# ST. JAMES PARISH CHURCH

Holetown, St. James, Barbados

TO BE A BEACON RADIATING GOD'S LOVE AMONG ALL PEOPLE

PENTECOST 25 PROPER 28 November 19, 2023



7:15 a.m. Holy Eucharist and Sermon 9:15 a.m. Sung Holy Eucharist and Sermon Rector: The Rev. Canon Beverley Sealy-Knight Rev. (Deacon) Michelle Leacock 

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Iotha Riley		
FRANCIS ROCK		
Thelma Rock		
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JENNY ROUSE		
MICHAEL SMITH		
DAISY STUART		
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MURIEL WEBSTER		
Francisca Wilkie		

## ORGAN PRELUDE

#### ORGANIST: DR. PHILIP FORDE, ARCM, FRCO

#### **OPENING SENTENCES: GENERAL**

Worship the Lord in the beauty of holiness; let the whole earth stand in awe of Him.

Psalm 96: 9

#### **INTROIT HYMN: 393**

- Break thou the bread of life, dear Lord, to me, as thou didst break the loaves beside the sea; beyond the sacred page I seek thee, Lord; my spirit pants for thee, O living Word.
- Thou art the bread of life, O Lord, to me, thy holy word the truth that saveth me; Give me to eat and live with thee above; teach me to love thy truth, for thou art love.
- O send thy Spirit, Lord, now unto me, that he may touch my eyes, and make me see; show me the truth concealed within thy word,

and in thy book revealed I see thee, Lord.

 Bless thou the truth, dear Lord, to me, to me, as thou didst bless the bread by Galilee; then shall all bondage cease, all fetters fall, and I shall find my peace, my all in all.

## PRESIDENT

Blessed be God: Father, Son and Holy Spirit. Alleluia! Alleluia!

## ALL:

## And blessed be His Kingdom, now and forever. Amen. Alleluia! Alleluia!

The following may be said by the President and people:

## THE PRAYER OF INTENT

## ALL:

Blessed Lord and Father, we have assembled in your Name and in fellowship with one another. Enable us by your grace to offer the sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving; to proclaim and respond to your holy word. Teach us to pray for your world and your Church. Grant that we, confessing our sins, may worthily offer to you our souls and bodies as a living sacrifice and eat and drink of your spiritual food in this Holy Sacrament. *Amen*.

## **COLLECT FOR PURITY**

#### ALL:

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*.

## **THE KYRIES**

Lord, have mercy.	Lord, have mercy.
Christ, have mercy.	Christ, have mercy.
Lord, have mercy.	Lord, have mercy.

## **GLORIA IN EXCELSIS**

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.

**PRESIDENT:**The Lord be with you.**ALL:And also with you .** 

## THE COLLECT: THE TWENTY-FIFTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

Blessed Lord, who caused all holy Scriptures to be written for our learning: Grant us so to hear them, read, mark, learn, and inwardly digest them, that we may embrace and ever hold fast the blessed hope of everlasting life, which you have given us in our Savior Jesus Christ; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen**.

## THE MINISTRY OF THE WORD

## THE FIRST READING: JUDGES 4:1-7

Israel is now under the influence of 12 judges, leaders raised up at times of national crisis by the spirit of God, to deliver God's people from pagan oppressors. Ehud was a judge and a national hero who put an end to domination by the Moabites.

# A Reading from the Word of God, written in the Book of Judges, Chapter 4, beginning at the first verse.

The Israelites again did what was evil in the sight of the LORD, after Ehud died. So the LORD sold them into the hand of King Jabin of Canaan, who reigned in Hazor; the

commander of his army was Sisera, who lived in Harosheth-ha-goiim. Then the Israelites cried out to the LORD for help; for he had nine hundred chariots of iron, and had oppressed the Israelites cruelly twenty years.

At that time Deborah, a prophetess, wife of Lappidoth, was judging Israel. She used to sit under the palm of Deborah between Ramah and Bethel in the hill country of Ephraim; and the Israelites came up to her for judgment. She sent and summoned Barak son of Abinoam from Kedesh in Naphtali, and said to him, "The LORD, the God of Israel, commands you, 'Go, take position at Mount Tabor, bringing ten thousand from the tribe of Naphtali and the tribe of Zebulun. I will draw out Sisera, the general of Jabin's army, to meet you by the Wadi Kishon with his chariots and his troops; and I will give him into your hand.""

