

# ST. JAMES PARISH CHURCH

READINGS FOR SUNDAY, MAY 25, 2025

THE SIXTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

## 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.***

## 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 FIRST LESSON: 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 Acts, Chapter 19, 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.***

## **PSALM 67**

***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.***

- 1 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 Revelation to 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 day-- and 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 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: The Lord be with you***

***All: 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.***

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