



# Saint Stephen's Chapel

*"We seek to glorify God by preaching His Word and spreading the gospel of Grace in Boldness and Selflessness."*

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*In the Sanctuary, we cross the threshold of the secular to the sacred, from the common to the uncommon, from the profane to the holy, from darkness to light.*

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# Order of Worship

Saint Stephen's Chapel

May 17, 2020

*Sixth Sunday Of Easter*

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**The prelude** is a sacred curtain dropped between the world and the sanctuary. The dimming of the lights is the signal for the congregation to observe silence. During this time, be prayerful and reverent in preparation for the worship of our holy God in His sanctuary. (Please silence all phones and electronic devices.)

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*"The cross of Christ only triumphs in the breast of believers over the devil and the flesh, sin and sinners, when their eyes are directed to the power of His Resurrection?"* **John Calvin**

*"Outside of the cross of Jesus Christ, there is no hope in this world. That cross and resurrection at the core of the Gospel is the only hope for humanity. Wherever you go, ask God for wisdom on how to get that Gospel in, even in the toughest situations of life."* **Ravi Zacharias**

## Invitation to Reflection

## Call to Solemn Worship

Rev. Manny Alaniz

Minister: The Lord reigns, let the earth be glad; let the distant shores rejoice. The heavens proclaim his righteousness, and all peoples see his glory. For you, Lord, are the Most High over all the earth; you are exalted far above all gods. Rejoice in the Lord, you who are righteous, and praise his holy name.

*Psalms 97:1,6,9,12*

## Song of Adoration

### \* *O Great God*

O great God of highest heav'n occupy my lowly heart  
Own it all and reign supreme, conquer every rebel pow'r  
Let no vice or sin remain that resists Your holy war  
You have loved and purchased me, make me Yours forevermore

I was blinded by my sin, had no ears to hear Your voice  
Did not know Your love within, had no taste for heaven's joys  
Then Your Spirit gave me life, opened up Your Word to me  
Through the gospel of Your Son gave me endless hope and peace

\*Congregation Stands

Help me now to live a life that's dependent on Your grace  
Keep my heart and guard my soul from the evils that I face  
You are worthy to be praised with my every thought and deed  
O great God of highest heav'n, glorify Your Name through me.

*Kauflin*

**\*Prayer of Invocation**

Rev. Don Kinhead

**\*Affirmation of Faith**

*Heidelberg Catechism, Q/A 54*

Minister: Christian, What do you believe concerning the church?

**All: I believe that the Son of God through his Spirit and Word, out of the entire human race, from the beginning of the world to its end, gathers, protects, and preserves for himself a community chosen for eternal life and united in true faith. And of this community I am and always will be a living member.**

**Offertory Prayer**

**Song of Praise**

**\* Come, People of the Risen King**

Come, people of the Risen King  
Who delight to bring Him praise  
Come all and tune your hearts to sing  
To the Morning Star of grace  
From the shifting shadows of the earth  
We will lift our eyes to Him  
Where steady arms of mercy reach  
To gather children in

(Chorus) Rejoice, Rejoice! Let every tongue rejoice!  
One heart, one voice; O Church of Christ, rejoice!

Come, those whose joy is morning sun,  
And those weeping through the night  
Come, those who tell of battles won  
And those struggling in the fight  
Over all the world, His people sing  
Shore to shore we hear them call  
The Truth that cries through every age  
"Our God is all in all" (Chorus x2).

*Getty, Getty, & Townend*

\*Congregation Stands

## God's Renewal

### *Scripture Warning*

Mr. Jordan Wright

Leader: For by works of the law no human being will be justified in his sight, since through the law comes knowledge of sin. For all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God. For the wages of sin is death. (Romans 3:20, 23; 6:23)

### *Public Confession*

Leader: Let us confess our sins together.

