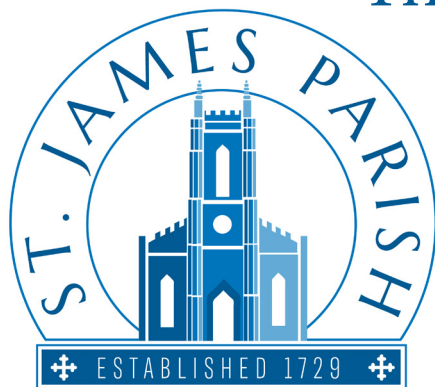


# THE FOURTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

SUNDAY 25 APRIL 2021

THE HOLY EUCHARIST, RITE II

9:00 A.M. & 10:30 A.M.



## Welcome and Announcements

**Hymn** "To God with gladness sing"

*Darwall's 148th*

*The hymns today will be sung by appointed singers in the choir loft; the congregation is invited to listen.*

To God with gladness sing, your Rock and Savior bless;  
into his temple bring your songs of thankfulness!  
O God of might, to you we sing, enthroned as King on heaven's height!

He cradles in his hand the heights and depths of earth;  
he made the sea and land, he brought the world to birth!  
O God Most High, we are your sheep; on us you keep your shepherd's eye!

Your heavenly Father praise, acclaim his only Son,  
your voice in homage raise to him who makes all one!  
O Dove of peace, on us descend that strife may end and joy increase!

## The Word of God

### Easter Acclamation

*Celebrant* Alleluia, Christ is risen.

*People* **The Lord is risen indeed. Alleluia.**

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.**

I will exalt and bless your Name forever God my King,  
and I will bless you every day, your praise forever sing.  
Great is the Lord, much to be praised, his greatness has no end;  
the declaration of his power shall age to age extend.

I will think on your majesty, the marvels you have done;  
they shall speak of your wondrous acts, and I'll tell you of each one.  
They shall sing of your righteous deeds, your goodness call to mind;  
the Lord is gracious, slow to wrath, compassionate and kind.

*Coleman Burgess, clarinet*

*Celebrant* The Lord be with you.

*People* **And also with you.**

O God, whose Son Jesus is the good shepherd of your people: Grant that when we hear his voice we may know him who calls us each by name, and follow where he leads; who, with you and the Holy Spirit, lives and reigns, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

### The Lessons

#### A reading from Acts (4:5–12)

*Commentary:*

*Peter used the healing of a man crippled from birth as the opening he needed to teach about Jesus Christ. Word of this came to the Jewish religious authorities, who brought Peter and John in for questioning. The Jewish council wanted to know by what authority Peter and John had acted. Peter's answer was direct; the power of Jesus Christ had brought healing to a sick man. Peter laid the responsibility for Jesus' death at the rulers' feet and showed that this fulfilled Old Testament prophecy. Israel's leaders had rejected Jesus as an unacceptable Messiah, yet He was the key to what God was now building. In addition, Peter boldly declared that salvation comes through no one else but Jesus Christ.*

The rulers, elders, and scribes assembled in Jerusalem, with Annas the high priest, Caiaphas, John, and Alexander, and all who were of the high-priestly family. When they had made the prisoners stand in their midst, they inquired, "By what power or by what name did you do this?" Then Peter, filled with the Holy Spirit, said to them, "Rulers of the people and elders, if we are questioned today because of a good deed done to someone who was sick and are asked how this man has been healed, let it be known to all of you, and to all the people of Israel, that this man is standing before you in good health by the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth, whom you crucified, whom God raised from the dead. This Jesus is `the stone that was rejected by you, the builders; it has become the cornerstone.' There is salvation in no one else, for there is no other name under heaven given among mortals by which we must be saved."

The Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

#### Psalm 23 *King James Version*

The LORD is my shepherd; \*  
I shall not want.

He maketh me to lie down in green pastures; \*  
he leadeth me beside the still waters.

He restoreth my soul; \*  
he leadeth me in the paths of righteousness for his Name's sake.

Yea, though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death,  
I will fear no evil; \*  
for thou art with me;  
thy rod and thy staff, they comfort me.

Thou preparest a table before me in the presence of mine enemies; \*  
thou anointest my head with oil;  
my cup runneth over.

Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life, \*  
and I will dwell in the house of the LORD for ever.

