomed everyone to his table, and so we at St. Barnabas welcome everyone to this table. Gather around the Altar as you are directed. You may stand or kneel as is your custom. The Celebrant will place the wafer into your hand. Gluten free wafers are available upon request. You have two options to receive the wine. A Chalice Bearer will offer the Common Cup from which you may drink, or you may dip the wafer in the wine when a second chalice comes in turn. You may also choose not to partake of the Cup. When you have received the Sacrament, please return to your seat. If you or your children prefer only to receive a blessing, please indicate this by crossing your hands over your chest.

The Music During Communion

"The Earth Prelude" Ludovico Einaudi
Prélude in E Major, Op. 28 no. 9 Frédéric Chopin

Please stand in body or spirit.

THE PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Let us pray...Almighty God,

You have graciously accepted us as living members of our risen Lord, Jesus Christ, and you have fed us with spiritual food in the Sacrament of his Body and Blood. Send us now into the world in peace, and grant us strength and courage to love and serve you with gladness and singleness of heart, through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

The Liturgy of Sending

THE BLESSING

Go now into the world with the blessing of God: May the God whose passion it is to create, +to love, and to sanctify the whole creation light your ways with resurrection dawn, now and always. **Amen.**

THE SENDING HYMN

God's Work, Our Hands ACS-1000

God's work, our hands: work-ing to - geth - er, build - ing a fu - ture, re - pair - ing the
God's work, our feet: trav-'ling to - geth - er, fol - low - ing Je - sus to plac - es un -
God's work, our voice: sing - ing to - geth - er, prais - ing, pro - claim - ing to all who will
God is at work in and a - round us: seed - lings are sprout - ing and bread's on the

world, rais - ing up homes, plant - ing new gar - dens, feed - ing the hun - gry and
known, walk - ing as friends, march - ing for free - dom, run - ning the race with God's
hear, pray - ing for peace, shout - ing for jus - tice, claim - ing God's love for the
rise! Washed and set free, hum - bled and hon - ored, gift - ed by grace, we re -

shelt - 'ring the cold. Bless, God, our hands as we work in your
fu - ture the goal. Bless, God, our feet as we fol - low your
lost and the least. Bless, God, our voice as we speak in your
spond in God's love. Bless, God, our lives as we an - swer your

name, shar - ing the good news of your gos - - pel.
way, shar - ing the good news of your gos - - pel.
name, shar - ing the good news of your gos - - pel.
call, shar - ing the good news of your gos - - pel.

THE DISMISSAL

Alleluia! Christ is risen.

Christ is risen indeed. Alleluia!

Go in peace. Serve the Risen Christ. Alleluia! Alleluia!

Thanks be to God. Alleluia! Alleluia!

THE POSTLUDE

"The Strife Is O'er, the Battle Done" Organ setting by George Theophilus Miles

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St. Barnabas Episcopal Parish

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Parish Office Hours: Tuesday through Friday, 9:00 am to Noon.

Welcome to St. Barnabas!

We experience God's redeeming love in all and through all and respond to love through faithful worship, life-long spiritual growth, and committed outreach.

Our community shares a progressive faith, opens our arms to all seekers, and works to make the world more just.

Staff

Interim Rector	The Rev. Stephanie Kopsch (she/her)
Pastoral Associate	Ms. Patti Walter (she/her)
Music Director	Ms. Nichole Young (she/her)
Parish Administrator	Ms. Keisha Masby (she/her)
Organist	Ms. Ronda Hilton (she/her)
Bookkeeper	Ms. Lexi Jones (she/her)

Leadership

Ms. Jolene Whitney, Sr. Warden (she/her)
Mr. Jim Hayes, Jr. Warden (he/him)
Mr. James Henderson (Jamie), Treasurer (he/him)
Mr. David Ford, Clerk of the Vestry (he/him)
Ms. Carolyn Wolfrum, Member of Vestry (2026) (she/her)
Ms. Barb Mattison, Member of Vestry (2026) (she/her)
Dr. Caroline (Carrie) Corrigan, Member of Vestry (2027) (she/her)
Mr. Bill Lundgren, Member of Vestry (2027) (he/him)
Dr. John Graves, Member of Vestry (2028) (he/him)
Ms. Sis Flor, Member of Vestry (2028) (she/her)

