



THE SIXTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

SUNDAY 5 MAY 2024

CONFIRMATION, RECEPTION,
AND REAFFIRMATION

10:15 A.M.

Prelude

Processional Hymn 460

“Alleluia, sing to Jesus!”

Hyfrydol

THE WORD OF GOD

Opening Acclamation

The Book of Common Prayer, p. 299

*Bishop
People*

Alleluia. Christ is risen.

The Lord is risen indeed. Alleluia.

There is one Body and one Spirit;

There is one hope in God's call to us;

One Lord, one Faith, one Baptism;

One God and Father of all.

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Let us pray.

The Collect of the Day

p. 225

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.**

Please be seated.

The First Lesson: Acts 10:44–48

The Holy Bible; *NRSV*, p. 1005

Commentary: In Cornelius' household, Peter preached the first sermon in Acts addressed to a Gentile audience. As soon as Peter's listeners heard enough information to trust in Jesus Christ, they did so and because of their faith, they received the Holy Spirit. The evidence that God had given His Spirit to these Gentile believers was their new-found ability to speak in other languages and they used this gift to praise God. Baptism with water was the outward sign by which the new believers affirmed their identification with Jesus. By pouring out His Spirit on these Gentiles, God showed that in His sight Jews and Gentiles were equal. The only requirement for entrance into the body of believers was, and is, faith in Jesus Christ.

While Peter was still speaking, the Holy Spirit fell upon all who heard the word. The circumcised believers who had come with Peter were astounded that the gift of the Holy Spirit had been poured out even on the Gentiles, for they heard them speaking in tongues and extolling God. Then Peter said, “Can anyone withhold the water for baptizing these people who have received the Holy Spirit just as we have?” So he ordered them to be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ. Then they invited him to stay for several days.

People The Word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

Antiphon *(The antiphon is first sung by the Cantor, then repeated by all)*



Sing to the Lord a new song, lift up your voice, re-joice and sing.

Psalm chant:



Sing to the Lord a new / **song**, *
 for he has done marvelous / **things**.
 With his right hand and his holy / **arm** *
 has he won for himself the / **victory**.

ANTIPHON

The Lord has made known his / **victory**; *
 his righteousness has he openly shown in the sight of the / **nations**.
 He remembers his mercy and faithfulness to the house of / **Israel**, *
 and all the ends of the earth have seen the victory of our / **God**.

ANTIPHON

Shout with joy to the Lord, all you / **lands**; *
 lift up your voice, rejoice, and / **sing**.
 Sing to the Lord with the / **harp**, *
 with the harp and the voice of / **song**.

ANTIPHON

With trumpets and the sound of the / **horn** *
 shout with joy before the King, the / **Lord**.
 Let the sea make a noise and all that is / **in it**, *
 the lands and those who dwell there-/in.

ANTIPHON

Let the rivers clap their / **hands**, *
 and let the hills ring out
 with joy before the Lord,
 when he comes to judge the / **earth**.
 In righteousness shall he judge the / **world** *
 and the peoples with / **equity**.

ANTIPHON

The Epistle: 1 John 5:1–6

NRSV, p. 1114

Commentary: John writes that a Christian is defined by faith in Jesus Christ, not by lifestyle, good works or any other criteria. Although we may have little in common with some Christians, we can love them as members of the same family. Loving other Christians means doing what is best for them, and we love other Christians best when we obey God. God's commands are not oppressive because the Holy Spirit enables our obedience. Jesus is our example of perfect obedience to God and love for neighbor. The totality of Jesus' ministry is symbolically encompassed by the water of His baptism and His blood shed on the cross.

Everyone who believes that Jesus is the Christ has been born of God, and everyone who loves the parent loves the child. By this we know that we love the children of God, when we love God and obey his commandments. For the love of God is this, that we obey his commandments. And his commandments are not burdensome, for whatever is born of God conquers the world. And this is the victory that conquers the world, our faith. Who is it that conquers the world but the one who believes that Jesus is the Son of God? This is the one who came by water and blood, Jesus Christ, not with the water only but with the water and the blood. And the Spirit is the one that testifies, for the Spirit is the truth.

The Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

Sequence Hymn 412

“Earth and All Stars”

Earth and All Stars

During the Sequence Hymn, the children leave for Children’s Chapel

The Holy Gospel: John 15:9–17

NRSV, p. 985

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

People **Glory to you, Lord Christ.**

Jesus said to his disciples, “As the Father has loved me, so I have loved you; abide in my love. If you keep my commandments, you will abide in my love, just as I have kept my Father’s commandments and abide in his love. I have said these things to you so that my joy may be in you, and that your joy may be complete. “This is my commandment, that you love one another as I have loved you. No one has greater love than this, to lay down one’s life for one’s friends. You are my friends if you do what I command you. I do not call you servants any longer, because the servant does not know what the master is doing; but I have called you friends, because

I have made known to you everything that I have heard from my Father. You did not choose me but I chose you. And I appointed you to go and bear fruit, fruit that will last, so that the Father will give you whatever you ask him in my name. I am giving you these commands so that you may love one another.”

People The Gospel of the Lord.
Praise to you, Lord Christ.

The Sermon

The Right Reverend Robert S. Skirving

PRESENTATION AND EXAMINATION OF THE CANDIDATES

The Book of Common Prayer, p. 415

The Bishop says

The Candidates will now be presented

Presenters I present _____ for Confirmation.

Or I present _____ to be received into this Communion.

Or I present _____ who desire to reaffirm their baptismal vows.

The Bishop asks the candidates

Do you reaffirm your renunciation of evil?

Candidates I do.

Bishop Do you renew your commitment to Jesus Christ?

Candidates I do, and with God's grace I will follow him as my Savior and Lord.

After all have been presented, the Bishop addresses the congregation, saying

Will you who witness these vows do all in your power to support these persons in their life in Christ?

People **We will.**

The Bishop then says these or similar words

Let us join with those who are committing themselves to Christ and renew our own baptismal covenant.

The Baptismal Covenant

p. 416

Bishop Do you believe in God the Father?

People **I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.**

Bishop Do you believe in Jesus Christ, the Son of God?

People **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.**

Bishop Do you believe in God the Holy Spirit?

People **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.**

Bishop Will you continue in the apostles' teaching and fellowship, in the breaking of bread, and in the prayers?

People **I will, with God's help.**

Bishop Will you persevere in resisting evil, and, whenever you fall into sin, repent and return to the Lord?

People **I will, with God's help.**

Bishop Will you proclaim by word and example the Good News of God in Christ?

People **I will, with God's help.**

Bishop Will you seek and serve Christ in all persons, loving your neighbor as yourself?
People **I will, with God's help.**

Bishop Will you strive for justice and peace among all people, and respect the dignity of every human being?
People **I will, with God's help.**

Prayers for the Candidates

p. 417

The Bishop says to the congregation

Let us now pray for these persons who have renewed their commitment to Christ.

Leader Deliver them, O Lord, from the way of sin and death.
People **Lord, hear our prayer.**

Leader Open their hearts to your grace and truth.
People **Lord, hear our prayer.**

Leader Fill them with your holy and life-giving Spirit.
People **Lord, hear our prayer.**

Leader Keep them in the faith and communion of your holy Church.
People **Lord, hear our prayer.**

Leader Teach them to love others in the power of the Spirit.
People **Lord, hear our prayer.**

Leader Send them into the world in witness to your love.
People **Lord, hear our prayer.**

Leader Bring them to the fullness of your peace and glory.
People **Lord, hear our prayer.**

A period of silence follows

Then the Bishop says

Almighty God, we thank you that by the death and resurrection of your Son Jesus Christ you have overcome sin and brought us to yourself, and that by the sealing of your Holy Spirit you have bound us to your service. Renew in these your servants the covenant you made with them at their Baptism. Send them forth in the power of the Spirit to perform the service you set before them; through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

