

# ST. JAMES'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH

The Third Sunday of Easter

April 14, 2024 10:30 am

## Welcome to St. James's!

We're glad that you have joined us today to enjoy the blessings of worship and to participate with us in God's mission in the world of justice and love.

However you come to this place, exhausted or energized by life, comfortable with church or not, gay or straight, trans, nonbinary, cisfemale or cismale; of color or white, neurodivergent or neurotypical, persons with or without disabilities, younger or older! Whoever you are,

know the people of St. James's strive to love and welcome you as God does, unconditionally and completely just as you are!

# 10:30 am The Third Sunday of Easter, Holy Eucharist, Rite II

Acolytes Jonte Folkes, Emery Mazzotta, Ivy Saltzman,

Patrick Wilmer, Johnny Torres

Cantor and Musician Margot Chamberlain

Eucharistic Ministers Marian King, Lauren Rigsby

Minister of Music Patrick Michaels

Preacher & Presider The Rev. Matthew Stewart

Readers Isaac Sackton, Susan Donnelly

Ushers Gene Corbin Videographer Dave Musser

Welcomer Katherine Gilliland

# The Word of God

Prelude

Words of Welcome

Tolling of the Bell



Words: Brian A. Wren (b. 1936), rev.

Music: Truro, melody from Psalmodia Evangelica, Part II, 1789; harm. Lowell Mason (1792-1872), alt.

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# **Opening Acclamation**

Presider Alleluia. Christ is risen!

People Christ is risen indeed! Alleluia.

# **Collect for Purity**

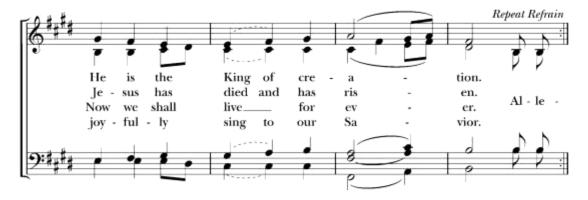
# All then pray

Almighty God, to you all hearts are open, all desires known, and from you no secrets are hid: Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you and worthily magnify your holy Name; through Christ our Lord. **Amen.** 

# Song of Praise: Alleluia, alleluia

H 178





Words: Donald Fishel (b. 1950)

Music: Alleluia No. 1, Donald Fishel (b. 1950); arr. Betty Pulkingham (b. 1928),

Charles Mallory (b. 1950) and George Mims (b. 1938)

Music: Arrangement copyright @ 1979, Celebration.

# The Collect of the Day

Presider May God be with you.

*People* And also with you.

Presider Let us pray.

O God, whose blessed Son made himself known to his disciples in the breaking of bread: Open the eyes of our faith, that we may behold him in all his redeeming work; who lives and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for eyer. **Amen.** 

# The First Reading: Acts 3:12-21

Isaac Sackton

A reading from the Book of Acts.

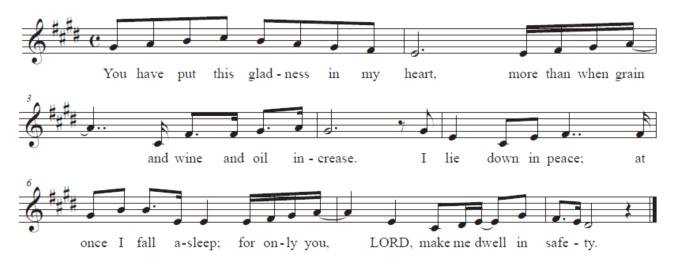
Peter addressed the people, "You Israelites, why do you wonder at this, or why do you stare at us, as though by our own power or piety we had made him walk? The God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob, the God of our ancestors has glorified his servant Jesus, whom you handed over and rejected in the presence of Pilate, though he had decided to release him. But you rejected the Holy and Righteous One and asked to have a murderer given to you, and you killed the Author of life, whom God raised from the dead. To this we are witnesses. And by faith in his name, his name itself has made this man strong, whom you see and know; and the faith that is through Jesus has given him this perfect health in the presence of all of you. And now, friends, I know that you acted in ignorance, as did also your rulers. In this way God fulfilled what he had foretold through all the prophets, that his

Messiah would suffer. Repent therefore, and turn to God so that your sins may be wiped out so that times of refreshing may come from the presence of the Lord and that he may send the Messiah appointed for you, that is, Jesus, who must remain in heaven until the time of universal restoration that God announced long ago through his holy prophets."

Hear what the Spirit is saying to God's people. Reader

People Thanks be to God.

#### Psalm 4



Answer me when I call, O God, defender of my cause; \* you set me free when I am hard-pressed; have mercy on me and hear my prayer. "You mortals, how long will you dishonor my glory; \*

how long will you worship dumb idols and run after false gods?" Refrain.

Know that the Lord does wonders for the faithful; \* when I call upon the Lord, he will hear me. Tremble, then, and do not sin; \* speak to your heart in silence upon your bed. Refrain.

Offer the appointed sacrifices \* and put your trust in the Lord.

Many are saying, "Oh, that we might see better times!" \* Lift up the light of your countenance upon us, O Lord. *Refrain*.

