

Episcopal Church of the Holy Spirit

1305 Thomas Dr. Bellevue, NE 68005



**May 18, 2025
9:30 am Sunday
Fifth Sunday of Easter
Rite II**

WELCOME EVERYONE

If you are a guest today or are a member who has been away for a while, we are glad you joined us for worship today. Please let us know if you are joining us online by leaving a comment, or by emailing us so that we can say thank you.

God Bless
Fr. Tom

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The Holy Eucharist Rite II

Opening Hymn

Come, ye Faithful

Hymnal 199

Welcome

Celebrant: Alleluia. Christ is Risen..

People: The Lord is Risen Indeed. **Alleluia.**

Celebrant: There is one Body and one Spirit

People: **There is one hope in God's call to us.**

Celebrant: One Lord, one Faith, one Baptism

People: **One God and Father of all.**

Celebrant: The Lord be with you.

People: **And also with you.**

Celebrant: Let us pray.

The Collect of the Day

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 Liturgy of the Word

The New Testament: Acts 11:1-18

Now the apostles and the believers who were in Judea heard that the Gentiles had also accepted the word of God. So when Peter went up to Jerusalem, the circumcised believers criticized him, saying, "Why did you go to uncircumcised men and eat with them?" Then Peter began to explain it to them, step by step, saying, "I was in the city of Joppa praying, and in a trance I saw a vision. There was something like a large sheet coming down from heaven, being lowered by its four corners; and it came close to me. As I looked at it closely I saw four-footed animals, beasts of prey, reptiles, and birds of the air. I also heard a voice saying to me, 'Get up, Peter; kill and eat.' But I replied, 'By no means, Lord; for nothing profane or unclean has ever entered my mouth.' But a second time the voice answered from heaven, 'What God has made clean, you must not call profane.' This happened three times; then everything was pulled up again to heaven. At that very moment three men, sent to me from Caesarea, arrived at the house where we were. The Spirit told me to go with them and not to make a distinction between them and us. These six brothers also accompanied me, and we entered the man's house. He told us how he had seen the angel standing in his house and saying, 'Send to Joppa and bring Simon, who is called Peter; he will give you a message by which you and your entire household will be saved.' And as I began to speak, the Holy Spirit fell upon them just as it had upon us at the beginning. And I remembered the word of the Lord, how he had said, 'John baptized with water, but you will be baptized with the Holy Spirit.' If then God gave them the same gift that he gave us when we believed in the Lord Jesus Christ, who was I that I could hinder God?" When they heard this, they were silenced. And they praised God, saying, "Then God has given even to the Gentiles the repentance that leads to life."

Reader: The Word of the Lord

People: **Thanks be to God.**

Psalm 148

1 Hallelujah!

Praise the LORD from the heavens; *
praise him in the heights.

2 Praise him, all you angels of his; *
praise him, all his host.

- 3 Praise him, sun and moon; *
praise him, all you shining stars.
- 4 Praise him, heaven of heavens, *
and you waters above the heavens.
- 5 Let them praise the Name of the LORD; *
for he commanded, and they were created.
- 6 He made them stand fast for ever and ever; *
he gave them a law which shall not pass away.
- 7 Praise the LORD from the earth, *
you sea-monsters and all deeps;
- 8 Fire and hail, snow and fog, *
tempestuous wind, doing his will;
- 9 Mountains and all hills, *
fruit trees and all cedars;
- 10 Wild beasts and all cattle, *
creeping things and winged birds;
- 11 Kings of the earth and all peoples, *
princes and all rulers of the world;
- 12 Young men and maidens, *
old and young together.
- 13 Let them praise the Name of the LORD, *
for his Name only is exalted,
his splendor is over earth and heaven.
- 14 He has raised up strength for his people
and praise for all his loyal servants, *
the children of Israel, a people who are near him.
Hallelujah!

The Epistle: Revelation 21:1-6

I saw a new heaven and a new earth; for the first heaven and the first earth had passed away, and the sea was no more. And I saw the holy city, the new Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God, prepared as a bride adorned for her husband. And I heard a loud voice from the throne saying,

"See, the home of God is among mortals.

He will dwell with them as their God; they will be his peoples, and God himself will be with them; he will wipe every tear from their eyes.

Death will be no more; mourning and crying and pain will be no more, for the first things have passed away."

And the one who was seated on the throne said, "See, I am making all things new." Also he said, "Write this, for these words are trustworthy and true." Then he said to me, "It is done! I am the Alpha and the Omega, the beginning and the end. To the thirsty I will give water as a gift from the spring of the water of life."

