PALMER MEMORIAL EPISCOPAL CHURCH

— HOUSTON, TEXAS

Bringing the peace of Jesus to the whole world



THE SUNDAY OF THE RESURRECTION
EASTER DAY
CHORAL EUCHARIST, RITE I
11:00 AM
APRIL 20, 2025

6221 Main Street | Houston, Texas 77030 | 713.529.6196
PalmerChurch.org



Welcome to Palmer on the Sunday of the Resurrection.

We are a community of Christians worshiping in the Episcopal tradition, which has its roots in the practices of the ancient Church. We are a congregation that values not only eternal answers but also important questions. You are surrounded by the love of Jesus here this morning. Scan the QR code to the left or visit palmerchurch.org/ connect to fill out a welcome card or a request for prayer.

RECEIVING HOLY COMMUNION

If you are a baptized Christian of any tradition, you are invited to receive communion with us after the Breaking of the Bread. The consecrated bread will be placed in your outstretched hands. Those who require either grape juice or gluten-free bread and wine should join in the line on the left side of the church and let the minister of communion know. When the chalice of consecrated wine comes to you, you may sip from the chalice, or carefully dip part of the consecrated bread into the wine, or decline it. Rest assured that you will have made a full communion if you choose to receive the consecrated bread only, with nothing lacking in your experience of God's grace today.

RECEIVING A BLESSING

If you are not a baptized Christian, or your Christian tradition does not allow you to receive communion with us, we encourage you to come forward at the time of communion to receive a blessing. Simply cross your arms over your chest as someone approaches with the bread, and that person will know to give you a blessing instead of communion. In this way, everyone can participate in this part of the service.

RECEIVING PRAYER

If you would like someone to pray for you, members of the Order of St. Luke will be available for that in the narthex (i.e., the entryway near the front doors of the church) during the administration of communion.

SEEKING BAPTISM

If you have never been baptized and desire to be immersed in grace and forgiveness as a follower of Jesus, please speak with a member of the clergy listed below or someone at the Welcome Table after this hour of worship. It would be a joy to baptize you as a Christian here at Palmer Memorial Episcopal Church.

Medical Center Guests

If you or a family member are here for care at the Texas Medical Center, please let us know how we can support you while you are in Houston by stopping at the Welcome Table by the front doors of the church or contacting Suzie Dennis at sdennis@palmerchurch.org.

Caring for the Wellness of our Parish and Community

We strongly encourage everyone to be up to date on vaccinations and boosters. Masking is optional.

CLERGY AND LITURGICAL CHURCH STAFF

The Rev'd Neil Alan Willard, Rector

The Rev'd Katherine Tuttle, Director of Parish Life Ken Cowan, Organist and Artist-in-Residence and Membership

Roger Hutchison, Director of Children's and Youth Ministries

Will Parker, Seminarian

Dr. Brady Knapp, Director of Music

Sunkyung Smith, Associate Organist

David Ashley White, Composer-in-Residence

Courtney Daniell-Knapp, Children's Choirs

Free parking is available every Sunday across Cambridge Street from the church in the Memorial Hermann Medical Plaza parking garage (6400 Fannin Street), with entrances on both Fannin Street and Main Street. Palmer has purchased this convenient parking and absorbed the cost to provide it to parishioners and guests. Simply bring the ticket you receive when entering the parking garage to the Welcome Table by the front entrance of the church. Then validate your parking ticket by using a machine located on that table. If you do not receive a parking ticket, or happen to misplace your ticket, please notify a parking attendant by pressing the button on the ticket machine as you exit. Upon exiting the parking garage, if the ticket machine indicates that you owe a fee, press the cancel button, and then insert your validated parking ticket into the machine. The gate will go up right away. Again, if you need assistance, please notify a parking attendant by pressing the button on the ticket machine.

Our Mission

To know and boldly share the love of Jesus Christ through deep understanding of our relationship with God, ourselves, and our neighbors, in a joyfully engaged and welcoming community, dedicated to thoughtful and focused service, and inspired by worship that renews curiosity about all of creation.

Our Values And Guiding Principles

Liturgical Excellence

We believe in sharing God's unconditional love in Jesus, which we call grace, with all who come through our church doors. The beauty and power of our liturgy drawn from the Book of Common Prayer and our music drawn from the Anglican choral tradition are the beginning, not the end, of our weekly Christian journey. Like a flourishing tree, they root us in the past, shelter us in the present, and reach out to the future with the strength and confidence of God's promises to all.

