

DO NOT LET  
**YOUR HEARTS**  
♥ BE TROUBLED ♥  
trust in  
♥ God ♥  
*John 14:1*

St. Christopher's Episcopal Church

Holy Eucharist: Rite II

The Fifth Sunday of Easter

May 3, 2026

9:30 a.m.

**St. Christopher's Episcopal Church**

10233 W. Peoria Avenue \* Sun City AZ 85351

623-972-1100 \* [office@stchristophers-az.org](mailto:office@stchristophers-az.org)

**St. Christopher's Episcopal Church**  
**Holy Eucharist Rite II -**  
**Sunday, May 3, 2026**

**Liturgy of the Word**

Prelude		
Announcements		Dick Young
Processional	<i>Lift High the Cross</i>	H-473
Opening Acclamation		BCP 355
Collect of Purity		BCP 355
Gloria	<i>Glory to God</i>	S-278
The Collect of the Day		Attached
First Reading	Acts 7: 55-60	Attached
Psalm	Psalm 31: 1-5, 15-16	Attached

**All: Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit. As it was in the beginning,  
is now and will be forever. Amen**

Second Reading	1 Peter 2: 2-10	Attached
Gospel Hymn	<i>Glorify Thy Name</i>	Attached
Gospel	John 14: 1-14	Attached
Sermon		The Rev Gerardo Brambila
Nicene Creed		BCP 358
Prayers of the People Form VI		Attached
Confession		BCP 360
The Peace		BCP-360
Birthdays/Anniversaries/Blessings		BCP Inside Cover
Travel Blessings		BCP 831

**Offertory**

Offertory Sentence		BCP 376
Offertory Anthem	<i>Lamb of God by Twila Paris</i>	
Doxology	<i>Praise God From Whom All Blessings Flow</i>	H-380, v. 3

**The Holy Communion**

Eucharistic Prayer A		BCP 361
Sanctus	<i>Holy, Holy, Holy Lord</i>	S-129
The Lord's Prayer	<i>Our Father</i>	Hymnal Inside Front Cover
Fraction Anthem	<i>Christ Our Passover</i>	S-155
The Breaking of the Bread		BCP 364

**The Invitation & Distribution**

Communion Hymn	<i>Eagle's Wings</i>	W-810
Post Communion Prayer		BCP 365
The Blessing		Celebrant's Choice
Dismissal Hymn	<i>Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise</i>	H-423
Dismissal Acclamation		BCP 366

**St. Christopher's uses the following texts as worship aides:**

The Book of Common Prayer = BCP  
The 1982 Hymnal = H  
Wonder, Love & Praise Hymnal = WLP

**Today's Worship Leaders**

Celebrant:	The Rev Gerardo Brambila
Vergger:	Patty Emanuelson
Crucifer:	Connor Abel
Gospel Bearer	Judi Soock
First Reading and Psalm	Marva Martinez
Second Reading	Beth Mayhew
Prayers of the People	Dick Young
Chalice Bearers:	Connor Abel & Judi Soock
Music Director	Mr. Don Palm

**St. Christopher's Staff**

The Rev. Gerardo Brambila, Rector  
Cathy Sheredy, Administrative Assistant  
Arturo Jaramillo, Sexton  
Don Palm, Music Director & Organist  
Arturo & Isabel Jaramillo, Hispanic Music Leader & Vocalists

**Vestry Members**

Patty Emanuelson, Senior Warden  
Bill Masters, Junior Warden  
Diane Plein, Clerk of the Vestry  
Mona Guarino, Treasurer  
Chinenye Anako, Member-at-Large  
Marva Martinez, Member-at-Large  
Mary Salgado, Member-at-large  
Mike Soock, Member-at-Large  
Dick Young, Member-at-Large

**Do you know someone who would benefit from prayer?** Contact us! Would you like more information about something you read in the announcements? Contact us! Do you have an idea for fellowship or fund-raising? Contact us! Maybe you would like to talk with Fr. Gerardo? Contact us! Have a pastoral emergency (hospitalization, accident, family issues, something similar)? Contact us! Lots of information on the message! And you can leave one too!

[But, if you have a pastoral emergency, please call Fr. Gerardo at 602-405-4588 and leave a message.](#)

Church Office Hours:  
Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday, Friday  
9:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.  
Office Phone: 623-972-1100.

## Collect of the Day

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.*

### First Lesson

#### Acts 7: 55-60

Filled with the Holy Spirit, Stephen gazed into heaven and saw the glory of God and Jesus standing at the right hand of God. "Look," he said, "I see the heavens opened and the Son of Man standing at the right hand of God!" But they covered their ears, and with a loud shout all rushed together against him. Then they dragged him out of the city and began to stone him; and the witnesses laid their coats at the feet of a young man named Saul. While they were stoning Stephen, he prayed, "Lord Jesus, receive my spirit." Then he knelt down and cried out in a loud voice, "Lord, do not hold this sin against them." When he had said this, he died.