For Confirmation

p. 418

The Bishop lays hands upon each one and says

Strengthen, O Lord, your servant *N.* with your Holy Spirit; empower *him/her* for your service; and sustain *him/her* all the days of *his/her* life. **Amen.**

or this

Defend, O Lord, your servant *N.* with your heavenly grace, that *he/she* may continue yours forever, and daily increase in your Holy Spirit more and more, until *he/she* comes to your everlasting kingdom. **Amen.**

For Reception

N., we recognize you as a member of the one holy catholic and apostolic Church, and we receive you into the fellowship of this Communion. God the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, bless, preserve, and keep you. **Amen.**

For Reaffirmation

N., may the Holy Spirit, who has begun a good work in you direct and uphold you in the service of Christ and his kingdom. **Amen.**

Then the Bishop says

Almighty and everliving God, let your fatherly hand ever be over these your servants; let your Holy Spirit ever be with them; and so lead them in the knowledge and obedience of your Word, that they may serve you in this life, and dwell with you in the life to come; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

The Peace

p. 308

Bishop The peace of the Lord be always with you.
People **And also with you.**

Welcome and Announcements

THE HOLY COMMUNION

Offertory Anthem

Bradley Phillips

Jesus loves me, of this I know,
Jesus loves me for the Bible tells me so.
Little ones to Him belong,
They are weak but he is so strong.

Yes, Jesus love me,
the Bible tells me so.
Alleluia!

Presentation Hymn 618

“Ye watchers and ye holy ones” *fourth stanza only*

Lasst uns erfreuen

O friends, in glad-ness let us sing, su - per - nal an - thems ech - o -
ing, Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia! To
God the Fa - ther, God the Son, and God the Spi - rit, Three in One,
Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le -
lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!

The Great Thanksgiving — Eucharistic Prayer A

p. 361

Presider 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.

Then, facing the Holy Table, the Presider proceeds

It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth.

Here, a proper preface is said, then the Presider continues...

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:

Sanctus

“Holy, holy, holy Lord”

Mathias

Ho - - - ly, Ho - ly, Ho - ly Lord, God of power and might,
 heaven and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho-san-na in the high - est.
 Bless - ed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Ho-san-na in the high-est.

The people stand or kneel.

The Presider continues, saying in the midst of the prayer:

Therefore we proclaim the mystery of faith:

Presider and People

Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.

The Presider continues, concluding with:

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,

The Lord’s Prayer

p. 364

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.

The Breaking of the Bread

p. 364

Presider Alleluia. Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us;

People Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia.

Fraction Anthem: Hymn 417

sung by all

vv. 1 & 2

Festival Canticle

Antiphon
 This is the feast of vic - to - ry for our God.
 Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!
 1 Wor - thy is Christ, the Lamb who was slain,
 2 Bless - ing, hon - or, glo - ry, and might
 whose blood set us free to be peo - ple of God. *[repeat antiphon]*
 to God and the Lamb for ev - er. A - - - men. *[final antiphon]*
Final Antiphon
 This is the feast of vic - to - ry for our God.
 Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!

The Communion of the People

Gluten-free wafers are available at the main altar upon request.

Communion Hymns

Hymn 593	“Lord make us servants of your peace”	<i>Dickenson College</i>
Hymn 603	“When Christ was lifted from the earth”	<i>St. Botolph</i>
Hymn 577	“God is love, and where true love is”	<i>Ubi caritas (Murray)</i>

The Postcommunion Prayer

p. 365

Presider Let us pray.

Eternal God, heavenly Father, you have graciously accepted us as living members of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ, and you have fed us with spiritual food in the Sacrament of his Body and Blood. Send us now into the world in peace, and grant us strength and courage to love and serve you with gladness and singleness of heart; through Christ our Lord. Amen.