Those In Need of Prayer

Dennis Kennedy, Marty and Diana Flahive, Larry Volmert, Selah Kay, Atlee Witt, Meghann and Kai, the Alden family, Brian Reid, Greg Roosevelt, Kate, Jill Schlegal, Margaret Noteman, Darryl Searuggs, Rob, Jane Schmitz, Matt and Suzy Stolwyk, Frank Baker, Spencer Mize, Skyler Spettle, Deb Sawtelle, Scott West, Lan Peng and stepson Jackson, Kathy Mordeaux, Betsy Wier, Rachel Lee Nakamoto, Terry, Kitty,

Shannon Pergament and Marcus Lowry, Mother Georgia and Janet Nelson, Agatha Morrell, Elsa Najdeni, Patti Walter, Michael Jordan, Irene Shepard, those imprisoned or expelled from the country without due process, the people of Ukraine, the people of Sudan, all victims of gun violence, the people in the Middle East, and those who suffer from conflict and natural and human disaster.

New to the prayer list

Those who have died

Lynne, friend of Irene Shepard. Rest eternal grant them, O Lord, and let light perpetual shine upon them.

This Week's Parish Schedule

Sunday, June 1: The Seventh Sunday of Easter

- 9:30 am: *Holy Eucharist (sung)* in the Sanctuary

Tuesday, June 3

- 10:00 am: Staff meeting
- 5:30 pm: Leadership Team Meeting via zoom

Wednesday, June 4

- 10:00 am: Bible Study and Holy Eucharist in the Brady Room

Thursday, June 5

- 7:00 pm: Choir rehearsal in the Sanctuary.

Saturday, June 7

- 4:00 pm: The Auction in Lukens

Sunday, June 8: The Day of Pentecost

- 9:30 am: *Holy Eucharist (sung)* in the Sanctuary

Birthdays

Delia Griffis	June 1
Dian Ong	June 3
Barb Mattison	June 5
Joe Rivera	June 6
Kathy Miles	June 6
Lilly Sefton	June 10
Bill Bryan	June 12
Beatrice Eden	June 19
Tom Ward	June 19
Todd Trautman	June 20
Ray O'Loughlin	June 23
Marsi Najdeni	June 25

Anniversaries

Connie and Rob Friesen	June 7
Celeste and Hal Richardson	June 7
Bill and Kathy Miles	June 14
Jolene and Russel Whitney	June 15
Aaron and Rachel Sefton	June 19

Announcements

JUNE GIVING-2-OTHERS

The Center on Colfax

In recognition of Pride Month in June, the Giving-2-Others recipient is the Center on Colfax. Since 1976 the Center on Colfax has become the largest LGBTQ community center in the Rocky Mountain region, giving voice to Colorado's lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, and queer (LGBTQ) community and playing a pivotal role in statewide initiatives to reduce harassment and discrimination. Today they are focused on ensuring every member of the LGBTQ community has access to the programs and resources they need to live happy, healthy, and productive lives. For more information on The Center On Colfax visit <https://lgbtqcolorado.org/>

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AUCTION EVENT POSTERS DUE TODAY!

Wow, there will be 63 Events to Bid on in the Silent Auction! The Live Auction and French Picnic follow the Silent Auction.

Here are some of the exciting items/events to bid on:

- rides to the airport
- Museum of Illusions
- Rockie Tickets
- Time in Hawaii
- Trip to Vail
- Timeshare almost anywhere in the world
- 4 nights at local B & B for your out of town guests.