### The Psalm

#### Psalm 31: 1-5, 15-16

1. In you, O Lord, have I taken refuge; let me never be put to shame; \*  
**deliver me in your righteousness.**
2. Incline your ear to me; \*  
**make haste to deliver me.**
3. Be my strong rock, a castle to keep me safe, for you are my crag and my stronghold; \*  
**for the sake of your Name, lead me and guide me.**
4. Take me out of the net that they have secretly set for me, \*  
**for you are my tower of strength.**
5. Into your hands I commend my spirit, \*  
**for you have redeemed me, O Lord, O God of truth.**
15. My times are in your hand; \*  
**rescue me from the hand of my enemies, and from those who persecute me.**
16. Make your face to shine upon your servant, \*  
**and in your loving-kindness save me.**

**All: Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit. As it was in the beginning, is now and will be forever. Amen**

**The Epistle**  
**1 Peter 2:2-10**

Like newborn infants, long for the pure, spiritual milk, so that by it you may grow into salvation— if indeed you have tasted that the Lord is good.

Come to him, a living stone, though rejected by mortals yet chosen and precious in God's sight, and like living stones, let yourselves be built into a spiritual house, to be a holy priesthood, to offer spiritual sacrifices acceptable to God through Jesus Christ. For it stands in scripture:

“See, I am laying in Zion a stone, a cornerstone chosen and precious; and whoever believes in him will not be put to shame.”

To you then who believe, he is precious; but for those who do not believe,

“The stone that the builders rejected has become the very head of the corner,”  
And

“A stone that makes them stumble, and a rock that makes them fall.”

They stumble because they disobey the word, as they were destined to do.

But you are a chosen race, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, God's own people, in order that you may proclaim the mighty acts of him who called you out of darkness into his marvelous light.

Once you were not a people, but now you are God's people; once you had not received mercy, but now you have received mercy.

**The Holy Gospel**  
**John 14: 1-14**

Jesus said, “Do not let your hearts be troubled. Believe in God, believe also in me. In my Father's house there are many dwelling places. If it were not so, would I have told you that I go to prepare a place for you? And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again and will take you to myself, so that where I am, there you may be also. And you know the way to the place where I am going.” Thomas said to him, “Lord, we do not know where you are going. How can we know the way?” Jesus said to him, “I am the way, and the truth, and the life. No one comes

to the Father except through me. If you know me, you will know my Father also. From now on you do know him and have seen him.”

Philip said to him, “Lord, show us the Father, and we will be satisfied.” Jesus said to him, “Have I been with you all this time, Philip, and you still do not know me? Whoever has seen me has seen the Father. How can you say, ‘Show us the Father’? Do you not believe that I am in the Father and the Father is in me? The words that I say to you I do not speak on my own; but the Father who dwells in me does his works. Believe me that I am in the Father and the Father is in me; but if you do not, then believe me because of the works themselves. Very truly, I tell you, the one who believes in me will also do the works that I do and, in fact, will do greater works than these, because I am going to the Father. I will do whatever you ask in my name, so that the Father may be glorified in the Son. If in my name you ask me for anything, I will do it.”

## The Prayers of the People Form VI

L: In peace, we pray to you, Lord God. For all people in their daily life and work;

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

L: For this community, the nation, and the world;

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

L: For the just and proper use of your creation;

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

L: 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.**

L: For the peace and unity of the Church of God;

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

L: For Sean, our Presiding Bishop, Jennifer, our Bishop, Gerardo, our Rector; and for all bishops and other ministers;

**People: For all who serve God in his Church.**

L: Almighty God, we commend to your gracious care and keeping all the men and women of our Armed Forces serving in our military serving at home and abroad, including the United States Air Force, Army, Coast Guard, Marines, Navy, Space Force and Merchant Marines. We pray specifically for Matt, Zach, Christopher, and Tierra.

**People: Defend them day-by-day with your heavenly grace; strengthen them in their trials and temptations; give them courage to face the perils which beset them; grant them a sense of your adding presence wherever they may be.**

L: For the special needs and concerns of this congregation.

*Silence – The People may add their own petitions*

L: Hear us, Lord;

**People: For your mercy is great.**

L: We thank you, Lord, for all the blessings of this life.

*Silence - The People may add their own thanksgivings*

L: We will exalt you, O God our King;

**People: And praise your Name for ever and ever.**

L: 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*

L: Lord, let your loving-kindness be upon them;

**People: Who put their trust in you.**

L: We pray to you also for the forgiveness of our sins.

*Silence may be kept.*

### Leader and People

**Have mercy upon us, most merciful Father; in your compassion forgive us our sins, known and unknown, things done and left undone; and so uphold us by your Spirit that we may live and serve you in newness of life, to the honor and glory of your Name; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**



St. Christopher's Episcopal Church  
Weekly Announcements  
May 3, 2026

**Our Vision:** One congregation worshipping and serving in two languages

**Our Mission:** We are the heart, hands, and feet of Jesus: welcoming all to worship and serving those in need to the glory of God.

