

EPISCOPAL CHURCH of the  
**HEAVENLY REST**

God's Love. For All.

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Fifth Sunday of Easter, Year A  
Holy Eucharist Rite I  
Sunday, May 3, 2026  
8:00 in the morning

**THE WORD OF GOD**

*The liturgy begins in silence. Please stand as the procession enters.*

**THE OPENING ACCLAMATION**

Alleluia. Christ is risen.

**The Lord is risen indeed. Alleluia.**

*Celebrant*

Almighty God, unto whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hid: Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of thy Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love thee, and worthily magnify thy holy Name; through Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

*The Celebrant continues*

Hear what our Lord Jesus Christ saith: Thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy mind. This is the first and great commandment. And the second is like unto it: Thou shalt love thy neighbor as thyself. On these two commandments hang all the Law and the Prophets.

**THE GLORIA** *Glory be to God*

**Glory be to God on high,**

**and on earth peace, good will towards men.**

**We praise thee, we bless thee, we worship thee, we glorify thee,**

**we give thanks to thee for thy great glory,**

**O Lord God, heavenly King, God the Father Almighty.**

**O Lord, the only-begotten Son, Jesus Christ;**

**O Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Father,**

**that takest away the sins of the world, have mercy upon us.**

**Thou that takest away the sins of the world, receive our prayer.**

**Thou that sittest at the right hand of God the Father, have mercy upon us.**

**For thou only art holy; thou only art the Lord;**

**thou only, O Christ, with the Holy Ghost,**

**art most high in the glory of God the Father. Amen.**

**THE COLLECT OF THE DAY**

The Lord be with you.

**And with thy spirit.**

Let us pray.

*The people kneel or stand*

O Almighty God, whom truly to know is everlasting life: Grant us so perfectly to know thy Son Jesus Christ to be the way, the truth, and the life, that we may steadfastly follow his steps in the way that leadeth to eternal life; through the same thy Son Jesus Christ our Lord, who liveth and reigneth with thee, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

FIRST READING

A reading from the Book of Acts.

Filled with the Holy Spirit, Stephen gazed into heaven and saw the glory of God and Jesus standing at the right hand of God. "Look," he said, "I see the heavens opened and the Son of Man standing at the right hand of God!" But they covered their ears, and with a loud shout all rushed together against him. Then they dragged him out of the city and began to stone him; and the witnesses laid their coats at the feet of a young man named Saul. While they were stoning Stephen, he prayed, "Lord Jesus, receive my spirit." Then he knelt down and cried out in a loud voice, "Lord, do not hold this sin against them." When he had said this, he died.

The Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

*The Lector and People pray responsively by half verse*

PSALM 31:1-5, 15-16 *In te, Domine, speravi*

1 In you, O Lord, have I taken refuge; let me never be put to shame; \*

**deliver me in your righteousness.**

2 Incline your ear to me; \*

**make haste to deliver me.**

3 Be my strong rock, a castle to keep me safe, for you are my crag and my stronghold; \*

**for the sake of your Name, lead me and guide me.**

4 Take me out of the net that they have secretly set for me, \*

**for you are my tower of strength.**

5 Into your hands I commend my spirit, \*

**for you have redeemed me, O Lord, O God of truth.**

15 My times are in your hand; \*

**rescue me from the hand of my enemies, and from those who persecute me.**

16 Make your face to shine upon your servant, \*

**and in your loving-kindness save me.**

SECOND READING

I Peter 2:2-10

A reading from the First Letter of Peter.

Like newborn infants, long for the pure, spiritual milk, so that by it you may grow into salvation— if indeed you have tasted that the Lord is good. Come to him, a living stone, though rejected by mortals yet chosen and precious in God's sight, and like living stones, let yourselves be built into a spiritual house, to be a holy priesthood, to offer spiritual sacrifices acceptable to God through Jesus Christ. For it stands in scripture: "See, I am laying in Zion a stone, a cornerstone chosen and precious; and whoever believes in him will not be put to shame." To you then who believe, he is precious; but for those who do not believe, "The stone that the builders rejected has become the very head of the corner", and "A stone that makes them stumble, and a rock that makes them fall." They stumble because they disobey the word, as they were destined to do. But you are a chosen race, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, God's own people, in order that you may proclaim the mighty acts of him who called you out of darkness into his marvelous light. Once you were not a people, but now you are God's people; once you had not received mercy, but now you have received mercy.

The Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

*All stand for*

## THE GOSPEL

John 14:1-14

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

**Glory be to thee, O Lord.**

Jesus said, "Do not let your hearts be troubled. Believe in God, believe also in me. In my Father's house there are many dwelling places. If it were not so, would I have told you that I go to prepare a place for you? And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again and will take you to myself, so that where I am, there you may be also. And you know the way to the place where I am going." Thomas said to him, "Lord, we do not know where you are going. How can we know the way?" Jesus said to him, "I am the way, and the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me. If you know me, you will know my Father also. From now on you do know him and have seen him." Philip said to him, "Lord, show us the Father, and we will be satisfied." Jesus said to him, "Have I been with you all this time, Philip, and you still do not know me? Whoever has seen me has seen the Father. How can you say, 'Show us the Father'? Do you not believe that I am in the Father and the Father is in me? The words that I say to you I do not speak on my own; but the Father who dwells in me does his works. Believe me that I am in the Father and the Father is in me; but if you do not, then believe me because of the works themselves. Very truly, I tell you, the one who believes in me will also do the works that I do and, in fact, will do greater works than these, because I am going to the Father. I will do whatever you ask in my name, so that the Father may be glorified in the Son. If in my name you ask me for anything, I will do it."

The Gospel of the Lord.

**Praise be to thee, O Christ.**

## THE SERMON

The Reverend David Romanik, *Rector*

*Following the sermon, all stand and say*

## THE NICENE CREED

**I believe in one God,  
the Father Almighty,  
maker of heaven and earth,  
and of all things visible and invisible;  
And in one Lord Jesus Christ,  
the only-begotten Son of God,  
begotten of his Father before all worlds,  
God of God, Light of Light,  
very God of very God,  
begotten, not made,  
being of one substance with the Father;  
by whom all things were made;  
who for us men and for our salvation  
came down from heaven,  
and was incarnate by the Holy Ghost of the Virgin Mary,  
and was made man;  
and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate;  
he suffered and was buried;  
and the third day he rose again according to the Scriptures,  
and ascended into heaven,  
and sitteth on the right hand of the Father;  
and he shall come again, with glory,  
to judge both the quick and the dead;  
whose kingdom shall have no end.**

**And I believe in the Holy Ghost the Lord, and Giver of Life,  
who proceedeth from the Father and the Son;  
who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped  
and glorified;  
who spake by the Prophets.  
And I believe one holy Catholic and Apostolic Church;  
I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins;  
and I look for the resurrection of the dead,  
and the life of the world to come. Amen.**

## THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

*A Deacon or Priest says*

This is the day the Lord has acted. Let us with joy and gladness offer our prayers to God.

*The Leader says*

Accept, O Lord, our thanks and praise for all that you have done for us. We thank you for the splendor of the whole creation, for the beauty of this world, for the wonder of life, and for the mystery of love. This is the Lord's doing.

**And it is marvelous in our eyes.**

*The Leader continues*

We thank you for the blessing of family and friends, and for the loving care which surrounds us on every side. This is the Lord's doing.

**And it is marvelous in our eyes.**

*The Leader continues*

We thank you for minds to think, and hearts to love, and hands to serve; for health and strength to work, and leisure to rest and play. This is the Lord's doing.

**And it is marvelous in our eyes.**

*The Leader continues*

We remember the brave and courageous, who are patient in suffering and faithful in adversity. Give thanks to the LORD, for he is good.

**God's mercy endures forever.**

*The Leader continues*

We remember those who have died, and we thank you for the communion of saints, in all times and places. The Lord is our strength and our song.

**And has become our salvation.**

*The Leader continues*

Above all, we thank you for your Son Jesus Christ; for the truth of his Word and the example of his life; for his steadfast obedience, by which he overcame temptation; for his dying, through which he overcame death; and for his rising to life again, in which we are raised to the life of your kingdom. This is the Lord's doing.

