

Use the following worship guide as we gather on Sunday morning via Zoom. Simply click here:
<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/2398495210>

** Announcements are at the end of this order of worship. **

The Service of Worship
First and St. Stephen's United Church of Christ
Baltimore, Maryland
Easter – Year C

April 20, 2025

10:30 a.m.



Prelude

Paradise Nancy Flandermeyer Chronister, Director of Music
Zdenko Fibich, Op. 56, No. 3,
arranged by Ladislav Urban

Welcome

The Rev. Dr. Kelly M. Sisson, Pastor

Introit

By Your Cross

Choir

Invitation to Resurrection

Easter Chant

by Gordon Young

Call to Worship

(congregation reads **bold print**)

This is the day

when God shines the way out of panic's worry, and grace offers bouquets of good news.

This is the day the Lord

sings songs of wonder to awaken us and life teaches us new dance steps.

This is the day the Lord has made!

The day when hope pushes aside the stone of our months of fear, when love takes our hand so we can walk together into life.

Hymn for Worship NCH #240

Jesus Christ Is Risen Today

LLANFAIR

~ as you are able, please stand ~

Sharing Our Joys and Concerns

Remember these known joys and concerns:

- Bryce – after a kidney transplant
- Richard and Nate Arrington
- McKenzie Shaw – living with chronic pain
- Corrie Bates and her family
- Martha Wharton – surgery on 04/24
- Jen's friend, Andrew and his family
- Earth Day 2025
- Peace in our world, our country, our community

If you share a concern and wish for it to be printed on this list, please consult with the person/s whose names are involved, then let the pastor know in writing via email they give their consent.

Pastoral Prayer			Rev. Sisson
Choral Response	NCH #236	<i>Halleluja</i> ~ congregation remains seated ~	HALLELUJA
Lesson from the Hebrew Scriptures		<i>Isaiah 65:17-25</i>	Bill Ingram, Liturgist
Hymn for Easter	NCH #238	<i>Now the Green Blade Rises</i> ~ as you are able, please stand ~	NOEL NOUVELET
Gospel Lesson		<i>John 20:1-18</i>	Bill Ingram, Liturgist
The Anthem		<i>This Is The Day</i> by Joel Raney	Choir
The Message		<i>He is Risen – and So Must We</i>	Rev. Sisson
Making an Offering			

Please consider making an offering through on-line giving or mail your check to the church address. You can find information on our church web page: first-ststephens.org You may also place your offering in the offering plate in the back of the sanctuary. Or, you may use the QR Code in this bulletin. Thank you.

Dedicating our Offerings (congregation reads bold print)
You plant the seeds of grace, peace, love, and justice into our hearts, God of every morning, and with the tangible gifts we have as well, we can offer new hope and healing to those around us. In Jesus' name, we pray. Amen.

Hymn for Sending	NCH #245	<i>The Day of Resurrection</i> ~ as you are able, please stand ~	LANCASHIRE
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Benediction
 Postlude

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 Worship Resources for today are adapted from:
 Thom Shuman, PCUSA
 C. Welton Gaddy, AoB
 Ruth Duck

Welcome! We are glad you are here. If you are visiting with us, please fill out a visitor's card from the back of one of the chairs and place it in the offering plate or hand it to the pastor after the service. Please join us for coffee after the service in the Gathering Room behind the sanctuary.

Children are welcomed to join an Easter Egg Hunt after the morning worship service in the lawn behind the ramp.

To Make an Offering Now



ANNOUNCEMENTS

Yard Sale! The Stoneleigh Yard Sale is **Sat April 26th, 9am-12pm**. Please look through your closets, garage etc. for items to donate to the FSS tables that we'll set up at **7007 York Rd.** Plan to bring donations that morning by 8am if possible. **PLEASE DO NOT BRING ITEMS TO THE CHURCH, THERE IS NO ROOM FOR STORAGE.** Items that typically go quickly: tools, small appliances, sporting gear, camping equipment, bikes. Bring whatever you are ready to part with, and what doesn't sell we'll donate to Goodwill. For info, contact Lois at ljoellen@verizon.net, Kevin at Kevin@jpar5star.com, or Jason at jason@jpar5star.com.

Save your Bubble Wrap – If you receive packages at home that are wrapped in bubble wrap, please bring the bubble wrap to the box in the foyer and it will be repurposed by Zach Langdon-Kennedy, our artist-in-residence.

ACTC is asking for any non-perishable food items. For April, please bring **bottled water and canned meats**. Place items in the red wagon in the foyer so they may be delivered weekly.

Changing the Cycles – please bring **sanitary products** to help those in menstrual poverty. Please bring items to the box in the foyer and help young women remain in school during their cycles.

Church Office (410) 377-5224

WiFi Password: ONAcomma

Church Staff

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Consistory for 2025

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