

**The Holy Eucharist: Rite II**  
**June 28, 2026 – The Fifth Sunday after Pentecost**  
**10:00 am**  
**St. James Episcopal Church, Woodstock, Vermont**

**Prelude**

Dr. James E. Lorenz, Director of Music

**Hymn 401 The God of Abraham Praise (Leoni)**

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|--|--|
| 1. The God of Abraham praise,<br>who reigns enthroned above;<br>Ancient of everlasting days,<br>and God of love;<br>the Lord, the great I AM,<br>by earth and heaven confessed:<br>we bow and bless the sacred Name<br>for ever blest. | on Zion's sacred height<br>his kingdom he maintains,<br>and, glorious with his saints in light,<br>for ever reigns.  |
| 2. He by himself hath sworn:<br>we on his oath depend;<br>we shall, on eagles-wings upborne,<br>to heaven ascend:<br>we shall behold his face,<br>we shall his power adore,<br>and sing the wonders of his grace<br>for evermore.      | 4. The God who reigns on high<br>the great archangels sing,<br>and "Holy, holy, holy," cry,<br>"Almighty King!<br>Who was, and is, the same,<br>and evermore shall be:<br>eternal Father, great I AM,<br>we worship thee."                         |
| 3. There dwells the Lord, our King,<br>the Lord, our Righteousness,<br>triumphant o'er the world and sin,<br>the Prince of Peace;  | 5. The whole triumphant host<br>give thanks to God on high;<br>"Hail, Father, Son, and Holy Ghost"<br>they ever cry;<br>hail, Abraham's Lord divine!<br>With heaven our songs we raise;<br>all might and majesty are thine,<br>and endless praise. |

**The Liturgy of the Word**

*The people standing, the Celebrant says*

*People* Blessed be God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit;  
**And blessed be God's kingdom, now and for ever. Amen.**

*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 (S280, 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*

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

Almighty God, you have built your Church upon the foundation of the apostles and prophets, Jesus Christ himself being the chief cornerstone: Grant us so to be joined together in unity of spirit by their teaching, that we may be made a holy temple acceptable to you; 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: Genesis 22:1-14**

God tested Abraham. He said to him, "Abraham!" And he said, "Here I am." He said, "Take your son, your only son Isaac, whom you love, and go to the land of Moriah, and offer him there as a burnt offering on one of the mountains that I shall show you." So Abraham rose early in the morning, saddled his donkey, and took two of his young men with him, and his son Isaac; he cut the wood for the burnt offering, and set out and went to the place in the distance that God had shown him. On the third day Abraham looked up and saw the place far away. Then Abraham said to his young men, "Stay here with the donkey; the boy and I will go over there; we will worship, and then we will come back to you." Abraham took the wood of the burnt offering and laid it on his son Isaac, and he himself carried the fire and the knife. So the two of them walked on together. Isaac said to his father Abraham, "Father!" And he said, "Here I am, my son." He said, "The fire and the wood are here, but where is the lamb for a burnt offering?" Abraham said, "God himself will provide the lamb for a burnt offering, my son." So the two of them walked on together.

When they came to the place that God had shown him, Abraham built an altar there and laid the wood in order. He bound his son Isaac, and laid him on the altar, on top of the wood. Then Abraham reached out his hand and took the knife to kill his son. But the angel of the LORD called to him from heaven, and said, "Abraham, Abraham!" And he said, "Here I am." He said, "Do not lay your hand on the boy or do anything to him; for now I know that you fear God, since you have not withheld your son, your only son, from me." And Abraham looked up and saw a ram, caught in a thicket by its horns. Abraham went and took the ram and offered it up as a burnt offering instead of his son. So Abraham called that place "The LORD will provide"; as it is said to this day, "On the mount of the LORD it shall be provided."

**Psalm 13 (BCP, page 597)**

- 1 How long, O LORD?  
will you forget me for ever? \*  
how long will you hide your face from me?
- 2 How long shall I have perplexity in my mind,  
and grief in my heart, day after day? \*  
how long shall my enemy triumph over me?
- 3 Look upon me and answer me, O LORD my God; \*  
give light to my eyes, lest I sleep in death;

- 4 Lest my enemy say, "I have prevailed over him," \*  
and my foes rejoice that I have fallen.
- 5 But I put my trust in your mercy; \*  
my heart is joyful because of your saving help.
- 6 I will sing to the LORD, for he has dealt with me richly; \*  
I will praise the Name of the Lord Most High.

### **Second Lesson: Romans 6:12-23**

Do not let sin exercise dominion in your mortal bodies, to make you obey their passions. No longer present your members to sin as instruments of wickedness, but present yourselves to God as those who have been brought from death to life, and present your members to God as instruments of righteousness. For sin will have no dominion over you, since you are not under law but under grace.

What then? Should we sin because we are not under law but under grace? By no means! Do you not know that if you present yourselves to anyone as obedient slaves, you are slaves of the one whom you obey, either of sin, which leads to death, or of obedience, which leads to righteousness? But thanks be to God that you, having once been slaves of sin, have become obedient from the heart to the form of teaching to which you were entrusted, and that you, having been set free from sin, have become slaves of righteousness. I am speaking in human terms because of your natural limitations. For just as you once presented your members as slaves to impurity and to greater and greater iniquity, so now present your members as slaves to righteousness for sanctification. When you were slaves of sin, you were free in regard to righteousness. So what advantage did you then get from the things of which you now are ashamed? The end of those things is death. But now that you have been freed from sin and enslaved to God, the advantage you get is sanctification. The end is eternal life. For the wages of sin is death, but the free gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord.