Reader: The Word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

The Gospel: John 13:31-35

Deacon: The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to John

People: **Glory to you, Lord Christ.**

At the last supper, when Judas had gone out, Jesus said, "Now the Son of Man has been glorified, and God has been glorified in him. If God has been glorified in him, God will also glorify him in himself and will glorify him at once. Little children, I am with you only a little longer. You will look for me; and as I said to the Jews so now I say to you, 'Where I am going, you cannot come.' I give you a new commandment, that you love one another. Just as I have loved you, you also should love one another. By this everyone will know that you are my disciples, if you have love for one another."

Deacon: The Gospel of the Lord.

People: **Praise to you, Lord Christ.**

Message

Fr Tom

Presentation and Examination of the Candidate

The Celebrant says

The Candidate for Holy Baptism will now be presented.

Parent and Godparent

I present ____ to receive the Sacrament of Baptism.

The Celebrant asks the parent and godparent

Will you be responsible for seeing that the child you present is brought up in the Christian faith and life?

Parent and Godparent

I will, with God's help.

Celebrant

Will you by your prayers and witness help this child to grow into the full stature of Christ?

Parent and Godparent

I will, with God's help.

The Celebrant then asks

Question Do you renounce Satan and all the spiritual forces of wickedness that rebel against God?

Answer I renounce them

Question Do you renounce the evil powers of this world which corrupt and destroy the creatures of God?

Answer I renounce them

Question Do you renounce all sinful desires that draw you from the love of God?

Answer I renounce them

Question Do you turn to Jesus Christ and accept him as your Savior?

Answer I do

Question Do you put your whole trust in his grace and love?

Answer I do

Question Do you promise to follow and obey him as your Lord?

Answer I do

After all have been presented, the Celebrant addresses the congregation, saying

Will you who witness these vows do all in your power to support this person in his life in Christ?

People **We will.**

The Celebrant then says these or similar words

Let us join with *those* who *are* committing *themselves* to Christ and renew our own baptismal covenant.

The Baptismal Covenant

Celebrant Do you believe in God the Father?

People **I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.**

Celebrant Do you believe in Jesus Christ, the Son of God?

People **I believe in Jesus Christ, his only son, our Lord.
He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit
And born of the Virgin Mary.
He suffered under Pontius Pilate,
Was crucified, died, and was buried.
He descended to the dead.
On the third day he rose again.
He ascended into heaven,
And is seated at the right hand of the Father.
He will come again to judge the living and the dead.**

Celebrant Do you believe in God the Holy Spirit?

People **I believe in the Holy Spirit
the holy catholic Church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting.**

Celebrant Will you continue in the apostles' teaching and fellowship, in the breaking of bread, and in the prayers?

People **I will, with God's help.**

Celebrant Will you persevere in resisting evil, and, whenever you fall into sin, repent and return to the Lord?

People **I will, with God's help.**

Celebrant Will you proclaim by word and example the Good News of God in Christ?

People **I will, with God's help.**

Celebrant Will you seek and serve Christ in all persons, loving your neighbor as yourself?

People **I will, with God's help.**

Celebrant Will you strive for justice and peace among all people, and respect the dignity of every human being?

People **I will, with God's help.**

Prayers for the Candidates

The Celebrant then says to the congregation

Let us now pray for *these persons* who *are* to receive the Sacrament of new birth [and for those (this person) who *have* renewed *their* commitment to Christ.]

A Person appointed leads the following petitions

Leader Deliver *them*, O Lord, from the way of sin and death.

People **Lord, hear our prayer.**

Leader Open *their hearts* to your grace and truth.

People **Lord, hear our prayer.**

Leader Fill *them* with your holy and life-giving Spirit.

People **Lord, hear our prayer.**

Leader Keep *them* in the faith and communion of your holy Church.

People **Lord, hear our prayer.**

Leader Teach *them* to love others in the power of the Spirit.

People **Lord, hear our prayer.**

Leader Send *them* into the world in witness to your love.

People **Lord, hear our prayer.**

Leader Bring *them* to the fullness of your peace and glory.

People **Lord, hear our prayer.**

The Celebrant says

Grant, O Lord, that all who are baptized into the death of Jesus Christ your Son may live in the power of his resurrection and look for him to come again in glory; who lives and reigns now and forever. **Amen**

Thanksgiving over the Water

The Celebrant blesses the water, first saying

The Lord be with you,

People **And also with you.**

Celebrant Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People **It is right to give him thanks and praise.**

Celebrant

We thank you, Almighty God, for the gift of water. Over it the Holy Spirit moved in the beginning of creation.

Through it you led the children of Israel out of their bondage in Egypt into the land of promise. In it your Son Jesus received the baptism of John and was anointed by the Holy Spirit as the Messiah, the Christ, to lead us, through his death and resurrection, from the bondage of sin into everlasting life.