Joyful Companionship

We believe spending time together and connecting across the generations fosters our spiritual growth. Palmers accompany each other on our pilgrimage with God, toward God. We are an ever-growing household, for the youngest child and each of us through the end of life, built with grace, love, acceptance, laughter, tears, service, singing, and Jesus as our cornerstone.

Bold Curiosity

We believe the gift of inquiry, curiosity, and profound conversation leads to a greater understanding of our place in God's creation and our relationship with God, ourselves, and our neighbors. Knowing and sharing the love of Jesus is experienced in our worship and also through artistic expression, intellectual generosity, and spiritual teaching.

Spiritual Sanctuary

We believe God loves each of us, no exceptions. As human beings created in God's image, we should have a place where the love of Jesus is made real, a place where we can experience the celebration of who we are and an acceptance of where we are on life's journey. We aspire to be an inclusive community of faith and a beacon of hope for those seeking spiritual refuge.

Loving Service

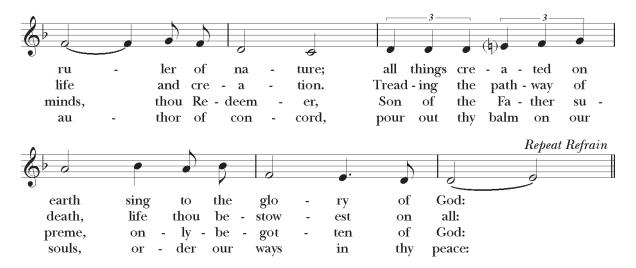
We believe following Jesus, as we are called to do, involves caring for our neighbors as we care for ourselves, joining in God's mission to connect with and work alongside an extraordinary array of people, institutions, and communities, and bearing witness to the work of the Holy Spirit in the world around us.

THE WORD OF GOD

Processional Hymn 175 "Hail thee, festival day!"

Salve festa dies





Celebrant Alleluia. Christ is risen.

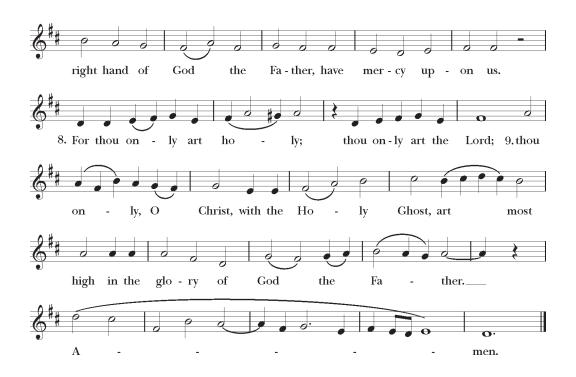
People The Lord is risen indeed. Alleluia.

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.

Gloria in excelsis (Hymnal S-202)

Willan





The Collect of the Day

Celebrant The Lord be with you.

People And with thy spirit.

Celebrant Let us pray.

Almighty God, who through thine only-begotten Son Jesus Christ hast overcome death and opened unto us the gate of everlasting life: Grant that we, who celebrate with joy the day of the Lord's resurrection, may be raised from the death of sin by thy life-giving Spirit; through the same Jesus Christ our Lord, who liveth and reigneth with thee and the same Spirit ever, one God, world without end. Amen.

The Lessons

First Reading Acts 10:34-43

Reader A reading from the Book of Acts.

Peter began to speak to Cornelius and the other Gentiles: "I truly understand that God shows no partiality, but in every nation anyone who fears him and does what is right is acceptable to him. You know the message he sent to the people of Israel, preaching peace by Jesus Christ—he is Lord of all. That message spread throughout Judea, beginning in Galilee after the baptism that John announced: how God anointed Jesus of Nazareth with the Holy Spirit and with power; how he went about doing good and healing all who were oppressed by the devil, for God was with him. We are witnesses to all that he did both in Judea and in Jerusalem. They put him to death by hanging him on a tree; but God raised him on the third day and allowed him to appear, not to all the people but to us who were chosen by God as witnesses, and who ate and drank with him after he rose from the dead. He commanded us to preach to the people and to testify that he is the one ordained by God as judge of the living and the dead. All the prophets testify about him that everyone who believes in him receives forgiveness of sins through his name."

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

Psalm 118:1-2, 14-24 Plainchant

Give thanks to the Lord, for he is good;

his mercy endures for ever.

Let Israel now proclaim,

"His mercy endures for ever."

The Lord is my strength and my song, and he has become my salvation.

There is a sound of exultation and victory

in the tents of the righteous:

"The right hand of the Lord has triumphed!

the right hand of the Lord is exalted!

the right hand of the Lord has triumphed!"

