



St. James Episcopal Church

Our commitment: Walk with God.

***The Sixth Sunday of Easter
Spring UTO & Graduate Recognition Sunday
May 05, 2024***

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The Rev. Dr. Jennifer Lazzuri

Rector

Tara Ford

Organist-Choir Director

The Sixth Sunday of Easter
Holy Eucharist, Rite Two
UTO & Graduate Recognition Sunday
May 05, 2024

Prelude: *Now the Green Blade Riseth* NOEL NOUVELET, 16th-c French tune, arr. Mark Hayes

Processional Hymn #204: *Now the green blade riseth* (please stand)

The Word of God

Opening Acclamation

The Book of Common Prayer, pg. 355

Celebrant Alleluia! Christ is risen!

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

Celebrant

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.**

Gloria S-280

Glory to God in the highest, and peace to his people on earth. Lord God, heavenly King, almighty God and Father, we worship you, we give you thanks, we praise you for your glory. Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father, Lord God, Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world: have mercy on us; you are seated at the right hand of the Father: receive our prayer. For you alone are the Holy One, you alone are the Lord, you alone are the Most High, Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit, in the glory of God the Father. Amen.

Collect of the Day

The Book of Common Prayer, pg. 225

Celebrant The Lord be with you.

People **And also with you.**

Celebrant Let us pray.

O God, you have prepared for those who love you such good things as surpass our understanding: Pour into our hearts such love towards you, that we, loving you in all things and above all things, may obtain your promises, which exceed all that we can desire; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

(please be seated)

First Reading: Acts 10:44-48

While Peter was still speaking, the Holy Spirit fell upon all who heard the word. The circumcised believers who had come with Peter were astounded that the gift of the Holy Spirit had been poured out even on the Gentiles, for they heard them speaking in tongues and extolling God. Then Peter said, "Can anyone withhold the water for baptizing these people who have received the Holy Spirit just as we have?" So he ordered them to be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ. Then they invited him to stay for several days.

Reader The Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

Psalm 98

The Book of Common Prayer, pg. 727

(We will read as instructed by the Lector)

1 Sing to the Lord a new song, *
for he has done marvelous things.

2 With his right hand and his holy arm *
 has he won for himself the victory.
3 The Lord has made known his victory; *
 his righteousness has he openly shown in the sight of the nations.
4 He remembers his mercy and faithfulness to the house of Israel, *
 and all the ends of the earth have seen the victory of our God.
5 Shout with joy to the Lord, all you lands; *
 lift up your voice, rejoice, and sing.
6 Sing to the Lord with the harp, *
 with the harp and the voice of song.
7 With trumpets and the sound of the horn *
 shout with joy before the King, the Lord.
8 Let the sea make a noise and all that is in it, *
 the lands and those who dwell therein.
9 Let the rivers clap their hands, *
 and let the hills ring out with joy before the Lord, when he comes to judge the earth.
10 In righteousness shall he judge the world *
 and the peoples with equity.

Second Reading: 1 John 5:1-6

Everyone who believes that Jesus is the Christ has been born of God, and everyone who loves the parent loves the child. By this we know that we love the children of God, when we love God and obey his commandments. For the love of God is this, that we obey his commandments. And his commandments are not burdensome, for whatever is born of God conquers the world. And this is the victory that conquers the world, our faith. Who is it that conquers the world but the one who believes that Jesus is the Son of God?

This is the one who came by water and blood, Jesus Christ, not with the water only but with the water and the blood. And the Spirit is the one that testifies, for the Spirit is the truth.

Reader The Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

Sequence Hymn #455: O Love of God, how strong and true

Gospel: John 15:9-17

Celebrant The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to John.

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

Jesus said to his disciples, "As the Father has loved me, so I have loved you; abide in my love. If you keep my commandments, you will abide in my love, just as I have kept my Father's commandments and abide in his love. I have said these things to you so that my joy may be in you, and that your joy may be complete.

"This is my commandment, that you love one another as I have loved you. No one has greater love than this, to lay down one's life for one's friends. You are my friends if you do what I command you. I do not call you servants any longer, because the servant does not know what the master is doing; but I have called you friends, because I have made known to you everything that I have heard from my Father. You did not choose me but I chose you. And I appointed you to go and bear fruit, fruit that will last, so that the Father will give you whatever you ask him in my name. I am giving you these commands so that you may love one another."

Celebrant The Gospel of the Lord.

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

The Sermon: The Rev. Dr. Jennifer Lazzuri

The Nicene Creed (Please turn to page 358 in *The Book of Common Prayer*)

Prayers of the People

(please kneel or be seated as you are able) The congregation will read the **bolded italicized** responses.

We pray for your faithful people and our leaders, that your love may be the foundation of their common lives and at the heart of their ministry.

Teach us to abide in your love.

We pray for your world filled with creatures and spectacular plant life and grandeur beyond words.

Teach us to care for it with love.

We pray for the peoples of the world and honor them as those you have made and cherish.

Teach us to reach out to them with respect and love.

We pray for healing for those among us who are ailing, aching, or anxious. We especially pray for **GINNA Cullen, Allen & Lisa Walton, Warren & Pat Gehle, Carol Coleman, Mary Jane Huff, Chester Harvey, Charlotte Jones, Kristin Zonozi, Janet Williams, Elaine Holloway, Howard Smith, Cheryl Berg, John Cochrane, and Nancy Miller.**

Teach us to respond to their needs with love.

We pray for those who are at the end of their earthly lives, and for those who have recently entered eternal life.

