

Fifth Sunday of Easter April 28, 2024

St. Augustine's Episcopal Church Wilmette, Illinois

WELCOME TO ST. AUGUSTINE'S

Welcome

We are a church that welcomes everybody as we strive to: invite people into our midst, connect with God and with each other, equip ourselves as disciples, and ask God to send us out to share Christ's mission of peace, justice, and service in the world. We're glad you have joined us today. If this is your first time worshiping with St. Augustine's, we hope you will return. Our 9:30 a.m. Sunday morning worship service is held in person, on Zoom and live streamed to YouTube. We also invite you to join us for worship at 8:00 a.m. on Friday mornings in the Chapel. If you'd like to know more about the parish, please contact our rector, the Rev. Nadia Stefko: nadia.stefko@staschurch.org.

Open Communion

We invite everyone who seeks God to receive the consecrated bread and wine at Communion. These are gifts that God gives to us, and we share them with joy. Gluten-free wafers and unfermented grape juice are available as needed.

Restrooms

Restrooms are located through the pulpit-side door, at the far end of the hallway past Puhlman Hall on either side of the drinking fountain.

Stay Connected with St. Augustine's

You can find us on the web at <u>staschurch.org</u>. You can also follow us on Instagram at <u>instagram.com/staugustines60091/</u> and on Facebook at <u>facebook.com/StAugustinesEpiscopalChurch</u>. Please sign up for our weekly e-news, the Parish Life Connections, by emailing <u>augustine@staschurch.org</u>.

Holy Eucharist

Prelude Meditation

Leo Sowerby

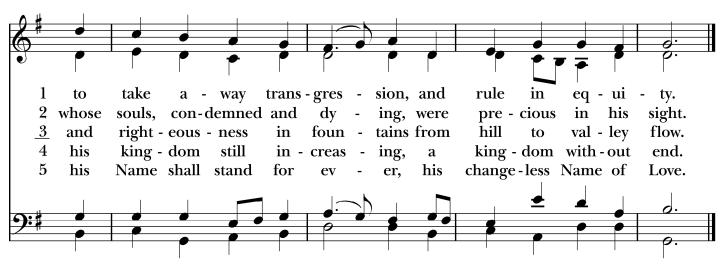
Permission OneLicense.net #A-704465.

Welcome and Announcements

Please stand at the sound of the chimes.

Processional Hymn Hail to the Lord's Anointed





Words: James Montgomery (1771-1854); para. of Psalm 72. Music: *Es flog ein kleins Waldvögelein*, German folk song; adapt. and harm. *A Student's Hymnal*, 1923, after Henry Walford Davies (1869-1941).

Permission through Rite Song: a one-time use reprint license for congregational use.

Greeting

Presider Alleluia! Christ is risen!

People Christ is risen indeed! Alleluia!

Collect of the Day

Presider God be with you.

People And also with you.

Presider Let us pray.

God of deep soil and luxurious growth, you call us from our shallow selves to find our depth in you: may we abide in him alone who can teach us who we are, Jesus Christ, the true vine. **Amen.**

Please be seated. Children ages 3 through 6th grade are invited forward at this time. Church School leaders will accompany them to Sunday School. They will rejoin the congregation during the Prayers of the People.

First Reading Acts 8:26-40

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.

Psalm 22:24-30

Antiphon (Choir sings first, then Congregation repeats)



Those who seek you, God, shall praise you.

(Choir sings verses, Congregation repeats antiphon as indicated)

My praise is of you in the great assembly; * I will perform my vows in the presence of those who worship you. The poor shall eat and be satisfied, and those who seek you shall praise you: * "May your heart live for ever!" All the ends of the earth shall remember and turn to you, * and all the families of the nations shall bow before you. [Antiphon]

For yours is the royal power, O God; * you rule over the nations. To you alone all who sleep in the earth bow down in worship; * all who go down to the dust fall before you. [Antiphon]

My soul shall live for you; my descendants shall serve you; * they shall be known as yours for ever. They shall come and make known to a people yet unborn * the saving deeds that you have done. [Antiphon]

Text © Order of St. Helena. Music by Peter R. Hallock. Copyright © 1989 Ionian Arts, Inc. Reprinted by permission.

Second Reading 1 John 4:7-21

A reading from the first letter of 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.

