## St. James Parish Church

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

## THE SEVENTH SUNDAY OF EASTER June 1, 2025



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

RECTOR: THE REV. CANON BEVERLEY SEALY-KNIGHT ASST. PRIEST: REV. GRAVENEY BANNISTER

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THE DISMISSAL			

#### ORGAN PRELUDE

#### **OPENING SENTENCES - 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: 191**

- 1. Hail the day that sees him rise, Alleluia! to his throne above the skies; Alleluia! Christ, the Lamb for sinners given, Alleluia! enters now the highest heaven! Alleluia!
- 2. There for him high triumph waits; Alleluia! lift your heads, eternal gates! Alleluia! he hath conquered death and sin; Alleluia! take the King of glory in! Alleluia!
- 3. Lo! the heaven its Lord receives, Alleluia! yet he loves the earth he leaves; Alleluia! though returning to his throne, Alleluia! still he calls mankind his own. Alleluia!
- 4. See! he lifts his hands above; Alleluia! See! he shows the prints of love: Alleluia! Hark! his gracious lips bestow, Alleluia! blessings on his Church below. Alleluia!

- 5. Still for us he intercedes, Alleluia! his prevailing death he pleads, Alleluia! near himself prepares our place, Alleluia! he the first fruits of our race. Alleluia!
- 6. Lord, though parted from our sight, Alleluia! far above the starry height, Alleluia! grant our hearts may thither rise, Alleluia! seeking thee above the skies. Alleluia!
- V. Blessed be the Lord our God,
- R. By whose grace we are yet alive.
- V. Blessed be His Son Jesus Christ,
- R. By whose rising we are set free.
- V. Blessed be the Spirit of God,
- R. In whom is our hope and our joy;

The minister and people:

Father, we come together in the Name of your Son Jesus Christ, our Redeemer, to offer you our worship, praise and thanksgiving. To you belong all power and glory. You are the source of all goodness. Let our worship bear witness to your peace and saving power. Through your Spirit may we ever rejoice in the abiding presence of our risen and ascended Lord. Amen.

#### VENITE PSALM 95: 1-8

O come let us sing out to the Lord:\*

let us shout in triumph to the rock of our salvation.

Let us come before His face with thanksgiving:\*

and cry out to Him joyfully in psalms.

For the Lord is a great God:\* and a great king above all gods.

In His hands are the depths of the earth:\*
and the peaks of the mountains are His also.

The sea is His and he made it:\*
His hands moulded dry land.

Come let us worship and bow down:\*
and kneel before the Lord our maker.

For he Himself is our God:\*

we are the people of His pasture, and the sheep of His hand.

If only you would hear His voice today:\*
for He comes, He comes to judge the earth:

He shall judge the world with righteousness: \* and the peoples with His truth.

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 Minister says:

Lord, we pray to you for the forgiveness of our sins.

Minister and people, kneeling, together say:

Have mercy upon us, most merciful Father; in your compassion forgive us our sins, known and unknown, things done and left undone; and so uphold us by your Spirit that we may live and serve you in newness of life, to the honour and glory of your Name; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

#### The Priest:

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. **Amen**.

#### THE MINISTRY OF THE WORD

#### PSALM 97

A hymn to the awesome Lord and Ruler who brings the fire of judgement and light for the righteous.

- 1 The LORD is King; let the earth rejoice; \* let the multitude of the isles be glad.
- 2 Clouds and darkness are round about him,\* righteousness and justice are the foundations of his throne.
- 3 A fire goes before him \* and burns up his enemies on every side.
- 4 His lightnings light up the world; \* the earth sees it and is afraid.
- 5 The mountains melt like wax at the presence of the LORD,\* at the presence of the Lord of the whole earth.

- The heavens declare his righteousness, \* and all the peoples see his glory.
- Confounded be all who worship carved images
   and delight in false gods! \*
   Bow down before him, all you gods.
- 8 Zion hears and is glad, and the cities of Judah rejoice, \* because of your judgments, O LORD.
- 9 For you are the LORD, most high over all the earth; \* you are exalted far above all gods.
- 10 The LORD loves those who hate evil; \* he preserves the lives of his saints and delivers them from the hand of the wicked.
- 11 Light has sprung up for the righteous,\* and joyful gladness for those who are truehearted.
- 12 Rejoice in the Lord, you righteous, \* and give thanks to his holy Name.
  - 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 FIRST READING - ACTS 16:16-34

This reading tells of the imprisonment of Paul and Silas after Paul had healed a slave girl who was possessed by a spirit. An earthquake opens the doors of the prison, but Paul takes the occasion to convert the Jailer and his family.

