



THE EPISCOPAL CHURCH OF
St. Paul & St. James

Holy Eucharist

May 5, 2024 | 10:30 a.m.

Sixth Sunday of Easter

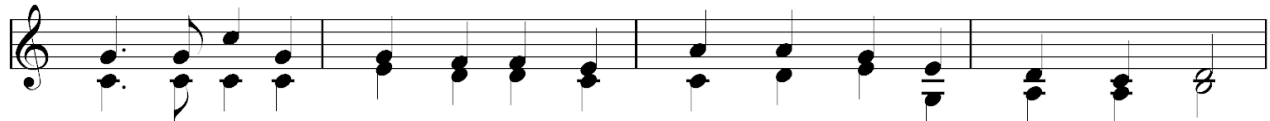
WELCOME TO ST PJs!

If you're visiting St. PJs for the first time, or for the first time in a while, we extend a special welcome to you. Whether you are joining us in the building or via Facebook, we're so fortunate to be together. Know that whoever you are, wherever you find yourself on life's journey, and whatever questions dwell in your heart, you are welcome here. Whatever your race, class, sexuality, beliefs, or talents, we hope that you join us in the radical hospitality of God's table.

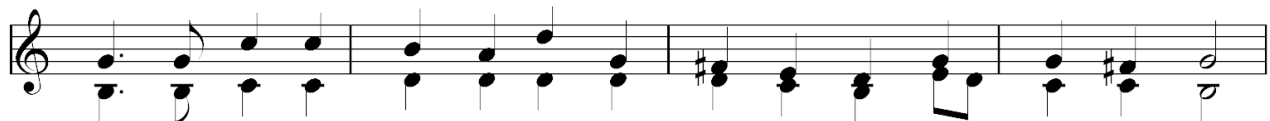
If you are worshipping with children today, welcome! And please don't worry—crying, laughter, and wandering little feet don't bother us!

OPENING HYMN

Alleluia, alleluia! Hearts and voices heavenward raise



1 Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia! Hearts and voic - es heav - en - ward raise:
2 Christ is ris - en, Christ, the first-fruits of the ho - ly har - vest - field,
3 Christ is ris - en, we are ris - en! Shed up - on us heav - en - ly grace,
4 Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia! Glo - ry be to God on high;



1 sing to God a hymn of glad - ness, sing to God a hymn of praise.
2 which with all its full a - bun - dance at his sec - ond com - ing yield:
3 rain and dew and gleams of glo - ry from the bright - ness of thy face;
4 Al - le - lu - ia! to the Sa - vior who has won the vic - to - ry;



1 He, who on the cross a vic - tim, for the world's sal - va - tion bled,
2 then the gold - en ears of har - vest will their heads be - fore him wave,
3 that, with hearts in hea - ven dwell - ing, we on earth may fruit - ful be,
4 Al - le - lu - ia! to the Spi - rit, fount of love and sanc - ti - ty;



1 Je - sus Christ, the King of glo - ry, now is ris - en from the dead.
2 ri - pened by his glo - rious sun - shine from the fur - rows of the grave.
3 and by an - gel hands be gath - ered, and be ev - er, Lord, with thee.
4 Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia! to the Tri - une Ma - jes - ty.

OPENING ACCLAMATION

Celebrant: Alleluia. Christ is risen.

People: Christ is risen indeed. Alleluia.

INTRODUCTION

COLLECT FOR PURITY

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 OF PRAISE

Glory, Glory, hallelujah!

1. Glo - ry, glo - ry, hal - le - lu - jah!
2. I feel bet - ter, so much bet - ter,

1. — Since I laid my bur - den down.
2. — Since I laid my bur - den down,

1. — Glo - ry, glo - ry, hal - le - lu - jah!
2. — I feel bet - ter, so much bet - ter,

1. — Since I laid my bur - den down.
2. — Since I laid my bur - den down.