# The Second Reading: 1 John 3:1-7

Isaac Sackton

A reading from the First Book of John.

See what love the Father has given us, that we should be called children of God; and that is what we are. The reason the world does not know us is that it did not know him. Beloved, we are God's children now; what we will be has not yet been revealed. What we do know is this: when he is revealed, we will be like him, for we will see him as he is. And all who have this hope in him purify themselves, just as he is pure. Everyone who commits sin is guilty of lawlessness; sin is lawlessness. You know that he was revealed to take away sins, and in him there is no sin. No one who abides in him sins; no one who sins has either seen him or known him. Little children, let no one deceive you. Everyone who does what is right is righteous, just as he is righteous.

Reader Hear what the Spirit is saying to God's people.

People Thanks be to God.

# Gospel Acclamation: Hallelujah, Amen

Patrick Michaels





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# The Holy Gospel: Luke 24:36b-48

Presider The Holy Gospel of our Savior Jesus Christ according to Luke..

People Glory to you, O Christ.

Jesus himself stood among the disciples and said to them, "Peace be with you." They were startled and terrified, and thought that they were seeing a ghost. He said to them, "Why are you frightened, and why do doubts arise in your hearts? Look at my hands and my feet; see that it is I myself. Touch me and see; for a ghost does not have flesh and bones as you see that I have." And when he had said this, he showed them his hands and his feet. While in their joy they were disbelieving and still wondering, he said to them, "Have you anything here to eat?" They gave him a piece of broiled fish, and he took it and ate in their presence.

Then he said to them, "These are my words that I spoke to you while I was still with you—that everything written about me in the law of Moses, the prophets, and the psalms must be fulfilled." Then he opened their minds to understand the scriptures, and he said to them, "Thus it is written, that the Messiah is to suffer and to rise from the dead on the third day, and that repentance and forgiveness of sins is to be proclaimed in his name to all nations, beginning from Jerusalem. You are witnesses of these things.

Presider The Gospel of the Lord. People Praise to you, O Christ.

Sermon

The Rev. Matthew Stewart

# Affirmation of Faith: I believe in God almighty



Words: Sylvia G. Dunstan (1955-1993) @GIA Publications Music: Afron (Major), harm. Carlton R. Young. @Abington Press.

We come with anticipation on this first day of the week to become witnesses, sharing in the resurrection life of Jesus.

Eternal One, you have filled your Church with new life and empowered us through the conquering love of Jesus: Raise us with your Spirit that we may live in the power of Christ's resurrection to be empowered to walk through these days with faith and to bring life and light to all the world.

Alleluia! Christ is risen.

## Christ is risen indeed. Alleluia!

The right hand of the Most High has triumphed over evil and death, bringing new hope and peace to all the world: Speak your living truth unto everyone who leads and holds authority among the nations, that they may be agents of life that all war and violence might cease.

Alleluia! Christ is risen.

## Christ is risen indeed. Alleluia!

The Apostle Peter has taught us, that you show no partiality, O God, but you accept all who live reverently and do right: Let your peace extend to every person, that the power of war, violence, racism, transphobia, and all injustice may be banished, and all people may live as beloved children of the divine.

Alleluia! Christ is risen.

# Christ is risen indeed. Alleluia!

In the resurrection of Christ Jesus, the promise of redemption for the whole creation is offered: Let that renewal extend to our planet, that humanity might change its ways to save the earth.

Alleluia! Christ is risen.

# Christ is risen indeed. Alleluia!

Christ the wounded healer has overcome all that can threaten us. Let his resurrection power bring healing and hope to all those for whom we pray at this time.

(You are invited at this time to pray for those in need of healing.)

Give thanks to God who is good, whose mercy endures for ever. We offer our grateful gladness this Sunday in Eastertide.

(You are invited at this time to offer prayers of thanksgiving.)

Christ has died and is risen, bringing life and immortality to light. We remember those who have died. May they live in him and share in the joy of Easter.

(You are invited at this time to pray for those who have died.)

Alleluia! Christ is risen.

## Christ is risen indeed. Alleluia!

*The Presider then says* 

Gracious, eternal, and loving God, you have anointed Jesus of Nazareth with the Holy Spirit and with power, and raised him from death on the cross into resurrection life: Feed us with his life that we may be his witnesses, sharing in the Spirit's work of reconciliation and justice, through the Risen One, Jesus Christ our Savior. **Amen.** 

#### The Peace

*Presider* The peace of God be always with you.

*People* And also with you.

## **Announcements & Celebrations**

The people are now invited to come forward to share announcements, birthday and anniversary blessing requests, or prayer requests. The community's prayer is then gathered as they sing together:

May God bless you; May God keep you; May God's love be with you; May God grant you peace and wisdom; May God ever be with you.

# The Holy Communion

# **Offertory Sentence**

Presider Walk in love, as Christ loved us and gave himself for us, an offering and sacrifice to God.

At this time our gifts and offerings will be collected.

# Offertory Hymn: Now the green blade riseth



Words: John Macleod Campbell Crum (1872-1958), alt.

