St. Timothy's Episcopal Church, Wilson, NC

The Fifth Sunday of Easter

Year E

April 28, 2024

Celebrant and Preacher: The Rev. Paul H. Castelli, OCS

Organist: Kara Zaharin

Greeter: Beth Sallenger (8:00), Billy & Jan Hemby (10:30); Ushers: Ed Daniel, Marcus Fielding (10:30) Lay Reader: Kim Clark (8:00); Lee Stephenson (10:30)

Eucharistic Ministers: Kim Clark (8:00); Bobby Boykin (L), Hugh Hussey (R) (10:30)

Acolytes: Ann Thorne Webb, Russell Stephenson, Polly Jenkins (10:30)

Altar Guild: Jean Edmundson, Beth McKinney, Mary Helen Dempsey, Janet Chesson, Laura Leslie Crudup

Counters: Melissa Rees, Evelyn Baskervill

Let us remember that the nave is a place of prayer and worship. Please enter reverently, keeping conversation to a whisper and to a minimum as your brothers and sisters in Christ may be trying to pray in preparation for the Holy Eucharist. We hope you will stay and visit with each other after the service. Appropriate person devotional prayers for Sundays, before and after worship, and before and after receiving Holy Communion can be found on Pages 833-835 of the Book of Common Prayer. In addition, there are appropriate Psalms that can be prayed in preparation for worship, such as Psalms 84, 85, 86, 116, and 130. The Psalter can be found from Pages 585-808 in the Book of Common Prayer.

HOLY EUCHARIST RITE I 8:00 AM

The 10:30 AM Rite II service begins on Page 2 of this bulletin.

Welcome & Announcements

The people stand as they are able as the Sacred Ministers process in silence.

Opening Acclamation	BCP p. 323
Collect for Purity	
Summary of the Law	BCP p. 324
Kyrie	
Gloria	
Collect of the Day	BCP p. 325
Readings & Psalm	See Pages 3-5 in this bulletin.
Sermon	
The Nicene Creed	BCP p. 327
Prayers of the People	BCP p. 328
During the silence to follow each paragraph, the congregation adds prayers aloud or in their hearts.	
Confession & Absolution	BCP p. 330
The Peace	BCP p. 332
Offertory	BCP p. 333
The Great Thanksgiving: Eucharistic Prayer I	
Lord's Prayer	BCP p. 336
The Fraction Anthems	BCP p. 337
The Prayer of Humble Access	

We believe in the Real Presence of Christ in the Blessed Sacrament, the consecrated bread and wine. Communion in the Episcopal Church is open to all baptized Christians and they are invited at this time to the altar rail to receive Christ's Body and Blood. If you require a gluten-free wafer, please inform the Priest and one will be provided for you. Please let an usher know if you need Communion brought to your seat for any reason. If you wish to receive a blessing, please come forward and cross your arms over your chest to signify that to the Priest.

Post-Communion Prayer BCP p. 339

Blessing

Dismissal

HOLY EUCHARIST RITE II 10:30 AM

Prelude

Welcome & Announcements

THE WORD OF GOD

Processional Hymn

Sing ye faithful, sing with gladness

The Hymnal 1982 #492

Opening Acclamation

BCP 413

The people standing, the Celebrant says

Celebrant

+ Alleluia. Christ is risen.

People

The Lord is risen indeed. Alleluia.

The Celebrant prays the Collect for Purity

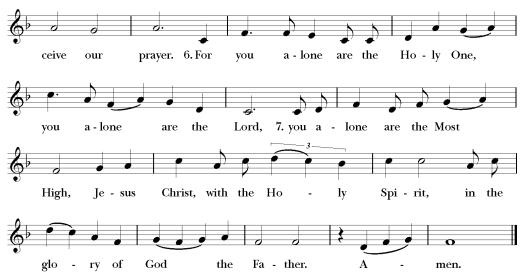
BCP 355

Almighty God, to you all hearts are open, all desires known, and from you no 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.