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

With Paul and Silas, we came to Philippi in Macedonia, a Roman colony, and, as we were going to the place of prayer, we met a slave girl who had a spirit of divination and brought her owners a great deal of money by fortune-telling. While she followed Paul and us, she would cry out, "These men are slaves of the Most High God, who proclaim to you a way of salvation." She kept doing this for many days. But Paul, very much annoyed, turned and said to the spirit, "I order you in the name of Jesus Christ to come out of her." And it came out that very hour.

But when her owners saw that their hope of making money was gone, they seized Paul and Silas and dragged them into the marketplace before the authorities. When they had brought them before the magistrates, they said, "These men are disturbing our city; they are Jews and are advocating customs that are not lawful for us as Romans to adopt or observe." The crowd joined in attacking them, and the magistrates had them stripped of their clothing and ordered them to be beaten with rods. After they had given them a

severe flogging, they threw them into prison and ordered the jailer to keep them securely. Following these instructions, he put them in the innermost cell and fastened their feet in the stocks.

About midnight Paul and Silas were praying and singing hymns to God, and the prisoners were listening to them. Suddenly there was an earthquake, so violent that the foundations of the prison were shaken; and immediately all the doors were opened and everyone's chains were unfastened. When the jailer woke up and saw the prison doors wide open, he drew his sword and was about to kill himself, since he supposed that the prisoners had escaped. But Paul shouted in a loud voice, "Do not harm yourself, for we are all here." The jailer called for lights, and rushing in, he fell down trembling before Paul and Silas. Then he brought them outside and said, "Sirs, what must I do to be saved?" They answered, "Believe on the Lord Jesus, and you will be saved, you and your household." They spoke the word of the Lord to him and to all who were in his house. At the same hour of the night he took them and washed their wounds; then he and his entire family were baptized without delay. He brought them up into the house and set food before them; and he and his entire household rejoiced that he had become a believer in God.

#### The Word of the Lord

The people: Thanks be to God.

#### THE BENEDICTUS

**LUKE 1:68-79** 

Blessed are you, Lord the God of Israel\*

You have come to your people and set them free.

You have raised up for us a mighty Saviour\* born of the house of your servant David.

Through your holy prophets

You promised of old to save us from our enemies\* from the hands of all that hate us,

To show mercy to our forebears,\* and to remember your holy covenant.

This was the oath you swore to our father Abraham:\*

to set us free from the hands of our enemies,

Free to worship you without fear:\*
holy and righteous before you
all the days of our life.

And you, child, shall be called the prophet of the Most High:\*
for you will go before the Lord to prepare the way.

To give God's people knowledge of salvation:\* by the forgiveness of their sins.

In the tender compassion of our God:\*
the dawn from on high shall break upon us,

To shine upon those who dwell in darkness and the shadow of death:\*
and to guide our feet into the way of peace.

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 - JOHN 17:20-26

Jesus prays for the unity of his present and future disciples with the Father and himself.

A Reading from the Word of God, written in the Gospel of John, Chapter 17, beginning at the twentieth verse.

Jesus prayed for his disciples, and then he said. "I ask not only on behalf of these, but also on behalf of those who will believe in me through their word, that they may all be one. As you, Father, are in me and I am in you, may they also be in us, so that the world may believe that you have sent me. The glory that you have given me I have given them, so that they may be one, as we are one, I in them and you in me, that they may become completely one, so that the world may know that you have sent me and have loved them even as you have loved me. Father, I desire that those also, whom you have given me, may be with me where I am, to see my glory, which you have given me because you loved me before the foundation of the world.

"Righteous Father, the world does not know you, but I know you; and these know that you have sent me. I made your name known to them, and I will make it known, so that the love with which you have loved me may be in them, and I in them."

#### The Word of the Lord

The people: Thanks be to God.

