

ST. JAMES EPISCOPAL CHURCH



April 21, 2024
Fourth Sunday of Easter
Morning Prayer

Welcome! If you are visiting, we offer you a special welcome. If you are with us on Zoom and would like more information about our parish, please send the Zoom Usber a chat message, or email office@stjamesvt.org with your name, where you're from, and your email address. On Zoom, please keep microphones muted for most of the service. If you are reading a lesson or adding a prayer request aloud during the time of prayers, please unmute yourself, then mute yourself again. In person, sitting distances are observed and masks may be worn. Please be mindful of the comfort of others.

Prelude: Miniatures

-Flor Peeters

Opening Hymn: Savior, like a Shepherd lead us

Hymnal 708

1 Sa - vior, like a shep - herd lead us; much we need thy
 2 Ear - ly let us seek thy fa - vor, ear - ly let us

ten - der care; in thy plea - sant pas - tures feed us;
 learn thy will; do thou, Lord, our on - ly Sa - vior,

for our use thy folds pre - pare. Bless - ed Je - sus!
 with thy love our bos - oms fill. Bless - ed Je - sus!

Bless - ed Je - sus! Thou hast bought us, thine we are.
 Bless - ed Je - sus! Thou hast loved us: love us still.

Words: *Hymns for the Young*, ca. 1830, alt. Music: *Sicilian Mariners*, Sicilian melody, from *The European Magazine and London Review*, 1792.

Opening Sentence

Officiant If anyone is in Christ, there is a new creation: everything old has passed away; see, everything has become new! –2 Corinthians 5:17

The Confession of Sin is omitted during the Easter Season.

The Invitatory and Psalter

Enriching Our Worship 20

Officiant O God, let our mouth proclaim your praise.

People And your glory all the day long.

All Praise to the holy and undivided Trinity, one God: as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be for ever. Amen. Alleluia.

Officiant Alleluia. Christ is risen.

People O come, let us worship. Alleluia.

Christ our Passover *Pascha nostrum* *1 Corinthians 5:7-8; Romans 6:8-11; 1 Corinthians 15:20-22*

Said in unison with the Officiant leading.

Alleluia,

Christ our Passover has been sacrificed for us; *
therefore let us keep the feast,

Not with the old leaven, the leaven of malice and evil, *
but with the unleavened bread of sincerity and truth. Alleluia.

Christ being raised from the dead will never die again; *
death no longer has dominion.

The death that Christ died was death to sin, once for all; *
but the life Christ lives, is life to God.

So also consider yourselves dead to sin, *
and alive to God in Christ Jesus. Alleluia.

Christ has been raised from the dead, *
the first fruits of those who have fallen asleep.

For since by a human being came death, *
by a human being has come also the resurrection of the dead.

For as in Adam all die, *
so also in Christ shall all be made alive. Alleluia.

-St. Helena Breviary

Officiant Alleluia. Christ is risen.

People O come, let us worship. Alleluia.

The Psalm or Psalms Appointed

Psalm 23

Read in a manner chosen by the Presider: direct recitation (unison), antiphonally (side to side) or responsive recitation (leader and people) alternating either by verse or at the asterisk.

1 O God, you are my shepherd; *
I shall not be in want.

2 You make me lie down in green pastures *
and lead me beside still waters.

3 You revive my soul *
and guide me along right pathways for the sake of your Name.

4 Though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death,
I shall fear no evil; *
for you are with me;
your rod and your staff, they comfort me.

5 You spread a table before me in the presence of those who trouble me; *
you have anointed my head with oil,
and my cup is running over.

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

Glory to God, Source of all being, Incarnate Word, and Holy Spirit, *
as it was in the beginning, is now and will be forever. Amen.

-St. Helena Breviary

The Lessons

First Reading: Acts 4:5-12

Lector: A reading from the book of Acts.

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."

Lector Hear what the Spirit is saying to the Churches.

People *Thanks be to God.*

A period of silence is kept.