*Please leave the music inserts and the Prayers of the People inserts in the pews or in the narthex. Thank you for helping to save administrative costs.*

**INTERMENT SERVICE:** There will be an Interment Service for Karolena and Angelo Cardella on **Friday, May 8, 2026 at 11:00 a.m.** in the Resurrection Chapel. All are welcome.

**BIBLE STUDY:** One of the best ways to connect and grow in our church community is through small groups. Small groups are a place where we can study God's word together and support each other in our faith journeys. The Bible Study is now open to everyone and takes place on **Mondays at 10:00 a.m. in the Parish Hall.** Come and join in fellowship.

**MORNING PRAYER BY ZOOM ON WEDNESDAYS AT 10:15 AM:** If you like morning prayer and can't get to church all the time, feel free to join us on Zoom any Wednesday morning around 10:15-10:45. For more information, contact Patty Emanuelson, Mona Guarino or Beth Mayhew (602-435-5272). Look forward to seeing you!



**BOOKSTORE:** New paperback fiction table. All your favorites and some new friends.. Low prices continue here . It's too expensive to go for a drive so stay home and read. Also in - some new games.

**NAME BADGES:** We ask that everyone please remember to wear your name badge as it would be of a great help for Fr. Gerardo, new parishioners, and visitors. If you need a name badge, please contact the office.



**FELLOWSHIP AND COFFEE HOUR NEEDS YOUR HELP!** Coffee hour needs donations of cookies, donuts, coffee cakes, fruit trays, or anything you would like to bring. We are always looking for an extra set of hands to help in the kitchen. Sign up in the kitchen.

*Barbara and Ron Jackson hosts this week's coffee hour.*

*We really do appreciate the help everyone gives each week! Thank you!*

**FOOD BANK/FOOD DRIVE: Next week is “Canned Goods” Sunday.** Valley View Food Bank is always in need of canned goods—canned vegetables, fruit, including low salt and low sugar, canned meat (spam, etc), canned tuna, sardines, salmon.. Please bring any canned goods to share. Thank you so much for your kindness and generosity.

**Monthly Food Bank Donations**

	<b>April (13<sup>th</sup>, 20<sup>th</sup>, 27<sup>th</sup>)</b>	<b>2026 Total</b>
Weight	216 lbs.	796 lbs.
Cash	\$100.00	\$400.00

**Monthly Thrift Shop Stats**

	<b>April 27</b>	<b>2026 Year Total</b>
Bargains	\$2,630.00	\$10,466.65**
Bookstore	\$63.00	\$854.00

**\*\*Big Brothers/Big Sisters monies are included in 2026-year total**

**This Week’s Prayer List**

*One of the ways we care for one another in this church is through prayer. We believe that prayer is powerful and can bring comfort, healing, and peace. Today, we pray for the people below.*

- \* Kelli Abel \* Juan Gabriel Aleman \* Anne \* Jim Barnette \* Marcia Bledsoe \* Viviana Brambila \*
- \* Judy Broeder \* Jan Browning & granddaughter Kia \* Tim Buffery \* Tom Camper \* John Card \*
- \* Clive Chancey \* Claudio \* Jane Cooley \* Jean Durrett \* Thomas Dyer \* Fr. Gerardo \*
- \* Cathy & Gary Gustin \* Michael Heap \* Judith \* Kim \* Gene Lapham \* Terry Lewis \*
- \* Domingo Lopez \* Ernesto Martinez \* Marva Martinez \* Brenda McCormick \* Mia \*
- \* Shawn Mirigian \* Joanne Mola \* Bryan Nance \* Marla Karla Pallas \* Don Palm \* Sandy Patrick \*
- \* Joanne Porter \* Ramon \* Jill Renner \* Rick & Robbie \* Betty Roddy \* Javier Sanchez \*
- \* Socorro Sanchez \* Sherrie \* Stella \* Anna Van Scoter \* Victoria \* Lynn Viviano-Webb \* Ester Zamora \*

**For those who have died**

- \* Joanne Mola \* Eileen Waldren \*



**Happy Anniversary in May**

Shawn Mirigian & Gene Lapham

4 years



**Happy Birthday to Everyone Celebrating in May**

Connie Stressing	May 1
Mario Ramirez, Jr	May 4
Janet Young	May 13
Cynthia Aguilar	May 22
Maria del Toro	May 23

**Vestry**

Patty Emanuelson, Senior Warden \* Bill Masters, Junior Warden,  
Diane Plein, Clerk of the Vestry \* Mona Guarino, Treasurer

**Members at Large**

Chinenye Anako \* Marva Martinez \* Maria Salgado \* Mike Sock \* Dick Young \*

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