### **A reading from 1 John (3:16–24)**

*Commentary:*

*In these verses, John tried to answer the question: What does true Christian love look like? The ultimate act of love was that Jesus Christ laid down His life for us. Jesus did this once; His followers are to lay down their lives repeatedly, in self-sacrificial service for the sake of others. Love for God is manifested by obedience, but love for other Christians is manifested by sacrifice. Tangible expressions of self-giving love reveal a believer's true character. God abides in His people through the power and presence of the Holy Spirit, giving us confidence to come before Him boldly now in prayer, and one day, face to face.*

We know love by this, that he laid down his life for us-- and we ought to lay down our lives for one another. How does God's love abide in anyone who has the world's goods and sees a brother or sister in need and yet refuses help? Little children, let us love, not in word or speech, but in truth and action. And by this we will know that we are from the truth and will reassure our hearts before him whenever our hearts condemn us; for God is greater than our hearts, and he knows everything. Beloved, if our hearts do not condemn us, we have boldness before God; and we receive from him whatever we ask, because we obey his commandments and do what pleases him. And this is his commandment, that we should believe in the name of his Son Jesus Christ and love one another, just as he has commanded us. All who obey his commandments abide in him, and he abides in them. And by this we know that he abides in us, by the Spirit that he has given us.

The Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

### **Hymn 644 "How sweet the Name of Jesus sounds"**

*St. Peter*

*Sung by appointed singers in the choir loft; the congregation is invited to listen.*

How sweet the Name of Jesus sounds in a believer's ear!  
It soothes our sorrows, heals our wounds, and drives away our fear.

It makes the wounded spirit whole, and calms the troubled breast;  
'tis manna to the hungry soul, and to the weary, rest.

Dear Name, the rock on which I build, my shield and hiding-place,  
my never-failing treasury, filled with boundless stores of grace!

O Jesus! Shepherd, Guardian, Friend, O Prophet, Priest, and King,  
my Lord, my Life, my Way, my End, accept the praise I bring.

Weak is the effort of my heart, and cold my warmest thought;  
but when I see thee as thou art, I'll praise thee as I ought.

## The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to John (10:11–18)

The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to John.

**Glory to you, Lord Christ.**

Jesus said, “I am the good shepherd. The good shepherd lays down his life for the sheep. The hired hand, who is not the shepherd and does not own the sheep, sees the wolf coming and leaves the sheep and runs away—and the wolf snatches them and scatters them. The hired hand runs away because a hired hand does not care for the sheep. I am the good shepherd. I know my own and my own know me, just as the Father knows me and I know the Father. And I lay down my life for the sheep. I have other sheep that do not belong to this fold. I must bring them also, and they will listen to my voice. So there will be one flock, one shepherd. For this reason the Father loves me, because I lay down my life in order to take it up again. No one takes it from me, but I lay it down of my own accord. I have power to lay it down, and I have power to take it up again. I have received this command from my Father.

The Gospel of the Lord.

**Praise to you, Lord Christ.**

**The Sermon**

The Reverend Michael Singer

**The Nicene Creed**

**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:**

**by the power of the Holy Spirit**

**he became incarnate from the Virgin Mary,  
and was made man.**

**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 and the Son.**

**With the Father and the Son he is worshiped 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.**

**Prayers of the People**

*The response to each petition:*

Risen Lord... **Hear our prayer.**

**The Peace**

*Celebrant* The peace of the Lord be always with you.

*People* **And also with you.**

## The Holy Communion

### Offertory Anthem:

*Brother James' Air*

*Sung by appointed singers in the choir loft; the congregation is invited to listen.*

The Lord's my Shepherd, I'll not want; he makes me down to lie  
in pastures green; he leadeth me the quiet waters by.  
In pastures green; he leadeth me the quiet waters by.

My soul he doth restore again; and me to walk doth make  
within the paths of righteousness, e'en for his own name's sake.  
Within the paths of righteousness, e'en for his own name's sake.

Yea, though I walk in death's dark vale, yet will I fear none ill:  
for thou art with me; and thy rod and staff me comfort still.  
For thou art with me; and thy rod and staff me comfort still.

My table thou hast furnishèd in presence of my foes;  
my head thou dost with oil anoint, and my cup overflows.  
my head thou dost with oil anoint, and my cup overflows.

Goodness and mercy all my life shall surely follow me:  
and in God's house for evermore my dwelling place shall be.  
And in God's house for evermore my dwelling place shall be.

*Coleman Burgess, clarinet*

*Psalm 23 (paraphrase)*

### The Great Thanksgiving — Eucharistic Prayer A

*Celebrant* The Lord be with you.