Canticle: A Song of the Heavenly City *Revelation 21:22-26, 22:1-4*

EOW 38

Said responsively by whole verse alternating between Officiant and People.

I saw no temple in the city, *
for its temple is the God of surpassing strength and the Lamb.
And the city has no need of sun or moon to light it, *
for the glory of God shines on it, and its lamp is the Lamb.
By its light the nations shall walk, *
and the rulers of the world lay their honor and glory there.
Its gates shall never be shut by day, nor shall there be any night; *
into it they will bring the honor and glory of nations.
I saw the clean river of the water of life, bright as crystal, *
flowing from the throne of God and of the Lamb.
The tree of life spanned the river, giving fruit every month, *
and the leaves of the tree were for the healing of nations.
All curses cease where the throne of God and the Lamb stands,
and all servants give worship there; *
there they will see God's face, whose Name shall be on their foreheads.

Second Reading: 1 John 3:16-24

Lector: A reading from the first letter of John.

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.

Lector Hear what the Spirit is saying to the Churches.

People *Thanks be to God.*

Anthem: My Song In the Night

- Benjamin Harlen

Gospel: John 10:11-18

Please remain seated for the reading of the Gospel in the service of Morning Prayer.

Officiant: A reading from the Gospel according to John.

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."

Officiant Hear what the Spirit is saying to the Churches.

People *Thanks be to God.*

Sermon

Kathy Rouleau

The Apostles' Creed

EOW 41

All standing as able, the creed is said in unison

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

I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord,
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,
born of the Virgin Mary,
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,

he is seated at the right hand of the Father,
and 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

Officiant God be with you.
People And also with you.
Officiant Let us 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 for ever. Amen.

Suffrages

EOW 42

The Suffrages are said responsively

V. Help us, O God our Savior;
R. Deliver us and forgive us our sins.
V. Look upon your congregation;
R. Give to your people the blessing of peace.
V. Declare your glory among the nations;
R. And your wonders among all peoples.
V. Do not let the oppressed be shamed and turned away;
R. Never forget the lives of your poor.
V. Continue your loving-kindness to those who know you;
R. And your favor to those who are true of heart.

V. Satisfy us by your loving-kindness in the morning;
R. So shall we rejoice and be glad all the days of our life.

The Collect of the Day

All are invited to say the Collect of the Day together.

O beloved Jesus, you are the good shepherd of your people: Grant that when we hear your voice we may know you who call us each by name and follow where you lead; this we pray in the name of the holy and undivided Trinity, one God, for ever and ever. 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 favor; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

A Collect for the Creation

A New Zealand Prayer Book (*modified*)

God of unchangeable power, when you fashioned the world the morning stars sang together and the host of heaven shouted for joy; open our eyes to the wonders of creation, give us fruitful harvests and teach us to use all things for good, to the honor of your glorious name; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

For Knowledge of God's Creation

Almighty and everlasting God, you made the universe with all its marvelous order, its atoms, worlds, and galaxies, and the infinite complexity of living creations: Grant that, as we probe the mysteries of your creation, we may come to know you more truly, and more surely fulfill our role in your eternal purpose; in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

Thanksgivings and Intercessions

The Intercessor offers prayers for those on our prayer lists. All may sit.

We remember St. John the Baptist Church, Hardwick and Jerry Willard, Senior Warden in our Diocesan Cycle of Prayer, and The Anglican Church of Australia in our Anglican Cycle of Prayer. We give thanks and pray for Theo Beach, Carl Runge, Jennifer Knowles, and Stefanie Whalen who are celebrating their birthdays this week.

I invite your prayers of thanksgiving.

The Intercessor will invite prayers to be offered aloud by guiding first, the in-person group and after that, the online worshippers.

We pray for those who are sick or have asked for our prayers, especially Mitch; Grace; Sarah; Chris; Connie; Marie; Foster Borch; Jennifer Wilkins Borch; Kristen; Dot Rochester; Sarah; Kevin; Presiding Bishop Michael Curry; Bishop Tom Ely; Hisham Awartani; Eric Fenton; Barbara; Diane Montague; and Al Proulx. We pray for peaceful and just resolutions to the conflicts in Gaza and Israel, and in Ukraine. We also pray for the people of Haiti that they may find stability and peace.

