

Episcopal Church of the Incarnation
5th Sunday of Easter
May 3rd, 2026

The Processional Hymn

[H] 1

The Collect

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

The First Reading

Acts 7:55-60

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 Psalm

Psalm 31:1-5, 15-16

- 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."

The Second Reading

1 Peter 2:2-10

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 Children's Sermon

The Rev. Jenny Gettys

The Gradual Hymn

[H] 457, stanzas 1-2

The Gospel Reading

John 14:1-14

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 Sermon Hymn

[H] 457, stanzas 3-4

The Sermon

The Rev. Jenny Gettys

The Offertory Anthem

Come, My Way, My Truth, My Life

1. Come, my Way, my Truth, my Life:
such a way as gives us breath;
such a truth as ends all strife;
such a life as killeth death.

2. Come, my Light, my Feast, my Strength:
such a light as shows a feast;
such a feast as mends in length;
such a strength as makes his guest.

3. Come, my Joy, my Love, my Heart:
such a joy as none can move;
such a love as none can part;
such a heart as joys in love.

Music: Ralph Vaughan Williams (1872-1958). Music Copyright © 1911 by Stainer and Bell Ltd., All Rights Reserved. Used by permission. Words: George Herbert (1593-1633).

The Communion Hymns

[H] 312
[H] 313
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The Processional Hymn

[H] 47

CALENDAR

Sunday, May 3	8:30 Holy Eucharist Rite II 9:30 Episcopalians 101 10:30 Holy Eucharist Rite II 11:45 Tres de Mayo Picnic
Tuesday, May 5	11:30 Education for Ministry
Wednesday, May 6	9:00 Worship Committee
Saturday, May 9	11:00-1:30 Post Office Food Pick-Up
Sunday, May 10	8:30 Holy Eucharist Rite II 9:30 Episcopalians 101 10:30 Holy Eucharist Rite II 11:45 Vestry Meeting

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Altar Flowers

The flowers on the altar today are given by John Lee to the glory of God and in memory of Zulema Lee.

Episcopalians 101

Confirmation is the sacrament through which one officially joins the Episcopal Church. Preparing for Confirmation? Or just Episco-curious? Join us on Sundays at 9:30 as we learn about the strange and wonderful ways of Episcopalians. Today's topic: Holy Eucharist. Next week: Episcopal Polity.

Tres de Mayo

At 11:45 today (right after the 10:30 service) we'll head to Jenny's back yard at 356 College Drive for a fiesta! We'll have a great spread of Mexican food, lawn games, and a piñata. Bring whatever dish you sign up for (on the hallway bulletin board), your beverage of choice, and a lawn chair and come join the fun!

Post Office Food Drive

Next Saturday, May 9, we'll receive food collected by postal carriers in a city-wide food drive. We need folks with large vehicles to help pick up food at the post office as the carriers bring it in. We also need volunteers at the church to sort items and check expiration dates. Let Scott know if you can help.

Vases Needed

The Pastoral Care team will once again take Sunday's unclaimed flowers to local hospitals and nursing homes to bring joy to others. If you have vases you no longer use, we'd love to use them to take the flowers in. Just let Nancy Fowler know. And tell her if you'd be willing to deliver the flowers some weeks.

Next Week's Readings:

Acts 17:22-31, Psalm 66:7-18, 1 Peter 3:13-22, John 14:15-21

Livestream in Progress

Today's 10:30 service is being livestreamed to our Facebook page with the camera facing forward. If you'd rather not be seen on camera, tell a greeter and communion will be brought to you at your seat.

Donations

To make an online contribution to Incarnation, go to our web site www.Incarnation-Gaffney.org and go to "Giving" under the "About" tab. Or scan the QR code to the right. To cover the fees associated with either of these ways of giving, check the "cover fees" box. And thank you!



THOSE WHO SERVE

	May 3 5 th Easter 10:30	May 10 6 th Easter 10:30
Altar Guild	Sudie Gelok	Marty Marett
Coffee Hour	None	Marty Marett
Godly Play	None	Cora Torres Angharad Torres
Greeters	Morgan and Julia Johnson	Jackie and Ed Hoffman
Vergers	Scott Glidden	Cynthia Glidden
Digital Greeter	Cora Torres	Angharad Torres
Camera	Max Hyde	Asher Torres
Crucifer	Angharad Torres	Jasmine Dorsett
Eucharistic Minister	Cynthia Glidden	Cora Torres
1 st Lector	Julia Johnson	Joette Johnson
2 nd Lector	Morgan Johnson	Jen Spencer
Nursery	Jasmine Dorsett	Marty Marett
Children's Chapel	Morgan Johnson	Cora Torres
Intercessor	Scott Glidden	Cynthia Glidden
Counters	Ed Hoffman Scott Glidden	Ellie Bird Robin Childers
Flowers	John Lee	Available
Pew Racks	Mimi McCully	Asher Torres