The Gloria is sung

The Hymnal 1982 S-280





After the Gloria, the Celebrant faces the People and says,

The Lord be with you.

People And also with you.

Celebrant Let us pray.

The Celebrant says the Collect of the Day.

BCP 214

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 children are dismissed to children's church.

The First Lesson Acts 8:26-40

The Lord prepares an Ethiopian eunuch to understand the gospel and prepares Philip to convey it. Philip obeys and a rapid conversation results.

Reader A reading from the Acts of the Apostles.

An angel of the Lord said to Philip, "Get up and go toward the south to the road that goes down from Jerusalem to Gaza." (This is a wilderness road.) So he got up and went. Now there was an Ethiopian eunuch, a court official of the Candace, queen of the Ethiopians, in charge of her entire treasury. He had come to Jerusalem to worship and was returning home; seated in his chariot, he was reading the prophet Isaiah. Then the Spirit said to Philip, "Go over to this chariot and join it." So Philip ran up to it and heard him reading the prophet Isaiah. He asked, "Do you understand what you are reading?" He replied, "How can I, unless someone guides me?" And he invited Philip to get in and sit beside him. Now the passage of the scripture that he was reading was this:

"Like a sheep he was led to the slaughter, and like a lamb silent before its shearer, so he does not open his mouth.

In his humiliation justice was denied him. Who can describe his generation? For his life is taken away from the earth."

The eunuch asked Philip, "About whom, may I ask you, does the prophet say this, about himself or about someone else?" Then Philip began to speak, and starting with this scripture, he proclaimed to him the good news about Jesus. As they were going along the road, they came to some water; and the eunuch said, "Look, here is water! What is to prevent me from being baptized?" He commanded the chariot to stop, and both of them, Philip and the eunuch, went

down into the water, and Philip baptized him. When they came up out of the water, the Spirit of the Lord snatched Philip away; the eunuch saw him no more, and went on his way rejoicing. But Philip found himself at Azotus, and as he was passing through the region, he proclaimed the good news to all the towns until he came to Caesarea.

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

The Response: Psalm 22:24-30

Deus, Deus meus

BCP 610

8:00 – The Psalm is read responsively by whole verse. 10:30 – The Psalm is chanted in unison.



- ²⁴ My praise is of him in the great assembly; * I will perform my vows in the presence of those who worship him.
- The poor shall eat and be satisfied, and those who seek the LORD shall praise him: *
 "May your heart live for ever!"
- ²⁶ All the ends of the earth shall remember and turn to the LORD, *

- and all the families of the nations shall bow before **him**.
- ²⁷ For kingship belongs to the **LORD**; * he rules over the **nations**.
- To him alone all who sleep in the earth bow down in worship; * all who go down to the dust fall before him.
- My soul shall live for him; my descendants shall serve him; * they shall be known as the LORD's for ever.
- They shall come and make known to a people yet unborn * the saving deeds that he has done.

The Second Lesson 1 John 4:7-21

The love that God shows us through Jesus must overflow from our hearts for the sake of our neighbors.

Reader A reading from the First Epistle of St. John.

Beloved, let us love one another, because love is from God; everyone who loves is born of God and knows God. Whoever does not love does not know God, for God is love. God's love was revealed among us in this way: God sent his only Son into the world so that we might live through him. In this is love, not that we loved God but that he loved us and sent his Son to be the atoning sacrifice for our sins. Beloved, since God loved us so much, we also ought to love one another. No one has ever seen God; if we love one another, God lives in us, and his love is perfected in us.

By this we know that we abide in him and he in us, because he has given us of his Spirit. And we have seen and do testify that the Father has sent his Son as the Savior of the world. God abides in those who confess that Jesus is the Son of God, and they abide in God. So we have known and believe the love that God has for us.