## The Word of the Lord

The people: Thanks be to God.

## PSALM 123

# Those who are lowly and scorned place their trust in the merciful Lord.

- To you I lift up my eyes, \*
   to you enthroned in the heavens.
- 2 As the eyes of servants look to the hand of their masters, \*

and the eyes of a maid to the hand of her mistress,

- 3 So our eyes look to the LORD our God, \* until he show us his mercy.
- 4 Have mercy upon us, O LORD, have mercy, \* for we have had more than enough of contempt,
- 5 Too much of the scorn of the indolent rich, \* and of the derision of the proud.

Glory to the Father, and to the Son:\* and to the Holy Spirit; as it was in the beginning is now:\* and shall be forever. **Amen**.

## THE SECOND READING: 1 THESSALONIANS 5:1-11

Paul has just told his readers that, when Christ returns, those who have died and those who are still alive will have equal status: they will be with God for ever. Now he encourages them to be prepared.

A Reading from the Word of God, written in the First Epistle of Paul to the Thessalonians, Chapter 5, beginning at the first verse.

Now concerning the times and the seasons, brothers and sisters, you do not need to have anything written to you. For you yourselves know very well that the day of the Lord will come like a thief in the night. When they say, "There is peace and security," then sudden destruction will come upon them, as labor pains come upon a pregnant woman, and there will be no escape! But you, beloved, are not in darkness, for that day to surprise you like a thief; for you are all children of light and children of the day; we are not of the night or of darkness. So then let us not fall asleep as others do, but let us keep awake and be sober; for those who sleep sleep at night, and those who are drunk get drunk at night. But since we belong to the day, let us be sober, and put on the breastplate of faith and love, and for a helmet the hope of salvation. For God has destined us not for wrath but for obtaining salvation through our Lord Jesus Christ, who died for us, so that whether we are awake or asleep we may live with him. Therefore encourage one another and build up each other, as indeed you are doing.

#### The Word of the Lord

The people: Thanks be to God.

## HYMN FOR THE GRADUAL: 508

 A charge to keep I have, a God to glorify, a never-dying soul to save, and fit it for the sky.

- To serve the present age, my calling to fulfill, O may it all my powers engage to do my Master's will.
- Arm me with jealous care, as in thy sight to live; and, O, thy servant, Lord, prepare a good account to give.
- Help me to watch and pray, and on thyself rely; and let me ne'er my trust betray, but press to realms on high.

## THE GOSPEL: - MATTHEW 25: 14-30

Jesus continues to tell parables about the kingdom of heaven. In the previous parables, he has told us that we need to be prepared for the Second Coming at all times.

Gospeler: All:	The Lord be with you And also with you
Gospeler:	A Reading from the Holy Gospel according
All:	to Matthew. Glory to Christ Our Saviour.

Jesus said, "It is as if a man, going on a journey, summoned his slaves and entrusted his property to them; to one he gave five talents, to another two, to another one, to each according to his ability. Then he went away. The one who had received the five talents went off at once and traded with them, and made five more talents. In the same way, the one who had the two talents made two more talents. But the one who had received the one talent went off and dug a hole in the ground and hid his master's money. After a long time the master of those slaves came and settled accounts with them. Then the one who had received the five talents came forward, bringing five more talents, saying, 'Master, you handed over to me five talents; see, I have made five more talents.' His master said to him, 'Well done, good and trustworthy slave; vou have been trustworthy in a few things, I will put you in charge of many things; enter into the joy of your master.' And the one with the two talents also came forward, saying, 'Master, you handed over to me two talents; see, I have made two more talents.' His master said to him, 'Well done, good and trustworthy slave; you have been trustworthy in a few things, I will put you in charge of many things; enter into the joy of your master.' Then the one who had received the one talent also came forward, saying, 'Master, I knew that you were a harsh man, reaping where you did not sow, and gathering where you did not scatter seed; so I was afraid, and I went and hid your talent in the ground. Here you have what is yours.' But his master replied, 'You wicked and lazy slave! You knew, did you, that I

reap where I did not sow, and gather where I did not scatter? Then you ought to have invested my money with the bankers, and on my return I would have received what was my own with interest. So take the talent from him, and give it to the one with the ten talents. For to all those who have, more will be given, and they will have an abundance; but from those who have nothing, even what they have will be taken away. As for this worthless slave, throw him into the outer darkness, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.'"

