

Holy Eucharist

The Fifth Sunday of Easter 10:00 a.m. — April 28, 2024 Rite II

Welcome

We welcome you to St. James this morning and are delighted you are here. Please join us for coffee and conversation after the service in Centennial Hall, located directly below the church. **The Service** is outlined from the *Book of Common Prayer* (BCP). **The Music** is found in the *Hymnal 1982*.

During the Voluntary we invite you to a time of quiet reflection and prayer as you prepare for the service.

Voluntary Medio registro alto de Primer Tono

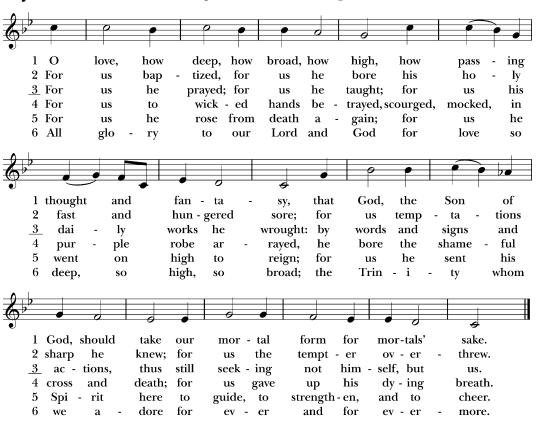
Francisco Peraza (1564-1598)

The Word of God

Please stand as able and sing

Hymn 449 O love, how deep, how broad, how high

Deo gracias



Words: Latin, 15th cent.; tr. Benjamin Webb (1819-1885), alt. Music: *Deo gracias*, English ballad melody, Trinity College MS., 15th cent. By permission of Hope Publishing Company, Carol Stream, IL 60188. All Rights Reserved.

The Opening Acclamation

Book of Common Prayer, p. 355

Presider Alleluia. Christ is risen.

People The Lord is risen indeed. Alleluia.

The Collect for Purity

BCP p. 355

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.**



Words: Carl P. Daw, Jr. (B. 1944). Music: Sine Nomine, Ralph Vaughan Williams (1872-1958); desc. Alec Wyton (b. 1921).

The Collect of the Day

BCP p. 225

Presider The Lord be with you.

People And also with you.

Presider Let us pray.

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 Lesson 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.

The choir sings the psalm.

Psalm 22:24-30 Deus, Deus meus Anglican Chant: Edward John Hopkins (1818-1901)

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 Lesson

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.**

Please stand as able and sing the hymn.

Hymn 529 In Christ there is no East or West

McKee

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. Josh Hoover

The Nicene Creed

BCP p. 358

We believe in one God, 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:

by the power of the Holy Spirit

he became incarnate from the Virgin Mary and was made man.

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 and the Son.

With the Father and the Son he is worshiped and glorified.

He 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

Given new life by the risen Christ, let us gather in the presence of the living God and pray.

A brief silence.

We pray for your church, Lord, for Michael our Presiding Bishop, and Bonnie, our Bishop. We pray for partner churches who are celebrating and living in your resurrection, especially, All Saints' in Brooklyn; St. Michaels & All Angels in Cambridge Junction/Onsted; and St. John the Baptist in Bonao, the Dominican Republic. And we pray for the people of St. James that the doubts of your church might be turned to faith, and all your people might share the good news of new life with the world.

We give you thanks for this wondrous creation, for the beauty and mystery of the world you have made. Give us the wisdom and strength to protect the world, and use our creative potential that it may be maintained and made more beautiful for generations to come.

For Joe, our president and the leaders of all the nations, that you would guide them with your wisdom and instill in them the courage to serve the way of justice and peace for all people, and make them signs of hope for all in need.

For those who suffer from illness, for those who are in need and those who are bereaved, especially Penny; Anne; Tom; Michael; Quenten; Bev; Jane; Michael; Anita; Mary; Rich; Daniel; Cynthia; Sue M.; Linda; Patti; Julian; Andy; Claire; Joe; Betsy; that your healing power would be with them and your love encompass them, so that they might find in you a source of comfort and peace.

For those who have died, that they may find their true home in your kingdom where there is no sorrow, suffering or sighing, but only fullness of life.

You said to your apostles, "Peace I give to you; my own peace I leave with you:" Regard not our sins but the faith of your Church, and give to us the peace and unity of that heavenly City, where with the Father and the Holy Spirit, you live and reign, now and forever. **Amen.**

The Peace

Presider The peace of the Lord be always with you.

People And also with you.

Welcome and Announcements

The Holy Communion

The Offertory is a time when we offer back to God some of what God gives to us. God gives us wheat and grapes and, through our labor, we turn them into bread and wine.

God gives us bodies and minds, and we use these in our life and labor to earn our daily bread. When we give a portion of our income back to God, God blesses it, and returns it to us as services provided by the church, in outreach to those in need, and in lives changed by God's spirit.

The choir sings the anthem.

Anthem

Harold Friedell (1905-1958)

Come, my Way, my Truth, my Life! Such a Way as gives us breath. Such a Truth as ends all strife, such a Life as killeth Death. Come, my Light, my Feast, my Strength! Such a Light as shows a feast, such a Feast as mends in length, such a Strength as makes his guest. Come, my Joy, my Love, my Heart! Such a Joy as none can move, such a Love as none can part, such a Heart as joys in love. *Words: George Herbert (1593-1633)*

The Great Thanksgiving

Eucharistic Prayer B

BCP p. 367

Presider The Lord be with you.

People And also with you.

Presider Lift up your hearts.

