Episcopal Church of the

HEAVENLY REST

God's Love. For All.

Second Sunday of Easter, Year A
Holy Eucharist Rite I
Sunday, April 12, 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

Almighty and everlasting God, who in the Paschal mystery hast 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 the same Jesus Christ our Lord, who liveth and reigneth with thee and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

All sit

First Reading Acts 2:14a, 22-32

A reading from the Book of Acts.
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."
The Word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

The Lector and People pray responsively by half verse

Psalm 16 *Conserva me, Domine*

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.

Second Reading — 1 Peter 1:3-9

A reading from the First Letter of Peter.

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.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

All stand for

The Gospel — John 20:19-31

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

Glory be to thee, O Lord.

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.

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise be to thee, O Christ.

The Sermon — The Reverend Ashley Powers, *Associate 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 April 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. Karen Boyd, *Assisting Priest*

Preacher - The Rev. Ashley Powers, *Associate Rector*

Assisting - The Rev. David F. Romanik, *Rector*

Organist - Thomas Pavlechko

Lay Ministers - Melody Brown, Tom Choate

Altar Guild - Candy Scarborough, Claire Carlson, Amy Edington, Kendra Jernigan, Cheri Mixon

Greeters & Ushers -Jay Moore, Al Woody

Sound-Dustin Rainwater

EPISCOPAL CHURCH of the
HEAVENLY REST
GOD'S LOVE. FOR ALL.

---

602 Meander Street
Abilene, Texas 79602
Website: heavenlyrestabilene.org

Phone: (325) 677-2091
Email: info@heavenlyrestabilene.org
Social media: @heavenlyrestabilene

Clergy and Staff

The Reverend David F. Romanik, *Rector*
The Reverend Ashley Powers, *Associate Rector*
The Reverend Amanda Watson, *Assistant Rector for Community Life*
The Reverend Karen Boyd, *Assisting Priest*
The Reverend Dr. Doug Thomas, *Priest in Residence*
The Reverend Dr. Russell Dickerson, *Deacon*
The Reverend Joe Biles, *Curate and Pastoral Assistant*
Bikole Mulanda, *Swahili Minister*
Luke Teten, *Verger*

Carol Ann Weston, *Director of Children & Family Ministries*
Thomas Pavlechko, *Organist and Director of Music*
Elizabeth Knauer, *Music Assistant, Choristers*
Laura Dickson, *Music Assistant, Children's Choir*
Jen Rogers, *Director of Communications and Stewardship*
Lydia Hurt, *Parish Manager*
Brenda Fisher, *Parish Accountant*
Robert Becerra, *Sexton*
Dorothy Guerra, *Housekeeper*
Anne Jones, *Nursery Manager*

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*