

**The Holy Eucharist: Rite II**  
**April 27, 2025 – The Second Sunday of Easter**  
**10:00 am**  
**St. James Episcopal Church, Woodstock, Vermont**

Prelude:  
Teresa Voorhees, piano

**Hymn 180 He Is Risen, He Is Risen! (*Unser Herrscher*)**

1. He is risen, he is risen!  
Tell it out with joyful voice:  
he has burst his three days' prison;  
let the whole wide earth rejoice:  
death is conquered, we are free,  
Christ has won the victory.

2. Come, ye sad and fearful-hearted,  
with glad smile and radiant brow!  
Death's long shadows have departed;  
Jesus' woes are over now,  
and the passion that he bore—  
sin and pain can vex no more.

3. Come, with high and holy hymning,  
hail our Lord's triumphant day;  
not one darksome cloud is dimming  
yonder glorious morning ray,  
breaking o'er the purple east,  
symbol of our Easter feast.

4. He is risen, he is risen!  
He hath opened heaven's gate:  
we are free from sin's dark prison,  
risen to a holier state;  
and a brighter Easter beam  
on our longing eyes shall stream.

**The Word of God**

*The people standing, the Celebrant says*

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

*The Celebrant may say*

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.*

***Gloria in Excelsis (S278, The Hymnal 1982)***

Glory to God in the highest,  
and peace to his people on earth.

Lord God, heavenly King,  
almighty God and Father,  
we worship you, we give you thanks,  
we praise you for your glory.  
Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father,  
Lord God, Lamb of God,  
you take away the sin of the world:  
have mercy on us;  
you are seated at the right hand of the Father:  
receive our prayer.  
For you alone are the Holy One,  
you alone are the Lord,  
you alone are the Most High,  
Jesus Christ,  
with the Holy Spirit,  
in the glory of God the Father. Amen.

### **The Collect of the Day**

*The Celebrant says to the people*

<b>People</b>	The Lord be with you.
<b>Celebrant</b>	<b>And also with you.</b>
	Let us pray.

Almighty and everlasting God, who in the Paschal mystery established the new covenant of reconciliation: Grant that all who have been reborn into the fellowship of Christ's Body may show forth in their lives what they profess by their faith; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever.

**People** Amen.

### **First Lesson: Acts 5:27-32**

When the temple police had brought the apostles, they had them stand before the council. The high priest questioned them, saying, "We gave you strict orders not to teach in this name, yet here you have filled Jerusalem with your teaching and you are determined to bring this man's blood on us." But Peter and the apostles answered, "We must obey God rather than any human authority. The God of our ancestors raised up Jesus, whom you had killed by hanging him on a tree. God exalted him at his right hand as Leader and Savior that he might give repentance to Israel and

forgiveness of sins. And we are witnesses to these things, and so is the Holy Spirit whom God has given to those who obey him."

**Psalms 118:14-29 (BCP, page 761)**

- 14 The LORD is my strength and my song, \*  
and he has become my salvation.
- 15 There is a sound of exultation and victory \*  
in the tents of the righteous:
- 16 "The right hand of the LORD has triumphed! \*  
the right hand of the LORD is exalted!  
the right hand of the LORD has triumphed!"
- 17 I shall not die, but live, \*  
and declare the works of the LORD.
- 18 The LORD has punished me sorely, \*  
but he did not hand me over to death.
- 19 Open for me the gates of righteousness; \*  
I will enter them;  
I will offer thanks to the LORD.
- 20 "This is the gate of the LORD; \*  
he who is righteous may enter."
- 21 I will give thanks to you, for you answered me \*  
and have become my salvation.
- 22 The same stone which the builders rejected \*  
has become the chief cornerstone.
- 23 This is the LORD'S doing, \*  
and it is marvelous in our eyes.
- 24 On this day the LORD has acted; \*  
we will rejoice and be glad in it.
- 25 Hosannah, LORD, hosannah! \*  
LORD, send us now success.
- 26 Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord; \*  
we bless you from the house of the LORD.
- 27 God is the LORD; he has shined upon us; \*  
form a procession with branches up to the horns of the altar.

- 28 "You are my God, and I will thank you; \*  
you are my God, and I will exalt you."  
29 Give thanks to the LORD, for he is good; \*  
his mercy endures for ever.

## **Second Lesson: Revelation 1:4-8**

John to the seven churches that are in Asia: Grace to you and peace from him who is and who was and who is to come, and from the seven spirits who are before his throne, and from Jesus Christ, the faithful witness, the firstborn of the dead, and the ruler of the kings of the earth.

To him who loves us and freed us from our sins by his blood, and made us to be a kingdom, priests serving his God and Father, to him be glory and dominion forever and ever. Amen.

Look! He is coming with the clouds; every eye will see him, even those who pierced him; and on his account all the tribes of the earth will wail. So it is to be. Amen. "I am the Alpha and the Omega," says the Lord God, who is and who was and who is to come, the Almighty.