3. Feel like shouting, "Hallelujah!" etc.

COLLECT OF THE DAY

Celebrant: God 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.**

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: Hear what the Spirit is saying to God's People.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

THE PSALM

Psalm 98

Sing to the Lord a new song, *

for he has done marvelous things.

With his right hand and his holy arm *

has he won for himself the victory.

The Lord has made known his victory; *

his righteousness has he openly shown in the sight of the nations.

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.

**Shout with joy to the Lord, all you lands; *
lift up your voice, rejoice, and sing.
Sing to the Lord with the harp, *
with the harp and the voice of song.
With trumpets and the sound of the horn *
shout with joy before the King, the Lord.
Let the sea make a noise and all that is in it, *
the lands and those who dwell therein.
Let the rivers clap their hands, *
and let the hills ring out with joy before the Lord,
when he comes to judge the earth.
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: Hear what the Spirit is saying to God's People.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

Please rise in body or spirit.

GOSPEL HYMN

Zimbabwe Alleluia



THE HOLY GOSPEL

John 15:9-17

Celebrant: The Holy Gospel of our Savior 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.**

SERMON

Beverly Lett

JAZZ RESPONSE

A musical response to the sermon

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, was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the Virgin Mary and became truly human. 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, who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified, who 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.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Edited reflections from Bankson & Sokolove

God of Peace, we pray on behalf of our world, our nation, and our community, especially for those who are victims of violence. Heartbreak affects us all. Give us resolute hearts and minds to seek ways to spread the Good News that God's Kingdom is where the poor, the hungry, the naked, the sick, the stranger and the imprisoned are not forgotten.

Lord in your mercy,
Hear our prayer.

Incarnate God, we pray for the Church universal, that she may be an instrument of your healing love. We lift up the Episcopal Church of Connecticut, especially in New Haven: St John's, St Luke's, St James', St Paul & St James, St Thomas', Christ Church, and Trinity on the Green.

Lord in your mercy,
Hear our prayer.

Creator God, equip your followers of Jesus, who enjoy the abundant life, to be in partnership with relief efforts around the globe. We pray especially for the victims of tornadoes in our Midwest, and for victims of flooding in east Africa. We ask for forgiveness when our greedy and unjust actions harm the environment and our neighbors.

Lord in your mercy,
Hear our prayer.

God of Love, we pray for all who need your healing Spirit, especially Herman, Edwina, Leota, Gary, Charles, Gwen, and those we name in silence, or aloud...

We pray for our sisters and brothers who mourn their loved ones. May all who have died, rest in your eternal glory.

Life-giving God, we pray for those who celebrate birthdays this week: Paul who turns three years old, and his daddy, Max; Dylan, Eileen, Jessica, and Becky. Surround them with your life-giving love.

Lord in your mercy,
Hear our prayer.

Celebrant: Jesus, our friend and savior: Guide us today, that we may know God's desire for us and gain strength and courage to live as beloved children of God. **Amen.**

CONFESSION OF SIN

Celebrant: Let us confess our sins to God.

Silence

All: God of mercy, we confess that we have sinned against you, opposing your will in our lives. We have denied your goodness in each other, in ourselves, and in the world you have created. We repent of the evil that enslaves us, the evil we have done, and the evil done on our behalf. Forgive, restore, and strengthen us through our Savior Jesus Christ, that we may abide in your love and serve only your will. **Amen.**

ABSOLUTION

Celebrant: Almighty God have mercy on you, forgive you all your sins through the grace of Jesus Christ, strengthen you in all goodness, and by the Holy Spirit keep you in eternal life. **Amen.**

THE PEACE

Celebrant: La paz del Señor sea siempre con ustedes. **People: Y con tu espíritu.**
Celebrant: The peace of Christ be always with you. **People: And also with you.**

Please greet one another with a sign of God's peace and then be seated.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

OFFERTORY ANTHEM

The Celebrant offers a sentence from Scripture.

PRESENTATION HYMN

Santo, santo

Please rise, in body or spirit.