#### This is the Gospel of Christ

The people: Praise to Christ, our Lord.

(NRSV)

# THE SERMON

## THE NICENE CREED

We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is seen or 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, one in 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 was born of the Virgin Mary, and became man.

For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate; He suffered, died and was buried. On the third day he rose again

in fulfilment of 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.

With the Father and the Son he is worshipped 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 INTERCESSION: FORM E

## 7:15 A.M. XAVIER GILES

## 9:15 A.M. ARIELLE JOHNSON

## LEADER:

Let us pray for the fellowship of the Church of Christ, and for all God's creatures.

## LEADER:

With all who confess the name of Jesus, as Lord and Saviour, we offer our prayers and praises, in Spirit and in truth.

## Father in Heaven,

ALL: Hear our prayer.

## LEADER:

With Jesus Christ, our Great High Priest, who ever lives to intercede for us, we uphold all ministers of God's Word and Sacraments, that they may fulfil their high calling in the Faith.

## Father in Heaven,

ALL: Hear our prayer.

## LEADER:

We pray for the unfailing guidance of the Holy Spirit on those who are called to interpret and expound the will of the Lord to others.

## Father in Heaven,

ALL: Hear our prayer.

## LEADER:

We pray for all organizations, within the fellowship of the Body of Christ, that their work may edify the people of God, and bear faithful witness to the Gospel. *Father in Heaven*,

ALL: Hear our prayer.

## LEADER:

We pray for all persons who do not share our confession of faith, that with courage, truth and love we may work together with them, and promote the common good.

## Father in Heaven,

ALL: Hear our prayer.

## LEADER:

For the leaders of our country, and all who make decisions on our behalf, that they may be guided by the Spirit, to direct our affairs in righteousness and peace. *Father in Heaven*,

ALL: Hear our prayer.

## LEADER:

For our Judges, Magistrates and all who administer justice, that in all things they may seek to do your will, and to protect the rights and freedom of your people. *Father in Heaven*,

ALL: Hear our prayer.

## LEADER:

In our schools, and in all other places of learning, may

true knowledge, sound wisdom, and godly discipline ever be found.

## Father in Heaven,

ALL: Hear our prayer.

## LEADER:

To the poor, the hungry, the unemployed, and all victims of persecution and discrimination of any kind, may God in Christ help us all to bring relief, justice and protection.

## Father in Heaven,

ALL: Hear our prayer.

## LEADER:

To all who suffer now from pain and disease, from human discomfort and misery, may God in Christ bring healing and joy, for the renewal of their faith. *Father in Heaven*,

ALL: Hear our prayer.

## LEADER:

That we may use aright the fullness of the earth, that our pursuits in science, and the advancement of our skills, may ever be in service of that true humanity, which is created in the image of God. *Father in Heaven*,

# ALL: Hear our prayer.

# LEADER:

That we may never become the slaves of money, or of the lust for power, but may rather strive for victory

## through the power of love. *Father in Heaven,*

ALL: Hear our prayer.

## LEADER:

That with all who belong to the communion of saints, both living and departed, we may ever rejoice in the blessed assurance of that hope, which has been won for us in Christ.

Father in Heaven,

ALL: Receive these our prayers in the name of your dear Son, even Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

# THE ACT OF PENITENCE

## **PRESIDENT:**

If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. If we confess our sins, God is faithful and just, and will forgive our sins, and cleanse us from all unrighteousness. (1 John 1: 8 - 9)

## PRESIDENT:

Let us therefore confess our sins.

## ALL:

Almighty God, our Heavenly Father, we have sinned against you and one another, in thought, word and deed, and in what we have left undone. We are sorry and repent of all our sins. For your Son, our Lord Jesus Christ's sake, forgive us all that is past, and grant that we may serve you in newness of life to the glory of your Name. *Amen.* 

## THE ABSOLUTION

## PRESIDENT:

Almighty God, have mercy upon you, pardon and deliver you from all your sins, confirm and strengthen you in all goodness, and keep you in life eternal; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

## ALL: Amen.

# THE GREETING OF PEACE

PRESIDENT:

We are the Body of Christ. By the one Spirit we were all baptized

into one Body, and have all been made to drink of the one Spirit.

## ALL:

Let us then pursue the things that make for peace and build up the common life.

## PRESIDENT:

The peace of the Lord be always with you.

