ST. JAMES PARISH CHURCH

Holetown, St. James, Barbados

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

THE SIXTH SUNDAY OF EASTER



MAY 25, 2025

7:15 a.m. Holy Eucharist and Sermon 9:15 a.m. Sung Holy Eucharist and Sermon

RECTOR: THE REV. CANON BEVERLEY SEALY-KNIGHT Asst. Priest: Rev. Graveney Bannister

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Prayer List

Allistair Abraham Lorna Alleyne Henry Bannister Marion Bickley Peter Bourne Sally Bourne Antoinette Butcher Noreen Coward Shirley Fields Jeremy Forbes Colleen Gibson Oliver Gibson Oliver Gibson Ena Gooding Judith Grazette Sheila Hatch Charlie Heath Yvonne Inniss Rayn Johnson Mildred Payne Iotha Riley Francis Rock Thelma Rock Viola Rock Cynthia Rock Diana Romero Jenny Rouse Ralph Shepherd Michael Smith Daisy Stuart Sharon Trotman Francisca Wilkie

ORGAN PRELUDE

OPENING SENTENCE - EASTER

On this day the Lord has acted; we will rejoice and be glad in it.

Psalm 118:24

OPENING SENTENCE - ASCENSION

Since we have a great high priest who has passed through the heavens, Jesus, the Son of God, let us hold fast our confession. Let us then with confidence draw near to the throne of grace, that we may receive mercy and find grace to help in time of need.

Hebrews 4: 14, 16

INTROIT HYMN: 271

- Come, gracious Spirit, heavenly Dove, with light and comfort from above; be thou our guardian, thou our guide, o'er every thought and step preside.
- The light of truth to us display, and make us know and choose thy way; plant holy fear in every heart, that we from God may ne'er depart.
- Lead us to Christ, the living way, nor let us from his pastures stray; lead us to holiness, the road that we must take to dwell with God.

 Lead us to heaven, that we may share fullness of joy for ever there; lead us to God, our final rest, to be with him for ever blest

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:

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. The Lord be with you. PRESIDENT: ÁLL: And also with you .

6

THE COLLECT: THE SIXTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

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.*

ASCENSION

Almighty God, whose blessed Son our Savior Jesus Christ ascended far above all heavens that he might fill all things: Mercifully give us faith to perceive that, according to his promise, he abides with his Church on earth, even to the end of the ages; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, in glory everlasting.

OUR HOMES AND FAMILIES

Heavenly Father, whose Son Jesus Christ, born of a woman, sanctified childhood and shared the life of an earthly home; bless the homes and families of our nation. Give to parents a true sense of responsibility in the care and training of their children, that our boys and girls may grow up in the fear of your Name and the fellowship of your Church, for the glory of Christ our Lord. *Amen*.

THE MINISTRY OF THE WORD

THE FIRST READING - ACTS 16:9-15

Paul has set out on his second great missionary journey. Starting from Caesarea Philippi, he has travelled north to Antioch, then generally northwest through Asia Minor. He, Silas and Timothy have now arrived at Troas, a seaport from which ships sailed to Europe.

A Reading from the Word of God, written in the Book of The Acts of the Apostles, Chapter 16, beginning at the ninth verse.

During the night Paul had a vision: there stood a man of Macedonia pleading with him and saying, "Come over to Macedonia and help us." When he had seen the vision, we immediately tried to cross over to Macedonia, being convinced that God had called us to proclaim the good news to them.

We set sail from Troas and took a straight course to Samothrace, the following day to Neapolis, and from there to Philippi, which is a leading city of the district of Macedonia and a Roman colony. We remained in this city for some days. On the sabbath day we went outside the gate by the river, where we supposed there was a place of prayer; and we sat down and spoke to the women who had gathered there. A certain woman named Lydia, a worshiper of God, was listening to us; she was from the city of Thyatira and a dealer in purple cloth. The Lord opened her heart to listen eagerly to what was said by Paul. When she and her household were baptized, she urged us, saying, "If you have judged me to be faithful to the Lord, come and stay at my home." And she prevailed upon us.

The Word of the Lord **The people:** Thanks be to God.

<u>Psalm 67</u>

This psalm is a prayer for God's graciousness and saving power, and a bidding of praise by all people for God's justice and bounty

- May God be merciful to us and bless us, * show us the light of his countenance and come to us.
- 2 Let your ways be known upon earth, * your saving health among all nations.
- 3 Let the peoples praise you, O God; * let all the peoples praise you.
- 4 Let the nations be glad and sing for joy, * for you judge the peoples with equity and guide all the nations upon earth.
- 5 Let the peoples praise you, O God; * let all the peoples praise you.
- 6 The earth has brought forth her increase; * may God, our own God, give us his blessing.
- 7 May God give us his blessing, * and may all the ends of the earth stand in awe of him.

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: REVELATION 21:10, 22-22:5

God is revealing the events of the end-time to John. In his dream, an angel has carried him into the desert to see the decay of imperial Rome. Now an angel shows him the heavenly Jerusalem, open to all people of faith from all nations, where the glory of God, Father and Son, permeates the whole community.