San - to, san - to, san - to, mi cor - a - zon te a - do - ra! Mi
Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly, my heart, my heart a - dores you! My



cor - a - zon te sa - be de - cir: san - to e - res Se - ñor.
heart is glad to say the words: you are ho - ly, Lord.

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 God thanks and praise.**

It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, God 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:

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

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 God,

**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 Paul, James, Mary, and 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 God, now and for ever. **AMEN.**

As our Savior Christ has taught us, we now pray, in the language of our hearts,

**Our Father in heaven,
hallowed be your Name,
your kingdom come,
your will be done,
on earth as in heaven.**

Give us today our daily bread.

**Forgive us our sins
as we forgive those
who sin against us.**

**Save us from the time of trial,
and deliver us from evil.**

**For the kingdom, the power,
and the glory are yours,
now and for ever. Amen.**

**Padre nuestro que estás en los cielos
santificado sea tu Nombre
venga tu reino
hágase tu voluntad
en la tierra como en el cielo**

Danos hoy el pan de este día y

**Perdona nuestras deudas
como nosotros perdonamos
nuestros deudores**

**y no nos dejes caer en al tentación
sino que libranos del mal.**

**Porque tuyo es el reino,
tuyo es el poder, y tuya es la gloria,
ahora y por siempre. Amen.**

THE BREAKING OF THE BREAD

The Celebrant breaks the consecrated Bread. A period of silence is kept.

Celebrant: Alleluia. Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us;

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

FRACTION ANTHEM

Lamb of God, you take a - way the sins of the world,
have mer - cy on us.

Lamb of God, you take a - way the sins of the world,
have mer - cy on us.

Lamb of God, you take a - way the sins of the world.

Grant us peace.

DISTRIBUTION OF COMMUNION

Celebrant: The Gifts of God for you, 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 baptized Christians (you don't have to be Episcopalian)
are welcome to receive Holy Communion here at St. PJ's.*

We have gluten-free and alcohol-free options for those who need them.

*In order to protect the health of our community, we are refraining
from intinction (dipping the Bread into the Wine) at this time. You are welcome to
drink from the chalice or to receive only the Bread if you prefer.*

COMMUNION MUSIC

One bread, one body

One bread, one body, one Lord of all,
one cup of blessing which we bless. And
we, though many, through-out the earth,
we are one body in this one Lord.

Fine

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Please rise, in body or in spirit.

God of abundance, you have fed us with the bread of life and cup of salvation; you have united us with Christ and one another; and you have made us one with all your people in heaven and on earth. Now send us forth in the power of your Spirit, that we may proclaim your redeeming love to the world and continue for ever in the risen life of Christ our Savior. Amen.

THE BLESSING

CLOSING HYMN

Lord, dismiss us with thy blessing

1 Lord, dis - miss us with thy bless - ing;
 2 Thanks we give and a - dor - a - tion;
 3 so that when thy love shall call us,
 fill our hearts with joy and peace;
 for thy Gos - pel's joy - ful sound:
 Sa - vior, from the world a - way,
 let us each, thy love pos - sess - ing,
 may the fruits of thy sal - va - tion
 fear of death shall not ap - pall us,
 tri - umph in re - deem - ing grace:
 in our hearts and lives a - bound:
 glad thy sum - mons to o - bey.
 O re - fresh us, O re fresh us
 ev - er - faith - ful, ev - er faith - ful
 May we ev - er, may we ev - er
 trav - eling through this wil - der - ness.
 to thy thruth may we be found;
 reign with thee in end - less day.

DISMISSAL

Celebrant: Let us go forth into the world, rejoicing in the power of the Spirit.
 Alleluia, alleluia.

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



GRACE NOTES



— YOU ARE WELCOME HERE —

Sunday Worship | 10:30 a.m.

In person and livestreamed

Wednesday Noonday Prayer | 12:30 p.m.