## ALL: And also with you.

The President and people shall greet one another in the name of the Lord.

## SONG OF PEACE: SHALOM

Jesus our Friend Divine, Give heart and soul and mind The world to him we bring. To serve Almighty King.

## Refrain:

Shalom shalom shalom in our hearts Shalom shalom shalom in our life Shalom shalom shalom for the world, In new community

Our Lord *so* loved the world Let's live in faith to God Struggle in love and hope That's how we praise the Lord.

## Refrain

Your Grace unites us all In new community Your Love and peace may fall To all humanity.

Refrain

## THE OFFERTORY HYMN: 262

- Son of God, eternal Saviour, source of life and truth and grace, Son of Man, whose birth incarnate hallows all our human race, thou, our Head, who, throned in glory, for thine own dost ever plead, fill us with thy love and pity; heal our wrongs, and help our need.
- As thou, Lord, hast lived for others, so may we for others live; freely have thy gifts been granted,

freely may thy servants give: thine the gold and thine the silver, thine the wealth of land and sea, we but stewards of thy bounty, held in solemn trust for thee.

- Come, O Christ, and reign among us, King of love, and Prince of peace; hush the storm of strife and passion, bid its cruel discords cease; by thy patient years of toiling, by thy silent hours of pain, quench our fevered thirst of pleasure, shame our selfish greed of gain.
- 4. Son of God, eternal Saviour, source of life and truth and grace, Son of Man, whose birth incarnate hallows all our human race, thou who prayedst, thou who wiliest, that thy people should be one, grant, O grant our hope's fruition: here on earth thy will be done.

## THE PRESENTATION OF THE OFFERINGS PRESIDENT AND PEOPLE:

Father, we offer you these gifts which you have given us: this bread, this wine, this money. With them we offer ourselves, our lives, and our work, to become through your Holy Spirit a reasonable, holy, and lively sacrifice. As this bread and wine become the Body and Blood of Christ, so may we and all your people become channels of your love; through the same Christ our Lord. *Amen*.

## THE EUCHARISTIC PRAYER

PRESIDENT:The Lord be with youALL:And also with youPRESIDENT:Lift up your hearts.ALL:We lift them up to the Lord.PRESIDENT:Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

ALL: It is right to give God thanks and praise.

#### PRESIDENT:

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

## THE LORD'S DAY

Because on this most glorious day, a triple light was given. On the first day of creation you brought light and life into being. On the first day, for our salvation, you raised your Son victorious over death; and on this day you gave your Holy and lifegiving Spirit to your church.

## OR

## PENTECOST

Through Jesus Christ our Lord. In fulfilment of His true promise, the Holy Spirit came down (on this day) from heaven, lighting upon the disciples, to teach them and to lead them into all truth; uniting

peoples of many tongues in the confession of one faith, and giving to your Church the power to serve you as a royal priesthood, and to preach the Gospel to all nations.

Therefore we praise you, joining our voices with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven, who forever sing this hymn to proclaim the glory of your Name:

## ALL:

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!

## **EUCHARISTIC PRAYER - FORM E:**

## PRESIDENT:

Sovereign Lord and Father, To you be glory and praise for ever. In your boundless wisdom you brought creation into being; In your great love you fashioned us in your image; In your tender compassion you sent your Son, Jesus Christ, our Saviour, to share our human nature; In the power of the Holy Spirit, He overcame the power of sin and death and brought your people to new birth as first fruits of your new creation.

On the night that He was betrayed He took bread, and when He had given thanks to you, He broke it and gave it to his disciples and said: "Take this, and eat it: This is my Body which is given for you, Do this for the remembrance of me." And 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."

## PRESIDENT:

Therefore, Father, according to the command of your dearly beloved Son,

## ALL:

We remember His death; We proclaim His resurrection; We await His coming in glory. And we offer you, Father, our sacrifice of thanks and praise. Send your Holy Spirit on these gifts of bread and wine that they may become the Body and Blood of your Son, Jesus, our Lord and Redeemer. As we partake of this holy food of new and unending life, may your Holy Spirit establish us as a royal priesthood with the Blessed Virgin Mary, St. Nand all your sons and daughters who share in your eternal inheritance; Through Jesus Christ our Lord. With Him and in Him and through Him, by the power of the Holy Spirit, we worship you, Father Almighty, with all who stand before you in earth and heaven, in songs of everlasting praise:

#### All:

Blessing and honour and glory and power be yours for ever and ever. Amen.