Please stand as you are able.

Festival Alleluia

James Chepponis



Choir sings verse:

I give you a new commandment that you love one another, just as I have loved you.

All repeat Alleluia, followed by the Coda.



Copyright © 1999 Birnamwood Publications (ASCAP). A Division of MorningStar Music Publishers, Inc., St. Louis, MO. All rights reserved. Printed in U.S.A. 1.800.647.2117. www.MorningStarMusic.com. Permission OneLicense.net #A-704465.

The Gospel John 15:1-8

Gospeller The Holy Gospel of our Savior Jesus Christ according to John.

People Glory to you, Lord Christ.

Jesus said to his disciples, "I am the true vine, and my Father is the vinegrower. 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."

Gospeller The Good News. The Gospel of Christ.

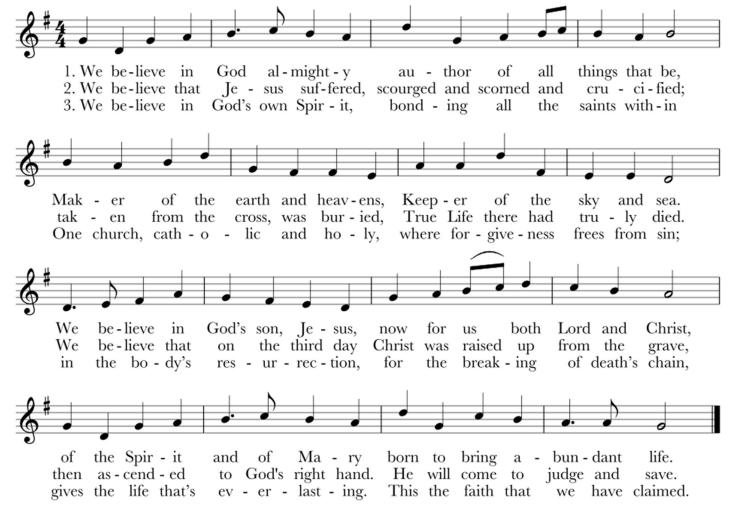
People Praise to you, Lord Christ.

Sermon Nadia Stefko

After the sermon you are invited into a brief period of silence.

Please stand as you are able.





Words: Permission through Rite Song: a one-time use reprint license for congregational use. Tune: Public domain.

The Prayers of the People

Leader In this season

In this season of Eastertide, we rejoice in the resurrection of Jesus and the gift of new life in Christ, bringing hope into our lives. Hear us, O God, as we offer to you our prayers for the Church and the world.

Leader Compassionate God, hear us as we pray for the Church throughout the world. Strengthened by the hope of the Resurrection, may all its members spread your love beyond its walls. In our desire to be faithful disciples, we pray:

People Hear our prayer.

Leader Powerful God, hear us as we pray for the world: for nations large and small, for their leaders and their people. For watersheds and ecosystems that reflect your beauty and need your healing. We pray for

places where racism, poverty, injustice, and armed conflict cause

suffering. In our yearning for justice and peace, we pray:

People Hear our prayer.

Leader Caring God, hear us as we pray for those in need of love and

compassion. For those who are ill, hungry, lonely, or in any kind of pain. We pray for those on our parish prayer list and for those we carry in our hearts [pause for naming intentions, silently or aloud]. In

longing for healing and wholeness for all, we pray:

People Hear our prayer.

Leader Eternal God, hear us as we remember the dying and those who have

died; for those who mourn the loss of loved ones; and for those killed

by gun violence in Chicago last week: Jamyah Triplett and Luis

Huesca. In remembrance of the gift of their lives, we pray:

People Hear our prayer.

Leader Joyful God, hear us as we celebrate the gift of life and the blessing of

community. We pray for those celebrating birthdays this week,

including Catherine, Damola, Carolyn, Funmi, Sue, and Robin; and those celebrating wedding anniversaries. In gratitude for your abiding

presence in our lives, we pray:

People Hear our prayer.

The Presider prays the concluding collect.

O God of undying love, receive the prayers we offer you this day. Grant that we, as Easter people, may share the light of Christ with all whom we meet in our life's journey.

People Amen.

The Peace

Presider The peace of the Lord be always with you!

People And also with you.

For those in person, we invite you to share a sign of peace with others as you are comfortable. For those on Zoom, we invite you to pass the peace with a message through the chat window.

