

Baptism and Holy Eucharist, Rite II
Easter Day – April 5, 2026
St. James Episcopal Church, Woodstock, Vermont
10:00 am

Prelude: *Piece heroique* - Cesar Franck

Hymn 207 Jesus Christ is Risen Today

Easter Hymn

1. Jesus Christ is risen today, Alleluia!
our triumphant holy day, Alleluia!
who did once upon the cross, Alleluia!
suffer to redeem our loss, Alleluia!

2. Hymns of praise then let us sing,
Alleluia!
unto Christ, our heavenly King, Alleluia!
who endured the cross and grave,
Alleluia!
sinners to redeem and save, Alleluia!

3. But the pains which he endured,
Alleluia!
our salvation have procured, Alleluia!
now above the sky he's King, Alleluia!
where the angels ever sing, Alleluia!

4. Sing we to our God above, Alleluia!
praise eternal as his love, Alleluia!
praise him, all ye heavenly host,
Alleluia!
Father, Son, and Holy Ghost, Alleluia!

Holy Baptism

BCP, page 299

The people standing, the Celebrant says

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

The Celebrant then continues

There is one Body and one Spirit;
People **There is one hope in God's call to us;**
Celebrant *One Lord, one Faith, one Baptism;*
People **One God and Father of all.**

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

Celebrant: The Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

Celebrant: Let us pray.

Almighty God, who through your only-begotten Son Jesus Christ overcame death and opened to us the gate of everlasting life: Grant that we, who celebrate with joy the day of the Lord's resurrection, may be raised from the death of sin by your life-giving Spirit; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. *Amen.*

The First Lesson: Jeremiah 31:1-6

At that time, says the LORD, I will be the God of all the families of Israel, and they shall be my people.

Thus says the LORD:

The people who survived the sword
found grace in the wilderness;
when Israel sought for rest,
the LORD appeared to him from far away.

I have loved you with an everlasting love;
therefore I have continued my faithfulness to you.

Again I will build you, and you shall be built,
O virgin Israel!

Again you shall take your tambourines,

and go forth in the dance of the merrymakers.
Again you shall plant vineyards
on the mountains of Samaria;
the planters shall plant,
and shall enjoy the fruit.
For there shall be a day when sentinels will call
in the hill country of Ephraim:
“Come, let us go up to Zion,
to the LORD our God.”

Psalm 118:1-2, 14-24

BCP, page 760

- 1 Give thanks to the LORD, for he is good; *
his mercy endures for ever.
- 2 Let Israel now proclaim, *
“His mercy endures for ever.”
- 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.

The Second Lesson: Acts 10:34-43

Peter began to speak to Cornelius and the other Gentiles: "I truly understand that God shows no partiality, but in every nation anyone who fears him and does what is right is acceptable to him. You know the message he sent to the people of Israel, preaching peace by Jesus Christ--he is Lord of all. That message spread throughout Judea, beginning in Galilee after the baptism that John announced: how God anointed Jesus of Nazareth with the Holy Spirit and with power; how he went about doing good and healing all who were oppressed by the devil, for God was with him. We are witnesses to all that he did both in Judea and in Jerusalem. They put him to death by hanging him on a tree; but God raised him on the third day and allowed him to appear, not to all the people but to us who were chosen by God as witnesses, and who ate and drank with him after he rose from the dead. He commanded us to preach to the people and to testify that he is the one ordained by God as judge of the living and the dead. All the prophets testify about him that everyone who believes in him receives forgiveness of sins through his name."

Hymn 208 Alleluia! The Strife Is O'er, the Battle Done

Victory

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

Alleluia!

1. The strife is o'er, the battle done,
the victory of life is won;
the song of triumph has begun.
Alleluia!

4. He closed the yawning gates of hell,
the bars from heaven's high portals fell;
let hymns of praise his triumphs tell!
Alleluia!

2. The powers of death have done their
worst,
but Christ their legions hath dispersed:
let shout of holy joy outburst.
Alleluia!

5. Lord! by the stripes which wounded
thee,
from death's dread sting thy servants
free,
that we may live and sing to thee.
Alleluia!

3. The three sad days are quickly sped,
he rises glorious from the dead:
all glory to our risen Head!

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

The Gospel: Matthew 28:1-10

All standing, the Deacon or a Priest reads the Gospel, first saying

The holy gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ, according to Matthew.

People: Glory to you, Lord Christ.

After the sabbath, as the first day of the week was dawning, Mary Magdalene and the other Mary went to see the tomb. And suddenly there was a great earthquake; for an angel of the Lord, descending from heaven, came and rolled back the stone and sat on it. His appearance was like lightning, and his clothing white as snow. For fear of him the guards shook and became like dead men. But the angel said to the women, "Do not be afraid; I know that you are looking for Jesus who was crucified. He is not here; for he has been raised, as he said. Come, see the place where he lay. Then go quickly and tell his disciples, 'He has been raised from the dead, and indeed he is going ahead of you to Galilee; there you will see him.' This is my message for you." So they left the tomb quickly with fear and great joy, and ran to tell his disciples. Suddenly Jesus met them and said, "Greetings!" And they came to him, took hold of his feet, and worshiped him. Then Jesus said to them, "Do not be afraid; go and tell my brothers to go to Galilee; there they will see me."