We thank you, Father, for the water of Baptism. In it we are buried with Christ in his death. By it we share in his resurrection. Through it we are reborn by the Holy Spirit. Therefore, in joyful obedience to your Son, we bring into his fellowship those who come to him in faith, baptizing them in the Name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

At the following words, the Celebrant touches the water

Now sanctify this water, we pray you, by the power of your Holy Spirit, that those who here are cleansed from sin and born again may continue forever in the risen life of Jesus Christ our Savior. To whom, to you, and to the Holy Spirit, be all honor and glory, now and for ever. **Amen**

The Baptism

N., I baptize you in the Name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen**

Let us pray.

Heavenly Father, we thank you that by water and the Holy Spirit you have bestowed upon *these* your *servants* the forgiveness of sin, and have raised *them* to the new life of grace. Sustain *them*, O Lord, in your Holy Spirit. Give *them* an inquiring and discerning heart, the courage to will and to persevere, a spirit to know and to love you, and the gift of joy and wonder in all your works. **Amen**

Then the Bishop or Priest places a hand on the person's head, marking on the forehead the sign of the cross and saying

N., you are sealed by the Holy Spirit in Baptism and marked as Christ's own forever. **Amen**

When all have been baptized, the Celebrant says

Let us welcome the newly baptized.

Celebrant and People

We receive you into the household of God. Confess the faith of Christ crucified, proclaim his resurrection, and share with us in his eternal priesthood.

Almighty God, whose will it is to hold heaven and earth in the peace of your kingdom, give peace to your church, peace among nations, peace in our homes, and peace in our hearts. All this we ask through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen

Celebrant: The peace of the Lord be always with you

People: **And also with you**

Peace

Walk in love as Christ loved us and gave himself for us, an offering and sacrifice to God. **Amen.**

Offertory Hymn

O Master, Let me walk with Thee

Hymnal 660

Doxology

The Holy Communion

The Great Thanksgiving (*Prayer A*)

Celebrant: The Lord be with you.

People: **And also with you.**

Celebrant: Lift up your hearts.

People: **We lift them to the Lord.**

Celebrant: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People: **It is right to give him thanks and praise.**

Then, facing the Holy Table, the Celebrant proceeds

It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth.

Here a Proper Preface is said

Therefore we praise you, joining our voices with Angels and Archangels and with all the company of heaven, who for ever sing this hymn to proclaim the glory of your Name:

Sanctus

Hymnal S129

Celebrant and People

**Holy, Holy, Holy Lord, God of power and might,
heaven and earth are full of your glory.**

Hosanna in the highest.

Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.

Hosanna in the highest.

The people may stand or kneel. Then the Celebrant continues

Holy and gracious Father: In your infinite love you made us for yourself; and, when we had fallen into sin and become subject to evil and death, you, in your mercy, sent Jesus Christ, your only and eternal Son, to share our human nature, to live and die as one of us, to reconcile us to you, the God and Father of all. He stretched out his arms upon the cross, and offered himself in obedience to your will, a perfect sacrifice for the whole world.

On the night he was handed over to suffering and death, our Lord Jesus Christ took bread; and when he had given thanks to you, he broke it, and gave it to his disciples, 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; and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, and said, "Drink this, all of you: This is my Blood of the new Covenant, which is shed for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins.

Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me.”

Therefore, we proclaim the mystery of faith:

Celebrant and People

Christ has died.

Christ is risen.

Christ will come again.

We celebrate the memorial of our redemption, O Father, in this sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving. Recalling his death, resurrection, and ascension, we offer you these gifts. Sanctify them by your Holy Spirit to be for your people the Body and Blood of your Son, the holy food and drink of new and unending life in him.

Sanctify us also that we may faithfully receive this holy Sacrament, and serve you in unity, constancy, and peace; and at the last day bring us with all your saints into the joy of your eternal kingdom. All this we ask through your Son Jesus Christ. By him, and with him, and in him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit all honor and glory is yours, Almighty Father, now and forever. **Amen.**

And now, as our Savior Christ has 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,
for ever and ever. Amen.**

The Breaking of the Bread

Fraction Hymn

Hymnal S155

Facing the people, the Celebrant says the following invitation:

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.

Communion Hymn

I Come with Joy

Hymnal 304

After Communion, the Celebrant says

Let us pray.

Celebrant and People

Almighty and everliving God, we thank you for feeding us with the spiritual food of the most precious Body and Blood of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ; and for assuring us in these holy mysteries that we are living members of the Body of your Son, and heirs of your eternal kingdom. And now, Father, send us out to do the work you have given us to do, to love and serve you as faithful witnesses of Christ Our Lord. To him, to you, and to the Holy Spirit, be honor and glory, now and for ever. Amen.