Offertory

The offering is collected for the ministry and mission of St. Augustine's. We invite you to offer your gifts of time, talent, and treasure, as you are able. If you prefer to give electronically, a "Donate" link for Paypal can be found on the footer of our website: www.staschurch.org.

For those on Zoom, there are three ways to give financially to St. Augustine's:

- 1. You may contribute electronically via Realm. Simply sign in and click Giving, then +Give, and select 2024 Pledge Giving from the Fund drop down menu list. The best way to give is through bank account transfer.
- 2. You may contribute electronically via PayPal (see above).
- 3. You may write a check and send it to the church (1140 Wilmette Avenue, Wilmette, IL 60091).

Presider Let us with gladness present the offerings and oblations of our life and labor to God.

The Holy Communion

Offertory Anthem Peace to you

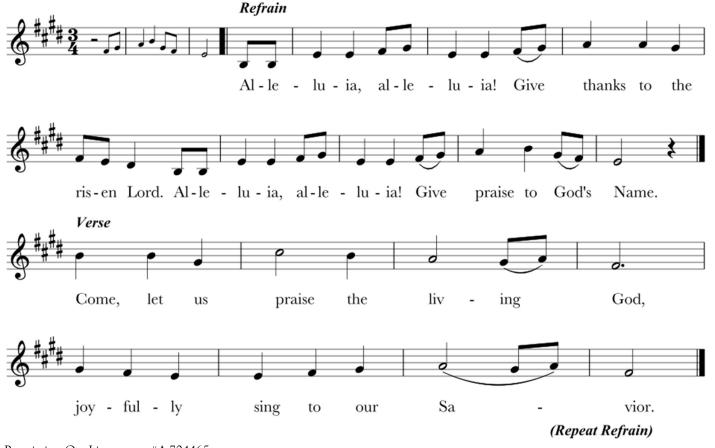
Robert Pearsall

Peace to you, my peace be with you. As the Father sent me, now I send you. Receive the Holy Spirit. My peace I give to you, now and for ever.

Permission of St. James Music Press, under License #10561.

Please stand as you are able and remain standing for the Great Thanksgiving.

Presentation Hymn Alleluia, alleluia! Give thanks to the risen Lord



Permission OneLicense.net #A-704465.

The Great Thanksgiving

Book of Common Prayer, Eucharistic Prayer A

Presider God be with you.

People And also with you.

Presider Lift up your hearts.

People We lift them to the Lord.

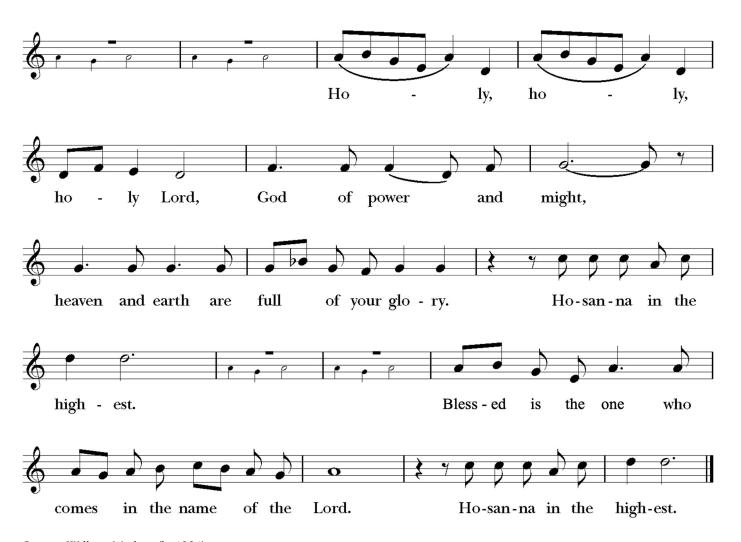
Presider Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People It is right to give God thanks and praise.

It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Almighty God, 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 has taken away the sin of the world. By his death he has destroyed death, and by 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:



Setting: William Mathias (b. 1934)

Permission through Rite Song: a one-time use reprint license for congregational use.

The Presider continues:

Holy and gracious God: 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 maker of all.

Jesus 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 Savior 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 Jesus 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 all for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me."

Therefore we proclaim the mystery of faith:

Christ has died.