## THE LORD'S PRAYER

**PRESIDENT:** As our Saviour has taught us, so we pray:

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 forever. Amen.

## THE BREAKING OF BREAD

PRESIDENT:

We break this bread to share in the body of Christ.

ALL:

Though we are many we are one body, because we all share in one bread.

## THE AGNUS DEI

- Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world: have mercy on us.
- Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world: have mercy on us.
- Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world: grant us peace.

## THE INVITATION: FORM B

## PRESIDENT:

The Gifts of God for the People of God.

ALL: Our souls will feast and be satisfied, and we will sing glad songs of praise to Him.

## COMMUNION HYMN #1: 600

- Jesu, thou joy of loving hearts! Thou fount of life, thou light of men! From the best bliss that earth imparts we turn unfilled to thee again.
- Thy truth unchanged hath ever stood; thou savest those that on thee call; to them that seek thee thou art good: to them that find thee all in all.
- We taste thee, O thou Living Bread, and long to feast upon thee still; we drink of thee, the fountain-head, and thirst our souls from thee to fill.
- Our restless spirits yearn for thee, where'er our changeful lot is cast; glad when thy gracious smile we see, blest, when our faith can hold thee fast.
- O Jesu, ever with us stay; make all our moments calm and bright; chase the dark night of sin away; shed o'er the world thy holy light.

## **COMMUNION HYMN #2: 612**

 O Jesu, blessèd Lord, to thee my heartfelt thanks for ever be, who hast so lovingly bestowed on me thy body and thy blood.  Break forth, my soul, for joy, and say, 'What wealth is come to me today! My Saviour dwells within me now; how blest am I! How good art thou!'

## HYMN FOR THE CHILDREN: 654

- Jesus, friend of little children, be a friend to me; take my hand and ever keep me close to thee.
- Teach me how to grow in goodness daily as I grow; thou hast been a child and surely thou dost know.
- Step by step, O lead me onward, upward into youth; wiser, stronger, still becoming in thy truth.
- Never leave me nor forsake me, ever be my friend, for I need thee from life's dawning to its end.

## **POST COMMUNION PRAYER**

Eternal God and Heavenly Father, we thank you for feeding us with the Body and Blood of your Son Jesus Christ. Send us now into the world in peace, and grant us strength and courage to love and serve you and all persons in you, with gladness and singleness of heart, through your Son Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen** 

#### NOTICES AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

The St. James' Church Family would like to extend a blessed welcome to all taking part in this act of worship today.
We offer a very special welcome to all of our visitors., especially those from overseas
We also pray that this service will be an inspiration to all.

#### **CONGRATULATIONS:**

We congratulate our own Courtni Holder, who was has now passed her examinations to qualify as a lawyer. We are very proud of her and wish her the very best in her chosen career.

#### **THE BLESSING: PENTECOST**

The Spirit of truth lead you into all truth, give you grace to confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, and to proclaim the word and works of God; and the Blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit, be among you and remain with you always.

#### All: Amen

## **RECESSIONAL HYMN: 513**

- Come all Christians, be committed to the service of the Lord. Make your lives for him more fitted; t.une your hearts with one accord Come into his courts with gladness; each his sacred vows renew, Turn away from sin and sadness; be transformed with life anew.
- Of your time and talents give him they are gifts from God above to be used by Christians freely to proclaim his wondrous love. Come again to serve the Saviour; tithes and offerings with you bring, In your work with him find favour, and with joy his praises sing.
- God's command to love each other is required of everyone.
   Showing mercy to each other mirrors his redeeming Son In compassion he has given of his love that is divine On the cross sins were forgiven; joy and peace are fully thine.
- Come in praise and adoration, all who on Christ's name believe. Worship him with consecration; grace and love will you receive.

For his grace give him the glory, for the Spirit and the word; and repeat the gospel story till the world his name has heard.

#### THE DISMISSAL

President:Go in peace and serve the Lord.ALLIn the name of Christ. Amen.

# **ORGAN POSTLUDE**

Please feel free to depart during the postlude, mindful of those who remain to listen.





#### OUR BIRTHDAY LIST

Our records indicate that the following members are celebrating their birthdays this week. Special greetings are extended to them.

St. Hill, Melissa (Miss) Corbin, Douglas (Mr.)

November 23 November 23

# ST. JAMES PARISH CHURCH



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