The Gospel of the Lord.

People: Praise to you, Lord Christ.

The Sermon: The Rev. Amy Spagna

Presentation and Examination of the Candidates

BCP, page 301

The People remain seated.

The Celebrant says

The Candidate(s) for Holy Baptism will now be presented.

Parents and Godparents

I present *N.* to receive the Sacrament of Baptism.

When all have been presented the Celebrant asks the parents and godparents

Will you be responsible for seeing that the child you present is brought up in the Christian faith and life?

Parents and Godparents

I will, with God's help.

Celebrant

Will you by your prayers and witness help this child to grow into the full stature of Christ?

Parents and Godparents

I will, with God's help.

Then the Celebrant asks the following questions of the candidates who can speak for themselves, and of the parents and godparents who speak on behalf of the infants and younger children

Question Do you renounce Satan and all the spiritual forces of wickedness that rebel against God?

Answer I renounce them.

Question Do you renounce the evil powers of this world which corrupt and destroy the creatures of God?

Answer I renounce them.

Question Do you renounce all sinful desires that draw you from the love of God?

Answer I renounce them.

Question Do you turn to Jesus Christ and accept him as your Savior?

Answer I do.

Question Do you put your whole trust in his grace and love?

Answer I do.

Question Do you promise to follow and obey him as your Lord?

Answer I do.

After all have been presented, the Celebrant 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 Celebrant 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

BCP, page 304

Celebrant Do you believe in God the Father?

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

Celebrant 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.

Celebrant 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.**

Celebrant 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.**

Celebrant 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.**

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

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

Celebrant Will you seek and serve Christ in all persons, loving your neighbor as yourself?

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

Celebrant 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

BCP, page 305

The Celebrant then says to the congregation

Let us now pray for *these persons* who *are* to receive the Sacrament of new birth.

A Person appointed leads the following petitions

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.**

The Celebrant says

Grant, O Lord, that all who are baptized into the death of Jesus Christ your Son may live in the power of his resurrection and look for him to come again in glory; who lives and reigns now and for ever. *Amen.*

Thanksgiving over the Water

BCP, page 306

The Celebrant blesses the water, first saying

The Lord be with you.

People **And also with you.**
Celebrant Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
People **It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

Celebrant

We thank you, Almighty God, for the gift of water.

Over it the Holy Spirit moved in the beginning of creation. Through it you led the children of Israel out of their bondage in Egypt into the land of promise. In it your Son Jesus received the baptism of John and was anointed by the Holy Spirit as the Messiah, the Christ, to lead us, through his death and resurrection, from the bondage of sin into everlasting life.

We thank you, Father, for the water of Baptism. In it we are buried with Christ in his death. By it we share in his resurrection. Through it we are reborn by the Holy Spirit. Therefore in joyful obedience to your Son, we bring into his fellowship those who come to him in faith, baptizing them in the Name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

At the following words, the Celebrant touches the water

Now sanctify this water, we pray you, by the power of your Holy Spirit, that those who here are cleansed from sin and born again may continue for ever in the risen life of Jesus Christ our Savior.

To him, to you, and to the Holy Spirit, be all honor and glory, now and for ever. **Amen.**

The Baptism

BCP, page 307

Each candidate is presented by name to the Celebrant, or to an assisting priest or deacon, who then immerses, or pours water upon, the candidate, saying

N., I baptize you in the Name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

When this action has been completed for all candidates, the Bishop or Priest, at a place in full sight of the congregation, prays over them, saying

Let us pray.

Heavenly Father, we thank you that by water and the Holy Spirit you have bestowed upon *these* your servants the forgiveness of sin, and have raised *them* to the new life of

grace. Sustain *them*, O Lord, in your Holy Spirit. Give *them* an inquiring and discerning heart, the courage to will and to persevere, a spirit to know and to love you, and the gift of joy and wonder in all your works. *Amen.*

Then the Bishop or Priest places a hand on the person's head, marking on the forehead the sign of the cross [using Chrism if desired] and saying to each one

N., you are sealed by the Holy Spirit in Baptism and marked as Christ's own for ever.
Amen.

Or this action may be done immediately after the administration of the water and before the preceding prayer.

When all have been baptized, the Celebrant says

Let us welcome the newly baptized.

Celebrant and People

We receive you into the household of God. Confess the faith of Christ crucified, proclaim his resurrection, and share with us in his eternal priesthood.

The Peace

All stand. The Celebrant says to the people

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

Then the Ministers and People may greet one another in the name of the Lord.

The Holy Eucharist

Offertory Anthem: *Ye Choirs of New Jerusalem* - Charles Villiers Stanford

The Doxology: Hymn 380, vs. 3 (Old 100th)

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 Great Thanksgiving: Eucharistic Prayer D (BCP, page 372)

The people remain standing. The Celebrant, whether bishop or priest, faces them and sings or says

People	The Lord be with you.
Celebrant	And also with you.
People	Lift up your hearts.
Celebrant	We lift them to the Lord.
People	Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
People	It is right to give our thanks and praise.

