



# St. James'

EPISCOPAL CHURCH

The Fifth Sunday of Easter  
28 April 2024  
11:05 a.m.

*Welcome to St. James'. We are honored by your presence.*

Livestreaming from <https://www.facebook.com/stjjax.org>

## THE HOLY EUCHARIST - RITE II

*BCP refers to the red Book of Common Prayer.*

*Hymn numbers and S numbers indicate music found in the blue Hymnal.*

**Prelude:** "There is a Spirit that Delights to do no Evil"

from *A Quaker Reader* Ned Rorem

**Hymn at the Procession**

"We Know that Christ is Raised"

**Hymnal 296**

*Engleberg*



1 We know that Christ is raised and dies no more. \_\_\_\_\_  
2 We share by wa - ter in his sav - ing death. \_\_\_\_\_  
3 The Fa - ther's splen - dor clothes the Son with life. \_\_\_\_\_  
4 A new cre - a - tion comes to life and grows \_\_\_\_\_



Em - braced by death he broke its fear - ful hold; \_\_\_\_\_  
Re - born we share with him an Eas - ter life \_\_\_\_\_  
The Spi - rit's pow - er shakes the Church of God. \_\_\_\_\_  
as Christ's new bo - dy takes on flesh and blood. \_\_\_\_\_



and our de - spair he turned to blaz - ing joy. \_\_\_\_\_  
as liv - ing mem - bers of a liv - ing Christ. \_\_\_\_\_ Al - le -  
Bap - tized we live with God the Three in One. \_\_\_\_\_  
The u - ni - verse re - stored and whole will sing: \_\_\_\_\_



lu - ial — Al - le - lu - ial A - men.

## Opening Acclamation

*Celebrant* Alleluia. Christ is Risen.

*People* The Lord is risen indeed. Alleluia.

## The Collect for Purity

BCP 355

## Gloria in excelsis

Hymnal S 278

1. Glo - ry to God in the high - est, and  
peace to his peo - ple on earth. 2. Lord God, heav - en - ly King, al -  
might - y God and Fa - ther, we wor - ship you, we give you thanks, we  
praise you for your glo - ry. 3. Lord Je - sus Christ,  
on - ly Son of the Fa - ther, Lord God, Lamb of God, 4. you  
take a - way the sin of the world: have mer - cy on us;  
5. you are seat - ed at the right hand of the Fa - ther: re -  
ceive our prayer. 6. For  
you a - lone are the Ho - ly One, you a - lone are the Lord,  
7. you a - lone are the Most High, Je - sus Christ, with the  
Ho - ly Spi - rit, in the glo - ry of  
God the Fa - ther. A - - men.

## The 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.**

## The First Reading

Acts 8:26-40

An angel of the Lord said to Philip, "Get up and go toward the south to the road that goes down from Jerusalem to Gaza." (This is a wilderness road.) So he got up and went. Now there was an Ethiopian eunuch, a court official of the Candace, queen of the Ethiopians, in charge of her entire treasury. He had come to Jerusalem to worship and was returning home; seated in his chariot, he was reading the prophet Isaiah. Then the Spirit said to Philip, "Go over to this chariot and join it." So Philip ran up to it and heard him reading the prophet Isaiah. He asked, "Do you understand what you are reading?" He replied, "How can I, unless someone guides me?" And he invited Philip to get in and sit beside him. Now the passage of the scripture that he was reading was this: "Like a sheep he was led to the slaughter, and like a lamb silent before its shearer, so he does not open his mouth. In his humiliation justice was denied him. Who can describe his generation? For his life is taken away from the earth." The eunuch asked Philip, "About whom, may I ask you, does the prophet say this, about himself or about someone else?" Then Philip began to speak, and starting with this scripture, he proclaimed to him the good news about Jesus. As they were going along the road, they came to some water; and the eunuch said, "Look, here is water! What is to prevent me from being baptized?" He commanded the chariot to stop, and both of them, Philip and the eunuch, went down into the water, and Philip baptized him. When they came up out of the water, the Spirit of the Lord snatched Philip away; the eunuch saw him no more, and went on his way rejoicing. But Philip found himself at Azotus, and as he was passing through the region, he proclaimed the good news to all the towns until he came to Caesarea.

*Reader:* The Word of the Lord.