A Reading from the Word of God, written in the Book of the Revelation of John, Chapter 21, beginning at the tenth verse.

In the spirit the angel carried me away to a great, high mountain and showed me the holy city Jerusalem coming down out of heaven from God.

I saw no temple in the city, for its temple is the Lord God the Almighty and the Lamb. And the city has no need of sun or moon to shine on it, for the glory of God is its light, and its lamp is the Lamb. The nations will walk by its light, and the kings of the earth will bring their glory into it. Its gates will never be shut by dayand there will be no night there. People will bring into it the glory and the honor of the nations. But nothing unclean will enter it, nor anyone who practices abomination or falsehood, but only those who are written in the Lamb's book of life. Then the angel showed me the river of the water of life, bright as crystal, flowing from the throne of God and of the Lamb through the middle of the street of the city. On either side of the river is the tree of life with its twelve kinds of fruit, producing its fruit each month; and the leaves of the tree are for the healing of the nations. Nothing accursed will be found there any more. But the throne of God and of the Lamb will be in it, and his servants will worship him; they will see his face, and his name will be on their foreheads. And there will be no more night; they need no light of lamp or sun, for the Lord God will be their light, and they will reign forever and ever.

The Word of the Lord **The people:** Thanks be to God.

THE GRADUAL: HYMN: 298

- Beloved, let us love:love is of God; in God alone hath love its true abode.
- 2. Beloved, let us love:for they who love, they only, are his sons, born from above.
- 3. Beloved, let us love:for love is rest, and he who loveth not abides unblest.
- 4. Beloved, let us love:for love is light, and he who loveth not, dwelleth in night.
- 5. Beloved, let us love:for only thus shall we behold that God who loveth us.

THE GOSPEL - JOHN 14:23-29

Jesus continues to prepare his followers for his departure. Judas (not Iscariot) has asked him: "'how is it that you will reveal yourself to us, and not to the world?'" Jesus answers, but not in a direct manner. Loving Jesus implies obeying him. At the end of time, there will be no separation between God and humans who love him.

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

Jesus said to Judas (not Iscariot), "Those who love me will keep my word, and my Father will love them, and we will come to them and make our home with them. Whoever does not love me does not keep my words; and the word that you hear is not mine, but is from the Father who sent me.

"I have said these things to you while I am still with you. But the Advocate, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in my name, will teach you everything, and remind you of all that I have said to you. Peace I leave with you; my peace I give to you. I do not give to you as the world gives. Do not let your hearts be troubled, and do not let them be afraid. You heard me say to you, `I am going away, and I am coming to you.' If you loved me, you would rejoice that I am going to the Father, because the Father is greater than I. And now I have told you this before it occurs, so that when it does occur, you may believe."

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:

9:15 A.M. SANDRA LEACOCK: FORM C

LEADER: With all our heart and all our mind let us pray to the Lord. saying, *"Lord, have mercy."*

LEADER: For the peace from above, for the loving kindness of God, and for the salvation of our souls:

Let us pray to the Lord.

ALL: Lord, have mercy.

Leader: For the peace and welfare of the world, for the witness and work of the Church, and for the unity of all peoples:

Let us pray to the Lord.

ALL: Lord, have mercy.

LEADER: For our Bishops and all ministers of God's Word and Sacraments, that they may be filled with truth and love and be found without fault at the Lord's coming:

Let us pray to the Lord.

ALL: Lord, have mercy.

LEADER: For the leaders of the nations and for those in authority among us, that they may serve justice and promote the freedom and dignity of all peoples: *Let us pray to the Lord.*

ALL: Lord, have mercy.

LEADER: For the victims of hunger, fear, injustice and oppression, and for all who labour in the cause of human liberation and fulfillment: Let us pray to the Lord.

ALL: Lord, have mercy.

LEADER: For the sick, the suffering, the sorrowful, and the dying; and for all who remember and care for

them: *Let us pray to the Lord.*

ALL: Lord, have mercy.

LEADER: For deliverance from the ravages of hurricane, earthquake, drought or flood, and for a just and proper use of God's creation: *Let us pray to the Lord.*

ALL: Lord, have mercy.

LEADER: For ourselves and all who confess the name of Christ, that we may show forth the excellencies of Him who called us out of darkness into His marvellous light:

Let us pray to the Lord.

ALL: Lord, have mercy.

Silence may be kept.

ALL: O Lord our God, accept the fervent prayers of your people in the multitude of your mercies. Look with compassion on us and all who turn to you for help; for you are gracious, O Lord of love, and to you we give glory, Father, Son and Holy Spirit, now and for ever. 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: Let There Be Peace

Let there be peace on earth And let it begin with me. Let there be peace on earth The peace that was meant to be. With God as our Father Brothers all are we. Let me walk with my brother In perfect harmony. Let peace begin with me Let this be the moment now. With every step I take Let this be my solemn vow. To take each moment And live each moment With peace eternally. Let there be peace on earth, And let it begin with me.

