

St. James' Episcopal Church  
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*St. James' Episcopal Church welcomes you to our service of worship.  
If you are searching for a spiritual home,  
we invite you to become part of our community of faith and love.*

*The mission of St. James' Church derives from the nature of the church.  
It exists for the good of all people, to spread the word of  
God's Salvation and to bring people to know Jesus Christ.*



**EASTER**  
**Holy Eucharist**  
**31 March 2024 9:30 AM**

## The Liturgy of the Word

*Let us acknowledge with respect and reverence the Unkechaug People, who have stewarded this land throughout the generations, while not forgetting the colonization of this land.*

Alleluia. Christ is risen. *People* **The Lord is risen indeed. Alleluia.**

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.**

Hymn

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The Collect

The Lord be with you. **And also with you.** Let us pray. Almighty God, who through your only-begotten Son Jesus Christ overcame death and opened to 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 your life-giving Spirit; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

The First Lesson

Acts 10:34-43

*A Reading from Acts of the Apostles*

<sup>34</sup>Then Peter began to speak to them: "I truly understand that God shows no partiality, <sup>35</sup>but in every nation anyone who fears him and does what is right is acceptable to him. <sup>36</sup>You know the message he sent to the people of Israel, preaching peace by Jesus Christ—he is Lord of all. <sup>37</sup>That message spread throughout Judea, beginning in Galilee after the baptism that John announced: <sup>38</sup>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. <sup>39</sup>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; <sup>40</sup>but God raised him on the third day and allowed him to appear, <sup>41</sup>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. <sup>42</sup>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. <sup>43</sup>All the prophets testify about him that everyone who believes in him receives forgiveness of sins through his name." *The Word of the Lord. Thanks be to God.*

Psalm 118:1-2, 14-24

<sup>1</sup> Give thanks to the Lord, for he is good; \* **his mercy endures for ever.**

<sup>2</sup> Let Israel now proclaim, \* **“His mercy endures for ever.”**

<sup>14</sup> The Lord is my strength and my song, \* **and he has become my salvation.**

<sup>15</sup> There is a sound of exultation and victory \* **in the tents of the righteous:**

<sup>16</sup> “The right hand of the Lord has triumphed! \*

**the right hand of the Lord is exalted! the right hand of the Lord has triumphed!”**

<sup>17</sup> I shall not die, but live, \* **and declare the works of the Lord.**

<sup>18</sup> The Lord has punished me sorely, \* **but he did not hand me over to death.**

<sup>19</sup> Open for me the gates of righteousness; \*

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

<sup>20</sup> “This is the gate of the Lord; \* **he who is righteous may enter.”**

<sup>21</sup> I will give thanks to you, for you answered me \* **and have become my salvation.**

<sup>22</sup> The same stone which the builders rejected \* **has become the chief cornerstone.**

<sup>23</sup> This is the Lord’s doing, \* **and it is marvelous in our eyes.**

<sup>24</sup> On this day the Lord has acted; \* **we will rejoice and be glad in it.**

The Second Lesson

1 Corinthians 15:1-11

*A Reading from the First Letter to the Corinthians.*

<sup>1</sup>Now I would remind you, brothers and sisters, of the good news that I proclaimed to you, which you in turn received, in which also you stand, <sup>2</sup>through which also you are being saved, if you hold firmly to the message that I proclaimed to you—unless you have come to believe in vain. <sup>3</sup>For I handed on to you as of first importance what I in turn had received: that Christ died for our sins in accordance with the scriptures,<sup>4</sup>and that he was buried, and that he was raised on the third day in accordance with the scriptures,<sup>5</sup>and that he appeared to Cephas, then to the twelve. <sup>6</sup>Then he appeared to more than five hundred brothers and sisters at one time, most of whom are still alive, though some have died.<sup>7</sup>Then he appeared to James, then to all the apostles. <sup>8</sup>Last of all, as to one untimely born, he appeared also to me. <sup>9</sup>For I am the least of the apostles, unfit to be called an apostle, because I persecuted the church of God. <sup>10</sup>But by the grace of God I am what I am, and his grace toward me has not been in vain. On the contrary, I worked harder than any of them—though it was not I, but the grace of God that is with me. <sup>11</sup>Whether then it was I or they, so we proclaim and so you have come to believe. *The Word of the Lord. Thanks be to God.*

## The Gospel

Mark 16:1-8

*The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ According to Mark.**Glory to you, Lord Christ.*

