he Church of the Holy Trinit Rittenhouse Square

The Fourth Sunday

of Easter

11:00 am Holy Eucharist, Rite II with sending off and blessing of our Deacon-in-Training



May 11, 2025

What's Happening This Week:

Morning Prayer is held every weekday at 9:00 am on Facebook.

Date	Time	Event	Location
Sunday, May 11	9:30 am 11:00 am 12:00 pm 4:00 pm	Adult Education Class Holy Eucharist – 4 th Sunday of Easter Refreshments Open Hearts Café Meal/Clothing	Church Church Church Centennial Room
Monday, May 12	10:00-3:00	Church Open	
Tuesday, May 13	10:00-3:00 3:00 pm	Church Open Open Hearts Café Meal/Clothing	Centennial Room
Wednesday, May 14	10:00-3:00 7:30 pm	Church Open Philadelphia Chamber Music Societ	y Concert Church
Thursday, May 15	10:00-3:00 12:15 pm	Church Open Healing Eucharist	Prayer Corner
Sunday, May 18	9:30 am 11:00 am 12:00 pm 12:30 pm 4:00 pm	Adult Education Class Holy Eucharist – 5 th Sunday of Easter Refreshments May Vestry meeting & orientation Open Hearts Café Meal/Clothing	Church Church Church PH 2 nd floor Centennial Room

TODAY'S PARTICIPANTS

Shreve Simpson & Jeannie Welsh, Lectors Andy Gutknecht, Intercessor Thomas Lipscomb, Robert & Henry Lipscomb, Acolytes Martha Lipscomb, Usher Gail Caruso & Margaret Dowling, Flowers Andy Gutknecht, Welcome Table Martha Lipscomb, Refreshments

Welcome! We are glad you are with us today.

You can find more information on the back of the bulletin.

Our Vivid Vision

This was created in 2022 in collaboration with the Rectors, Wardens & Vestry and is intended to describe where we will be in 3 years.

The church is bursting with life. Outside the building, people are talking, resting, and enjoying the weather. Inside, people are coming and going – staff and volunteers connecting and welcoming. Families, students, working professionals, retirees and neighbors mingle with each other, finding resources they need: safety and support, education, and creative outlets. Visitors and members alike find a place to make a difference and share their gifts with each other. The smell of delicious food wafts through the air as the chefs prepare the community meal for the day. Visitors from all over the world are marveling at the beautiful interior of the sanctuary. Worshippers are laughing, singing, praising, and just enjoying being together. The delicate sounds of violin mingle with the robust organ and the echoes of voices. We are more than just a place on the Square. We are an integral part of the neighborhood.

Core Values

Inclusion/Welcome

We believe that no one should feel left out or alone. We embrace our differences and respect each person within our community. This allows everyone to bring their unique and authentic gifts to further the mission of the church.

Innovation

We are not afraid of trying new things or changing when necessary. If things do not work out, we are open to re-evaluate, learn from our mistakes, and try again.

Collaboration

We listen to and support one another, working and evolving together. We build upon each other's strengths and lift up each other's gifts.

Community Mindedness

Church is not an individual endeavor, but a community experience. We believe that we cannot each succeed or be whole, unless everyone finds success and wholeness.

Culture

Joyful

We are hopeful, optimistic, and have fun together. Being part of this community gives us joy, and our joy spreads to others and makes us want to share joy with them.

Fearless

We are innovative, purposeful and adaptable. We believe that with God all things are possible and that with prayer and connection to God we will always have enough. We are not afraid of trying new things or of failing. We learn from our mistakes. We reach out to others drawing them in, not waiting for them to find us.

Embracing

We love others, because God loves us. This means that we are accepting, welcoming, open, genuine, and empathetic. We speak the truth in love.

Engaged

Our connection to this organization is full of energy. We give without expectation of return. We continuously learn about the community and our neighbors and adapt our connections as needed. We all contribute our time, money and skills to make our community better.