**People: Heavenly Father, you rule with power and wisdom over the entire universe, and yet you delight in us. We are dependent on you entirely for all things; wean us from all our other dependencies. You are the fountain of goodness; why should we be anxious about what will happen to us? In light of your love, the world and all its pleasures are infinitely poor, yet we continue to be drawn to them. Forgive us for relying on our own wisdom and strength; for the hours we spend trying to rescue ourselves from pain, suffering, and sin - when you have already rescued us in your Son. Forgive us for frantically building our own kingdoms day after day, when you have called us to rest in you. Forgive us for choosing to advance our own agendas, instead of following your agenda for our lives in this world. We are tired of our self-reliance and pride. Forgive us and give us the rest we desperately need.**

### *Silent Confession*

*{Take a few moments to silently confess your failures and shortcomings to the Lord.}*

### *\* Assurance of Pardon and Comfort*

Psalm 103:10-14

*{God reminds our forgetful hearts of the grace that is ours in Jesus.}*

Leader: God does not deal with us according to our sins, nor repay us according to our iniquities. For as high as the heavens are above the earth, so great is his steadfast love toward those who fear him; as far as the east is from the west, so far does he remove our transgressions from us. As a father shows compassion to his children, so the Lord shows compassion to those who fear him. For he knows our frame; he remembers that we are dust.

## **Song of Renewal**

### **\* Dear Refuge of My Weary Soul**

Dear refuge of my weary soul

On Thee, when sorrows rise

On Thee, when waves of trouble roll

My fainting hope relies

To Thee I tell each rising grief, for Thou alone canst heal

Thy Word can bring a sweet relief, for every pain I feel

But oh! When gloomy doubts prevail

I fear to call Thee mine, the springs of comfort seem to fail

And all my hopes decline, Yet gracious God, where shall I flee?

Thou art my only trust, and still my soul would cleave to Thee

Though prostrate in the dust

Hast Thou not bid me seek Thy face, and shall I seek in vain?

And can the ear of sovereign grace, Be deaf when I complain?

No still the ear of sovereign grace, attends the mourner's prayer

Oh may I ever find access, to breathe my sorrows there

Thy mercy seat is open still, here let my soul retreat

With humble hope attend Thy will, and wait beneath Thy feet

Thy mercy seat is open still, Here let my soul retreat

With humble hope attend Thy will, and wait beneath Thy feet.

*Steele & Twit*

Mr. Wright

## **Prayer for the People**

## **Announcements**

## **\*Scripture Reading**

Mr. Riggle

### ***Acts 13:16-39***

So Paul stood up, and motioning with his hand said: "Men of Israel and you who fear God, listen. <sup>17</sup>The God of this people Israel chose our fathers and made the people great during their stay in the land of Egypt, and with uplifted arm he led them out of it. <sup>18</sup>And for about forty years he put up with them in the wilderness. <sup>19</sup>And after destroying seven nations in the land of Canaan, he gave them their land as an inheritance. <sup>20</sup>All this took about 450 years. And after that he gave them judges until Samuel the prophet. <sup>21</sup>Then they asked for a king, and God gave them Saul the son of Kish, a man of the tribe of Benjamin, for forty years. <sup>22</sup>And when he had removed him, he raised up David to be their king, of whom he testified and said, 'I have found in David the son of Jesse a man after my heart, who will do all my will.' <sup>23</sup>Of this man's offspring God has