Then, facing the Holy Table, the Celebrant proceeds

It is truly right to glorify you, Father, and to give you thanks; for you alone are God, living and true, dwelling in light inaccessible from before time and for ever.

Fountain of life and source of all goodness, you made all things and fill them with your blessing; you created them to rejoice in the splendor of your radiance. Countless throngs of angels stand before you to serve you night and day; and, beholding the glory of your presence, they offer you unceasing praise. Joining with them, and giving voice to every creature under heaven, we acclaim you, and glorify your Name, as we sing,

Celebrant and People (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.

Then the Celebrant continues

We acclaim you, holy Lord, glorious in power. Your mighty works reveal your wisdom and love. You formed us in your own image, giving the whole world into our care, so that, in obedience to you, our Creator, we might rule and serve all your creatures. When our disobedience took us far from you, you did not abandon us to the power of death. In your mercy you came to our help, so that in seeking you we might find you. Again and again you called us into covenant with you, and through the prophets you taught us to hope for salvation.

Father, you loved the world so much that in the fullness of time you sent your only Son to be our Savior. Incarnate by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, he lived as one of us, yet without sin. To the poor he proclaimed the good news of salvation; to prisoners, freedom; to the sorrowful, joy. To fulfill your purpose he gave himself up to death; and, rising from the grave, destroyed death, and made the whole creation new.

And, that we might live no longer for ourselves, but for him who died and rose for us, he sent the Holy Spirit, his own first gift for those who believe, to complete his work in the world, and to bring to fulfillment the sanctification of all.

At the following words concerning the bread, the Celebrant is to hold it, or lay a hand upon it; and at the words concerning the cup, to hold or place a hand upon the cup and any other vessel containing wine to be consecrated.

When the hour had come for him to be glorified by you, his heavenly Father, having loved his own who were in the world, he loved them to the end; at supper with them he 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."

Father, we now celebrate this memorial of our redemption. Recalling Christ's death and his descent among the dead, proclaiming his resurrection and ascension to your right hand, awaiting his coming in glory; and offering to you, from the gifts you have given us, this bread and this cup, we praise you and we bless you.

Celebrant and People

**We praise you, we bless you,
we give thanks to you,
and we pray to you, Lord our God.**

The Celebrant continues

Lord, we pray that in your goodness and mercy your Holy Spirit may descend upon us, and upon these gifts, sanctifying them and showing them to be holy gifts for your holy people, the bread of life and the cup of salvation, the Body and Blood of your Son Jesus Christ.

Grant that all who share this bread and cup may become one body and one spirit, a living sacrifice in Christ, to the praise of your Name.

Remember, Lord, your one holy catholic and apostolic Church, redeemed by the blood of your Christ. Reveal its unity, guard its faith, and preserve it in peace.

And grant that we may find our inheritance with [the Blessed Virgin Mary, with patriarchs, prophets, apostles, and martyrs, (with _____) and] all the saints who have found favor with you in ages past. We praise you in union with them and give you glory through your Son Jesus Christ our Lord.

Through Christ, and with Christ, and in Christ, all honor and glory are yours, Almighty God and Father, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, for ever and ever. *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,
for ever and ever. Amen.**

The Breaking of the Bread

BCP, page 364

The Celebrant breaks the consecrated Bread.

*A period of silence is kept.
Then may be sung or said*

Alleluia: Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us;
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.

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.*

Communion Anthem: *As One Who Has Slept* - John Tavener

Postcommunion Prayer

BCP, page 365

Celebrant and People

**Eternal God, heavenly Father,
you have graciously accepted us as living members
of our 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 Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

The Easter Blessing

May Almighty God, who has redeemed us and made us his children through the resurrection of his Son our Lord, bestow upon you the riches of his blessing. *Amen.*

May God, who through the water of baptism has raised us from sin into newness of life, make you holy and worthy to be united with Christ for ever. *Amen.*

May God, who has brought us out of bondage to sin into true and lasting freedom in the Redeemer, bring you to your eternal inheritance. *Amen.*

And the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be upon you and remain with you for ever. *Amen.*

Hymn 210 The Day of Resurrection

Ellacombe

1. The day of resurrection!
Earth, tell it out abroad;
the Passover of gladness,
the Passover of God.
From death to life eternal,
from earth unto the sky,
our Christ hath brought us over,
with hymns of victory.

2. Our hearts be pure from evil,
that we may see aright
the Lord in rays eternal
of resurrection light;

and, listening to his accents,
may hear so calm and plain
his own "All hail!" and, hearing,
may raise the victor strain.

3. Now let the heavens be joyful,
let earth her song begin,
the round world keep high triumph,
and all that is therein;
let all things seen and unseen
their notes in gladness blend,
for Christ the Lord hath risen,
our joy that hath no end.

Dismissal

BCP, page 366

Celebrant: Let us go forth into the world, rejoicing in the power of the Spirit. Alleluia, alleluia!

People: Thanks be to God. Alleluia, alleluia!

Postlude: "*Toccata*" from *Symphony No. 5* - Charles-Marie Widor

Dr. James E. Lorenz, Director of Music