<sup>1</sup>When the sabbath was over, Mary Magdalene, and Mary the mother of James, and Salome bought spices, so that they might go and anoint him. <sup>2</sup>And very early on the first day of the week, when the sun had risen, they went to the tomb. <sup>3</sup>They had been saying to one another, "Who will roll away the stone for us from the entrance to the tomb?" <sup>4</sup>When they looked up, they saw that the stone, which was very large, had already been rolled back. <sup>5</sup>As they entered the tomb, they saw a young man, dressed in a white robe, sitting on the right side; and they were alarmed. <sup>6</sup>But he said to them, "Do not be alarmed; you are looking for Jesus of Nazareth, who was crucified. He has been raised; he is not here. Look, there is the place they laid him. <sup>7</sup>But go, tell his disciples and Peter that he is going ahead of you to Galilee; there you will see him, just as he told you." <sup>8</sup>So they went out and fled from the tomb, for terror and amazement had seized them; and they said nothing to anyone, for they were afraid. *The Gospel of our Lord. Praise to you, Lord Christ.*

## Homily

**Renewal of Baptismal Covenant**

Through the Paschal mystery, dear friends, we are buried with Christ by Baptism into his death, and raised with him to newness of life. I call upon you, therefore, now that our Lenten observance is ended, to renew the solemn promises and vows of Holy Baptism, by which we once renounced Satan and all his works, and promised to serve God faithfully in his holy Catholic Church.

Do you believe in God the Father? **I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.**

Do you believe in Jesus Christ, the Son of God? **I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord. He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit and born of the Virgin Mary. He suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried. He descended to the dead. On the third day he rose again. He ascended into heaven, and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again to judge the living and the dead.**

Do you believe in God the Holy Spirit? **I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting.**

Will you continue in the apostles' teaching and fellowship, in the breaking of bread, and in the prayers? **I will, with God's help.**

Will you persevere in resisting evil, and, whenever you fall into sin, repent and return to the Lord? **I will, with God's help.**

Will you proclaim by word and example the Good News of God in Christ? **I will, with God's help.**

Will you seek and serve Christ in all persons, loving your neighbor as yourself? **I will, with God's help.**

Will you strive for justice and peace among all people, and respect the dignity of every human being? **I will, with God's help.**

May Almighty God, the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has given us a new birth by water and the Holy Spirit, and bestowed upon us the forgiveness of sins, keep us in eternal life by his grace, in Christ Jesus our Lord. **Amen.**

### **Thanksgiving over the Water**

The Lord be with you. **And also with you.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**It is right to give him thanks and praise.**

We thank you, Almighty God, for the gift of water. Over it the Holy Spirit moved in the beginning of creation. Through it you led the children of Israel out of their bondage in Egypt into the land of promise. In it your Son Jesus received the baptism of John and was anointed by the Holy Spirit as the Messiah, the Christ, to lead us, through his death and resurrection, from the bondage of sin into everlasting life. We thank you, Almighty God, for the gift of water. Over it the Holy Spirit moved in the beginning of creation. Through it you led the children of Israel out of their bondage in Egypt into the land of promise. In it your Son Jesus

received the baptism of John and was anointed by the Holy Spirit as the Messiah, the Christ, to lead us, through his death and resurrection, from the bondage of sin into everlasting life. We thank you, Father, for the water of Baptism. In it we are buried with Christ in his death. By it we share in his resurrection. Through it we are reborn by the Holy Spirit. Therefore in joyful obedience to your Son, we come to you in faith, having been baptized in the Name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. Now sanctify this water, we pray you, by the power of your Holy Spirit, that it may be to us a dew of remembrance of our baptisms so that we who have been cleansed from sin and born again may continue for ever in the risen life of Jesus Christ our Savior. To him, to you, and to the Holy Spirit, be all honor and glory, now and for ever. **Amen.**

### Prayers of the People

*Compiled by Deacon Ormonde Plater*

*Presider:* Filled with joy on this royal feast of feasts, let us offer prayers to God who leads his sons and daughters through the Red Sea waters.