THE ENTRANCE RITE

Entrance Hymn 184



Opening Acclamation

Presider	Alleluia. Christ is risen.
People	The Lord is risen indeed. Alleluia.

Collect for Purity

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

A Song to the Lamb

James Denman



Collect of the Day

- *Presider* The Lord be with you.
- People And also with you.

Presider Let us pray.

O God, whose Son Jesus is the good shepherd of your people: Grant that when we hear his voice we may know him who calls us each by name, and follow where he leads; who, with you and the Holy Spirit, lives and reigns, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen**.

THE WORD OF GOD

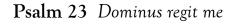
First Lesson: Acts 9:36-43

Shreve Simpson

Reader A reading from the Acts of the Apostles.

Now in Joppa there was a disciple whose name was Tabitha, which in Greek is Dorcas. She was devoted to good works and acts of charity. At that time she became ill and died. When they had washed her, they laid her in a room upstairs. Since Lydda was near Joppa, the disciples, who heard that Peter was there, sent two men to him with the request, "Please come to us without delay." So Peter got up and went with them; and when he arrived, they took him to the room upstairs. All the widows stood beside him, weeping and showing tunics and other clothing that Dorcas had made while she was with them. Peter put all of them outside, and then he knelt down and prayed. He turned to the body and said, "Tabitha, get up." Then she opened her eyes, and seeing Peter, she sat up. He gave her his hand and helped her up. Then calling the saints and widows, he showed her to be alive. This became known throughout Joppa, and many believed in the Lord. Meanwhile he stayed in Joppa for some time with a certain Simon, a tanner.

- *Reader* The Word of the Lord.
- People Thanks be to God.



St. Columba



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5 of de -	light from		chal -	ice flow	- eth!
6 sing thy	praise with		house	for ev	- er.

The Epistle: Revelation 7:9-17

Jeannie Welsh

Reader A reading from the Book of Revelation.

I looked, and there was a great multitude that no one could count, from every nation, from all tribes and peoples and languages, standing before the throne and before the Lamb, robed in white, with palm branches in their hands. They cried out in a loud voice, saying, "Salvation belongs to our God who is seated on the throne, and to the Lamb!" And all the angels stood around the throne and around the elders and the four living creatures, and they fell on their faces before the throne and worshiped God, singing, "Amen! Blessing and glory and wisdom and thanksgiving and honor and power and might be to our God forever and ever! Amen." Then one of the elders addressed me, saying, "Who are these, robed in white, and where have they come from?" I said to him, "Sir, you are the one that knows." Then he said to me, "These are they who have come out of the great ordeal; they have washed their robes and made them white in the blood of the Lamb. For this reason they are before the throne of God, and worship him day and night within his temple, and the one who is seated on the throne will shelter them. They will hunger no more, and thirst no more; the sun will not strike them, nor any scorching heat; for the Lamb at the center of the throne will be their shepherd, and he will guide them to springs of the water of life, and God will wipe away every tear from their eyes."

ReaderThe Word of the Lord.PeopleThanks be to God.

Please rise in body or in spirit. Sequence Hymn 241



Words: Christopher Smart (1722-1771), alt. Music: *Laus Deo*, Richard Redhead (1820-1901); desc. Percy William Whitlock (1903-1946). Descant by permission of Oxford University Press.

The Gospel: John 10:22-30

Celebrant The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to John.People Glory to you, Lord Christ

At that time the festival of the Dedication took place in Jerusalem. It was winter, and Jesus was walking in the temple, in the portico of Solomon. So the Jews gathered around him and said to him, "How long will you keep us in suspense? If you are the Messiah, tell us plainly." Jesus answered, "I have told you, and you do not believe. The works that I do in my Father's name testify to me; but you do not believe, because you do not belong to my sheep. My sheep hear my voice. I know them, and they follow me. I give them eternal life, and they will never perish. No one will snatch them out of my hand. What my Father has given me is greater than all else, and no one can snatch it out of the Father's hand. The Father and I are one."