(NRSV)

#### HYMN FOR THE GRADUAL: 192

- Jesu, our hope, our heart's desire, thy work of grace we sing; Redeemer of the world art thou, its Maker and its King.
- How vast the mercy and the love, which laid our sins on thee, and led thee to a cruel death, to set thy people free!
- 3. But now the bonds of death are burst; the ransom has been paid; and thou art on thy Father's throne, in glorious robes arrayed.
- 4. O may thy mighty love prevail our sinful souls to spare!
  O may we stand around thy throne, and see thy glory there!
- Jesu, our only joy be thou, as thou our prize wilt be; in thee be all our glory now and through eternity.
- All praise to thee who art gone up triumphantly to heaven; all praise to God the Father's name and Holy Ghost be given.

#### THE SERMON

#### THE APOSTLES' CREED

I believe in God the Father Almighty, creator of heaven and earth

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.

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. **Amen**.

#### THE PRAYERS

V. The Lord be with you.

R. And also with you.

The minister shall say.

Let us pray.

#### **ALL:**

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 SUFFRAGES

- V. Lord, reveal your love among us;
- R. That we may know the joy of your salvation.
- V. Grant peace within and among all nations;
- R. And teach our leaders wisdom.
- V. Endow your Church with faithfulness;
- R. And her servants with knowledge and true godliness.
- V. Defend, O Lord, the rights of the poor and the oppressed;
- R. That your justice may be known among all people.
- V. Lord, renew your Spirit within us;
- R. That in us and through us your will may be done.

### THE COLLECT: SEVENTH SUNDAY OF EASTER THE SUNDAY AFTER ASCENSION DAY

O God, the King of glory, you have exalted your only Son Jesus Christ with great triumph to your kingdom in heaven: Do not leave us comfortless, but send us your Holy Spirit to strengthen us, and exalt us to that place where our Savior Christ has gone before; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, in glory everlasting. *Amen*.

## A COLLECT FOR FAITH AND ACTION WEEK THE PRESIDENT: Let us pray.

Triune God, whose kingdom encompasses all that is, draw our hearts to things above, that we might trust in you, hope for your goodness, and love as you love us; empower your people to respond to human need by loving service; to seek to transform the unjust structures of the world, and secure for all your children the blessed liberty of the Gospel of Jesus Christ; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen**.

One or more of the following prayers shall be said.

O God, the lover of unity and author of peace, to know you is eternal life; to serve you is perfect freedom. Defend us your servants from all assaults of the enemy, that we may trust in your defence and not fear the power of any adversary; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.** 

Lord God, Almighty and everlasting Father, you have brought us in safety to this new day: Preserve us with your mighty power, that we may not fall into sin, nor be overcome by adversity; and in all we do, direct us to the fulfilling of your purpose; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen**.

Into your hands, Lord, we commend ourselves this day. Let your presence be with us to its close. Strengthen us to remember that in whatever good work we do we are serving you. Give us a diligent and watchful spirit, that we may seek in everything to know your will, and knowing it, may gladly perform it, to the honour and glory of your Name; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen**.

Heavenly Father, we thank you for the rest of the past night, and for the gift of a new day, with its opportunities of pleasing you. Grant that we may so pass its hours in the perfect freedom of your service, that at evening we may again give you thanks; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen**.

O God our Father, you have bidden light to shine out of darkness, and have awakened us again to praise your goodness and to seek your grace; make us children of the light and of the day, that our lives being open to your glory, we may shine as lights in the world, through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen**.

#### **A COLLECT FOR SUNDAYS**

O God, you make us glad with the weekly remembrance of the glorious resurrection of your Son

our Lord: Give us this day such blessing through our worship of you, that the week to come may be spent in your favour; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen**.

#### PRAYER OF DEDICATION

Almighty God, we thank you for the gift of your Holy Word. May it be a lantern to our feet, A light to our paths, And a strength to our lives. Take us and use us to love and serve all persons in the power of the Holy Spirit and in the Name of your Son, Jesus Christ Our Lord. 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: 246**

- All hail the power of Jesus' name!
   Let angels prostrate fall;
   bring forth the royal diadem
   and crown him Lord of all.
- \* Crown him, ye morning stars of light, who fixed this floating ball; now hail the strength of Israel's might, and crown him Lord of all.