I invite your prayers of intercession.

The Intercessor will invite prayers to be offered aloud by guiding first, the in-person group and after that, the online worshippers.

We pray for those who have died, especially for those who have died in global conflicts, especially in Haiti, Ukraine, Sudan, Israel and Gaza; for those who have died from gun and other violence; and for all the people who mourn these losses.

I invite your prayers for those who have died.

The Intercessor will invite prayers to be offered aloud by guiding first, the in-person group and after that, the online worshippers.

The Intercessor offers a Prayer for Justice.

Creator of the Universe, source of all goodness and love, we ask wisdom, help, and guidance as we work to counter the many instances of injustice and racism in our world. Help us to value differences in culture, religious beliefs, and physical appearance, and celebrate the God-made wonder of every human being. Help us to be vigilant, working against racial and social injustice in our own hearts and in the world around us, that we may live into our baptismal covenant to “strive for justice and peace among all people, and respect the dignity of every human being. *Amen.*”

The Officiant concludes with the following collect.

A Collect of Dedication

Beloved God: As we offer ourselves to you this day, guide and stir us with your Holy Spirit, that we may become one body, one spirit in Jesus Christ our Savior. *Amen.*

The people’s offerings are gathered and brought to the altar by the ushers to be offered to God. All stand as able.

Descant

6 And so through all the length of days thy

1 The King of love my shep - herd is, whose
 2 Where streams of liv - ing wa - ter flow, my
 *3 Per - verse and fool - ish oft I strayed, but
 *4 In death's dark vale I fear no ill with
 5 Thou spread'st a ta - ble in my sight; thy

6 good - ness fail - eth nev - er: Good Shep-herd, may I

1 good - ness fail - eth nev - er; I noth - ing lack if
 2 ran - somed soul he lead - eth, and where the ver - dant
 3 yet in love he sought me, and on his shoul - der
 4 thee, dear Lord, be - side me; thy rod and staff my
 5 unc - tion grace be - stow - eth; and oh, what trans - port

6 sing thy praise with - in thy house for ev - er.

1 I am his, and he is mine for ev - er.
 2 pas - tures grow, with food cc - les - tial feed - eth.
 3 gent - ly laid, and home, re - joic - ing, brought me.
 4 com - fort still, thy cross be - fore to guide me.
 5 of de - light from thy pure chal - ice flow - eth!

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

Words: Henry Williams Baker (1821-1877); para. Psalm 23. Music: *Dominus regit me*, John Bacchus Dykes (1823-1876); desc.
David Willcocks (b. 1919). Descant by permission of Oxford University Press.

Please continue to support our parish life and ministries by sending your offering to St. James Episcopal Church, 4 St. James Place, Essex Junction, VT 05452. You may also give online by visiting this website link:

[ONLINE DONATIONS FOR ST. JAMES](#)

A Prayer of St. Chrysostom

The Officiant and People say together

Almighty God, you have given us grace at this time with one accord to make our common supplication to you; and you have promised through your well-beloved Son that when two or three are gathered together in his Name you will be in the midst of them: Fulfill now, O Lord, our desires and petitions as may be best for us; granting us in this world knowledge of your truth, and in the age to come life everlasting. *Amen.*

Community Announcements

Dismissal

The Officiant says

Officiant Let us go bless the Lord. Alleluia, alleluia.

People Thanks be to God. Alleluia, alleluia.