Teach us to remember them with love.

Uphold us by the riches of your grace, loving God. May your lessons of love continue to inspire and guide us as we move through this world and into the next.

The Celebrant will add a concluding Collect.

Peace & Greeting

Celebrant The peace of the Lord be always with you.

People **And also with you.**

Announcements

The Holy Communion

Offering of Gifts and Praise

Celebrant “Little children, let us love, not in word or speech, but in truth and action.” (*1 John*)

Anthem: *I Will Rejoice!*

Words & music by Benjamin Harlan

Doxology *(please stand)*

***Praise God from whom all blessings flow / Praise Him all creatures here below
Praise Him above ye heavenly host / Praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost. Amen.***

UTO Prayer

Celebrant

Gracious God, source of all creation, all love, all true joy: accept these outward signs of our profound and continuing thankfulness for all of life. Keep each of us ever thankful for all the blessings of joy and challenge that come our way. Bless those who will benefit from these gifts through the outreach of the United Thank Offering. This we ask through Him who is the greatest gift and blessing of all, Jesus Christ. **Amen.**

Great Thanksgiving, Eucharistic Prayer A

The Book of Common Prayer, pg. 361

(please remain standing)

Celebrant The Lord be with you.

People **And also with you.**

Celebrant Lift up your hearts.

People **We lift them to the Lord.**

Celebrant Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

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

Celebrant 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:

Sanctus S-129

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.

(Please kneel as you are able)

Celebrant

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:

Celebrant and People

Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.

Celebrant

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

People and Celebrant

The Book of Common Prayer, pg. 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.

Breaking of the Bread

Celebrant Alleluia! Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us.

People **Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia.**

Celebrant 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.

Fraction Anthem: *“My flesh is food indeed”*

Communion Hymn #706: *In your mercy, Lord, you called me*

Post-Communion Prayer *(please kneel)*

The Book of Common Prayer, pg. 365

Celebrant *Let us pray.*

Celebrant and People

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.

Blessing: Gracious and loving God, who gives us the days and the years of our lives, grant your grace and wisdom to these graduating students as they extend their vision to new horizons. Grant them insight in times of uncertainty, strength in times of challenge, and courage in the face of fears and anxieties. Offer support, strength, and patience to the families of these graduates also, O Lord, as they face their own transitions in the days ahead. Sustain us all, day by day, that we may rejoice with one another, weep in solidarity with one another, strive for justice for one another, that you may form us more fully to become the image of Christ in this world, that the world may know your love through these lives and through each of our lives; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Recessional Hymn #344: *Lord, dismiss us with thy blessing*

Dismissal

Celebrant Let us go forth in the name of Christ! Alleluia, alleluia!

People **Thanks be to God! Alleluia, alleluia!**

Postlude

Those Who Serve Today

Crucifer & Holder of Intinction Cup: Linda Boxley

Chalice: John Schick

Lector: Susan Courtney (8) / Kathy Campbell (10)

Prayers of the People: Marie Farrell (8) / Tom Woolfolk (10)

Ushers: Terry Cole / Patty Madison

Altar Guild: Amy Shiflett

Sunday School: Debbie Wesley / Nancy Bashaw

Nursery: Kelly Craig / Sherry Morris

Counters: Jill Schumacher / Randy Keil

Intercessions

Church Members: Ginna Cullen, Allen & Lisa Walton, Warren & Pat Gehle, Carol Coleman

Family of Church Members: Mary Jane Huff, Chester Harvey, Charlotte Jones, Kristin Zonozi

Friends of Church Members: Janet Williams, Elaine Holloway, Howard Smith, Cheryl Berg, John Cochrane, Nancy Miller

For those in military service, especially: Hope Matkins, Zachary Lynch, Teri Boivin, Holly-Ann Hess, Nicholas Boivin, and Jon Geiser

For clergy and congregation of St. Paul's, Haymarket

For the departed

Birthdays, Anniversaries, and Thanksgivings:

May 05-Patty Driskill; 06-Kelly Craig; 07-Lisa Walton, Daniel Racette; 09-Lauren Filer

Jesus said, "My house shall be called a house of prayer."

We welcome all visitors to St. James. If you would like to know more about our church family, please sign a pew card or the guest register on the table in the back. We want to know that you were here, so be sure to leave your contact information, including your mailing address, so that someone can contact you. Thank you for joining us this morning.

The flowers on the altar are given by the Altar Guild to the Glory of God and in celebration of all 2024 Graduates! Best Wishes to Connor & Celia!!

Today is our United Thank Offering (UTO) Spring Ingathering. Your donations to the UTO will be taken up during the regular offering.

Join us for Coffee Hour after each service this morning. Thank you to Marie Farrell & Pat Gehle (8 o'clock) and Lin & Jim Kogle and Ann & Jan Wisniewski (10 o'clock) for hosting.

We will recognize our 2024 Graduates ~ Connor Downey (Louisa Co. High School) and Celia Agee (Appalachian State Univ.) at the 10 o'clock service and during the 10am Coffee Hour. Our thanks to Patty Madison for putting the graduate celebrations together.

Rev. Jennifer will hold a Confirmation/Inquirer's Class beginning Tuesday, May 7th, at 5:30pm in the Parish Hall. If you are interested, please let Rev. Jennifer know. More information is available in the weekly newsletter.

Mark your calendars for Sunday, June 9th! St. James will have ONE worship service outside at 10 o'clock followed by a church potluck picnic. More information to come!!