



TRINITY
EPISCOPAL CATHEDRAL
A house of prayer for all people

The Fifth Sunday of Easter

May 18, 2025, 8 a.m.

Welcome: *If you are a visitor, we are grateful that you have joined us and hope that you find space here to come close to God. We welcome all who seek the Holy, no matter your background. At Trinity Episcopal Cathedral, we pray, celebrate, and share our gifts with each other, our neighbors, and our community, as we serve God and represent the Episcopal Diocese of Arkansas. We'd love to connect with you about how to make this church your home. To do so, please fill out one of the pew cards in front of you and drop it in the offertory plate.*

THE HOLY EUCHARIST, RITE I

Celebrant Alleluia. Christ is risen.

People **The Lord is risen indeed. Alleluia.**

Celebrant Almighty God, unto whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hid: Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of thy Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love thee, and worthily magnify thy holy Name; through Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Celebrant Hear what our Lord Jesus Christ saith: Thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy mind. This is the first and great commandment. And the second is like unto it: Thou shalt love thy neighbor as thyself. On these two commandments hang all the Law and the Prophets.

Celebrant Lord, have mercy upon us.

People **Christ, have mercy upon us.**

Celebrant Lord, have mercy upon us.

Celebrant and People **Glory be to God on high, and on earth peace, good will towards men. We praise thee, we bless thee, we worship thee, we glorify thee, we give thanks to thee for thy great glory, O Lord God, heavenly King, God the Father Almighty. O Lord, the only-begotten Son, Jesus Christ; O Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Father, that takest away the sins of the world, have mercy upon us. Thou that takest away the sins of the world, receive our prayer. Thou that sittest at the right hand of God the Father, have mercy upon us. For thou only art holy; thou only art the Lord; thou only, O Christ, with the Holy Ghost, art most high in the glory of God the Father. Amen.**

THE LITURGY OF THE WORD

THE COLLECT OF THE DAY

Celebrant The Lord be with you.

People **And with thy spirit.**

Celebrant Let us pray.

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

The people sit.

THE FIRST READING

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.”

Lector The Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

Hallelujah! Praise the Lord from the heavens; *
praise him in the heights.

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

Praise him, sun and moon; *
praise him, all you shining stars.

Praise him, heaven of heavens, *
and you waters above the heavens.

Let them praise the Name of the Lord; *
for he commanded, and they were created.

He made them stand fast for ever and ever; *
he gave them a law which shall not pass away.

Praise the Lord from the earth, *
you sea-monsters and all deeps;

Fire and hail, snow and fog, *
tempestuous wind, doing his will;

Mountains and all hills, *
fruit trees and all cedars;

Wild beasts and all cattle, *
creeping things and winged birds;

Kings of the earth and all peoples, *
princes and all rulers of the world;

Young men and maidens, *
old and young together.

Let them praise the Name of the Lord, *
for his Name only is exalted,

his splendor is over earth and heaven.

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!

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.”

Lector The Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

THE GOSPEL

JOHN 13:31-35

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

People **Glory be to thee, O Lord.**

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.”

Priest The Gospel of the Lord.

People **Praise be to thee, O Christ.**

THE SERMON

THE NICENE CREED

Said by all, standing

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

Let us pray for the whole state of Christ's Church and the world.

Almighty and everliving God, who in thy holy Word hast taught us to make prayers, and supplications, and to give thanks for all men: Receive these our prayers which we offer unto thy divine Majesty, beseeching thee to inspire continually the Universal Church with the spirit of truth, unity, and concord; and grant that all those who do confess thy holy Name may agree in the truth of thy holy Word, and live in unity and godly love.

Give grace, O heavenly Father, to all bishops and other ministers, that they may, both by their life and doctrine, set forth thy true and lively Word, and rightly and duly administer thy holy Sacraments.

And to all thy people give thy heavenly grace, and especially to this congregation here present; that, with meek heart and due reverence, they may hear and receive thy holy Word, truly serving thee in holiness and righteousness all the days of their life.

We beseech thee also so to rule the hearts of those who bear the authority of government in this and every land, that they may be led to wise decisions and right actions for the welfare and peace of the world.