**And it is marvelous in our eyes.**

*The Celebrant offers this or another concluding Collect*

Risen Christ, in the midst of grief and despair, at the very point when all seemed lost you stood in the midst of your friends in the fullness of your resurrection reality and proclaimed your peace; a peace that reorders and renews all things. May the same peace find a home in us and, at the urging of your Spirit, may we be today and everyday bearers of hope and enablers of peace in the power of your name. **Amen.**

*The People stand.*

## THE PEACE

The peace of the Lord be always with you.

**And with thy spirit.**

# THE HOLY COMMUNION

## OFFERTORY SENTENCE

*At Heavenly Rest, we believe that we are called to respond to God's grace and generosity by giving of our time, talent, and treasure. The work of this church community is made possible by the financial contributions of those who worship here and participate in the life of this place. There are several ways to make a financial gift to Heavenly Rest: you may place cash or a check in the alms basin as it goes by; use the "Give" tab in the ChurchCenter App; or visit our website by using the QR code.*

Scan for online giving.  
Thank you for your generosity!



*Those who are celebrating birthdays in May are invited to follow the procession to the altar rail and receive a blessing.*

## OFFERTORY

### BIRTHDAY BLESSINGS

All things come of thee, O Lord.  
**And of thine own have we given thee.**

### THE GREAT THANKSGIVING *Eucharistic Prayer II*

The Lord be with you.  
**And with thy spirit.**  
Lift up your hearts.  
**We lift them up unto the Lord.**  
Let us give thanks unto our Lord God.  
**It is meet and right so to do.**

*The Celebrant proceeds*

It is very meet, right, and our bounden duty, that we should at all times, and in all places, give thanks unto thee, O Lord, holy Father, almighty, everlasting God.

*Here a Proper Preface is said.*

Therefore with Angels and Archangels, and with all the company of heaven, we laud and magnify thy glorious Name; evermore praising thee, and saying:

### THE SANCTUS

**Holy, holy, holy, Lord God of Hosts:**  
**Heaven and earth are full of thy Glory.**  
**Glory be to thee, O Lord Most High.**  
**Blessed is he that cometh in the name of the Lord.**  
**Hosanna in the highest.**

*The People stand or kneel as they are able.*

All glory be to thee, O Lord our God, for that thou didst create heaven and earth, and didst make us in thine own image; and, of thy tender mercy, didst give thine only Son Jesus Christ to take our nature upon him, and to suffer death upon the cross for our redemption. He made there a full and perfect sacrifice for the whole world; and did institute, and in his holy Gospel command us to continue, a perpetual memory of that his precious death and sacrifice, until his coming again.

For in the night in which he was betrayed, he took bread; and when he had given thanks to thee, he broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying, "Take, eat, this is my Body, which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me."

Likewise, after supper, he took the cup; and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, saying, "Drink this, all of you; for this is my Blood of the New Covenant, which is shed for you, and for many, for the remission of sins. Do this, as oft as ye shall drink it, in remembrance of me."

Wherefore, O Lord and heavenly Father, we thy people do celebrate and make, with these thy holy gifts which we now offer unto thee, the memorial thy Son hath commanded us to make; having in remembrance his blessed passion and precious death, his mighty resurrection and glorious ascension; and looking for his coming again with power and great glory.

And we most humbly beseech thee, O merciful Father, to hear us, and, with thy Word and Holy Spirit, to bless and sanctify these gifts of bread and wine, that they may be unto us the Body and Blood of thy dearly-beloved Son Jesus Christ.

And we earnestly desire thy fatherly goodness to accept this our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving, whereby we offer and present unto thee, O Lord, our selves, our souls and bodies. Grant, we beseech thee, that all who partake of this Holy Communion may worthily receive the most precious Body and Blood of thy Son Jesus Christ, and be filled with thy grace and heavenly benediction; and also that we and all thy whole Church may be made one body with him, that he may dwell in us, and we in him; through the same Jesus Christ our Lord;

By whom, and with whom, and in whom, in the unity of the Holy Ghost all honor and glory be unto thee, O Father Almighty, world without end. **AMEN.**

And now, as our Savior Christ hath taught us, we are bold to say,  
**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 trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever and ever. Amen.**

*The Celebrant breaks the consecrated bread*

#### **THE FRACTION ANTHEM**

Alleluia. Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us.  
**Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia.**

*The following prayer may be said.*

**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.**

*The Celebrant Proceeds*

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.