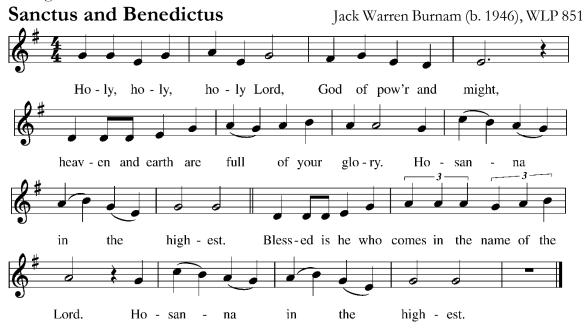
People We lift them to the Lord.

Presider Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People It is right to give God thanks and praise.

It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and every where to give thanks to you, Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth. But chiefly are we bound to praise you for the glorious resurrection of your Son Jesus Christ our Lord; for he is the true Paschal Lamb, who was sacrificed for us, and has taken away the sin of the world. By his death he has destroyed death, and by his rising to life again he has won for us everlasting life.

Therefore we praise you, joining our voices with Angels and Archangels and with all the company of heaven, who for ever sing this hymn to proclaim the glory of your Name:



Music: Jack Waren Burnam (b. 1946). Copyright © 1978 Jack Warren Burnam.

The people stand or kneel as able.

We give thanks to you, O God, for the goodness and love which you have made known to us in creation; in the calling of Israel to be your people; in your Word spoken through the prophets; and above all in the Word made flesh, Jesus, your Son. For in these last days you sent him to be incarnate from the Virgin Mary, to be the Savior and Redeemer of the world. In him, you have delivered us from evil, and made us worthy to stand before you. In him, you have brought us out of error into truth, out of sin into righteousness, out of death into life.

On the night before he died for us, our Lord Jesus Christ took bread; and when he had given thanks to you, he broke it, and 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."

After supper he took the cup of wine; and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, and said, "Drink this, all of you: This is my Blood of the new Covenant, which is shed for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me."

Therefore, according to his command, O Father, We remember his death, We proclaim his resurrection, We await his coming in glory;

And we offer our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving to you, O Lord of all; presenting to you, from your creation, this bread and this wine.

We pray you, gracious God, to send your Holy Spirit upon these gifts that they may be the Sacrament of the Body of Christ and his Blood of the new Covenant. Unite us to your Son in his sacrifice, that we may be acceptable through him, being sanctified by the Holy Spirit. In the fullness of time, put all things in subjection under your Christ, and bring us to that heavenly country where, with James, the ever blessed Virgin Mary, and with all your saints, we may enter the everlasting heritage of your sons and daughters; through Jesus Christ our Lord, the firstborn of all creation, the head of the Church, and the author of our salvation.

By him, and with him, and in him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit all honor and glory is yours, Almighty Father, now and for ever. **Amen.**

The Lord's Prayer

BCP p. 364

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

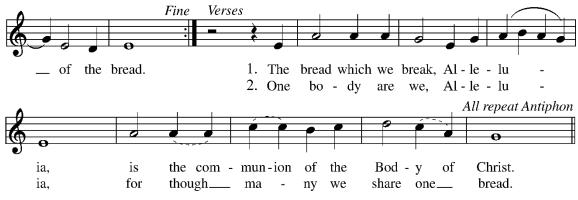
The Breaking of the Bread

The Presider breaks the consecrated bread. Then, all remain kneeling or standing for the Fraction Anthem.

Fraction Anthem: Christ our Passover

Jack Warren Burnam, WLP 876





Music: Jack Warren Burnam (b. 1946). Copyright © 1986 Jack Warren Burnam.

Invitation to Communion

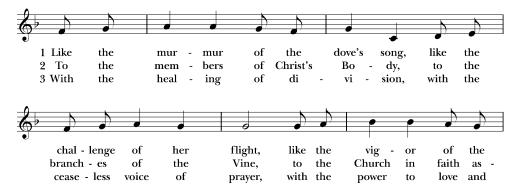
Presider These are the gifts of God for the people of God, take them in remembrance that Christ died for you, and feed on him in your hearts by faith, with thanksgiving.

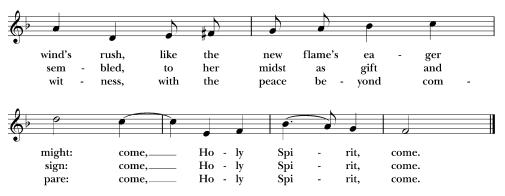
All are invited to God's table. The response after receiving communion is AMEN. Gluten-free bread is available. If you choose not to receive communion, we welcome you to come forward for a blessing, indicated by crossing both arms over your chest. If you have not yet been baptized, we encourage you to speak to the Clergy.

All sing the hymn.

Hymn 513 Like the murmur of the dove's song

Bridegroom





Phrase 1 of each stanza may be sung by one group, with a contrasted group singing phrase 2, and all joining for the final phrase.

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Please stand or kneel as able.

The Postcommunion Prayer

BCP p. 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 People Amen.

Hymn 704 O thou who camest from above



Words: Charles Wesley (1707-1788), alt. Music: Hereford, Samuel Sebastian Wesley (1810-1876).

The Dismissal

People Thanks be to God. Alleluia, Alleluia.

Voluntary Sonata de primo tono

José Lidon (1752-1827)

Prayers for healing will be offered by clergy in the side aisles of the church immediately following the service. You may request prayers for yourself or for another.

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St. James Episcopal Church

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> website: www.stjamesbirmingham.org email: prayer@stjamesbirmingham.org

Worship Schedule

Sundays 8:00 a.m. in person 10:00 a.m. in person and on <u>Facebook</u> and our <u>Website</u> and via <u>Zoom</u>

Weekdays Compline 7:50 p.m. on Zoom

The Rev. Joshua A. Hoover, Rector josh@stjamesbirmingham.org