The Blessing

The God of peace, who brought again from the dead our Lord Jesus Christ, the great Shepherd of the sheep, through the blood of the everlasting covenant, make you perfect in every good work to do his will, working in you that which is well-pleasing in his sight; and the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be among you, and remain with you always. **Amen.**

Closing Hymn 492

“Sing, ye faithful, sing with gladness”

Finnian

The Dismissal

People Go in peace to love and serve the Lord. Alleluia, Alleluia.
Thanks be to God. Alleluia, Alleluia.



Presider & Preacher: The Rt. Reverend Robert S. Skirving
Assisting Priests: The Reverend C. Phillip Craig, Jr., and The Reverend Gray Hodsdon
Deacon: The Reverend Deacon Kitty Davis *Organist & Choir Director: John Sullivan*
The flowers at the altar are given to the glory of God and in loving memory of
Catherine Hofto Bear, Sigmond Aaron Bear, M.D. and Robert Jackson Powell, Jr.

THIS WEEK AT ST. JAMES

MON.- FRI., MAY 6 - 10

- MORNING PRAYER
8:00-8:30 AM | Zoom

MONDAY, MAY 6

- LIVING WELL IN MIDST OF GRIEF
5:00 PM | Graham Parlor & Zoom

TUESDAY, MAY 7

- EDUCATION FOR MINISTRY
9:00 AM | Register for Location
- MEN ON A MISSION: SERVING AT GOOD SHEPHERD CENTER
4:30 - 7:00 PM | Good Shepherd Center
- SPEAKER SERIES: BONHOEFFER IN A TIME OF RESPONSIBILITY
6:00 - 7:00 PM | Great Hall
*Hors d'oeuvres & No Zoom or Dinner

WEDNESDAY, MAY 8

- YOUTH BIBLE STUDY
7:00 AM | 16th St. Starbucks
- HOLY EUCHARIST
12:10 PM | St. James Parish

THURSDAY, MAY 9

- EVANGELISM COMMISSION MEETING
11:00 AM | Tatum Parlor
- EDUCATION FOR MINISTRY
6:30 PM | Register for Location
- CHOIR REHEARSAL
7:00 PM | Choir Room

FRIDAY, MAY 10

- NO EVENTS PLANNED

SATURDAY, MAY 11

- ST. FRANCIS GARDEN PLANTING DAY
9:00 - 11:30 AM | St. Francis Garden

SUNDAY, MAY 12

- HOLY EUCHARIST - RITE I
8:00 AM | St. James Parish
- SILENT AUCTION “COME AND SEE” PREVIEW
8:00 - 11:30 AM | Youth Room
- FAMILY BREAKFAST
8:30 - 9:10 AM | Great Hall
- PARISH SHOP OPEN
8:45 - 10:30 AM | Parish Shop
- FAITH FORMATION HOUR
9:10 - 10:00 AM | St. James Parish
- CHOIR REHEARSAL
9:15 - 10:05 AM | Choir Room
- HOLY EUCHARIST - RITE II
10:15 AM | St. James Parish & Livestream
- SILENT AUCTION BEGINS
8:00 PM | Online

EDITORIAL DEADLINES: The deadline for the May 13th Weekly Digital Grapevine is Friday, May 10th.

The deadline for the June Grapevine Magazine is May 24th. Email communications@stjamesp.org.

TODAY AT ST. JAMES

BISHOP VISIT AND CONFIRMATION

Sunday, May 5, 2024 | St. James Parish

The Rt. Rev'd Robert Skirving, Bishop of the Diocese of East Carolina, joins us at St. James on Sunday, May 5, 2024. In addition to offering the sermon at the 10:15 a.m. service, the Bishop will administer the Sacrament Rite of Confirmation, Reception and Reaffirmation. We encourage everyone to join us as we welcome new members into the parish family. After the 10:15 a.m. Service, all are welcome to join us on the parish lawn for a time of celebration for our Confirmands.