God is love, and those who abide in love abide in God, and God abides in them. Love has been perfected among us in this: that we may have boldness on the day of judgment, because as he is, so are we in this world. There is no fear in love, but perfect love casts out fear; for fear has to do with punishment, and whoever fears has not reached perfection in love. We love because he first loved us. Those who say, "I love God," and hate their brothers or sisters, are liars; for those who do not love a brother or sister whom they have seen, cannot love God whom they have not seen. The commandment we have from him is this: those who love God must love their brothers and sisters also.

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

* Sequence Hymn

CELTIC ALLELUIA



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Deacon or a Priest reads the Gospel, first saying

standing, the

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

+++ For some it is customary at this time to use our thumbs to trace three small crosses upon our foreheads, lips, and chests to signify keeping the Gospel in our minds, on our lips, and in our hearts.

People Glory to you, Lord Christ.

* The Gospel John 15:1-8

Abiding in Jesus shields us from self-deception and draws us closer to God.

Jesus said to his disciples, "I am the true vine, and my Father is the vine grower. He removes every branch in me that bears no fruit. Every branch that bears fruit he prunes to make it bear more fruit. You have already been cleansed by the word that I have spoken to you. Abide in me as I abide in you. Just as the branch cannot bear fruit by itself unless it abides in the vine, neither can you unless you abide in me. I am the vine, you are the branches. Those who abide in me and I in them bear much fruit, because apart from me you can do nothing. Whoever does not abide in me is thrown away like a branch and withers; such branches are gathered, thrown into the fire, and burned. If you abide in me, and my words abide in you, ask for whatever you wish, and it will be done for you. My Father is glorified by this, that you bear much fruit and become my disciples."

After the Gospel, the Reader says

The Gospel of the Lord.

People Praise to you, Lord Christ.

The Sermon

The Rev. Paul H. Castelli, OCS

* Nicene Creed

BCP 358

Please stand as you are able

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 Form VI

BCP 392

Reader In peace, we pray to you, Lord God.

Silence is kept for a moment.

* congregation stands

Reader For all people in their daily life and work;

People For our families, friends, and neighbors, and for those who are alone.

Reader For this community, the nation, and the world;

People For all who work for justice, freedom, and peace.

Reader For the just and proper use of your creation;

People For the victims of hunger, fear, injustice, and oppression.

Reader For all who are in danger, sorrow, or any kind of trouble;

People For those who minister to the sick, the friendless, and the needy.

Reader For the peace and unity of the Church of God;

People For all who proclaim the Gospel, and all who seek the Truth.

Reader For Michael our Presiding Bishop, Sam and Jennifer, our Bishops; Paul, our Priest, and for all bishops

and other ministers:

People For all who serve God in his Church.

Reader For the special needs and concerns of this congregation, and especially those on our parish prayer list:

Rudy Knight, Sharon Wethington, Vernon Hodges, Harvey Ruffin, Kim Perry, Jean Bissette, Paige Quinn Barnhill, Hope Currie, Ezra Currie, George A. Ruff, Suzanne Fleming, Joanna Powell, Joe Noulles, Jim Powers, Kreshaun Brewington, David Ballard, Phyllis Connor, Dwight Batts, Tyler Turner, Harrison Barnett, Stephanie Moore, Allison Parker, James Batts, Jimmy Thompson, Charlotte Bridgers, Linda Sheen, Henry Coleman, Lee Wilhelm, Bill Robinette, Betty Jean Gauss, Anna Jane Ruffin, Kayla Thomas, Kris Hing, Jean Webb, Lenore Smith, Nathan Toms, Harris Holland, Russ Bass, Beth Fogleman, Jane Lyon, Carter Grine, Jim Thomas, Joseph, Cheryl Stepp, Denny Lucas, Lynn Kyle, Bailey Blount, Debbie Castelli, Nancy Taylor, Kristie Bailey, Tammy Sasser; the Allen family, the Ellis Family, the Malin family, David Hales and family, Bailey Sparrow; peace for the people of Israel, Palestine, Ukraine, Russia, Ethiopia, and all refugees fleeing nations mired in military

conflict; the people of Syria, Turkey, Canada, Maui, and all peoples recovering from natural disasters; those affected by Covid-19; and those affected by the lack of respect for the dignity of every person.