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

**Psalm 22:24-30** (*Sung by the choir, chant by Daniel Jones*)

***Deus, Deus meus***

- 24 My praise is of him in the great assembly; \*  
I will perform my vows in the presence of those who worship him.
- 25 The poor shall eat and be satisfied,  
and those who seek the LORD shall praise him: \*  
"May your heart live for ever!"
- 26 All the ends of the earth shall remember and turn to the LORD, \*  
and all the families of the nations shall bow before him.
- 27 For kingship belongs to the LORD; \*  
he rules over the nations.
- 28 To him alone all who sleep in the earth bow down in worship; \*  
all who go down to the dust fall before him.
- 29 My soul shall live for him;  
my descendants shall serve him; \*  
they shall be known as the LORD's for ever.
- 30 They shall come and make known to a people yet unborn \*  
the saving deeds that he has done.

## The Second Reading

1 John 4:7-21

Beloved, let us love one another, because love is from God; everyone who loves is born of God and knows God. Whoever does not love does not know God, for God is love. God's love was revealed among us in this way: God sent his only Son into the world so that we might live through him. In this is love, not that we loved God but that he loved us and sent his Son to be the atoning sacrifice for our sins. Beloved, since God loved us so much, we also ought to love one another. No one has ever seen God; if we love one another, God lives in us, and his love is perfected in us. By this we know that we abide in him and he in us, because he has given us of his Spirit. And we have seen and do testify that the Father has sent his Son as the Savior of the world. God abides in those who confess that Jesus is the Son of God, and they abide in God. So we have known and believe the love that God has for us. God is love, and those who abide in love abide in God, and God abides in them. Love has been perfected among us in this: that we may have boldness on the day of judgment, because as he is, so are we in this world. There is no fear in love, but perfect love casts out fear; for fear has to do with punishment, and whoever fears has not reached perfection in love. We love because he first loved us. Those who say, "I love God," and hate their brothers or sisters, are liars; for those who do not love a brother or sister whom they have seen, cannot love God whom they have not seen. The commandment we have from him is this: those who love God must love their brothers and sisters also.

*Reader:* The Word of the Lord.

*People:* Thanks be to God.

## The Sequence Hymn

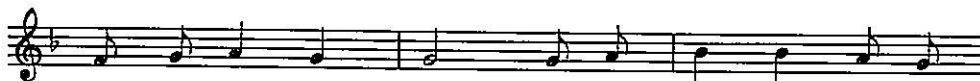
"Like the Murmur of the Dove's Song"

Hymnal 513

Bridegroom



1 Like the mur - mur of the dove's song, like the  
2 To the mem - bers of Christ's Bo - dy, to the  
3 With the heal - ing of di - vi - sion, with the



chal - lenge of her flight, like the vig - or of the  
branch - es of the Vine, to the Church in faith as -  
cease - less voice of prayer, with the power to love and



wind's rush, like the new flame's ea - ger  
sem - bled, to her midst as gift and  
wit - ness, with the peace be - yond com -



might: come, — Ho - ly Spi - rit, come.  
sign: come, — Ho - ly Spi - rit, come.  
pare: come, — Ho - ly Spi - rit, come.

## The Holy Gospel

John 15:1-8

*Deacon* The Holy Gospel of Our Lord Jesus Christ according to John.

*People* Glory to you, Lord Christ.

Jesus said to his disciples, "I am the true vine, and my Father is the vinegrower. He removes every branch in me that bears no fruit. Every branch that bears fruit he prunes to make it bear more fruit. You have

already been cleansed by the word that I have spoken to you. Abide in me as I abide in you. Just as the branch cannot bear fruit by itself unless it abides in the vine, neither can you unless you abide in me. I am the vine, you are the branches. Those who abide in me and I in them bear much fruit, because apart from me you can do nothing. Whoever does not abide in me is thrown away like a branch and withers; such branches are gathered, thrown into the fire, and burned. If you abide in me, and my words abide in you, ask for whatever you wish, and it will be done for you. My Father is glorified by this, that you bear much fruit and become my disciples.”

*Deacon* The Gospel of the Lord.

**People** Praise to you, Lord Christ.

**The Sermon**

**The Rev. Elizabeth Wheatley-Jones**

**The Nicene Creed**

**BCP 358**

*The Confession is omitted during the Great Fifty Days of Easter.*

**The Peace**

**BCP 360**

**Welcome and Announcements**

*Parents, please, stand to greet your children as they are brought from the nursery to church to join their families for the Eucharist.*

## THE HOLY COMMUNION

**The Offertory**

“If Ye Love Me”

Thomas Tallis

*If ye love me, keep my commandments.  
And I will pray the Father,  
and he shall give you another comforter,  
that he may 'bide with you forever;  
E'en the sp'rit of truth.  
John 14:15-17*

**The Great Thanksgiving, Eucharistic Prayer D**

**BCP 372**

*Eucharistic Prayer D incorporates the Prayers of the People.  
See our Parish Prayer List in the announcements.*

**Sanctus and Benedictus**

**Hymnal S 128**

Ho - ly, ho - ly,  
ho - ly Lord, God of power and might,  
heaven and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho-san-na in the  
high - est. Bless - ed is he who  
comes in the name of the Lord. Ho-san-na in the high-est.