Christ is risen.

Christ will come again.

We celebrate the memorial of our redemption, Almighty God, in this sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving. Recalling Christ's 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 Christ.

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 Jesus Christ our Savior. By Christ, and with Christ, and in Christ, in the unity of the Holy Spirit all honor and glory is yours, Almighty God, now and for ever. **AMEN.**

The Lord's Prayer

Presider 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.

The Breaking of the Bread

Antiphon - sung by Choir first, then Congregation repeats:



The dis - ci-ples knew the Lord Je-sus in the break-ing of the bread.

Choir sings verses, Congregation repeats the Antiphon as indicated:

The bread which we break, alleluia, is the communion of the body of Christ (Antiphon)

One body are we, alleluia, though many we share one bread. (Final Antiphon)

Final Antiphon:



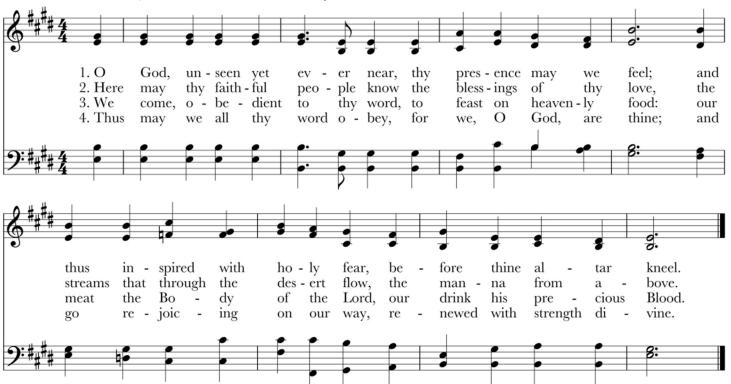
The dis - ci-ples knew the Lord Je-sus in the break-ing of the bread.

Permission through Rite Song: a one-time use reprint license for congregational use.

The Presider invites the Congregation to Communion: The Gifts of God for the People of God.

We offer God's gracious gift of Holy Communion to anyone who wishes to receive it. If you prefer to receive a blessing, come forward and cross your arms over your chest. If you would prefer a gluten-free wafer, please come to the communion station closest to the pulpit to receive and let the clergy know of your preference. The silver chalices and small intinction bowls contain consecrated wine. The pottery chalices hold unfermented grape juice.

Communion Hymn O God, unseen, yet ever near



Permission OneLicense.net #A-704465.

Please stand as you are able.

Prayer after Communion

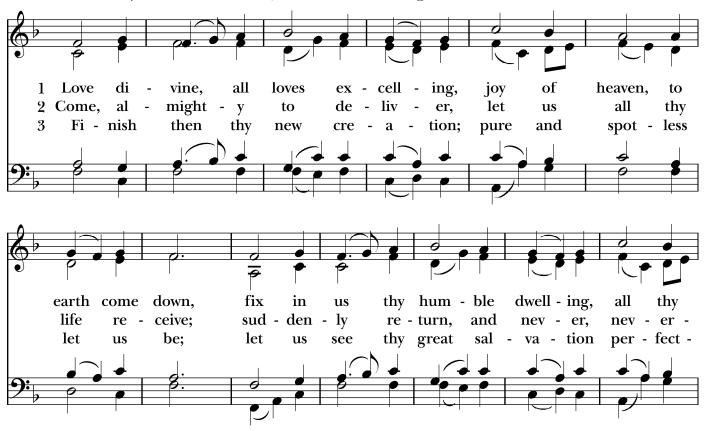
Presider Let us pray:

All pray together:

Life-giving God, in the mystery of Christ's resurrection you send water to give new life, and bread from heaven to nourish your people. Send us forth now as witnesses that we may show your glory to all the world, through Jesus Christ, our risen Lord. Amen.

The Blessing

Recessional Hymn Love divine, all loves excelling





Words: Charles Wesley (1707-1788). Music: *Hyfrydol*, Rowland Hugh Prichard (1811-1887). Permission through Rite Song: a one-time use reprint license for congregational use.

Dismissal

Deacon Let us go forth in the name of the risen Christ, alleluia, alleluia!

People Thanks be to God, alleluia, alleluia!

Postlude Toccata in F

Dietrich Buxtehude

Public domain.