CelebrantThe Gospel of the Lord.PeoplePraise to you, Lord Christ.

Sermon

The Rev. John Gardner

Following a period of silence, all rise in body or in spirit.

Nicene Creed

All We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one Being with the Father. Through him all things were made. For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven: by the power of the Holy Spirit he became incarnate from the Virgin Mary, and was made man. For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate; he suffered death and was buried. On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures; he ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son. With the Father and the Son he is worshiped and glorified. He has spoken through the Prophets. We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church. We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins. We look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen.

The Prayers of the People

Andy Gutknecht

Leader	O God, we pray for your holy Church;
People	That we all may be one.
Leader	Grant that every member of the Church may truly and humbly serve you;
People	That your Name may be glorified by all people.
Leader	We pray for all bishops, priests, and deacons;
People	That they may be faithful ministers of your Word and Sacraments.
Leader	We pray for all who govern and hold authority in the nations of the world;
People	That there may be justice and peace on the earth.
Leader	Give us grace to do your will in all that we undertake;
People	That our works may find favor in your sight.

Leader People	 Have compassion on Emily, Ben, Antonio, Robbie, Jessica, Tracey, Chuck, Jarred, Khalil, Kyree, Christopher, Harmony, Calvin, Mourad, Stefania, Christian, Mike, Donna, Katreen, Cheryl, Carlotta, Juanita, Barbara, Juan, David, Ebony, Brenden, Johnas, Alayan, Alima, Iddin, Adonius, Cottrel, Sawyer, Leslie, Joshua, Collin, Halli, Tonya, Lisa, Earnest, Rosemary, Chelsea, Sydney, Shamor, Maricarmen and all those who suffer from any grief or trouble; That they may be delivered from their distress.
Leader People	Give to the departed eternal rest. Let light perpetual shine upon them.
Leader People	We praise you for your saints who have entered into joy; May we also come to share in your heavenly kingdom.
Leader	Let us pray for our own needs and those of others. A brief silence is kept.
Presider	Almighty and eternal God, ruler of all things in heaven and earth: Mercifully accept the prayers of your people, and strengthen us to do your will; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

The Confession of Sin

Celebrant Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor. Silence may be kept.

All Most merciful God, we confess that we have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done, and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We are truly sorry and we humbly repent. For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ, have mercy on us and forgive us; that we may delight in your will, and walk in your ways, to the glory of your Name. Amen.

The Absolution

Celebrant Almighty God have mercy on you, forgive you all your sins through our Lord Jesus Christ, strengthen you in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep you in eternal life. **Amen**.

The Peace

Please rise in body or in spirit.

CelebrantThe peace of the Lord be always with you.PeopleAnd also with you!

Please be seated.

Welcome, Parish Notices & Celebration Blessings

Blessing & Godspeed to Robbin McCarthy, Deacon-in-Training

- Presider The Scriptures are filled with stories of people who have been called to move to new places: Abraham and Sarah, Mary and Joseph, Paul and Barnabas, Priscilla and Aquilla. Filled with uncertainty about what lay ahead, these people of God could not have found their moves easy. Yet they were also filled with excitement, trusting that God was calling them and guiding them to a new place. And now Robbin, our beloved Deacon-in-training is preparing to leave us and continue her education toward ordination to the diaconate. Robbin, as a part of this body of Christ, you have given us wisdom in your sermons, kindness in your connections, and healing in your prayers. Thank you for all you have given to this community.
- Celebrant Let us pray.

The Prayer for the Church and the Ordained

All O God of unchangeable power and eternal light: Look favorably on your whole Church, that wonderful and sacred mystery; by the effectual working of your providence, carry out in tranquility the plan of salvation; let the whole world see and know that things which were being cast down are being raised up, and things which had grown old are being made new, and that all things are being brought to their perfection by him through whom all things were made, your Son Jesus Christ our Lord; who lives and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. Amen.