I shall not die, but live,

and declare the works of the Lord.

The Lord has punished me sorely,

but he did not hand me over to death.

Open for me the gates of righteousness;

I will enter them; I will offer thanks to the Lord.

"This is the gate of the Lord;
he who is righteous may enter."

I will give thanks to you, for you answered me and have become my salvation.

The same stone which the builders rejected has become the chief cornerstone.

This is the Lord's doing,
and it is marvelous in our eyes.

On this day the Lord has acted;
we will rejoice and be glad in it.

Second Reading 1 Corinthians 15:19-26

Reader A reading from Paul's First Letter to the Corinthians.

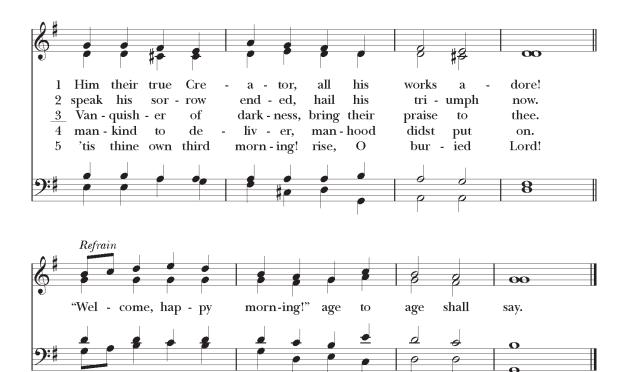
If for this life only we have hoped in Christ, we are of all people most to be pitied.

But in fact Christ has been raised from the dead, the first fruits of those who have died. For since death came through a human being, the resurrection of the dead has also come through a human being; for as all die in Adam, so all will be made alive in Christ. But each in his own order: Christ the first fruits, then at his coming those who belong to Christ. Then comes the end, when he hands over the kingdom to God the Father, after he has destroyed every ruler and every authority and power. For he must reign until he has put all his enemies under his feet. The last enemy to be destroyed is death.

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

Sequence Hymn 179 ""Welcome, happy morning!" age to age shall say" (vs. 1-3, 6) Fortunatus





6 Loose the souls long prisoned, bound with Satan's chain; all that now is fallen raise to life again; show thy face in brightness, bid the nations see; bring again our daylight: day returns with thee!

Refrain

Gospel Reading Luke 24:1-12

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

People Glory be to thee, O Lord.

On the first day of the week, at early dawn, the women who had come with Jesus from Galilee came to the tomb, taking the spices that they had prepared. They found the stone rolled away from the tomb, but when they went in, they did not find the body. While they were perplexed about this, suddenly two men in dazzling clothes stood beside them. The women were terrified and bowed their faces to the ground, but the men said to them, "Why do you look for the living among the dead? He is not here, but has risen. Remember how he told you, while he was still in Galilee, that the Son of Man must be handed over to sinners, and be crucified, and on the third day rise again." Then they remembered his words, and returning from the tomb, they told all this to the eleven and to all the rest. Now it was Mary Magdalene, Joanna, Mary the mother of James, and the other women with them who told this to the apostles. But these words seemed to them an idle tale, and they did not believe them. But Peter got up and ran to the tomb; stooping and looking in, he saw the linen cloths by themselves; then he went home, amazed at what had happened.

Priest The Gospel of the Lord.People Praise be to thee, O Christ.

The Sermon

The Rev'd Neil Alan Willard, Rector

The Nicene Creed

Celebrant We believe in one God,

People 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,

was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the Virgin Mary

and became truly human.

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,

who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified,

who 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

Reader Holy God, thou hast called us to follow in the way of thy risen Son; and now with grateful hearts, help us to remember the needs of the world and of thy people.

Strengthen thy holy Church, thy bishops, priests, deacons and all who minister in thy Name, that we may have glad hearts to serve, joyful words to proclaim thy good news, and hope-filled spirits that reveal thy glory in the world.

In thy mercy,

People Hear us, gracious Lord and God.

Reader Guide us, as thy disciples, and all those baptized into the death and resurrection of Christ, that we may work towards unity and walk always with Christ in newness of life.

In thy mercy,

People Hear us, gracious Lord and God.

Reader Open our hearts to thy power and holy promptings, that we may be inspired to act and to reveal thy glory in our love of all people and in the communities where we live and work.

In thy mercy,

People Hear us, gracious Lord and God.

