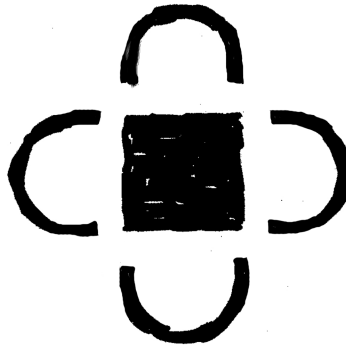


St. Lydia's



**Telling Our Story
Sharing the Meal
Working Together**

Script for Eastertide, 2019

Gathering

5:15pm Sunday/6:15pm Monday

*Congregants are welcomed at the door by the **Greeter**.*

*The **Greeter** brings them inside, gets them a name tag, and introduces them to the **Coordinator** or other congregant, who hooks them into preparations for the meal.*

6:00pm Sunday/7:00pm Monday

*The **Deacon** checks to be sure the tables are fully set, with bread all set out on the same table.*

*The **Deacon** checks in with the lead cook, Coordinator, and the presider*

*The **Deacon** cues the **shruti box** to begin and says:*

-Come and gather around the candle!

Gathering Song

The song leader leads:

“Kiev Alleluia”

shruti box: silver

*The **deacon** hands out candles.*

*Then, the **presider** sprinkles the congregation with water.*

Collect

Presider: 🎵 Light and Peace in Jesus
Christ our Lord.

S. Leader: 🎵 Thanks be to God.

People: 🎵 **Thanks be to God.**

Presider: 🎵 Almighty and ever-living God,
you have created us new in the
light of your resurrection. You
have freed us to new life through
your daily grace and forgiveness,
through Jesus Christ who lives
and reigns with you and the Holy
Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Leader: *(spoken)* Amen.

People: 🎵 **Amen.**

Introductions

The **Presider** says:

- Welcome to St. Lydia's.
- St. Lydia's is a church where we share a sacred meal as the first followers of Jesus did.
- You are very welcome here.
- We are in the season of Eastertide, in which we celebrate the resurrection of Jesus Christ and the promise of new life with him through the waters of baptism. Feel free to splash some more water on yourself and remember the abundance of God's grace.
- Introduce self, Coordinator, Song Leader, and Deacon.
- The Deacon will lead us through the service as we go.

The **Deacon** says:

- We'll process to the tables now, singing a song that _____ will teach.
- When you get there, light all the candles on the tables and then plant your candle in the trays of sand.
- Then, we'll stand in one large circle around all the tables.

Candle Lighting

*The **Song Leader** leads:*

*“**The Lord is My Light**”
a capella*

*The **Deacon** passes the light.
Everyone moves to the tables.*

*Once everyone is gathered and all candles are lit, the **Song Leader** signals end of song.*

First Scripture Reading

*The **Reader** says:*

A reading from Paul’s letter to the Romans.

^{31b} If God is for us, who is against us? ³² He who did not withhold his own Son, but gave him up for all of us, will he not with him also give us everything else? ³³ Who will bring any charge against God’s elect? It is God who justifies. ³⁴ Who is to condemn? It is Christ

Jesus, who died, yes, who was raised, who is at the right hand of God, who indeed intercedes for us. ³⁵ Who will separate us from the love of Christ? Will hardship, or distress, or persecution, or famine, or nakedness, or peril, or sword? ³⁶ As it is written, "For your sake we are being killed all day long; we are accounted as sheep to be slaughtered."

³⁷ No, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him who loved us. ³⁸ For I am convinced that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor rulers, nor things present, nor things to come, nor powers, ³⁹ nor height, nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.

Reader: Word of God, Word of Life.

Song Leader: *(spoken) Thanks be to God.*

People: ***Thanks be to God.***

The Meal

The Deacon says:

-This spring at St. Lydia's, we're exploring the language we use during communion.

-You may notice some changes from week to week.

-You're invited to notice how God speaks to you through this sacrament and the language we use to celebrate it.

-We'll bless our meal with an ancient Eucharistic Prayer. _____ will lead the sung responses.

-We pray with hands lifted, as was the custom in the early church.

-After you receive the bread, give your neighbor a piece, saying, "This is God's gift for you."

The Song Leader invites a drone and leads:

"Festive Table Acclamation"

shruti box on blue

Presider: ♪ May God be with you.