Thank you for worshipping together today!

Please join us for Coffee Hour in Puhlman Hall and an

Adult Forum on United in Welcome: Migrant Housing Project in the Parish Lounge.

Prayers for the Week of April 28, 2024

Our Parish Prayer List

Bryan Caspersen, Brian Wallach, Colleen Danner, Emmett, Edythe Strater, Fred Sammel, Mary Ann Stefko, Terry McCracken, Mindy, Ella, Deby Riddle, Sharon Steptoe, Don Wurth, Toni Sehlmeyer and family, Brenda, Betty Jenkins, Mary Ellen Herget, Mary, David Trumble, Jean Bishop, Martha Martinez, Lindsay and Paul Thomas, Peter Kramer, Jerry Todd, the Kestler family, Susan Turner, the Severson family, Esther (Teté) Guridi, Gwendolyn Boyce, the family of Margaret Gowin, Katie Adams and baby Julian, Ray Narducy, Susan, Jackie, Emmett, Harley, Peter Boak, Peter Crippen, Roger Funk, Marlene Heald, the Kennedy family, Chelsey Sasinowski.

All those affected by the ongoing violence in Ukraine and Israel/Palestine.

All those serving in our armed forces, including Anna Graettinger.

All those experiencing natural disasters and the effects of climate change.

We pray for the departed, including those shot and killed in Chicago last week: Jamyah Triplett and Luis Huesca.

Birthdays and Anniversaries

We give thanks for the lives of those who celebrate their birthdays this week: (4/29) Catherine Shedivy, (4/30) Damola Kale, (5/1) Carolyn Eby, Funmi Kale, (5/2) Sue Cadman, and (5/4) Robin "Birdie" Scaletta Freund.

We give thanks for those celebrating their anniversaries this week.

Adult Forum: United in Welcome/Evanston-area Episcopal Migrant Response in the Parish Lounge, following today's service

Cynthia Doucet and Marta Humphreys, leaders of this group, will tell us about the efforts to upgrade an unused rectory in Evanston, so that it can be used to provide housing for children and adults who are seeking asylum. They will share with us how St. A's could participate in their work.

Upcoming Adult Forums

Sunday, May 5 Community Conversation: Moving Forward on Anti-Racism Come join the conversation about what next steps St. A's might take to enflesh our commitment to antiracism. This will include a chance to learn about Becoming Beloved Community ~ an Episcopal resource for congregations seeking racial justice, healing, and reconciliation ~ which could serve as a possible framework for continuing our conversation and work on racial injustice.

Sunday, May 12 How Does St. Augustine's Want to Support Migrants? St. A's has been collecting needed items for migrants for several months. Nancy Freeman and members of SNA (Support Newly Arrived), a group of St. A's parishioners, will provide updates on current and anticipated future needs. This is an opportunity to gauge interest in possible next steps for us in this work.

Cross-Quarter Service "A May Day Celebration":

This Afternoon, 4:00 - 5:00 p.m., at St. Mark's in Evanston

Please join us for our next shared-church Cross Quarter Service: A May Day Celebration this afternoon, 4:00 - 5:00 p.m. at St. Mark's Episcopal Church (1509 Ridge Road in Evanston). This will be a celebration of Spring, when we take note of God's renewal of the earth and the blossoming and abundance of all life! Along with a brief worship service, we will plant a seedling to take home, make wind streamers, have an opportunity for contemplation and (weather permitting) an outdoor bonfire. Contact: Allison Ashley (creation@stmarksevanston.org).

Calling All Graduates!

It is time to celebrate and honor our graduates! We want to remind them that St. A's is a home for them ~ a place where they are always welcome. Please email Becky Wright (becky.wright@staschurch.org) and let us know about your graduate, including the plans for their next steps.

Help Needed for Family Promise Host Week: May 5 – 12

Thank you to all who have already volunteered to help welcome our Family Promise guests during host week: Terrell (dad) & Destiny (mom) and their 2-year-old son Jasiri; Marla and her sons, 12-year-old Damarrien and 7-year-old Marlan; and James and his 5-year-old son Zimari. As always, this guest list will be updated as families finish the program and new families become Family Promise guests.