Silence. The People may add their own petitions.

Reader Hear us, Lord;

People For your mercy is great.

Reader We thank you, Lord, for all the blessings of this life. We give thanks to you and pray for those who are

celebrating birthdays this week: Jim Etheridge, Anna Jane Ruffin, Naomi Byrum, Dorothy Jeffrey.

Silence. The People may add their own thanksgivings.

Reader We will exalt you, O God our King;

People And praise your Name for ever and ever.

Reader We pray for all who have +died, that they may have a place in your eternal kingdom.

Silence. The People may add their own petitions.

Reader Lord, let your loving-kindness be upon them;

People Who put their trust in you.

The Celebrant concludes with a suitable Collect to which the People respond, Amen.

Eternal God, who led your ancient people into freedom by a pillar of cloud by day and a pillar of fire by night: Grant that we who walk in the light of your presence may rejoice in the liberty of the children of God; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Confession of Sin

The Celebrant says the following sentence of Scripture and bids the faithful to Confession.

Since we have a great high priest who has passed through the heavens, Jesus, the Son of God, let us with confidence draw near the throne of grace, that we may receive mercy and find grace to help in time of need.

Hebrews 4:14, 16

Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

Silence is kept. Minister and People

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 Bishop, when present, or the Priest, stands and says

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 BCP 360

All stand. The Celebrant says to the people

The peace of the Lord be always with you.

People And also with you.

Then the Ministers and People may greet one another in the name of the Lord.

THE HOLY COMMUNION

Offertory Sentence

The Offertory begins with the following words. The people are seated while the altar is prepared.

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

Ephesians 5:2

Offertory Hymn

Love divine, all loves excelling

The Hymnal 1982 #657

* The Doxology

Praise God from whom all blessings flow

Praise Him all creatures here below

Praise Him above ye heavenly hosts

Praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost

Celebrant All things come of Thee, O Lord;

Peoble And of Thine own have we given Thee.

Eucharistic Prayer A

BCP 361 The people remain standing. The Celebrant, whether bishop or priest, faces them and sings or says

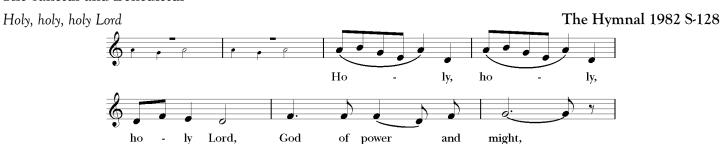
> The Lord be with you. hearts. CelebrantPeople

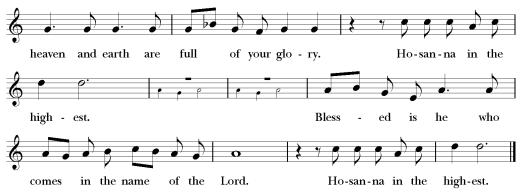
Then, facing the Holy Table, the Celebrant proceeds

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

to give him thanks and praise.

The Sanctus and Benedictus





The people 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.

The Celebrant continues

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.+



And now, as our Savior Christ has taught us, we are bold to say, The Lord's Prayer
Our Father, who art in heaven,
BCP 364

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,

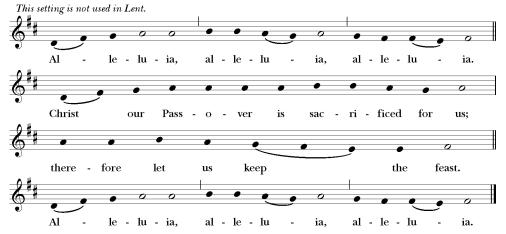
but deliver us from evil.