The Blessing

Announcements

Birthday & Anniversary Prayers

Going Forth Hymn

CHs 20

The Dismissal

Deacon: Let us go forth in the name of Christ. Alleluia, alleluia

People: **Thanks be to God.** Alleluia, alleluia



The Nave Presence Candle is given by Karen Gray in Memory of Gary.

The Chapel Presence Candle is given by Susan, Matt, & Amanda Hedin in Memory of Paul Hedin.

Birthday/Anniversary Prayers

Birthday Prayer: O God, our times are in your hands: Look with favor, we pray, on *this* your servant, as *they* begin another year. Grant that *they* may grow in wisdom and grace, and strengthen their trust in your goodness, all the days of *their* life through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Anniversary Prayer: O gracious and everliving God, look mercifully on these who have been joined together. Grant them your blessing, and assist them with your grace, that with fidelity and steadfast love they may hone and keep their promises and vows; through Jesus Christ our Savior, who lives and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, forever and ever. Amen.

Birthdays:

Cindy P
Brian W
Janet H
Vivian N
Maggie H

Anniversaries:

Chris & Kris G

WEEKLY MINISTRY TEAMS			
Ministries		May 18	May 28
VPOD		Brian C	Patrick H
Hospitality		Team 2	Team 3
Altar Guild		Team 3	Team 4
Spirit Hub		Acolytes	Outreach
Altar Bread		Judy D	Judy D
LEMs	5:00 pm	Kristi S	Toby W / Kathy B
	8:00 am	Doug A	Doug A
	9:30 am	Grace W Jan S	Lori E Michele H
Recycle		Susan H	Karen G
Acolytes 9:30 am	C T T	Isaiah CH Cadence K Olivia H	Kyper M Amanda N Ailynn M

This Week's Highlights

Online Worship: If you are unable to be with us in-person, just [click here](#) to join us online at 9:30 am Sunday mornings. A recorded copy of our worship will be available shortly afterwards on our You Tube channel CHS1305.

CHS Craft Fair: Mark your calendars!!! CHS will host a neighborhood craft fair on Saturday (17 May). Proceeds arising out of the fair will be used to provide scholarship funds for our Youth DR Pilgrimage.

Recognition Sunday: Following our 9:30 service this weekend we will celebrate the accomplishments of our youth and award the 2025 CHS Scholarship. If you have someone graduating in your family, it is not too late to let us know. Please call the office by Noon and we will add them to our prayers.

Sunday School: To celebrate the end of our current program year, our Sunday school staff will provide some extra treats for their students in their classrooms following the 9:30 service.

Bishop's Visit: Mark your calendars!!! The bishop will worship with us at our 8:00 & 9:30 am Sunday services on Sunday 8 Jun. As it is also Pentecost Sunday, we ask everyone to wear something red to help celebrate our parish feast and for our annual parish picture with the bishop.

VBS Prep: Beginning Sunday (25 May) and on Sundays in June, Cindy is looking for volunteers to help prepare for Vacation Bible School (23-26 Jun) during coffee hour after the 9:30 service.

Youth Pilgrimage: Our summer youth pilgrimage dates are set. This year we will be heading out to Alliance, NE Sun (15 Jun) and returning Fri (20 Jun). Youth 12-18 years of age interested in going, and parents wanting to help chaperone, are asked to stop by the Spirit Hub and sign-up to let us know.

VBS Registration: Please stop by the Spirit Hub and let us know if you have youth interested in joining us for VBS (23-26 Jun, 6:30-8:00pm). While there, please sign the I'm interested form and pick up a registration form. Youth can also register online and click on the 2025 VBS button provided.

Camp Registration: Registration is now open for Camp Canterbury (14-18 Jul). The cost this year is \$295/youth. For more information about camp, or to register, please visit <https://campcanterbury.episcopal-ne.org>. Parish youth attending can receive a \$150 parish scholarship to help offset camp costs. To learn more about the scholarship, contact Fr Tom.

Youth/Family Mission DR: Our Youth/Family Team is selling shares of stock in their trip (28 Jun-4 Jul). To help support them, buy directly from them or make a general contribution (split evenly by all going) by noting Common Stock in the memo line of your check. A stockholders' dinner will be offered in Aug for all shareholders. We still have room and some scholarship funds available. If interested, contact Fr Tom.

Search Committee Update: We received and interviewed two candidates for the Rector position at CHS, and both have withdrawn their candidacy. Please pray for us as we continue the search.