Leader: ♪ And also with you.

People: ♪ And also with you.

Presider: ♪ Lift up your hearts

Leader : ♪ We lift them to the Lord.

People : ♪ We lift them to the Lord.

Presider: ♪ Let us give thanks to the Lord
our God.

Leader : ♪ It is right to give God thanks
and praise.

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

Presider: ♪ Holy God, we give you thanks
for your holy name, which you
planted in our hearts and for the
knowledge, faith and immortality
you sent us through Jesus your
child.

S. Leader: ♪ Glory to you forever and ever.

People: ♪ Glory to you forever and ever.

Presider: ♪ You created everything mighty,
Lord, for the glory of your name.
You gave us food and drink for our
pleasure and that we might give
you thanks; You have blessed us
with spiritual food and drink and
eternal life through your child.
Above all we thank you because
you are mighty.

S. Leader: ♪ Glory to you forever and ever.

People: ♪ **Glory to you forever and ever.**

Presider: *[lifts basket of bread]*

♪ While Jesus was eating with his
disciples, he took a loaf of bread,
and after blessing it, broke it, gave
it to them, and said, "Take, this is
my body. Do this in
remembrance of me."

[puts basket down]

S. Leader: ♪ Glory to you forever and ever.

People: ♪ **Glory to you forever and ever.**

Presider: ♫ Mother, we give you thanks
for the life and knowledge you
sent us through Jesus your child.

S. Leader: ♫ Christ has died,
Christ is risen,
Christ will come again.

People: ♫ **Christ has died,**
Christ is risen,
Christ will come again.

Presider: *[lifts one loaf of bread]*
♫ As grain was scattered across
the hills then gathered and made
one in this bread, so may your
church, scattered to the ends of
the earth, be gathered and made
one in your commonwealth.

S. Leader: ♫ A-men!

People: ♫ **A-men!**

Presider: *[breaking bread]*
Alleluia! Christ is Risen!!!

People: Christ is Risen indeed, Alleluia!
Presider: Alleluia! Christ is Risen!!!
People: Christ is Risen indeed, Alleluia!
Presider: Alleluia! Christ is Risen!!!
People: Christ is Risen indeed, Alleluia!
Presider: This is God's gift for you, the body of Christ. Share in the meal.

*The **presider** gives a large piece of bread, in a napkin, to his/her neighbor on each side, saying, "This is God's gift for you."*

The bread is passed around the circle.

The presider brings the basket to the place where the two halves meet, and receives communion.

*The **Deacon** says:*

-We'll spend the first part of our meal in conversation. When folks are finishing up, we'll move into scripture reading.

_____ , what are we eating?

-There's juice and water on the tables.

-[Give/invite instructions for seating, serving]

The Word

Scripture Reading

at approx 6:40pm Sunday/7:40pm Monday

Preacher passes out scripture, rings bell to get attention of congregation.

Leads reading.

Sermon

Preacher preaches informally, and invites responses.

*The **preacher** says something like: "We share the sermon here at St. Lydia's. We'll spend a few moments in silent reflection. Then, when you hear the bell sound, you're invited to share a story or experience that was sparked by the sermon or the text. (Sometimes a specific reflection question is suggested.) We begin in silence."*

*After a couple minutes, the bell is rung to invite sharing. After 3-4 responses, the **preacher** says, "Thank you all."*

Prayers

*The **deacon** says:*

-For our time of prayer, we'll take hands, and begin with a song that _____ will teach us. After the singing, please offer your prayers out loud. Then we'll conclude by singing again.

-There are small cards on the tables with our community prayers, which we invite you to help lead. You may take one and offer this prayer on behalf of the community, in addition to your own prayers.