Open, O Lord, the eyes of all people to behold thy gracious hand in all thy works, that, rejoicing in thy whole creation, they may honor thee with their substance, and be faithful stewards of thy bounty.

And we most humbly beseech thee, of thy goodness, O Lord, to comfort and succor all those who in this transitory life, are in trouble, sorrow, need, sickness, or any other adversity.

Additional petitions and thanksgivings may be included here.

And we also bless thy holy Name for all thy servants departed this life in thy faith and fear, beseeching thee to grant them continual growth in thy love and service; and to grant us grace so to follow the good examples of all thy saints, that with them we may be partakers of thy heavenly kingdom.

Grant these our prayers, O Father, for Jesus Christ's sake, our only Mediator and Advocate. **Amen.**

THE PEACE

Celebrant The peace of the Lord be always with you.

People **And with thy spirit.**

Then all may greet one another in the name of the Lord.

THE ANNOUNCEMENTS

THE HOLY COMMUNION

*At this time ushers collect an offering from the congregation.
Use the QR code to make a plate offering.*



✧ ALTAR GIFTS ✧

TO THE GLORY OF GOD AND IN LOVING MEMORY OF
THE REVEREND ROBERT M COOPER, SR.
BY HIS WIFE DR. ANN HEDGE-CARRUTHERS

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

The people stand.

Celebrant The Lord be with you.

People **And with thy spirit.**

Celebrant Lift up your hearts.

People **We lift them up unto the Lord.**

Celebrant Let us give thanks unto our Lord God.

People **It is meet and right so to do.**

It is very meet, right, and our bounden duty, that we should at all times, and in all places, give thanks unto thee, O Lord, holy Father, almighty, everlasting God...

...Therefore with Angels and Archangels, and with all the company of heaven, we laud and magnify thy glorious Name; evermore praising thee, and saying,

THE SANCTUS

Holy, holy, holy, Lord God of Hosts:

Heaven and earth are full of thy Glory.

Glory be to thee, O Lord Most High.

Blessed is he that cometh in the name of the Lord.

Hosanna in the highest.

The Celebrant continues

All glory be to thee, O Lord our God, for that thou didst create heaven and earth, and didst make us in thine own image; and, of thy tender mercy, didst give thine only Son Jesus Christ to take our nature upon him, and to suffer death upon the cross for our redemption. He made there a full and perfect sacrifice for the whole world...

...By whom, and with whom, and in whom, in the unity of the Holy Ghost all honor and glory be unto thee, O Father Almighty, world without end. **AMEN.**

Celebrant And now as our Savior Christ hath 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

A period of silence is kept.

Celebrant Alleluia. Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us;

People **Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia.**

Celebrant and People

We do not presume to come to this thy Table, O merciful Lord, trusting in our own righteousness, but in thy manifold and great mercies. We are not worthy so much as to gather up the crumbs under thy Table. But thou art the same Lord whose property is always to have mercy. Grant us therefore, gracious Lord, so to eat the flesh of thy dear Son Jesus Christ and to drink his blood, that we may evermore dwell in him, and he in us. Amen.

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 ADMINISTRATION OF HOLY COMMUNION

Ushers will direct you to the altar rail. Please let an usher know if you need Holy Communion brought to you.

THE POSTCOMMUNION PRAYER

Celebrant Let us pray.

Celebrant and People

Almighty and everliving God, we most heartily thank thee for that thou dost feed us, in these holy mysteries, with the spiritual food of the most precious Body and Blood of thy Son our Savior Jesus Christ; and dost assure us thereby of thy favor and goodness towards us; and that we are very members incorporate in the mystical body of thy Son, the blessed company of all faithful people; and are also heirs, through hope, of thy everlasting kingdom. And we humbly beseech thee, O heavenly Father, so to assist us with thy grace, that we may continue in that holy fellowship, and do all such good works as thou hast prepared for us to walk in; through Jesus Christ our Lord, to whom with thee and the Holy Ghost, be all honor and glory, world without end. Amen.