*Intercessor(s):*

For the holy churches of God, Lawrence, GERALYN, Daniel, and William our bishops, the presbyters and deacons, our new brothers and sisters, this holy gathering, and all the holy people of God. **Glory and praise to you, O living God.**

For the world and its leaders, our nation and its people. **Glory and praise to you, O living God.**

For all those in need, the suffering and the oppressed, travelers and prisoners, the dying and the dead. **Glory and praise to you, O living God.**

For ourselves, our families, and those we love. **Glory and praise to you, O living God.**

That our Savior may grant us triumph over our visible and invisible enemies. **Glory and praise to you, O living God.**

That with Christ we may crush beneath our feet the prince of darkness and all evil powers. **Glory and praise to you, O living God.**

That Christ may fill us with the joy and happiness of his holy resurrection. **Glory and praise to you, O living God.**

That we may enter the chamber of the divine wedding feast and rejoice without limit with the angels and saints. **Glory and praise to you, O living God.**

Remembering our most glorious and Blessed Virgin Mary, Blessed James, and all the saints, let us offer ourselves and one another to the living God through Christ. **To you, O Lord.**

*Presider:* Blessed are you, O Lord our God, for the victory over death of your Son Jesus Christ. Hear the prayers we offer this holy day, and grant that we who have received new life in baptism may live for ever in the joy of the resurrection; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.** The Peace of the Lord be always with you. **And also with you.**

### **The Liturgy of the Table**

Hymn

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#### **Eucharistic Prayer A**

The Lord be with you. **And also with you.**

Lift up your hearts. **We lift them to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**It is right to give him thanks and praise.**

It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere 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:

**S130** Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,

Heaven and earth are full of your glory.

Hosanna in the highest.

Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.

Hosanna in the highest.

Holy and gracious Father: In your infinite love you made us for yourself; and, when we had fallen into sin and become subject to evil and death, you, in your mercy, sent Jesus Christ, your only and eternal Son, to share our human nature, to live and die as one of us, to reconcile us to you, the God and Father of all. He stretched out his arms upon the cross, and offered himself, in obedience to your will, a perfect sacrifice for the whole world.

On the night he was handed over to suffering and death, 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 we proclaim the mystery of faith: **Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.**

We celebrate the memorial of our redemption, O Father, in this sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving. Recalling his death, resurrection, and ascension, we offer you these gifts. Sanctify them by your Holy Spirit to be for your people the Body and Blood of your Son, the holy food and drink of new and unending life in him. Sanctify us also that we may faithfully receive this holy Sacrament, and serve you in unity, constancy, and peace; and at the last day bring us with all your saints into the joy of your eternal kingdom. All this we ask through your Son Jesus Christ. 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.**

And now, as our Savior Christ has taught us, we are bold to say, **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.**

Fraction Anthem

Alleluia. Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us;  
**Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia.**



## Invitation to Communion

*All baptized Christians are invited to receive Communion.*

## Postcommunion Prayer *(Please stand)*

**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

**May Almighty God, who has redeemed us and made us his children through the resurrection of his Son our Lord, bestow upon you the riches of his blessing. Amen.**

**May God, who through the water of baptism has raised us from sin into newness of life, make you holy and worthy to be united with Christ for ever. Amen.**

**May God, who has brought us out of bondage to sin into true and lasting freedom in the Redeemer, bring you to your eternal inheritance. Amen.**

**And the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be upon you and remain with you for ever. Amen.**

## Announcements

## Hymn

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## Dismissal

**Go in peace to love and serve the Lord. Alleluia, alleluia.**

**Thanks be to God. Alleluia, alleluia.**

## For a Birthday

**O God, our times are in your hand: Look with favor, we pray, on your servant *N.* as *she* begins another year. Grant that *she* may grow in wisdom and grace, and strengthen *her* trust in your goodness all the days of *his* life; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

## For Travelers

**O God, our heavenly Father, whose glory fills the whole creation, and whose presence we find wherever we go: Preserve those who travel in particular \_\_\_\_\_; surround them with your loving care; protect them from every danger; and bring them in safety to their journey's end; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

For an Anniversary

**O God, you have so consecrated the covenant of marriage that in it is represented the spiritual unity between Christ and his Church: Send therefore your blessing upon these your servants, that they may so love, honor, and cherish each other in faithfulness and patience, in wisdom and true godliness, that their home may be a haven of blessing and peace; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen.**



The Most Rev'd Michael Curry, Presiding Bishop and Primate  
The Right Rev'd Lawrence Provenzano, Bishop of Long Island  
The Right Rev'd Geralyn Wolf, Assistant Bishop  
The Right Rev'd Daniel Allotey, Assisting Bishop  
The Right Rev'd William Franklin, Assisting Bishop  
The Rev'd Hickman Alexandre, Vicar  
Bishop's Committee  
Dawn Herrmann -23 & Sharon Smith -24; Wardens  
Doreen Vaz, Treasurer  
Ted Anderson -24, Kamala Browne -25, Judy McCadden-23  
Tracy Rentz McLeod -24, John Ryley -23

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