The Blessing

Celebrant Blessed are you, O God, for you have created the wide and wonderful world in which we live. We praise you for your constant care for those who have trusted you in ages past, who journeyed in faith to new lands of promise. We trust that now you will hold Robbin, securely in your hands as she, continues her formation and education. May she take with her a heart filled with your love and grace. Bless her that she may be a blessing. Help her to continue to grow in grace, in Spirit, and in truth. **Amen.**

THE HOLY COMMUNION

Offertory Sentence

Presider God, you have delivered us from hunger and from thirst by the fruits of your creation. The gifts you have given overflow before us. In return, we offer these gifts back to you, and back to those who suffer from ecological degradation and climate change. May the gifts we give enable the building of the healed world envisioned in Revelation. **Amen.**

Anthem

Loving shepherd of thy sheep

Philip Ledger

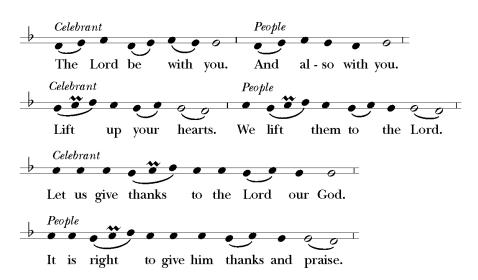
Loving shepherd of thy sheep, keep thy lamb, in safety keep; Nothing can thy power withstand, none can pluck me from thy hand. I would bless thee every day, gladly all thy will obey, Like thy blessed ones above, happy in thy precious love. Loving shepherd, ever near, teach thy lamb thy voice to hear; Suffer not my steps to stray from the straight and narrow way. Where thou leadest I would go, walking in thy steps below, Till before my Father's throne I shall know, as I am known.

Please rise in body or in spirit



The Great Thanksgiving

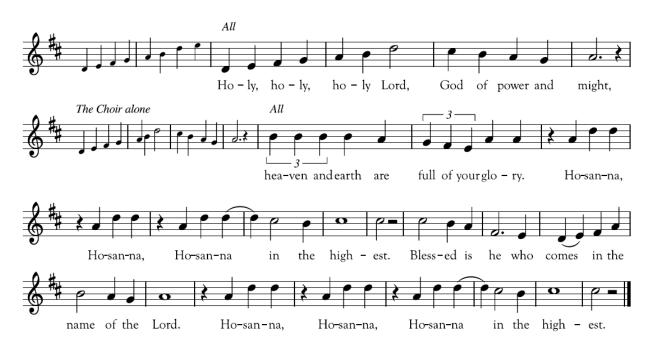
Eucharistic Prayer A



Celebrant It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth. But chiefly are we bound to praise you for the glorious resurrection of your Son Jesus Christ our Lord; for he is the true Paschal Lamb, who was sacrificed for us, and has taken away the sin of the world. By his death he has destroyed death, and by his rising to life again he has won for us everlasting life. 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

Ronald Arnatt



Celebrant 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:

All Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.

Celebrant 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 for ever.
 All AMEN.

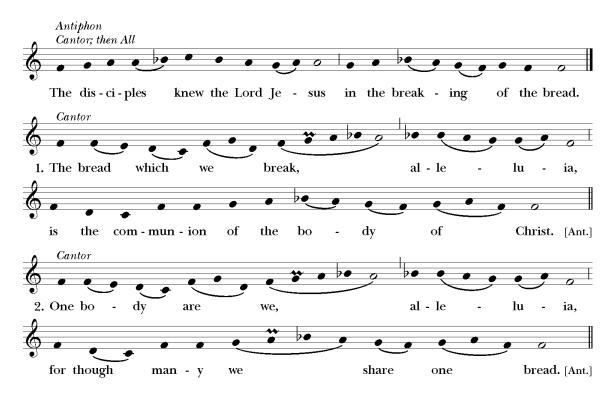
The Lord's Prayer

Celebrant And now, as our Savior Christ has taught us, we are bold to say:

All 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.