- \* Crown him, ye martyrs of your God, who from his altar call; extol the Stem of Jesse's Rod, and crown him Lord of all.
- Ye seed of Israel's chosen race, ye ransomed of the fall, hail him who saves you by his grace, and crown him Lord of all.
- Sinners, whose love can ne'er forget the wormwood and the gall, go spread your trophies at his feet, and crown him Lord of all.
- Let every tribe and every tongue before him prostrate fall, and shout in universal song the crownčd Lord of all.

### 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

**PRESIDENT**: 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:

#### **Ascension**

Through your dearly beloved Son Jesus Christ our Lord. After His glorious resurrection He openly appeared to His disciples, and in their sight ascended into heaven, to prepare a place for us; that where He is, there we might also be, and reign with Him in glory.

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:

oly 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,

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.

the Perfect Sacrifice for all mankind.

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."

One of the following Acclamations shall be said:

#### 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:

My brothers and sisters in Christ, draw near and receive His Body which He gave for you, and His Blood, which He shed for you. Remember that He died for you, and feed on Him in your hearts by faith with thanksgiving.

#### **ALL:**

Grant gracious Lord that we may so eat the flesh of your dear Son, Jesus Christ, and drink His blood, that we may evermore dwell in Him and He in us. Amen.

#### **COMMUNION HYMN: 602**

- Let all mortal flesh keep silence and with fear and trembling stand; ponder nothing earthly-minded, for with blessing in his hand Christ our God to earth descendeth, Our full homage to demand.
- King of kings, yet born of Mary, as of old on earth he stood, Lord of lords, in human vesture – in the body and the blood – he will give to all the faithful his own self for heavenly food.

- Rank on rank the host of heaven spreads its vanguard on the way, as the Light of Light descendeth from the realms of endless day, that the powers of hell may vanish as the darkness clears away.
- 4. At his feet the six-winged seraph; cherubim with sleepless eye veil their faces to the Presence, as with ceaseless voice they cry, alleluia, alleluia, alleluia, alleluia,

#### HYMN FOR THE BLESSING: 660

- 1. Members of Christ are we; he is our living head,
  That henceforth we should ever be by his good Spirit led.
  in the same narrow path our Lord and Saviour trod the path that leadeth by the Cross to glory and to God.
- Children of God are we; such grace to us is given, to kneel and pray in Christ's own words, "Father, Which art in Heaven; seeking to do His will as Angels do above,

- and walking in obedient ways of holy truth and love.
- 3. Of heaven's kingdom we Inheritors were made; each at the font in Christ's own robe of spotless white arrayed.

  Upon our forehead now is traced the suffering sign, that one day on each saintly brow a glorious crown may shine.
- 4. Christ's little ones are we; and unto us are given angelic guards, who ever see our Father's face in Heaven. To walk in folly now we may not, must not, dare, mindful whose seal is on our brow, whose holy name we bear.

#### **POST COMMUNION PRAYER #2**

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

#### THE BLESSING: ASCENSION

Christ our King, make you faithful and strong to do His will, that you may reign with Him in glory; 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 190

- Crown him with many crowns, the Lamb upon his throne, hark! How the heavenly anthem drowns all music but its own: awake, my soul, and sing of him who died for thee, and hail him as thy matchless King through all eternity.
- Crown him the Virgin's Son,
   the God incarnate born,
   whose arm those crimson trophies won
   which now his brow adorn:
   fruit of the mystic Rose,
   as of that Rose the Stem;
   the Root whence mercy ever flows,
   the Babe of Bethlehem.
- 3. Crown him the Lord of love; behold his hands and side, those wounds yet visible above in beauty glorified:

no angel in the sky can fully bear that sight, but downward bends his burning eye at mysteries so bright.

- 4. Crown him the Lord of peace, whose power a sceptre sways from pole to pole, that wars may cease, and all be prayer and praise: his reign shall know no end, and round his piercèd feet fair flowers of paradise extend their fragrance ever sweet.
- 5. Crown him the Lord of years,
  The Potentate of time,
  Creator of the rolling spheres,
  ineffably sublime:
  all hail, Redeemer, hail,
  for thou hast died for me;
  thy praise shall never, never fail
  throughout eternity.

#### THE DISMISSAL

**PRESIDENT**: Go in peace and serve the Lord.

**ALL**: In the name of Christ. 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.

#### **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.

Webster, Alma

June 6



Denny, Cynthia (Miss) June 3U

# ST. JAMES PARISH CHURCH

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