

St. James' Episcopal Church

April 28, 2024

5 pm

The Fifth Sunday of Easter

Wherever you are on your journey of faith, you are welcome at this table.

The Gathering of the Community

PresiderAlleluia! Christ is risen from the dead.PeopleAlleluia! Love is come again!

Baptized in the water



Presider	Let us give thanks for the coming of God's reign of justice and love.
People	Jesus Christ is good news for the poor, release for the captives, recovery of
	sight for the blind and liberty for those who are oppressed.
Presider	Let us praise God.

Gloria











The Collect of the Day

PresiderMay God be with you.PeopleAnd also with you.PresiderLet us pray.Risen Christ, your wounds declare your love for the world and the wonder of your
risen life: give us compassion and courage to risk ourselves for those we serve,
to the glory of God the Father. Amen.

Please be seated for the readings.

The First Reading

Lector

A reading from the Book of Acts.

An angel of the Lord said to Philip, "Get up and go toward the south to the road that goes down from Jerusalem to Gaza." (This is a wilderness road.) So he got up and went. Now there was an Ethiopian eunuch, a court official of the Candace, queen of the Ethiopians, in charge of her entire treasury. He had come to Jerusalem to worship and was returning home; seated in his chariot, he was reading the prophet Isaiah. Then the Spirit said to Philip, "Go over to this chariot and join it." So Philip ran up to it and heard him reading the prophet Isaiah. He asked, "Do you understand what you are reading?" He replied, "How can I, unless someone guides me?" And he invited Philip to get in and sit beside him. Now the passage of the scripture that he was reading was this:

"Like a sheep he was led to the slaughter, and like a lamb silent before its shearer, so he does not open his mouth.

In his humiliation justice was denied him. Who can describe his generation? For his life is taken away from the earth."

The eunuch asked Philip, "About whom, may I ask you, does the prophet say this, about himself or about someone else?" Then Philip began to speak, and starting with this scripture, he proclaimed to him the good news about Jesus. As they were going along the road, they came to some water; and the eunuch said, "Look, here is water! What is to prevent me from being baptized?" He commanded the chariot to stop, and both of them, Philip and the eunuch, went down into the water, and Philip baptized him. When they came up out of the water, the Spirit of the Lord snatched Philip away; the eunuch saw him no more, and went on his way rejoicing. But Philip found himself at Azotus, and as he was passing through the region, he proclaimed the good news to all the towns until he came to Caesarea.

Lector Hear what the Spirit is saying to the Church.

People Thanks be to God.

Acts 8:26-40

Psalm

My praise is of him in the great assembly; I will perform my vows in the presence of those who worship him.

The poor shall eat and be satisfied, and those who seek the Lord shall praise him:

"May your heart live for ever!" All the ends of the earth shall remember and turn to the Lord, and all the families of the nations shall bow before him.

For kingship belongs to the Lord; he rules over the nations.

To him alone all who sleep in the earth bow down in worship; all who go down to the dust fall before him.

My soul shall live for him; my descendants shall serve him; they shall be known as the Lord's for ever.

They shall come and make known to a people yet unborn the saving deeds that he has done.

The Second Reading

1 John 4:7-21

Lector A reading from the First Letter of John.

Beloved, let us love one another, because love is from God; everyone who loves is born of God and knows God. Whoever does not love does not know God, for God is love. God's love was revealed among us in this way: God sent his only Son into the world so that we might live through him. In this is love, not that we loved God but that he loved us and sent his Son to be the atoning sacrifice for our sins. Beloved, since God loved us so much, we also ought to love one another. No one has ever seen God; if we love one another, God lives in us, and his love is perfected in us. By this we know that we abide in him and he in us, because he has given us of his Spirit. And we have seen and do testify that the Father has sent his Son as the Savior of the world. God abides in those who confess that Jesus is the Son of God, and they abide in God. So we have known and believe the love that God has for us.

God is love, and those who abide in love abide in God, and God abides in them. Love has been perfected among us in this: that we may have boldness on the day of judgment, because as he is, so are we in this world. There is no fear in love, but perfect love casts out fear; for fear has to do with punishment, and whoever fears has not reached perfection in love. We love because he first loved us. Those who say, "I love God," and hate their brothers or sisters, are liars; for those who do not love a brother or sister whom they have seen, cannot love God whom they have not seen. The commandment we have from him is this: those who love God must love their brothers and sisters also.

LectorHear what the Spirit is saying to the Church.PeopleThanks be to God.

Seek ye first

H711



The Gospel

John 15:1-8

Celebrant

People

Praise and Glory to God.

Jesus said to his disciples, "I am the true vine, and my Father is the vinegrower. He removes every branch in me that bears no fruit. Every branch that bears fruit he prunes to make it bear more fruit. You have already been cleansed by the word that I have spoken to you. Abide in me as I abide in you. Just as the branch cannot bear

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

fruit by itself unless it abides in the vine, neither can you unless you abide in me. I am the vine, you are the branches. Those who abide in me and I in them bear much fruit, because apart from me you can do nothing. Whoever does not abide in me is thrown away like a branch and withers; such branches are gathered, thrown into the fire, and burned. If you abide in me, and my words abide in you, ask for whatever you wish, and it will be done for you. My Father is glorified by this, that you bear much fruit and become my disciples."