Concluding Sentence

The Officiant says

The grace of our Savior Jesus Christ, and the love of God, and the fellowship of the Holy, be with us all evermore. *Amen.* *2 Corinthians 13:14*

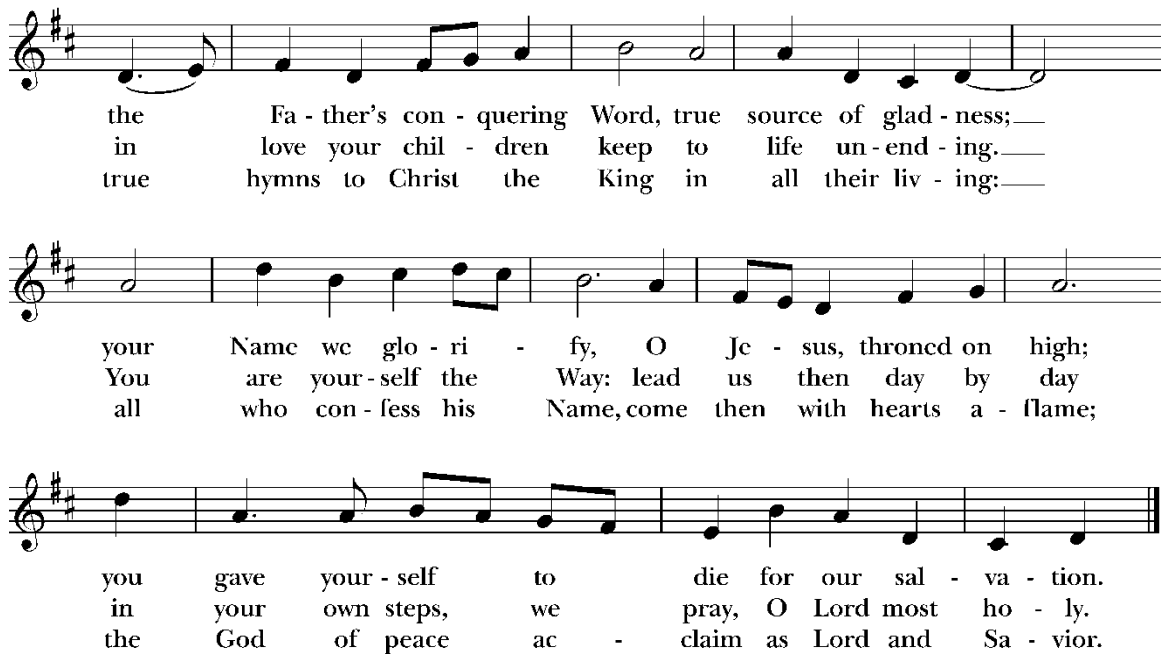
Sending Hymn: Jesus, our mighty Lord

Hymnal 478

All stand as able.



1 Je - sus, our might - y Lord, our strength in sad - ness,___
2 Good shep-herd of your sheep, your own de - fend - ing,___
3 Glo - rious their life who sing, with glad thanks-giv - ing,___



the Fa - ther's con - quering Word, true source of glad - ness;—
in love your chil - dren keep to life un - end - ing. —
true hymns to Christ the King in all their liv - ing: —

your Name we glo - ri - fy, O Je - sus, throned on high;
You are your - self the Way: lead us then day by day
all who con - fess his Name, come then with hearts a - flame;

you gave your - self to die for our sal - va - tion.
in your own steps, we pray, O Lord most ho - ly.
the God of peace ac - claim as Lord and Sa - vior.

Words: St. Clement of Alexandria (ca. 170-ca. 220); para. F. Bland Tucker (1895-1984), rev. Copyright © The Church Pension Fund. Music: *Monk's Gate*, Sussex folk melody; adapt. and harm. Ralph Vaughan Williams (1872-1958). By permission of Oxford University Press.