The Fraction Anthem: Christ Our Passover

Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

Christ our Pass-o-ver is sac-ri-ficed for us; There-fore let us keep the feast

Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

Communion of the People

See Announcements for Guidance on Communion

At the Communion

“Come, My Way, My Truth, My Life”

Hymnal 487

The Call

1 Come, my Way, my Truth, my Life: such a  
 2 Come, my Light, my Feast, my Strength: such a  
 3 Come, my Joy, my Love, my Heart: such a

way as gives us breath; such a truth as ends all  
 light as shows a feast; such a feast as mends in  
 joy as none can move; such a love as none can

strife; such a life as kill - eth death.  
 length; such a strength as makes \_\_\_\_\_ his guest.  
 part; such a heart as joys \_\_\_\_\_ in love.

The Sending and Blessing of the Eucharistic Visitors, optional

*Celebrant:* In the name of this congregation, we send you forth bearing these holy gifts, that those to whom you go may share with us in the communion of Christ's Body and Blood. With whom will you share this communion?

*Eucharistic Visitor(s):* [Say the name(s) of those whom you will visit.]

*People:* We, who are many, are one body because we all share one bread and one cup.

Post-communion Prayer

BCP 365

Eternal God, heavenly Father, you have graciously accepted us as living members of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ, and you have fed us with spiritual food in the Sacrament of his Body and Blood. Send us now into the world in peace, and grant us strength and courage to love and serve you with gladness and singleness of heart; through Christ our Lord. Amen.

The Blessing

Hymn at the Procession

“God is Love”

Hymnal 379  
Abbot's Leigh

1 God is Love, let heaven a - dore him; God is Love, let  
 2 God is Love; and love en - folds us, all the world in  
 3 God is Love; and though with blind-ness sin af - flicts all

earth re - joice; let cre - a - tion sing be - fore him  
 one em - brace: with un - fail - ing grasp God holds us,  
 hu - man life, God's e - ter - nal lov - ing - kind-ness

and ex - alt him with one voice. God who laid the earth's foun-  
 ev - ery child of ev - ery race. And when hu - man hearts are  
 guides us through our earth - ly strife. Sin and death and hell shall

da - tion, God who spread the heavens a - bove, God who breathes through  
 break - ing un - der sor - row's i - ron rod, then we find that  
 nev - er o'er us fi - nal tri - umph gain; God is Love, so

all cre - a - tion: God is Love, e - ter - nal Love.  
 self - same ach - ing deep with - in the heart of God.  
 Love for ev - er o'er the u - ni - verse must reign.

## The Dismissal

**Postlude:** “Fanfare” from *Organbook III*

Ned Rorem

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### St. James’ Episcopal Church

[www.stjamesjackson.com](http://www.stjamesjackson.com)

The Rt. Rev. Brian R. Seage, *Bishop of MS*

The Rev. Dr. Dorothy Sanders Wells, *Bishop-elect of MS*

The Rev. Elizabeth Wheatley-Jones, *Rector*

The Rev. David A. Elliott III, *Clergy in Residence*

The Rev. Gates Elliott, *Associate Rector*

The Rev. Buddy Stallings, *Adjunct Clergy*

The Rev. Luther Ott, *Adjunct Clergy*

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#### The Staff

David Adcock, *Parish Treasurer*

Marcus Anderson, *Kitchen Manager*

Michael Beattie, *Organist/Assistant Choirmaster*

Charley Belote, *Facility Manager*

Jess Eddleman *Assistant to the Director of Children  
& Family Ministries*

Judith Johnson,

*Parish Administrator*

Laura King, *Director of Youth Ministries*

Mary Nell Prichard,

*Director of Children and Family Ministries*

Ray Shaw, *Sexton*

Kathy Stephens, *Office Manager*

Jan Thornton,

*Assistant Parish Administrator*

Jonathan Trotter, *Choirmaster*

Whitney Veazey,

*Director of Early Childhood Ministries*

Jean Williams,

*Sunday Nursery Supervisor*

#### The Wardens

Thad Hopper

Barber Boone

#### The Vestry

Chris Bates

Carver Brown

Lee Anne Bryan

Margaret Deavours

Alice Douglas

Limeul Eubanks

Ouida Holland

Mary Rebecca Jeffries

Kathe Levanway

Julie McLemore

Joe Sherman

Mary Alex Thigpen

John Wheeler

Leigh Ann Wilkins

Jan Wofford