The auction booklet will be available after service. See you June 7 4-7PM! The Auction-The Gift that Keeps on Giving

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LAST DAY TO SUBMIT YOUR FAVORITE HYMNS

In order to plan for summer worship, I'd like to gather your favorite hymns! We have access and licensing to the 1982 hymnal, LEVAS II, Wonder, Love and Praise,

Voices Found, Gather Comprehensive, Evangelical Lutheran Worship, and I'll soon explore purchasing options for the United Methodist Hymnal. When you make your suggestions, it would be enormously helpful for you to include which hymnal it comes from. If you don't know, that's perfectly fine, too! Submit hymn suggestions at https://docs.google.com/forms/d/1fCtuJdqdqYZl8uKhZ_DkdTtA5d3kuBo3gYbd2OXXFpE/edit or email nichole.young@stbdenver.org.

Paper forms will be available after the next three Sundays services for you to fill out. Thank you so much for helping to make our summer worship more community planned!

DID YOU RECEIVE YOUR GIVING STATEMENT?

Earlier this week you should have received an email from Stephanie and the Stewardship Committee with a giving statement listing your contributions for the calendar year. If you didn't receive this email or you see something that doesn't look right on the statement, please notify David Ford, Chair of the Stewardship Committee, at DLFord@mac.com or 303.521.3564. And thank you for your gifts!

**SUMMER "UNDER THE OAK" BOOK DISCUSSIONS
SUNDAYS, JULY 13 AND AUGUST 10**

These discussions, sponsored by the Forum Planners, take place at 8:15 - 9:15 on two Sundays in the summer. Pick up a copy of the following two books so that you can join in these lively outdoor discussions!

July 13: We will discuss *James*, Percival Everett's Pulitzer Prize winning novel written from the perspective of "Jim" in Mark Twain's *Huckleberry Finn*. This book is both harrowing and darkly humorous, told from the enslaved Jim's point of view. Brimming with the electrifying humor and lacerating observations that have made Everett a literary icon, this brilliant and tender novel adically illuminates Jim's agency, intelligence, and compassion as never before.

August 10: We will discuss *The Serviceberry* by Robin Wall Kimmerer. As Indigenous scientist and author of *Braiding Sweetgrass* Robin Wall Kimmerer harvests serviceberries alongside the birds, she considers the ethic of reciprocity that lies at the heart of the gift economy. How, she asks, can we learn from Indigenous wisdom and the plant world to reimagine what we value most? Our economy is rooted in scarcity, competition, and the hoarding of resources, and we have surrendered our values to a system that actively harms what we love. Meanwhile, the serviceberry's relationship with the natural world is an embodiment of reciprocity, interconnectedness, and gratitude.

**SAVE THE DATE! ALL CHURCH PICNIC
SATURDAY, AUGUST 23**

We will gather at Ruby Hill Park Pavilion for some good food and great fun! Festivities begin at 10:00, fried chicken lunch at 11:30. You won't want to miss this all church event.

**PETITION SIGNING FOR THE
UNLAWFULLY EXPELLED IMMIGRANTS
TAKE ACTION BY JULY 1**

Amnesty International is conducting a campaign against the unlawful expulsions of immigrants from the United States to El Salvador. Join us in signing a petition and/or writing a letter. Letter writing supplies will be provided in Lukens Wing after worship. To take action visit <https://www.amnestyusa.org/>

**STOP ESCALATING VIOLENCE IN THE
HOLY LAND AND ADVOCATE FOR
HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE TO GAZA!**

The Episcopal Church asks all of us to do everything in our power to push for a permanent ceasefire and ensure that humanitarian aid can move freely into Gaza and to those who need it most. Learn more on how to get involved at <https://www.episcopalchurch.org/ministries/office-government-relations/action-alerts/>

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CONTACT YOUR REPRESENTATIVES TO OPPOSE EXTREME TAX CUTS

From the Episcopal Public Policy Network:

Congress continues a busy stretch on budget reconciliation. We urge you to keep speaking out.

For more information and to take action, visit <https://www.episcopalchurch.org/ministries/office-government-relations/action-alerts/> and click on the following articles on how to:

- Oppose Extreme Tax Cuts
- Protect SNAP
- Protect Medicaid