THE BLESSING

The Celebrant says,

The God of peace, who brought again from the dead our Lord Jesus Christ, the great Shepherd of the sheep, through the blood of the everlasting covenant, make you perfect

in every good work to do his will, working in you that which is well-pleasing in his sight; and the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Ghost, be amongst you, and remain with you always. **Amen.**

THE DISMISSAL

Priest Go in peace to love and serve the Lord. Alleluia, alleluia.
People **Thanks be to God. Alleluia, alleluia**

PARTICIPATING TODAY

<i>Celebrant</i>	The Rev. Thomas Alexander, <i>Curate</i>
<i>Preacher</i>	The Rev. Danny Schieffler, <i>Interim Vicar</i>
<i>Lector and Lay Eucharistic Minister</i>	Judy Barger

TRINITY DEBT RELIEF CAMPAIGN

“And God is able to provide you with every blessing in abundance, so that by always having enough of everything, you may share abundantly in every good work.” – 2 Corinthians 9:8

Please help with Trinity’s effort to pay off our financial debt! Our goal is to raise \$350,000 to make Trinity fully debt-free, which will free up nearly \$50,000 a year for ministry. Getting this debt paid will empower us to look to the future with excitement and creativity, and it will strengthen our case to call our next Dean & Rector.

As a guide, we are asking parishioners to consider adding 25% of your annual gift to Trinity to your 2025 contribution and giving that toward this campaign. We are hoping to have the funds committed by June 8 and raised by August 15.

You can pledge or make a gift with the QR Codes or links below or pick up a pledge card in the back of the church.

Make a Gift



bit.ly/TrinityDebtGift

Make a Pledge



bit.ly/TrinityDebtPledge

Events and Information

This week at and around the Cathedral

Today	4 p.m., Final Choral Evensong followed by a reception 5 p.m., Catechumenate Class	Wednesday	8:30 a.m., Morning Prayer 12:15 p.m., Bach Organ Recital 5 p.m., St. Cecilia Singers 5 p.m., Trinity Ringing Society 5:30 p.m., Community Dinner 5:30 p.m., Eucharist with Healing Prayers 6 p.m., Koinonia Eucharist 6:30 p.m., Book Club 6:30 p.m., Sacred Feminine
Monday	7 a.m., Breakfast and Bible Study 8:30 a.m., Morning Prayer	Thursday	8:30 a.m., Morning Prayer 5:15 p.m., Evening Prayer
Tuesday	8:30 a.m., Morning Prayer 5:30 p.m., Vestry Meeting	Saturday	10 a.m., Faith & Food Cooking Class

UPCOMING EVENTS

Final Evensong of the Season

Today at 4 p.m.

Join us for the last Choral Evensong service of Spring. The service will be followed by a reception in Morrison Hall. Evensong services will return in September.

Food and Faith Cooking Class

Saturday, May 24: Fueling our Bodies with Healthy Choices!

10:00 - 11:00 am, Morrison Hall

Open to 2nd-5th graders, this Saturday morning cooking class incorporates a shared meal and time together for faith formation. Led by Denise Albert, with Cooking in Bloom, young people are encouraged to explore healthy eating, kitchen skills, and how to nourish our bodies faithfully! Class is limited so please sign up! <http://bit.ly/cookingfoodfaith>

Undie Sunday

Sunday, May 25

The Little Rock School District, through their Bright Futures program is helping their students to be superheroes with new, clean underpants. They are collecting for boys and girls of all sizes. Bring your donations of new underwear (in the package) to church next Sunday and drop them off in the marked bins.

“A House of Prayer for All People”: Discerning Cathedral Identity

*Sundays, May 25 – June 15 at 9:15 am
Morrison Hall, with breakfast served*

Who are we as Trinity Cathedral? And where is the Holy Spirit leading us next? Join us in Morrison Hall for a four-week series on discerning our identity as a Cathedral parish, led by Father Danny, Father Thomas, and Bishop Harmon. Breakfast will be served. This will be a great way for the congregation to participate in this season of transition as we search for our next Dean and Rector.

Broadway Community Garden Maintenance and Harvesting

The Broadway Community Garden is dedicated to growing fresh produce and fostering community connections. It will only thrive with the assistance of the many members of our church. **Anyone can volunteer! No gardening experience is required!**

As a volunteer at the garden, during your assigned week, you will be asked to check in on the garden 3-4 times. We will send you a detailed instruction sheet, provide any tools you may need, and we will provide a contact who will be readily available to answer questions you have. Your tasks will include checking on the watering system and pruning and maintaining the plant beds early in the week and then harvesting produce on Fridays and storing in a church refrigerator. You are also encouraged to take home any produce you would like during your volunteer week as a thank you!