For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory,

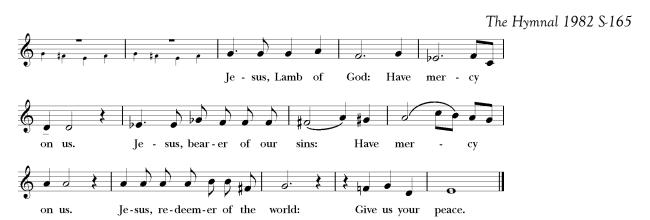
for ever and ever. Amen.

The Fraction BCP 36?

The Celebrant breaks the bread +. There is a period of silence, then,



The Agnus Dei Lamb of God



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.

Hymns at Communion

Bread on heaven, on thee we feed Like the murmur of the dove's song Come, my way, my truth, my life The Hymnal 1982 #323 The Hymnal 1982 #513 The Hymnal 1982 #487

We believe in the Real Presence of Christ in the Blessed Sacrament, the consecrated bread and wine. Communion in the Episcopal Church is open to all baptized Christians and they are invited at this time to the altar rail to receive Christ's Body and Blood. If you require a gluten-free wafer, please inform the Priest and one will be provided for you. If you wish to receive a blessing, please come forward and cross your arms over your chest to signify that to the Priest. Prayers are offered in the Baptistry Chapel at the back of the church.

Post Communion Prayer BCP 366

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.

Lay Eucharistic Visitors are sent forth by all, saying:

We send you forth bearing these holy gifts, that those to whom you go may share with us one bread and one cup, the communion of Christ's body and blood.

Blessing

The priest blesses the people, saying

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, + the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be among you, and remain with you always. **Amen**.

* Dismissal

Celebrant Let us go forth in the name of Christ. Alleluia. Alleluia.

People Thanks be to God. Alleluia. Alleluia.

* Recessional Hymn

We know that Christ is raised and dies no more

The Hymnal 1982 #296

Postlude



The Altar flowers are given to the glory of God

In Thanksgiving For
Lou Ann Cozart
On her Birthday
By
Her Family



VESTRY 2024

Class of 2024: Evelyn Baskervill, Ginger Gliarmis, Donn Holt, Catherine Walston Class of 2025: Ann Barnes, Melba Martin, Bob Putney, Melissa Rees Class of 2026: Linda Connor, Parker Garrett, Lee Stephenson, Sammy Gilmore

Welcome to St. Timothy's Episcopal Church! We are a welcoming, inclusive, and affirming church guided by scripture, tradition, and reason. We invite you to experience a relationship with Jesus, empowered by the Holy Spirit, by participating in the liturgy, engaging with the scriptures, and abiding in this Christian community of faith. In baptism, we covenant with God and each other striving for justice and peace, seeking Christ in all persons, loving our neighbors as ourselves, and respecting the dignity of every human being. We believe God loves you, just as you are, and so do we! So, whoever you are and wherever you are in your spiritual journey, you will be welcomed, loved, and affirmed at St. Timothy's. Everybody needs a place. We invite you to make this place yours!



April 28, 2024 – Easter 5 (B) General Convention Young Adult Festival

Registration is open online for The Episcopal Church Young Adult Festival, scheduled to run during six days of the 81st General Convention this summer in Louisville, Kentucky. The deadline for participants needing housing is **May 6**; commuter registration deadline is **May 31**. Apply here: iam.ec/yaf2024.

The Young Adult Festival is designed for those ages 18-30 to meet peers from across the globe, pray and learn together, engage in the church's legislative process, and help discern God's call for The Episcopal Church.

"This is a wonderful way for young adults to get to know more about General Convention, to understand more how our church creates priorities and budgets, to meet other young adults, to learn more about ministries across the church, to meet the presiding bishop and the president of the House of Deputies, to worship together, and to explore together," said the Rev. Shannon Kelly, staff officer for Young Adult and Campus Ministries. "We look forward to welcoming everyone to Louisville."