Breaking of the Bread A period of silence is kept.

Fraction Anthem



Celebrant 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.

The people are seated.

Distribution of Communion

If you wish to receive communion, please follow the directions of the ushers and go to the altar rail to receive. You can receive bread and/or wine, depending on your preference. If you wish to receive the wine, you can retain your wafer and dip it in the cup or drink directly from the cup. If you need a gluten-free wafer or prefer a blessing, please let the priest know. We will bring communion to those who are more comfortable staying in their pew (please alert an usher).



Following the hymn, all rise in body or in spirit.

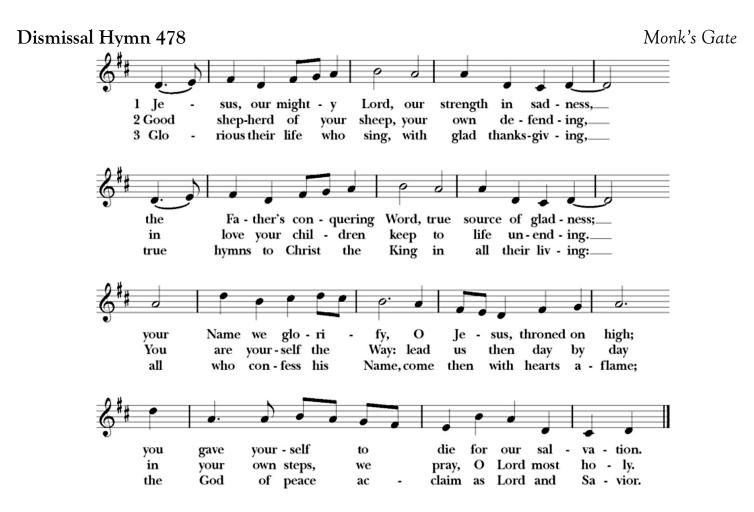
Post-Communion Prayer

Celebrant Let us pray.

All Eternal God, heavenly Father, you have graciously accepted us as living members of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ, and you have fed us with spiritual food in the Sacrament of his Body and Blood. Send us now into the world in peace, and grant us strength and courage to love and serve you with gladness and singleness of heart; through Christ our Lord. Amen.

Blessing

Celebrant The peace of God, which passes all understanding, keep your hearts and minds in the knowledge and love of God and of his Son, Jesus Christ our Lord. And the blessing of God Almighty, Father, Son and Holy Spirit be with you and remain with you always. **Amen.**



Dismissal

Presider	Alleluia, Alleluia! Let us bless the Lord.
People	Thanks be to God. Alleluia, Alleluia

Postlude

Ite, Missa Est, Alleluia

Colin Mawby

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Healing Prayer – all who wish to receive prayers for healing for themselves, a loved one or even the world, are invited to john a member of the clergy and/or the healing team in the Prayer Corner (to the right of the altar area) after the service.

About this service...

Service: Everything you need for the service is in this bulletin. If you have questions or need assistance, please ask one of the ushers (who handed you this bulletin) or a neighbor in your pew.

Children are always welcome in our worship service and we love to hear their joyful sounds and see their wiggly ways! We have books for all ages and activity bags in the back for children who wish to stay with their families during the service. We also have the "Pew Pen" in the front of the church for those we need a little more space to move around.

Restrooms are located at the front of the church. Walk down the left aisle toward the door with the EXIT sign. Go through the door and turn left. Men's room is straight ahead, women's to the right. If you prefer a gender-neutral bathroom, please ask our ushers to show you where this is.

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Offering: Halfway through the service you will notice that we pass a plate around to collect the offering. The offerings we give help to support to work this church does, the people who work here, and our programs for the neighborhood. If you wish to help support our amazing programs, you can put something in the plate, text **CHT**



DONATE to 73256 or using the QR code to the right. You can also sign up to give regularly with REALM (<u>www.htrit.org/give</u>).