Music: Noël nouvelet, medieval French carol



Words: Michael Weisse (1480-1534); tr. Catherine Winkworth (1827-1878), alt. Music: Christ ist erstanden, melody from Geistliche Lieder, 1533

# The Great Thanksgiving

Eucharistic Prayer

(Adapted from a prayer from St. Gregory of Nyssa San Francisco)

PresiderPeoplePresiderPresiderPresiderUse The Lord be with you.And also with you.Use Lift up your hearts.Use 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.

# The Presider says

It is right and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, God our Creator and Lover. You make all things and call them good. You love us into being. You form us in your image.

And you breathe into us the breath of life.

When we turn away and our love fails, your love remains steadfast. You deliver us from captivity and bring us to a land flowing with milk and honey. You set before us the way of life.

And so, with your people on earth and all the company of heaven, we praise your name as we join their unending hymn:

Sanctus MHSO 37





Words: from The Book of Common Prayer (1979) of the Episcopal Church USA.

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#### Presider

Holy are you, and blessed is your Son Jesus Christ. By his baptism of suffering and death you give your church birth into a living hope. Raising Jesus from the dead, you make a new covenant with us, by water and the Spirit, and deliver us into freedom. We who were no people are now your people, declaring your wonderful deeds in Christ, who calls us out of darkness into his marvelous light.

On the night when he gave himself up for us, he took bread, gave thanks to you, broke the bread, 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."

When the supper was over he took the cup, gave thanks to you, gave it to his disciples, 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."

Then, on the third day you raised him from the dead and revealed him to the women who came to the tomb to care for his body. On that day he was recognized by his disciples in the breaking of bread. And so, remembering these your mighty acts in Jesus Christ, we offer ourselves as a holy and living sacrifice, and we praise you and we bless you.

# Presider and People:

We praise you, we bless you, we give thanks to you, and we pray to you, Lord our God.

#### Presider

Pour out your Holy Spirit on us gathered here, and on these gifts of bread and wine. Make them be for us the body and blood of Christ that we may be for the world the body of Christ, redeemed by his blood. By your Spirit make us one with Christ, one with each other, and one in loving service to all the world, until all feast at your heavenly banquet.

Through Christ, and with Christ, and in Christ, all honor and glory are yours, Almighty God and Father, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, for ever and for ever. **Amen.** 

As our Savior Christ has taught us, we now sing:

# Lord's Prayer (Zambian)

(Soloists sing the words in italics. The congregation joins in unitalicized language.)

Hear our plea, dear Father we pray; shower upon us your heav'nly grace that we may be your people Glorifying you.

Lord, our Father, in heaven abiding, may your name always be hallowed by us. Your will is righteous and ever consistent, in heaven and also on earth.

Give us this day what we really have need of. Please forgive us the sins we've committed. Help us forgive all the sins of our neighbor as you have forgiven us ours.

Far from temptation we ask you to lead us. Save us also from all that is evil. Yours is the kingdom, the power, the glory at this time and world without end.

Yours is glory excelling. Now and forever. (Repeat line three times) Forever and ever. Amen.

Yours is glory excelling. Now and forever. (Repeat line three times) Forever and ever. Amen.

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**The Breaking of the Bread** (Silence is kept)

# Fraction Anthem: Christ our Passover





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Music: Sine Nomine, Ralph Vaughan Williams (1872-1958)

Oxford University Press; desc. Alec Wyton (b. 1921),

C Paraclete Press

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## The Invitation

The Gifts of God for the People of God. Presider

# **Administration of Communion**

The people are invited to come forward to receive communion when directed by an usher.

Those that wish a blessing or a gluten-free, allergen-free wafer are welcome to ask for that.

All are welcome and encouraged to receive Communion from God's table.

# Communion Hymn: Come, Let Us Sing with Joy to the Lord



WORDS: Carl P. Daw, Jr.

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# **Post Communion Prayer**

Presider

Let us pray.

People

Loving God, we give you thanks for restoring us in your image and nourishing us with the spiritual food that is the Risen One, Jesus Christ. Now send us forth a people, forgiven, healed, renewed; that we may proclaim your love to the world and continue in the risen life of Christ our Savior. Amen.

# **Blessing**

#### Presider

May the peace of the Risen Christ go with you, wherever he may send you.

May Christ guide you through the wilderness, protect you through the storm.

May Christ bring you home rejoicing, at the wonders he has shown you.

May Christ bring you home rejoicing, once again into our doors.

And the blessing of God: Creator, Christ, and Holy Spirit, be with you, now and always. **Amen.** 

# **Closing Hymn:** Come away to the skies





Words: Anon. The Southern Harmony, 1835, alt. Music: Middlebury, melody Southern Harmony, harm. Jack W. Burnham (b. 1946)

## **Dismissal**

Presider With the power that raised Jesus from the dead at work within you,

go in the peace of Christ. Alleluia! Alleluia!

People Thanks be to God! Alleluia! Alleluia!

## **Postlude**

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Interested in speaking to a priest or asking for prayers? Email Rev. Matt at matt@stjamescambridge.org

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