## **Sequence Hymn 206 O Sons and Daughters, Let Us Sing! (*O filii et filiae*)**

Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

1. O sons and daughters, let us sing!  
The King of heaven, the glorious King,  
o'er death today rose triumphing.  
Alleluia!

2. That night the apostles met in fear;  
amidst them came their Lord most dear,  
and said, "My peace be on all here."  
Alleluia!

3. When Thomas first the tidings heard,  
how they had seen the risen Lord,  
he doubted the disciples' word.  
Alleluia!

4. "My pierced side, O Thomas, see;  
my hands, my feet, I show to thee;  
not faithless, but believing be."  
Alleluia!

5. No longer Thomas then denied,  
he saw the feet, the hands, the side;  
"Thou art my Lord and God," he cried.  
Alleluia!

6. How blest are they who have not seen,  
and yet whose faith has constant been;  
for they eternal life shall win.  
Alleluia!

Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

## **The Gospel: John 20:19-31**

*Then, all standing, the Deacon or a Priest reads the Gospel, first saying*

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

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

When it was evening on that day, the first day of the week, and the doors of the house where the disciples had met were locked for fear of the Jews, Jesus came and stood among them and said, "Peace be with you." After he said this, he showed them his hands and his side. Then the disciples rejoiced when they saw the Lord. Jesus said to them again, "Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, so I send you." When he had said this, he breathed on them and said to them, "Receive the Holy Spirit. If you forgive the sins of any, they are forgiven them; if you retain the sins of any, they are retained."

But Thomas (who was called the Twin), one of the twelve, was not with them when Jesus came. So the other disciples told him, "We have seen the Lord." But he said to them, "Unless I see the mark of the nails in his hands, and put my finger in the mark of the nails and my hand in his side, I will not believe."

A week later his disciples were again in the house, and Thomas was with them. Although the doors were shut, Jesus came and stood among them and said, "Peace be with you." Then he said to Thomas, "Put your finger here and see my hands. Reach out your hand and put it in my side. Do not doubt but believe." Thomas answered him, "My Lord and my God!" Jesus said to him, "Have you believed because you have seen me? Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have come to believe."

Now Jesus did many other signs in the presence of his disciples, which are not written in this book. But these are written so that you may come to believe that Jesus is the Messiah, the Son of God, and that through believing you may have life in his name.

The Gospel of the Lord.

**People: Praise to you, Lord Christ.**

**The Sermon: The Rev. Amy Spagna**

**The Nicene Creed (BCP, page 358)**

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.

### **The Prayers of the People, Form VI (BCP, page 392)**

*The Leader and People pray responsively*

In peace, we pray to you, Lord God.

*Silence*

For all people in their daily life and work;  
***For our families, friends, and neighbors, and for those who are alone.***

For this community, the nation, and the world;  
***For all who work for justice, freedom, and peace.***

For the just and proper use of your creation;  
***For the victims of hunger, fear, injustice, and oppression.***

For all who are in danger, sorrow, or any kind of trouble;  
***For those who minister to the sick, the friendless, and the needy.***

For the peace and unity of the Church of God;  
***For all who proclaim the Gospel, and all who seek the Truth.***

For Sean, our Presiding Bishop; and Shannon, our own bishop; and for all bishops and other ministers;

***For all who serve God in God's Church.***

For the special needs and concerns of this congregation.

*Silence*

*The People may add their own petitions*

Hear us, Lord;  
*For your mercy is great.*

We thank you, Lord, for all the blessings of this life.

*Silence*

*The People may add their own thanksgivings*

We will exalt you, O God our King;  
***And praise your Name for ever and ever.***

We pray for all who have died, that they may have a place in your eternal kingdom.

*Silence*

*The People may add their own petitions*

Lord, let your loving-kindness be upon them;  
***Who put their trust in you.***

We pray to you also for the forgiveness of our sins.

*Silence may be kept.*

*Leader and People*

**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 honor and glory of your Name;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

*The Celebrant concludes with an absolution or a suitable Collect.*

### **The Peace**

*All stand. The Celebrant says to the people*

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

### **The Holy Communion**

#### **Offertory Hymn 492 Sing, Ye Faithful, Sing with Gladness (*Finnian*)**

1. Sing, ye faithful, sing with gladness,  
wake your noblest, sweetest strain,  
with the praises of your Savior  
let his house resound again;  
him let all your music honor,  
and your songs exalt his reign.

2. Sing how he come forth from heaven,  
bowed himself to Bethlehem's cave,  
stooped to wear the servant's vesture,  
bore the pain, the cross, the grave,  
passed within the gates of darkness,  
thence his banished ones to save.

3. So, he tasted death for mortals,  
he, of humankind the head,  
sinless one, among the sinful,  
Prince of life, among the dead;  
thus he wrought the full redemption,  
and the captor captive led.