OFFERTORY HYMN: 451

 Love divine, all loves excelling, joy of heaven, to earth come down, fix in us thy humble dwelling, all thy faithful mercies crown. Jesu, thou art all compassion, pure unbounded love thou art; visit us with thy salvation, enter every trembling heart.

- Come, almighty to deliver, let us all thy grace receive; suddenly return, and never, never more thy temples leave. Thee we would be always blessing, serve thee as thy hosts above; pray, and praise thee, without ceasing, glory in thy perfect love.
- Finish then thy new creation: pure and spotless let us be; let us see thy great salvation, perfectly restored in thee; changed from glory into glory, till in heaven we take our place, till we cast our crowns before thee, lost in wonder, love, and praise.

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 you
All:	And also with you
Presiden ⁻ All:	r: Lift up your hearts. We lift them up to the Lord.
PRESIDEN	r : 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:

Easter

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 eternal life.

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 B:

PRESIDENT:

Holy and gracious Father, all creation rightly gives you praise. All life, all holiness, comes from you through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, whom you sent to share our human nature, to live and die as one of us, to reconcile us to you, the God and Father of all.

We therefore bring you these gifts,

and we .ask you to make them holy by the power of your Spirit,

that they may-become the Body and Blood of your Son, our Saviour Jesus Christ,

who offered Himself in obedience to your will,

the Perfect Sacrifice for all mankind.

On the night 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."

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.

Do this, whenever you drink it,

For the remembrance of me."

ALL:

Christ has died.

Christ is risen.

Christ will come again.

PRESIDENT:

Father, calling to mind the death your Son endured for our salvation; His glorious Resurrection and Ascension; His continual intercession for us in heaven; and looking for His coming again in glory, we offer you, in thanksgiving, this holy and life-giving sacrifice. Look with favour on your Church's offering, and grant that we who eat and drink these holy gifts may be filled with your Holy Spirit and become one body in Christ, and serve you in unity, constancy and peace.

May He make us a perpetual offering to you and enable us,

in communion with blessed Mary and the whole company of heaven, to share in the inheritance of your Saints.

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:

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: 603

 Let us break bread together on our knees; let us break bread together on our knees;

Refrain:

when I fall on my knees, with my face to the rising sun, O Lord, have mercy on me. Let us drink wine together on our knees; let us drink wine together on our knees;

Refrain

 Let us praise God together on our knees; let us praise God together on our knees;

Refrain

HYMN FOR THE BLESSING: 663

- O dearest Lord, thy sacred head with thorns was pierced for me;
 O pour thy blessing on my head That I may think for thee.
- O dearest Lord, thy sacred hands with nails were pierced for me;
 O shed thy blessing on my hands that they may work for thee.
- O dearest Lord, thy sacred feet with nails were pierced for me; O pour thy blessing on my feet that they may follow thee.
- 4. O dearest Lord, thy sacred heart with spear was pierced for me;O pour thy spirit in my heart That I may live for thee.

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.

THE BLESSING

God raise you from the death of sin to walk with Christ in His risen life; and the blessings of God Almighty, the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit, be among you and remain with you always

All: Amen

RECESSIONAL HYMN 384

- Praise to the Lord, the Almighty, the King of creation! O my soul, praise him, for he is thy health and salvation! all ye who hear, now to his temple draw near; joining in glad adoration.
- 2. Praise to the Lord, who over all things so wondrously reigneth, shelters thee gently from harm, or when fainting sustaineth! hast thou not seen how thy heart's wishes have been granted in what he ordaineth?
- Praise to the Lord, who doth prosper thy work and defend thee; surely his goodness and mercy shall daily attend thee: ponder anew what the Almighty can do, if to the end he befriend thee.
- 4. Praise to the Lord,
 O let all that is in me adore him!
 All that hath life and breath,
 come now with praises before him!
 Let the amen

sound from his people again: gladly for aye we adore him.

THE DISMISSAL

PRESIDENT: Go in peace and serve the Lord.

ALL In the name of Christ. Amen.



ROGATION

Rogation days are days of prayer and fasting and are observed with processions and prayers. The major rogation is held on 25 April and the minor rogations are held on Monday to Wednesday preceding Ascension Thursday. The word rogation comes from the Latin verb rogare, meaning "to ask", which reflects the beseeching of God for the appeasement of his anger and for protection from calamities. Rogation Days are especially devoted to asking for God's blessing on agriculture and industry.

Rogation Sunday, also known as the **Sixth Sunday of Easter**, falls on the fifth Sunday **after** Easter Sunday. It serves as a precursor to the **Rogation Days**, which follow on the Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday of that week. These days are dedicated to fasting and prayer and seeks the blessing for a community and for its sustenance.

OUR BIRTHDAY LIST

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

LaFond, Joshua (Mr.)

May 29



Stoute, Kim (Miss) May 27

ST. JAMES PARISH CHURCH

PRODUCED BY ST. JAMES PARISH CHURCH