In person in the Chapel

Thursday Zoom Compline | 8:00 p.m.

Link available on our website

Office Hours

Tue, Fri (8 a.m.–11 a.m.) | Thu, Fri (6 p.m.–8:30p.m.)

SERVING TODAY

Sixth Sunday of Easter

May 5, 2024

Celebrant:

The Rev. Nathan Empsall

Preacher:

Beverly Lett

Worship Leader:

Marilyn Bergen

Liturgical Assistant:

Andrew Stump

Musicians:

Will Cleary

Alec Pedersen

Dylan Rowland

OUR STAFF

The Rev. Nathan Empsall
Seasonal Supply Priest

William Cleary, Director of Music
Dylan Rowland, Assoc. Music Dir.

Monifa Atkinson
Office Manager
office@stpaulstjames.org
203-562-2143 (office)

Samuel Rodriguez, Sexton
The Rev. Steve Crowson, Priest Associate
Andrew Stump, Seminary Intern

OUR VESTRY

Co-Wardens: Bill Evans and
Juhani Jaske
Treasurer: David Hill
Clerk: Maggie King

Marilyn Bergen
Roni Holcomb
Pam Sayre
Maurice Harris
George Moore
Steve Crowson

We acknowledge the Quinnipiac, Paugussett, and Wappinger people, the traditional custodians of the land on which St. PJs is located. We pay respect to their elders, past and present. We respect their people and traditions as a continued call to live out the ministry of reconciliation to which we are called.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Call for Photos

As we work on updating and renovating our website, we'd like to include photos of YOU, our parishioners! If willing to participate, please send photos of yourself (better yet, of you with other parishioners!) to the church office for inclusion.

Upcoming Parking Lot Closure

Our parking lot will be getting a much-needed repaving this week. Due to this work, the parking lot will be unavailable for use from Tuesday, May 7 through Saturday, May 11. It should be open again in time for our Sunday service on May 12.

New Prayer List Starting May 12

We're in the process of updating the PJs prayer list. The new list will be printed in the bulletin beginning next Sunday, May 12. If you would like for you or your loved one(s) to stay on, or if you would like to add someone to the new list, please contact the office to let us know!

Sign Up to Serve!

We are always looking for people to volunteer with various liturgical and community roles in the church. If interested, please sign up for one or more roles/times using the sign-up sheets in the church.

2024 Stewardship Campaign

Pledge cards are available for our 2024 Stewardship Campaign, in which we are invited to prayerfully consider how we will pledge our support of God's mission at St. PJs in the next year. You can place completed cards in the offering plate or send them to the office via the mail.

PRAYER LIST

Charles	Marcia
Edd	Mary Jane
Ron	Tiras
Charles	Pete
Andy	Ralph
Michael	Jean
Cynthia	Matt
Theresa	Edwina
Gary & Family	John
Herman	Alyce
Anne	Martha
Gwen	Julie
Isaiah	Andrew,
Greta	Anastasia &
Simone	Katherine
Judi	Gwen
Dwayne	Misha
Nanci	Michael
Patricia	Al
Leota	Sal & Family
Enid	Tony
Brenda & Juhani	Patty and Bill
Lwebuga-Mukasa	Janie and Family
Family	Paul and Family
Kohl Family	Laurel
John	Vanetta
	Carla & Family

BIRTHDAYS & ANNIVERSARIES

Paul Clayton (May 5)
Jessica Armstrong (May 6)
Max Clayton, Dylan Rowland (May 7)
Eileen Jaske, Becky Severance (May 11)

FAITHFUL DEPARTED

THANK YOU FOR JOINING US TODAY

St. PJs is a "mask-friendly" environment. Please respect everyone's personal decisions whether or not to wear a mask. In addition, please be aware that by attending church, you are participating in our live stream, which means you may appear in a video which is streamed and archived on our YouTube or Facebook page.

Give to St. PJs
Online



THE EPISCOPAL CHURCH OF
St. Paul & St. James

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