### **Sequence Hymn 609 Where Cross the Crowded Ways of Life (Gardiner)**

1. Where cross the crowded ways of life,  
where sound the cries of race and clan,  
above the noise of selfish strife,  
we hear thy voice, O Son of Man.

2. In haunts of wretchedness and need,  
on shadowed thresholds dark with fears,  
from paths where hide the lures of greed,  
we catch the vision of thy tears.

3. The cup of water given for thee  
still holds the freshness of thy grace;  
yet long these multitudes to see  
the true compassion of thy face.

4. O Master, from the mountain side,  
make haste to heal these hearts of pain;  
among these restless throngs abide,  
O tread the city's streets again;

5. till all the world shall learn thy love,  
and follow where thy feet have trod;  
till glorious from thy heaven above,  
shall come the city of our God.

**The Gospel: Matthew 10:40-42**

*Then, 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.**

Jesus said, "Whoever welcomes you welcomes me, and whoever welcomes me welcomes the one who sent me. Whoever welcomes a prophet in the name of a prophet will receive a prophet's reward; and whoever welcomes a righteous person in the name of a righteous person will receive the reward of the righteous; and whoever gives even a cup of cold water to one of these little ones in the name of a disciple-- truly I tell you, none of these will lose their reward

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 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 318 Here, O My Lord (Nyack)**

1. Here, O my Lord, I see thee face to face;  
here would I touch and handle things unseen;  
here grasp with firmer hand eternal grace,  
and all my weariness upon thee lean.

2. Here would I feed upon the Bread of God;  
here drink with thee the royal Wine of heaven;  
here would I lay aside each earthly load,  
here taste afresh the calm of sin forgiven.

3. I have no help but thine; nor do I need  
another arm save thine to lean upon;  
it is enough, my Lord, enough indeed;  
my strength is in thy might, thy might alone.

4. Mine is the sin, but thine the righteousness;  
mine is the guilt, but thine the cleansing Blood.  
Here is my robe, my refuge, and my peace;  
thy Blood, thy righteousness, O Lord, my God!

#### **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 Great Thanksgiving: Eucharistic Prayer C (BCP, page 369)**

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

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

*Then, facing the Holy Table, the Celebrant proceeds*

God of all power, Ruler of the Universe, you are worthy of glory and praise.  
***Glory to you for ever and ever.***

At your command all things came to be: the vast expanse of interstellar space, galaxies, suns, the planets in their courses, and this fragile earth, our island home.  
***By your will they were created and have their being.***

From the primal elements you brought forth the human race, and blessed us with memory, reason, and skill. You made us the rulers of creation. But we turned against you, and betrayed your trust; and we turned against one another.  
***Have mercy, Lord, for we are sinners in your sight***

Again and again, you called us to return. Through prophets and sages you revealed your righteous Law. And in the fullness of time you sent your only Son, born of a woman, to fulfill your Law, to open for us the way of freedom and peace.  
***By his blood, he reconciled us.***  
***By his wounds, we are healed.***

And therefore we praise you, joining with the heavenly chorus, with prophets, apostles, and martyrs, and with all those in every generation who have looked to you in hope, to proclaim with them your glory, in their unending hymn:

***Celebrant and People (S129, 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 Celebrant continues*

And so, Father, we who have been redeemed by him, and made a new people by water and the Spirit, now bring before you these gifts. Sanctify them by your Holy Spirit to be the Body and Blood of Jesus Christ our Lord.

*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.*

On the night he was betrayed he took bread, said the blessing, broke the bread, and gave it to his friends, 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, gave thanks, 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."

Remembering now his work of redemption, and offering to you this sacrifice of thanksgiving,

***We celebrate his death and resurrection,  
as we await the day of his coming.***

Lord God of our Fathers; God of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob; God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ: Open our eyes to see your hand at work in the world about us. Deliver us from the presumption of coming to this Table for solace only, and not for strength; for pardon only, and not for renewal. Let the grace of this Holy Communion make us one body, one spirit in Christ, that we may worthily serve the world in his name.

***Risen Lord, be known to us in the breaking of the Bread.***

Accept these prayers and praises, Father, through Jesus Christ our great High Priest, to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit, your Church gives honor, glory, and worship, from generation to generation. **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**

*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.]***

### **Fraction Anthem: *Agnus Dei* (S163, *The Hymnal 1982*)**

Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world: have mercy on us.  
Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world: have mercy on us.  
Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world: grant us 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 worshiping 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>  
f)*

### **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 565 He Who Would Valiant Be 'gainst All Disaster (Monk's Gate)**

1. He who would valiant be 'gainst all disaster,  
let him in constancy follow the Master.  
There's no discouragement shall make him once relent  
his first avowed intent to be a pilgrim.

2. Who so beset him round with dismal stories  
do but themselves confound, his strength the more is.  
No foes shall stay his might, though he with giants fight;  
he will make good his right to be a pilgrim.

3. Since, Lord, thou dost defend us with thy Spirit,  
we know we at the end shall life inherit.  
Then fancies flee away; I'll fear not what men say,  
I'll labor night and day to be a pilgrim.

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

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

**People    Thanks be to God.**

Postlude

Dr. James E. Lorenz, Director of Music