4. Now on high, yet ever with us,  
from his Father's throne the Son  
rules and guides the world he ransomed,  
till the appointed work be done,  
till he see, renewed and perfect,  
all things gathered into one.

#### **The Doxology: Hymn 380, vs. 3 (*Old 100<sup>th</sup>*)**

Praise God from whom all blessings flow; Praise him, all creatures here below;  
praise him above, ye heavenly host: praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.



*The People remain standing. The Celebrant sings or says*

**Celebrant:** The Lord be with you.

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

**Celebrant:** Lift up your hearts.

**People:** **We lift them to the Lord.**

**Celebrant:** Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**People:** **It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

*Facing the Holy Table, the Celebrant 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.

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:

**Sanctus (S128, *The Hymnal 1982*)**

**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.**

*The People stand or kneel. The Celebrant continues*

We give thanks to you, O God, for the goodness and love which you have made known to us in creation; in the calling of Israel to be your people; in your Word spoken through the prophets; and above all in the Word made flesh, Jesus, your Son. For in these last days you sent him to be incarnate from the Virgin Mary, to be the Savior and Redeemer of the world. In him, you have delivered us from evil, and made us worthy to stand before you. In him, you have brought us out of error into truth, out of sin into righteousness, out of death into life.

On the night before he died for us, 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, according to his command, O Father,

### *Celebrant and People*

**We remember his death,  
We proclaim his resurrection,  
We await his coming in glory;**

### *The Celebrant continues*

And we offer our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving to you, O Lord of all; presenting to you, from your creation, this bread and this wine.

We pray you, gracious God, to send your Holy Spirit upon these gifts that they may be the Sacrament of the Body of Christ and his Blood of the new Covenant. Unite us to your Son in his sacrifice, that we may be acceptable through him, being sanctified by the Holy Spirit. In the fullness of time, put all things in subjection under your Christ, and bring us to that heavenly country where, with all your saints, we may enter the everlasting heritage of your sons and daughters; through Jesus Christ our Lord, the firstborn of all creation, the head of the Church, and the author of our salvation.

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 forever. **AMEN.**

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

### *People and Celebrant*

**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,  
forever and ever. Amen.**

### **The Breaking of the Bread**

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

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

### **Agnus Dei (S165, *The Hymnal* 1982)**

Jesus, Lamb of God: have mercy on us.

Jesus, bearer of our sins: have mercy on us.

Jesus, redeemer of the world: give us your peace.

### **The Invitation to Holy Communion**

*Facing the people, the Celebrant says the following Invitation*

The Gifts of God for the People of God.

*and may add*           Take them in remembrance that Christ died for you, and feed on him  
in your hearts by faith, with thanksgiving.

*Those unable to receive communion in person today are invited to say the following  
Prayer of Spiritual Communion.*

*In union, blessed Jesus, with the faithful gathered at every altar of your Church where  
your blessed Body and Blood are offered this day, and remembering particularly my own  
parish and those worshipping there, I long to offer you praise and thanksgiving, for  
creation and all the blessings of this life, for the redemption won for us by your life,  
death, and resurrection, for the means of grace and the hope of glory.*

*And particularly for the blessings given me.... I believe that you are truly present in the  
Holy Sacrament, and, since I cannot at this time receive communion, I pray you to come  
into my heart. I unite myself with you and embrace you with all my heart, my soul, and  
my mind. Let nothing separate me from you; let me serve you in this life until, by your  
grace, I come to your glorious kingdom and unending peace. Amen.*

*(SOURCE: <https://news.forwardmovement.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/03/Spiritual-Communion.pdf>)*

## Postcommunion Prayer (BCP, page 365)

*After Communion, the Celebrant says*

Let us pray.

*Celebrant and People*

**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 Bishop when present, or the Priest, may bless the people.*

## Hymn 199 Come, Ye Faithful, Raise the Strain (*St. Kevin*)

1. Come, ye faithful, raise the strain  
of triumphant gladness!  
God hath brought his Israel  
into joy from sadness:  
loosed from Pharaoh's bitter yoke  
Jacob's sons and daughters,  
led them with unmoistened foot  
through the Red Sea waters.

2. 'Tis the spring of souls today:  
Christ hath burst his prison,  
and from three days' sleep in death  
as a sun hath risen;  
all the winter of our sins,  
long and dark, is flying  
from his light, to whom we give  
laud and praise undying.

3. Now the queen of seasons, bright  
with the day of splendor,  
with the royal feast of feasts,  
comes its joy to render;  
comes to glad Jerusalem,  
who with true affection  
welcomes in unwearied strains  
Jesus' resurrection.

4. Neither might the gates of death,  
nor the tomb's dark portal,  
nor the watchers, nor the seal  
hold thee as a mortal:  
but today amidst thine own  
thou didst stand, bestowing  
that thy peace which evermore  
passeth human knowing.

*The Deacon, or the Celebrant, dismisses them with these words*

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord. Alleluia, alleluia!

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

Postlude:

Teresa Voorhees, piano