We sincerely hope that many members of the church will join us in cultivating this ministry. Sign up at <https://bit.ly/BCGardenHelp>

Ascension Day

Thursday, May 29 at 7 p.m.

Join us as we celebrate Holy Eucharist for Ascension Day, the day we remember Jesus' ascent into heaven 40 days after his resurrection, and one of the seven principal feasts of the Church. Music will be led by the Trinity Choir and members of the Arkansas Symphony Orchestra, and incense will be used. A festive reception will follow in Morrison Hall.

Holy Baptism on June 1 and June 8

We will next celebrate the sacrament of Holy Baptism on Sunday, June 1 at 10:30 am when Bishop Harmon visits Trinity, and then on Sunday, June 8 at 10:30 am for the Day of Pentecost. Please contact the Rev. Thomas Alexander (thomas@trinitylittlerock.org) if you or any member of your family would like to be baptized on one of these days.

Bishop's Visitation

Sunday, June 1

Join us on Sunday, June 1 for Bishop Harmon's annual visitation to Trinity. Bishop Harmon will preach and celebrate at both the 8:00 am and 10:30 am services, and we will celebrate Holy Baptism, Confirmation, Reaffirmation, and Reception at the 10:30 am service. Bishop Harmon will lead a forum in Morrison Hall at 9:15 am. Following the 10:30 am service, join us for a parish cook-out in the Garth. The church will provide hamburgers, hotdogs, and fixins. Parishioners are invited to bring sides and desserts.

ADULT FORMATION

Book Club: *The Reason for God* by Tim Keller

Wednesdays at 6:30 pm

Conference Room in Keller House

For Easter, Trinity's Book Club will read *The Reason for God: Belief in an Age of Skepticism* by the late Timothy Keller. This book addresses the frequent doubts that skeptics, and even ardent believers, have about religion—a worthwhile read for the Easter season. Tim Keller was hailed as the “C. S. Lewis for the 21st century,” and *The Reason for God* was a *New York Times* bestseller. Copies of *The Reason for God* are available for order at WordsWorth Books with 2–3 day delivery and with a 10% discount available for Trinity Cathedral. To sign up, contact the Rev. Thomas Alexander (thomas@trinitylittlerock.org).

May 21: Chapters 10–11

May 28: Chapters 12–14, Epilogue

Exploring the Sacred Feminine

Wednesdays at 6:30 p.m.

In the Christian tradition, the liturgical season of Easter follows Easter Sunday. The name Easter is actually an ancient name for the Great Goddess. She is imbued with the power of creation and new life, two of the primary values of the rising consciousness of the Sacred Feminine in our day.

To intentionally observe this Easter season, and to offer a balance to the penance of Lent, Trinity Episcopal Cathedral is hosting a series of speakers. They will discuss their encounters and experiences with the feminine aspect of God and the conscious role she plays in their lives. The presenters will be Clarke Tucker, May 21; Larry Maze, May 28; and Lisa Thorpe, June 4.

If you have been curious about the feminine aspect of God, please join us. For more information, please email The Rev. Patricia Lewis Matthews at executivedirector@theinterfaithcenter.org.

AROUND THE DIOCESE

Episcopal Church Women: Summer Quest

May 30 - June 1 at Camp Mitchell

Spend a reflective weekend on the mountain at Camp Mitchell for our annual women's retreat. You are invited to join us for Friday's Quiet Day, Saturday, or the full weekend retreat. Various packages, with or without housing or Quiet Day, are available.

We are absolutely delighted to welcome renowned storyteller Kathy Culmer as our featured speaker for the retreat. Her theme is Recalling Our Stories. Encountering God Through Music, led by the Rev. Teresa Cantrell, priest at St. John's Helena in West Helena, a Quiet Day program and Bishop Harmon will be part of the program. We have a full weekend of fun and fellowship planned for you and cannot wait to welcome you to Camp Mitchell. Get with your friends and make your booking early!