Postlude: Festal March

-George F. Handel arr. Harold K. Marks

Music used with permission under OneLicense #A-727024

*Please join us for coffee and refreshments in the Parish Hall.
And please join us for a brief Compline service with music online Thursday evenings at 7:00 p.m.*

Fourth Sunday of Easter—Year B

Welcome to Saint James Church. This Sunday of Easter is traditionally called “Good Shepherd Sunday.” Each year we hear a part of Jesus’ discourse on his relationship to us in the image of the Good Shepherd. The Good Shepherd loves his sheep so much that he lays down his life for them. We are called by him into his life, the life which he has given for us. Today’s reading from the Acts of the Apostles continues the story of the first days of the Church. Peter and the other Apostles are on trial before the rulers of the people because in spite of being commanded to speak no more of Jesus, they had continued to preach and to heal in his name. Today we hear portion of Peter’s response. The reading today from 1 John tells us that as God’s children we are to reveal God’s love by living in love with all other people. That love is to be more than a kind feeling. We cannot claim to have God’s love if we do not care for the needs of our poor and neglected brothers and sisters. Our identity now comes from God and our lives are to reflect God’s own nature and love. How we live reveals our relationship to God. Thus the description of the Church as the Body of Christ is not merely an analogy. It describes our life together as the embodiment of Christ’s love and mercy toward all people. We are not only “the sheep of his pasture,” but we are to shepherd all his people in his name.



Officiant: Peggy Bonesteel
Preacher: Kathy Rouleau
Lector: Karen Robinson
Intercessor: Neal Robinson
Musician(s): St. James Choir; Carol Reichard
In-Person Ushers: Ron Belair, Nancy Roff
Minister of Technology: Janice Rheaume
Digital Usher: Heather Winship

IN OUR PRAYERS

Diocesan and Anglican Cycles of Prayer: We remember St. John the Baptist Church, Hardwick and Jerry Willard, Senior Warden in our Diocesan Cycle of Prayer, and The Anglican Church of Australia in our Anglican Cycle of Prayer.

We pray for those who are sick, who are recovering from injuries or surgery, or who have asked for our prayers: Mitch; Grace; Sarah; Chris; Connie; Marie; Foster Borch; Jennifer Wilkins Borch; Kristen; Dot Rochester; Sarah; Kevin; Presiding Bishop Michael Curry; Bishop Tom Ely; Hisham Awartani; Eric Fenton; Barbara; Diane Montague; and Al Proulx. We pray for peaceful and just resolutions to the conflicts in Gaza and Israel, and in Ukraine. We also pray for the people of Haiti that they may find stability and peace.

We pray for those who have died and those who mourn: especially for Nancy Bloomer, longtime member of St. James, and for her daughters Sarah and Carol and their family and friends as they mourn; for those who have died in global conflicts, especially in Haiti, Ukraine, Sudan, Israel and Gaza; for those who have died from gun and other violence; and for all the people who mourn these losses.

Birthdays:

Theo Beach, April 23

Carl Runge, April 23

Jennifer Knowles, April 24

Stefanie Whalen, April 24

ST. JAMES CALENDAR AT A GLANCE



April---Food Collection for Aunt Dot's



Sunday, April 21st: St. James providing food for COTS guests.



Thursday, April 25th at 5:30pm: Vestry Meeting



Sunday, April 28th after church: Book Club



Saturday, May 4th: Green Up Day



Sunday, May 5th: COTS Walk



Tuesday, May 7th at 10:30am: Pastoral Care meeting

For more details or a more complete calendar,
please see the Weekly or visit our website: www.stjamesvt.org.



ST. JAMES EPISCOPAL CHURCH

Bishop of Vermont: The Right Rev. Shannon MacVean-Brown

Rector: The Rev. Kim Hardy

Deacon: The Rev. Deacon David Ganter

Vestry:

Senior Warden, Brian Garland

Junior Warden, Ron Belair

Linda Chiasson

Susan Ficklin

Frances Huessy

Jenny Ogelby

Sandy Redmond

Minister of Music: Carol Reichard

Parish Administrator: Vacant

Interim Office Assistant: Heather Winship

4 St. James Place, Essex Junction, Vermont 05452

www.stjamesvt.org

Parish Office Hours: In flux until we hire a new Parish Administrator

Office e-mail: office@stjamesvt.org

Office Phone (please leave a message): 802-878-4014

Senior Warden contact: bjgarland@gmail.com

Rector contact: ammakim@stjamesvt.org