Reader Restore our world to thine image and guide our leaders in thy ways, especially Donald, President of the United States, Greg, Governor of Texas, and John, Mayor of Houston, that where there is injustice, oppression, and war, there may there be healing, justice, and peace.

In thy mercy,

People Hear us, gracious Lord and God.

Reader Give thy comfort, healing power, and new hope to those who are sick or suffering, especially patients and those who care for them across the street in the Texas Medical Center, to those who are grieving, and to those who are hungry or in any kind of adversity: may their tears be wiped away as they know the power and joy of Easter.

In thy mercy,

People Hear us, gracious Lord and God.

Reader Grant eternal rest to all those who have died, that they may live forever with Christ in the glory of the resurrection.

In thy mercy,

People Hear us, gracious Lord and God.

Silence is kept. Then the Celebrant add this concluding collect.

God of glory, by the raising of thy Son thou hast broken down the gates of hell for ever: fill thy church with faith and hope; for a new day has dawned and the way to life stands before us in our Savior Jesus Christ. **Amen**.

During the Great 50 Days of Easter, Palmer follows the custom of omitting the Confession of Sin.

The Peace

Celebrant The peace of the Lord be always with you.

People And with thy spirit.

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

THE HOLY COMMUNION

The Celebrant says this or another sentence of Scripture to begin the Offertory.

Thou art worthy, O Lord, to receive glory and honor and power, for thou hast created all things.

Revelation 4:11

Those who have brought with them an offering are invited to place it in the offering plate that will be passed in the pews. Others are invited to make their financial contributions online at palmerchurch.org/give or by using this QR code.



Offertory Anthem: Alleluia! For Christ the Lord is risen

J.S. Bach

Alleluia! For Christ the Lord is risen!

He is worthy to receive power, wealth and honor.

For he is the true and righteous Lord of all in heav'n and earth.

King of kings and Lord of lords, we do worship at your throne.

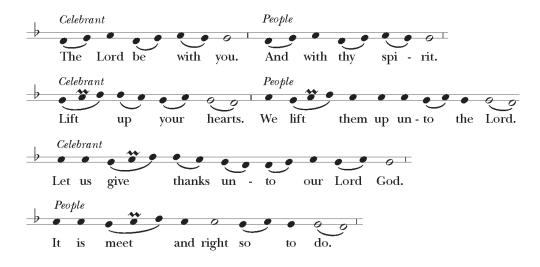
Alleluia! For Christ the Lord is risen!

The Doxology (Hymn 380, verse 3)

Old 100th

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. Amen.

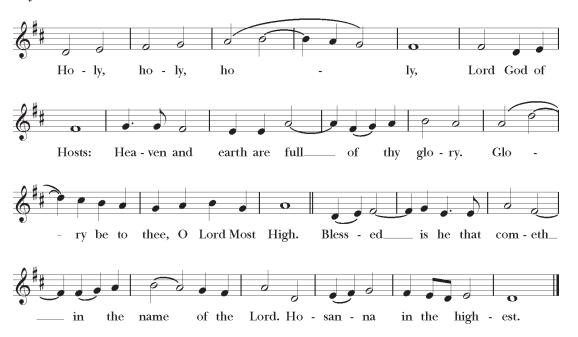
The Great Thanksgiving



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. But chiefly are we bound to praise thee for the glorious resurrection of thy Son Jesus Christ our Lord; for he is the very Paschal Lamb, who was sacrificed for us, and hath taken away the sin of the world; who by his death hath destroyed death, and by his rising to life again hath won for us everlasting life.

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

Sanctus (Hymnal S-114) Willan



The people kneel or remain standing.

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; and did institute, and in his holy Gospel command us to continue, a perpetual memory of that his precious death and sacrifice, until his coming again.

For in the night in which he was betrayed, he took bread; and when he had given thanks to thee, he broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying, "Take, eat, this is my Body, which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me."

Likewise, after supper, he took the cup; and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, saying, "Drink this, all of you; for this is my Blood of the New Covenant, which is shed for you, and for many, for the remission of sins. Do this, as oft as ye shall drink it, in remembrance of me."

Wherefore, O Lord and heavenly Father, we thy people do celebrate and make, with these thy holy gifts which we now offer unto thee, the memorial thy Son hath commanded us to make; having in remembrance his blessed passion and precious death, his mighty resurrection and glorious ascension; and looking for his coming again with power and great glory.

And we most humbly beseech thee, O merciful Father, to hear us, and, with thy Word and Holy Spirit, to bless and sanctify these gifts of bread and wine, that they may be unto us the Body and Blood of thy dearly-beloved Son Jesus Christ.