*People* **And also with you.**

Lift up your hearts.

**We lift them to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**It is right to give him thanks and praise.**

*The Celebrant continues*

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

*Celebrant and People*

**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.**

Holy and gracious Father: In your infinite love you made us for yourself, and, when we had fallen into sin and become subject to evil and death, you, in your mercy, sent Jesus Christ, your only and eternal Son, to share our human nature, to live and die as one of us, to reconcile us to you, the God and Father of all.

He stretched out his arms upon the cross, and offered himself, in obedience to your will, a perfect sacrifice for the whole world.

On the night he was handed over to suffering and death, 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 we proclaim the mystery of faith:

*Celebrant and People*

**Christ has died.**

**Christ is risen.**

**Christ will come again.**

We celebrate the memorial of our redemption, O Father, in this sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving. Recalling his death, resurrection, and ascension, we offer you these gifts.

Sanctify them by your Holy Spirit to be for your people the Body and Blood of your Son, the holy food and drink of new and unending life in him. Sanctify us also that we may faithfully receive this holy Sacrament, and serve you in unity, constancy, and peace; and at the last day bring us with all your saints into the joy of your eternal kingdom.

All this we ask through your Son Jesus Christ: By him, and with him, and in him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit all honor and glory is yours, Almighty Father, now and for ever. **AMEN.**

And now, as our Savior Christ has taught us, we are bold to say,

**Our Father, who art in heaven,**

**hallowed be thy Name,**

**thy kingdom come,**

**thy will be done,**

**on earth as it is in heaven.**

**Give us this day our daily bread.**

**And forgive us our trespasses,**

**as we forgive those**

**who trespass against us.**

**And lead us not into temptation,**

**but deliver us from evil.**

**For thine is the kingdom,**

**and the power, and the glory,**

**for ever and ever. Amen.**

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

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

**The Communion of the People**

*(Gluten-free wafers are available upon request.)*

*Sung by appointed singers in the choir loft; the congregation is invited to listen.*

The King of love my shepherd is, whose goodness faileth never;  
I nothing lack if I am his and he is mine for ever.

Where streams of living water flow, my ransomed soul he leadeth,  
and where the verdant pastures grow, with food celestial feedeth.

Perverse and foolish oft I strayed, but yet in love he sought me,  
and on his shoulder gently laid, and home rejoicing brought me.

In death's dark vale I fear no ill with thee, dear Lord, beside me;  
thy rod and staff my comfort still, thy cross before to guide me.

Thou spread'st a table in my sight; thy unction grace bestoweth;  
and oh, what transport of delight from thy pure chalice floweth.

And so through all the length of days thy goodness faileth never:  
Good Shepherd, may I sing thy praise within thy house for ever.

The Postcommunion Prayer

*Priest and People*

**Almighty and everliving God,  
we thank you for feeding us with the spiritual food  
of the most precious Body and Blood  
of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ;  
and for assuring us in these holy mysteries  
that we are living members of the Body of your Son,  
and heirs of your eternal kingdom.**

**And now, Father, send us out  
to do the work you have given us to do,  
to love and serve you  
as faithful witnesses of Christ our Lord.  
To him, to you, and to the Holy Spirit,  
be honor and glory, now and for ever. Amen.**

The Blessing

Hymn 478 "Jesus, our mighty Lord"

*Monk's Gate*

*The hymns today will be sung by appointed singers in the choir loft; the congregation is invited to listen.*

Jesus, our mighty Lord, our strength in sadness,  
the Father's conquering Word, true source of gladness;  
your Name we glorify, O Jesus, throned on high;  
you gave yourself to die for our salvation.

Good shepherd of your sheep, your own defending,  
in love your children keep to life unending.  
You are yourself the Way: lead us then day by day  
in your own steps we pray, O Lord most holy.

Glorious their life who sing, with glad thanksgiving,  
true hymns to Christ the King in all their living;  
all who confess his Name, come then with hearts aflame;  
the God of peace acclaim as Lord and Savior.

## The Dismissal

Let us go forth in the name of Christ. Alleluia, alleluia.

*People*

**Thanks be to God. Alleluia, alleluia.**



*Celebrant & Preacher: The Reverend Michael Singer*

*The flowers at the altar are given to the Glory of God  
and in loving memory of Sam Mann.*

# ST. JAMES PARISH

• ESTABLISHED 1729 •

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**Organist/Choirmaster** John Sullivan

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