brought to Israel a Savior, Jesus, as he promised.<sup>24</sup> Before his coming, John had proclaimed a baptism of repentance to all the people of Israel.<sup>25</sup> And as John was finishing his course, he said, 'What do you suppose that I am? I am not he. No, but behold, after me one is coming, the sandals of whose feet I am not worthy to untie.'<sup>26</sup> "Brothers, sons of the family of Abraham, and those among you who fear God, to us has been sent the message of this salvation.<sup>27</sup> For those who live in Jerusalem and their rulers, because they did not recognize him nor understand the utterances of the prophets, which are read every Sabbath, fulfilled them by condemning him.<sup>28</sup> And though they found in him no guilt worthy of death, they asked Pilate to have him executed.<sup>29</sup> And when they had carried out all that was written of him, they took him down from the tree and laid him in a tomb.<sup>30</sup> But God raised him from the dead,<sup>31</sup> and for many days he appeared to those who had come up with him from Galilee to Jerusalem, who are now his witnesses to the people.<sup>32</sup> And we bring you the good news that what God promised to the fathers,<sup>33</sup> this he has fulfilled to us their children by raising Jesus, as also it is written in the second Psalm, "'You are my Son, today I have begotten you.'<sup>34</sup> And as for the fact that he raised him from the dead, no more to return to corruption, he has spoken in this way, "'I will give you the holy and sure blessings of David.'<sup>35</sup> Therefore he says also in another psalm, "'You will not let your Holy One see corruption.'<sup>36</sup> For David, after he had served the purpose of God in his own generation, fell asleep and was laid with his fathers and saw corruption,<sup>37</sup> but he whom God raised up did not see corruption.<sup>38</sup> Let it be known to you therefore, brothers, that through this man forgiveness of sins is proclaimed to you,<sup>39</sup> and by him everyone who believes is freed from everything from which you could not be freed by the law of Moses.

Reader: This is The Word of The LORD.

People: Thanks be to God.

## **The Sermon**

Rev. Alaniz

"God Raised Him From the Dead"

*Thy Kingdom Come!" Sermon Series: The Acts Of God Through His Church*

## Celebration of Holy Communion

### A Word About Communion at Saint Stephen's Chapel:

*Communion is an opportunity for all of us to seek the Lord. It is an occasion for baptized Christians to be strengthened by our Savior. All who trust alone in Christ as Savior and Lord, embrace the Gospel, live at peace with their neighbor, and seek strength to live more faithfully are welcome to come forward. If you are not a Christian, please consider spending this time in prayer. Children who have not received their first communion should come forward with their hands folded and the wine server will pray for them.*

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*"Whoever, therefore, eats the bread or drinks the cup of the Lord in an unworthy manner will be guilty concerning the body and blood of the Lord. Let a person examine himself, then, and so eat of the bread and drink of the cup. For anyone who eats and drinks without discerning the body eats and drinks judgment on himself." (1 Corinthians 11:27-29)*

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Minister: The Lord be with you.

**People: And also with you.**

Minister: Lift up your hearts.

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

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

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

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### **Prayer of Consecration**

#### **Words of Institution**

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Minister: Let us proclaim the mystery of faith:

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

Minister: Christ, our Passover, has been sacrificed for us.

**People: Therefore, let us keep the feast.**

Minister: The gifts of God are for the people of God.

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### **Song of Communion**

#### **\* When I Survey the Wonderful Cross**

When I survey the wondrous cross  
On which the Prince of Glory died  
My richest gain I count but loss  
And pour contempt on all my pride

Forbid it Lord that I should boast  
Save in the death of Christ my God  
All the vain things that charm me most  
I sacrifice them to His blood

(Refrain) O the Wonderful Cross  
O the Wonderful Cross  
Bids me come and die to find  
that I may truly live  
O the Wonderful Cross  
O the Wonderful Cross  
All who gather here, by grace draw near  
and bless Your name

See from His head, His hands, His feet  
Sorrow and love flow mingled down  
Did e'er such love and sorrow meet  
Or thorns compose so rich a crown? (refrain)

Were the whole realm of nature mine  
That were an offering far too small  
Love so amazing, so divine  
Demands my soul, my life, my all.

Watts

## **Communion Prayer**

### **\*Benediction**

Rev. Alaniz

*{God sends us out with his blessing. A benediction is not a prayer. We don't bow our heads.  
We lift them up and even lift up our hands to receive his blessing as we are sent out as  
participants in His mission to San Antonio and beyond.}*

Minister: The LORD your God is in your midst, a mighty one who will save;  
he will rejoice over you with gladness; he will quiet you by his  
love; he will exult over you with loud singing

**People: Amen! (With great enthusiasm)**

### **\*Doxology**

Praise God, from Whom all blessings flow  
Praise Him, all creatures here below  
Praise Him above, ye heavenly host  
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.  
A-men.

## **Postlude**