And we earnestly desire thy fatherly goodness to accept this our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving, whereby we offer and present unto thee, O Lord, our selves, our souls and bodies. Grant, we beseech thee, that all who partake of this Holy Communion may worthily receive the most precious Body and Blood of thy Son Jesus Christ, and be filled with thy grace and heavenly benediction; and also that we and all thy whole Church may be made one body with him, that he may dwell in us, and we in him; through the same Jesus Christ our Lord;

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**.

And now, as our Savior Christ hath taught us, we are bold to say,

and the power, and the glory, for ever and ever. Amen.

Celebrant Our Father,

People 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,

The Breaking of the Bread

The Celebrant breaks the consecrated Bread. A period of silence is kept.



The Celebrant says the following Invitation
The Gifts of God for the People of God.

Anthem: Surgens Jesu

Peter Philips

Surgens Jesus, Dominus noster stans in medio discipulorum suorum dixit: pax vobis. Alleluia Gavisi sunt discipuli viso Domino, Alleluia The risen Jesus, our Lord, standing in the midst of his disciples, said: Peace be with you. Alleluia. The disciples were glad when they saw the Lord. Alleluia.

Worthy is the Lamb that was slain to receive power, and riches, and wisdom, and strength, and honour, and glory, and blessing.

Hymn 180 "He is risen, he is risen"

Unser Herrscher





The descant may be sung after stanzas 3 and 4.

After communion, the Celebrant says

Let us pray.

The people kneel or stand.

Celebrant Almighty and everliving God,

People

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 Priest gives the blessing.

Now unto the one who is able to keep you from falling, and to present you faultless before the presence of divine glory with exceeding joy, to the only wise God our Savior, be glory and majesty, dominion and power, both now and ever. And the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be among you, and remain with you always. **Amen.**

The Celebrant dismisses the people with these words

Let us go forth in the name of Christ. Alleluia, alleluia.

People Thanks be to God. Alleluia, alleluia.



Postlude: Toccata, from Symphony No. 5

TOGETHER, WE PRAY

Please pray for these people:

Polly Allen Michael Gamboa The Rev'd Liz Parker Mike Allison Allison Gould Patricia Lynn Paxton David Renaud Georgia Barton Wayne Green Kim Bavousett Mac Hall Bill Robertson Brandon Hertz Don Robinson Roger Beebe Brown Family Patricia Hinojosa Roxane Short **Iack Browns** Courtney, Peter, & Graham Holcomb Bill Tilney Leigh Anderson Burdette Holman Family Eleanor Viebig Fran Wallis Cynthia Candler and family Linda Ittner

Carlos Daniel Allen White **Jack** David Ashley White Roy Knapp, Jr. Katie Courtney Janet Covington Jim Lober Randy William Dan Cromack Jo Lyday Lewis Williams Ruth Davies Mauro Arnold Willis Carlo DelForte Don May Ruth Wilkes Maria De Nazare The Miller Family Marie Woodward Dan and Cathy Dodge Felicia Pace-Hamilton **Audrey Worthing** David Furr Boisen "Buzz" Palmer Donna Yacoe

Names remain on the list for two Sundays unless the request is renewed by contacting one of the coordinators of our Pastoral Care Ministry: Ruth Davies at rmmdavies@cebridge.net for Palmers or Suzie Dennis at sdennis@palmerchurch.org for non-Palmers.

Please pray for expectant households or families with newborns:

Matthew and Clare Van Arsdale

Those expecting a child by birth or adoption are encouraged to contact Roger Hutchison at rwhutchison@palmerchurch.org.

Please pray for those in the armed forces:

Harrison Power Evan Adams Connor Hurt Nathan Adam **Jarrett Johnson** Iim Rosenbach Michael Anderson Christopher Kent Adam Salvati Gaston Baza James King Matthew Van Arsdale Ashley Waddle Travis Chambers Mike Martinez Owen Green Nate Miller Alex Walker John Harrison Andrew Nesom Taylor Wilby

Please pray for our congregation's five-year strategic plan called Come. Be. Palmer.

God of grace and glory, you are faithful from one generation to another: Grant to us, as Palmers, the courage to know and boldly share the love of Jesus Christ, that our own hearts and the world around us may be changed and reflect more and more your great mercy and compassion; through our Savior Jesus Christ. Amen.

For more information visit palmerchurch.org/strategicplan

DEDICATION

The high altar candles for Easter are given to the glory of God and in loving memory of Peter Lewis Chapman by Martha, Matthew, and Henry Chapman.