At this time we have 6 of the 7 evening dinners and 2 of the 7 overnighters needed. This is a good start but we do need more volunteers, especially to provide overnight hospitality. If you can help or want to partner with another volunteer (a great way to get to know another generous person), please see the link in St. A's enews to sign up.

Thank you to all in our church who support Family Promise families as they work from homeless situations to stable housing. If you are or have been a volunteer, are an individual financial supporter, or give through your pledges, your generosity is making a difference for our guests, one family at a time.

~Kathy Gander (kcgander@gmail.com) and Julia Joehl (jujoehl@sbcglobal.net), coordinators.

LAST WEEK for St. A's April Collection for Hillside Food Pantry

Our April collection will be delivered to Hillside Food Pantry in Evanston. Your donations can be left in the hallway by the Community Events bulletin board on Sunday mornings or during regular office hours (Tues-Wed-Thurs, 8:30am-4:30pm). Donations must be in sturdy bags and contain no glass. Thank you for your generosity! Questions? Contact Greg Burns (gburnstribune@gmail.com).

St. A's Book Group: Thursday, May 2, 7:15 p.m.

You are invited to a discussion of *Anxious People* by Fredrik Backman on Thursday, May 2, at 7:15 p.m. The meeting will be held both in Puhlman Hall and on Zoom (see the link in St. A's e-news). Everyone is welcome, even if you haven't participated in any previous book group meetings. Questions? Please contact Sue Nebel (s-hnebel@comcast.net).

Prayer Shawl Guild: Saturday, May 18, 1:00-3:00 p.m.

Save the date! The next gathering of St. A's Prayer Shawl Guild will be Saturday, May 18, 1:00-3:00 p.m. at Debbie Buesing's home (314 Laurel Ave, Wilmette).

Come Run, Walk, or Cheer at the Race Against Hate: June 16

St. Augustine's is once again joining forces with the Episcopal Churches of Evanston for the 24th Annual Ricky Byrdsong Memorial Race Against Hate on June 16. This was such a great event last year, and we hope to get an even bigger contingent this year. Everyone is welcome-walkers and runners, young and young at heart! We can all make a difference in the fight against racism! For complete details, including race start times, location, registration and donation links, and even pre-race training sessions with others from St. A's, please see the April 11th e-news or contact Becky Wright (becky.wright@staschurch.org).

Recurring Links

Support Newly Arrived Migrants to Chicago: staschurch.org/migrant-support

Sign Up to Host St. A's Coffee Hour: staschurch.org/fellowship

This Sunday's Music Notes: staschurch.org/choir-music; scroll to bottom of page

Serving Today

PresiderThe Rev. Nadia StefkoPreacherThe Rev. Nadia StefkoDeaconThe Rev. Sue NebelAssisting MinisterSteve Thorngate

Acolytes Brady Curchin, Anna Thorngate

Lectors Stephan Lacor, Mary Senn

Leader of the Prayers Martha Jacobson

Chalice Bearers Mark Farrell, Tom Hamilton, Edie Stewart

Ushers Carrie Bach, Terry Haight
Hybrid Worship Tech Team Janice Hurley, Brian Wright

Altar Guild Kristin Anderson, Robin Bourne-Caris

Good Samaritan April 22 – May 4: Sue Carlson

sdsue@sbcglobal.net; (312) 730-5855

Staff

The Rt. Rev. Paula Clark, Bishop of Chicago
The Rev. Nadia Stefko, Rector
The Rev. Sue Nebel, Deacon
The Rev. Andrea Mysen, Priest Associate
Mr. Martin Kehe, Associate for Music
Ms. Becky Wright, Director of Children, Youth & Family Ministries
Ms. Theresa Kimball, Parish Administrator
Ms. Sabrina Nizzi, Coordinator of Digital Communications & Building Operations
Ms. Athina Sato, Bookkeeper
Mr. Pisa Sybounheuang, Sexton

Vestry and Officers

Juli Bergerud and Dave Carley, Co-Wardens Carrie Bach, Jim Bonamici, Greg Burns, Nancy Darian, Tom Hamilton, Janice Hurley, Stephan Lacor, Devon Law, Sara Menna Gray Curchin and Mark Farrell, Treasurers

SAINT AUGUSTINE'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH

1140 Wilmette Avenue | Wilmette, Illinois 60091

T: 847-251-6922 | W: staschurch.org | E: augustine@staschurch.org