## DISTRIBUTION OF COMMUNION

*All baptized Christians are welcome to receive Communion. If you are not baptized, you may come forward to receive a blessing by folding your arms over your chest. Gluten-free hosts are available upon request. If you are interested in being baptized, please speak to one of the clergy after the service. Communion will be distributed at two stations: at the altar rail and in front of the pulpit. If you do not wish to receive wine, please cross your arms over your chest when the chalice comes by. Please follow the instructions of the ushers as you wait to receive Communion.*

*After the ministration of Communion, the Celebrant says*

Let us pray.

**Almighty and everliving God, we most heartily thank thee for that thou dost feed us, in these holy mysteries, with the spiritual food of the most precious Body and Blood of thy Son our Savior Jesus Christ; and dost assure us thereby of thy favor and goodness towards us; and that we are very members incorporate in the mystical body of thy Son, the blessed company of all faithful people; and are also heirs, through hope, of thy everlasting kingdom. And we humbly beseech thee, O heavenly Father, so to assist us with thy grace, that we may continue in that holy fellowship, and do all such good works as thou hast prepared for us to walk in; through Jesus Christ our Lord, to whom with thee and the Holy Ghost, be all honor and glory, world without end. Amen.**

*The Commissioning of Eucharistic Visitors may be said.*

**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 all share one bread and one cup.**

*The Celebrant blesses the people.*

## WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

### THE DISMISSAL

Let us go forth in the name of Christ. Alleluia, alleluia.  
Thanks be to God. Alleluia, alleluia.

### POSTLUDE

## MINISTERS OF THE LITURGY

*Celebrant* - The Rev. Amanda Watson, *Assistant Rector for Community Life*

*Preacher* - The Rev. David Romanik, *Rector*

*Assisting* - The Rev. Dr. Doug Thomas, *Priest in Residence*

*Organist* - Thomas Pavlechko

*Lay Ministers* - Bill Young, Kendra Jernigan

*Altar Guild* - Kathy Balch, Dixie Bassett, Cindy McCarty, Karen Rose, Jeannie Young

*Greeters & Ushers* - Mike Young, Steve Suttle

*Sound* - Steve Suttle



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602 Meander Street Phone: (325) 677-2091  
Abilene, Texas 79602 Email: [info@heavenlyrestabilene.org](mailto:info@heavenlyrestabilene.org)  
Website: [heavenlyrestabilene.org](http://heavenlyrestabilene.org) Social media: [@heavenlyrestabilene](https://www.facebook.com/heavenlyrestabilene)

### CLERGY AND STAFF

The Reverend David F. Romanik, <i>Rector</i>	Carol Ann Weston, <i>Director of Children &amp; Family Ministries</i>
The Reverend Ashley Powers, <i>Associate Rector</i>	Thomas Pavlechko, <i>Organist and Director of Music</i>
The Reverend Amanda Watson, <i>Assistant Rector for Community Life</i>	Elizabeth Knauer, <i>Music Assistant, Choristers</i>
The Reverend Karen Boyd, <i>Assisting Priest</i>	Laura Dickson, <i>Music Assistant, Children's Choir</i>
The Reverend Dr. Doug Thomas, <i>Priest in Residence</i>	Jen Rogers, <i>Director of Communications and Stewardship</i>
The Reverend Dr. Russell Dickerson, <i>Deacon</i>	Lydia Hurt, <i>Parish Manager</i>
The Reverend Joe Biles, <i>Curate and Pastoral Assistant</i>	Brenda Fisher, <i>Parish Accountant</i>
Bikole Mulanda, <i>Swahili Minister</i>	Robert Becerra, <i>Sexton</i>
Luke Teten, <i>Vergers</i>	Dorothy Guerra, <i>Housekeeper</i>
	Anne Jones, <i>Nursery Manager</i>

### VESTRY AND APPOINTED OFFICERS

Kate Haney, *Senior Warden*; Dru Hall, *Junior Warden*; Sharon Lawler, *Secretary*; Kimberly Brumley, David Christianson, Michael Christie, Dru Hall, Dan Harbaugh, Gretchen Henson, Jay Moore, Dustin Rainwater, Mary Reyes, Diane Stearns, Elizabeth Niblo Wallace, *Chancellor*; and Patrick Lewis, *Treasurer*