*The **song leader** leads one of the following:*

I Must Tell Jesus

I Will Guide Thee

All Shall Be Well

Shine On Me

Do Not Fear

Tar a Thighearna

Fear Not the Pain

Come, Bring Your Burdens to God

Don't Be Afraid

My Soul Waits

*The **presider** prays a short opening prayer, then invites congregation's prayers with cue line, "For what do we pray tonight?"*

*If not prayed by others, **the deacon** includes:*

- for the places St. Lydia's has called home: Trinity Lower East Side, the Church of the Redeemer in Brooklyn, the Brooklyn Zen Center, and 304 Bond
- for Pastor Elsa, our Coordinator Denise, the Leadership Table, our ministry candidate Liesl Spitz, and all those who serve and lead this congregation
- for our founder Pastor Emily Scott, for Pastor Phil, and for Pastor Bob
- for the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America, of which we are a part, and for our sibling congregations, especially for Jehu's Table and the Park Church Co-op
- for Bishop Eaton, Interim Bishop McCoid, and Bishop-elect Paul Egensteiner
- for full inclusion of LGBTQIA people and people of color in all communities of faith
- for the organizations Faith in New York, FUREE, and all those who work for justice
- for all members of our community wherever they are, and for those who will encounter God at St. Lydia's in the future
- for those who are hungry and homeless
- for our neighbors and our neighborhood
- for justice and peace in our world

*The **Song Leader** ends the time of prayer by repeating the song.*

Poem

*The **reader** reads a poem.*

Blessing the Cup

*The **deacon** says:*

-We bless our cup at the end of our meal, as Jesus did when he was at table with the disciples. Please make sure there is some grape juice in your cup, then you're invited to stand.

Everyone stands and lifts their cup.

*The **Song Leader** invites a drone over the **shruti box** and leads the response.*

Presider: ♪ Father, we give you thanks
for the holy vine of your servant
David, which you made known to
us through Jesus your servant.

S. Leader: ♪ Glory to you forever and ever.

People: ♪ **Glory to you forever and ever.**

Presider: ♪ After supper, he took a cup, and said, "This cup is the new covenant in my blood. Do this in remembrance of me."

S. Leader: ♪ Glory to you forever and ever.

People: ♪ **Glory to you forever and ever.**

Presider: ♪ Remember Lord to deliver your church from all evil and teach it to love you perfectly. You have made it holy; now build it up and gather it from the four winds into the realm you have prepared for it.

S. Leader: ♪ A-men!

People: ♪ **A-men!**

*Everyone drinks from their cup. The **shruti box** plays through until all are finished drinking.*

Departing **Cleaning Up**

The Deacon gives instructions for clean up:

-We'll finish the service with a final hymn around the offering table. [gesture].

-When you hear the gathering song, we'll celebrate our offering: a time to give in response to the abundance we've experienced. There's a plate for cash offerings, and an ipad if you'd like to use a card.

- but first we'll clean up

The Coordinator gives instructions for clean up:

- *Two washers, one rinsers*
- *Two driers and putter-swayers*
- *Two people to clear and scrape dishes*
- *Two people for candles, clearing items*
- *Team of four to mop and sweep*

The Deacon oversees things in the dining area

The Lead Cook oversees things in the kitchen

Offerings and Announcements

The Song Leader leads a gathering song:

“Duncan Alleluia”

a capella

*When folks are in a circle, the **deacon** passes the offering plate. The **hymn** follows the plate.*

*The **Pastor** makes announcements about the life of the community.*

Closing Hymn

*The **Deacon** says:*

- We'll sing our final hymn, then we'll conclude the service by sharing a sign of peace with one another.
- There are many way to share peace: if you prefer a handshake to a hug, signal this by holding out your hand [*gesture*].
- _____(Song Leader), what are we singing?

*The **Song Leader** says:*

We'll sing our final hymn,

April 28 - May 13

“Now The Green Blade Riseth”

...to a simple dance that _____ will teach us.

*The **Don of the Dance/Deacon** says:*

The step is very simple, and it goes like this!
[right, left behind, right, tap
left, right behind, left, tap]

Once the step is moving, the song leader hums the opening note and brings people in with, “Here we go!”

May 19 – June 3

“Jesus Christ Is Risen Today”

Passing the Peace

*The **Song Leader** starts a drone:*

Presider: ♪ Finally, live in peace, and the God of love and peace will be with you. The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you all. **Amen.**

Deacon: The Peace of Christ be always with you.

People: And also with you!

Deacon: In a way that feels comfortable, share a sign of God's peace with your neighbor.

***The Deacon** checks the kitchen to make sure it is clean, things are put away, the stove is off, and fills out the weekly worship record on the ipad.*

***The Rehearsal Leader** may gather Song Leader et al. for a "What Did You Notice?" session.*