General Convention will be held June 23-28 at the Kentucky International Convention Center. The Young Adult Festival will run from June 21-26, with programming events at the Galt House Hotel.

The cost for the event ranges between \$135 and \$595, depending on housing choices. Registration for those traveling to Louisville includes five nights of housing at the Galt House Hotel, dinner on June 22, General Convention registration, and all Young Adult Festival programming and activities. Space is limited for housing. Registration for commuters includes dinner, convention registration, and all festival programming and activities.



For more information, contact the Rev. Shannon Kelly: skelly@episcopalchurch.org.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Opportunities for Prayer and Worship This Week

05/01: *The Feast of St. Phillip and St. James the Apostles; Holy Eucharist and Healing, Noon, (Chapel)

Please join us each week for Bible Study on Wednesday evenings. We are currently studying the Gospel readings from each Sunday's readings. Dinner is provided and starts at 5:15pm with Bible study following at 6:00pm. Childcare is provided.

St. Timothy's Kentucky Derby Garden Party

St. Timothy's first ever Kentucky Derby Garden Party is Saturday, May 4, 2024, at 4:00 PM, at the Eagle Farm Clubhouse. The Derby will start around 6:35 PM. In between, we will do what a family does; eat, drink, "horsing around" having fun and playing games like cornhole, croquet, horseshoes, etc.

There are two things the Kentucky Derby is known for, HATS and mint julips, and yes, we will have both! Please wear your garden party finest! Also, we <u>encourage everyone to be creative and make your own hat.</u> Buy a basic hat or use an existing hat and have fun embellishing and decorating it however you like. OR you can buy and wear the finest hat you can find. This is about fun and fabulousness! There will be a hat contest in several categories yet to be decided and there will be prizes too!

We will serve finger foods: pimento cheese, chicken salad, and cucumber sandwiches, cheese straws, deviled eggs, vegetable tray, mini desserts, tea, lemonade, and water. We will also have the ingredients for that other Kentucky Derby staple ... mint julips. However, you need to bring your own alcohol.

If you, or you and another member, would like to go in together and volunteer to bring one of the food items, please call the church office, or let Pam Armstrong, Catherine Walston, or Thomas Farmer know what you will bring.

We believe this will be a fun event for everyone. If you know someone who is looking for a church home, please invite them. This will be a great way to introduce them to St. Timothy's! We hope to see you there!

Sunday, May 12th is Youth Sunday. Please start considering how you can be a part of this special day. We will need youth to serve in all roles in both the 8:00am and 10:30am services. These include greeters, ushers, readers, eucharistic ministers (must be 16) and the sermon. Please let Father Paul or Pastor Jen know by May 1st how you would like to serve.

The ECW is accepting donations for our first annual yard sale, which will be held October 5th on the church campus. As you do your spring cleaning, please hang onto any quality items that can be donated. Contact Jan Hemby at 252-286-7012 or Linda Connor at 252-245-6177 if you have questions or items to donate. Thank you!

The Spring Ingathering of our "Blue Boxes" will be Sunday, May 12th. If you have not picked up your UTO box, please do so and remember to thank God for all your many blessings.

Vacation Bible School season is swiftly approaching us! VBS will be taking place from July 28-August 1 in the evenings. Our theme will be Food Truck Party. Please start considering how you can volunteer before or during VBS to help our kids have fun going on a roll with God and how we can reach out to our neighborhood. There will be opportunities to help decorate, work with children, prepare and serve meals, and other opportunities. Everyone 13 and older is welcome to help our VBS be a success. Please let Pastor Jen know how you would like to help as soon as possible.

We are having a Parish Potluck on Sunday, May 19th. A sign-up sheet for food will be sent out soon. This is also Father Paul's last day; please plan to stay and wish him a warm farewell and best wishes.