FOR YOUR CALENDAR

- May 19 - Pentecost Sunday - Wear Red
- May 26 - Summer services open at Mt. Lebanon Chapel
- June 2 - Parish Picnic and Send-Off for The Rev. Cheryl Brainard

ST. FRANCIS GARDEN PLANTING DAY

Saturday May 11, 2024 | 9:00 - 11:30 a.m. | St. Francis Memorial Garden

Our annual St. Francis Garden Spring Planting Day is scheduled for Saturday, May 11th. Volunteers maintain the garden, and if you like getting your hands dirty, you're invited to help. Please let Kevin Hicks know if you would like to attend or want more info! khicks@alumni.wfu.edu

OUTREACH COMMISSION MEET-UP

Sunday, May 19, 2024 | 11:15 a.m. | Lippitt Room | RSVP

All are warmly invited to join us for an OutReach Meet-Up. During the meeting, we'll share a 2024 OutReach update with a focus on our current community partnerships. We plan to discuss "open" OutReach liaison partnerships, answer questions, learn more about your OutReach areas of interest, etc. Please invite your friends and family. OutReach covers a lot of ground and we welcome all willing hands and hearts. We expect this meeting to last 45 minutes. Childcare is available with RSVP. You may RSVP online at stjamesp.org/blog/outreachmeet/

BREAD BREAKERS: HOSPITALITY AT HOME

Sunday, May 19, 2024 | 4:00-6:00 p.m. | The Clark Home | RSVP

The St. James Bread Breakers are hosting Hospitality at Home in May. Bill and Happy Clark are signed up to host this great event. We invite everyone to bring a side dish and join us at 4:00 p.m. today to enjoy time together in a family-friendly atmosphere for a potluck-style dinner. RSVP link is up now on the SJP website. Have questions, please reach out to Rachel Colonna at rcolonna85@gmail.com.

MAY VESTRY MEETING

Monday May 20, 2024 | 5:15-7:00 p.m. | Graham Parlor

This month, our Vestry has a slightly different schedule and will meet on the third Monday at 5:15 p.m. in the Graham Parlor to discuss the business of the parish and to hear from our parish family. These meetings are open and members of St. James Parish are welcome to attend.

ST. JAMES SPEAKER SERIES: BONHOEFFER IN A TIME OF RESPONSIBILITY

Part IV- Tuesday, May 7, 2024 | 6:00 - 7:00 PM

The St. James Speaker Series is preparing to host the final session of our four-part evening series on the writings and work of theologian Dietrich Bonhoeffer. Led by Bonhoeffer scholar, Dr. Wayne Floyd (husband of The Rev. Dr. Nancy Jose), we invite you to join us on Tuesdays, for Bonhoeffer In a Time of Responsibility, a present-day deep dive into the wisdom of one of Christian history's most important figures.

The May 7 installment will be in the Great Hall over hors d'oeuvres and will be an open group discussion/overview of the prior presentations; how Bonhoeffer's teachings share parallels with our current culture and "time of responsibility" as fellow Christians. Please note, there is no dinner or zoom on May 7th.

LAST CALL: ST. JAMES YOUTH OUTREACH SILENT AUCTION DONATIONS

In 2024 young people and adults from St. James will be participating in a variety of mission and outreach opportunities, learning new skills, helping other people, strengthening relationships, exploring our world and glorifying God through worship and in our daily lives. As a result of our activities, we hope to come away with a keener sense of God at work in us both here in Wilmington and in the world. Please help our 2024 Youth Ministries Outreach and Mission. We thank you in advance for your help and your support. Also, we thank you for your investment in the lives of our young people. Contact Cookie at cookie@stjamesp.org to learn more!

COME AND SEE: SILENT AUCTION PREVIEW

Sunday, May 12 | 8:00 - 11:30 AM | Youth Room

Before you bid, come join our St. James Youth for our Come and See Silent Auction Preview. This will be your chance to get an up-close look at some of the items up for bid! The Cash and Carry will officially be open for business and will be a first come first serve opportunity to purchase some of our smaller items throughout the duration of this year's Auction.

ST. JAMES PARISH

THE REVEREND C. PHILIP CRAIG, JR., RECTOR

25 South Third Street ♦ Wilmington, NC 28401 ♦ (910) 763-1628 ♦ admin@stjamesp.org

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