CelebrantThe Gospel of the Lord.PeoplePraise to Christ the Word.

The Sermon

Teri Calinao, Seminarian

Please stand as you are able.

An Affirmation of Faith

People You, O God, are supreme and holy. You create our world and give us life. Your purpose overarches everything we do. You have always been with us. You are God.

> You, O God, are infinitely generous, good beyond all measure. You came to us before we came to you. You have revealed and proved your love for us in Jesus Christ, who lived and died and rose again. You are with us now. You are God.

You, O God, are Holy Spirit. You empower us to be your gospel in the world. You reconcile and heal; you overcome death. You are our God. We worship you.

The Prayers of the People

Intercessor	We pray to Jesus who is present with us, now and always.
	Jesus, light of the world, bring the light and peace of your gospel to the nations.
	Jesus, Lord of life,
People	in your mercy, hear us.
Intercessor	Jesus, bread of life, give food to the hungry and nourish us all with your word.

People	Jesus, Lord of life, in your mercy, hear us.		
Intercessor	Jesus, our way, our truth, our life, be with us and all who follow you in the way. Deepen our appreciation of your truth and fill us with your life. We give you thanks for the blessings of this life. (Pause to hear the thanksgivings of the community.) We confess those things done and left undone that draw us from you and wound your beloved community. (Silence) Jesus, Lord of life,		
People	in your mercy, hear us.		
Intercessor	Jesus, the Good Shepherd who gave your life for the sheep, recover the straggler, bind up the injured, strengthen the sick, and lead all to new pastures. We pray for those in sickness and struggle. For whom shall we pray? <i>(Pause to hear the prayers of the community.)</i> Jesus, Lord of life,		
People	in your mercy, hear us.		
Intercessor	Jesus, the resurrection and the life, we give you thanks for all who have lived trusting in your love and mercy. We pray for those who have died. <i>(Pause to hear the prayers of the community.)</i> Raise us with them to eternal life. Jesus, Lord of life,		
People	in your mercy, hear us, accept our prayers, and be with us always. Amen.		
The Peace			
Presider	Blessed be Christ the Prince of Peace.		
People	Who breaks down the walls that divide.		
Presider	The peace of God be always with you. Praise to Christ who unites us in peace.		
People <i>Please be mindf</i>	Please be mindful of each other's varied boundaries, while passing the peace.		

Announcements and Blessings

Birthday Prayer

People Watch over your children, O Lord, as their days increase; bless and guide them wherever they may be. Strengthen them when they stand; comfort them when discouraged or sorrowful; raise them up when they fall; and in their hearts may your peace which passes understanding abide all the days of their lives; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Anniversary Prayer

People Eternal God, creator and preserver of all life, author of salvation, and giver of all grace: Look with favor upon the world you have made, for which your Son gave his life, and surround this couple with your love. Grant that their wills may be so knit together in your will, and their spirits in your Spirit, that they may grow in love and peace with you and one another all the days of their lives, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Offertory

We offer our gifts to God: our lives, our abilities, our resources.



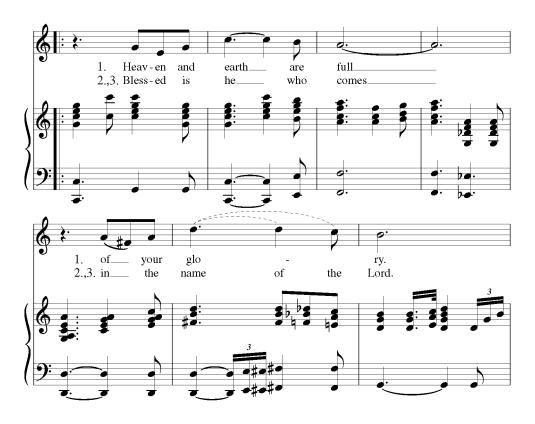
Instead of passing the plates during the offertory, we invite you to make an offering through Offering Box in the Narthex/lobby or by using the QR code

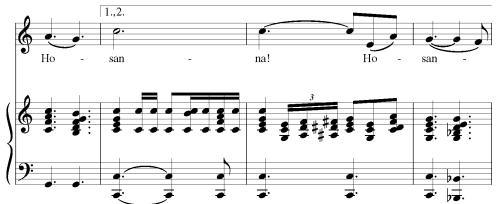
Please stand a	as you are able.
Holy Com	nunion
The Great 7	Thanksgiving
Presider	The Lord is here.
People	God's Spirit is with us.
Presider	Lift up your hearts.
People	We lift them to the Lord.
Presider	Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
People	It is right to offer thanks and praise.
Presider	In your Son you suffered with us and for us, offering us the healing riches of salvation and calling us to freedom and holiness.
	You raised him to life triumphant over death; you exalted him in glory. By his victory over death, the reign of sin is ended, a new age has dawned, a broken world

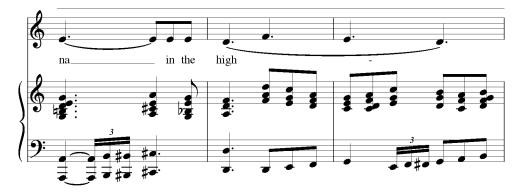
is restored and we are made whole once more.

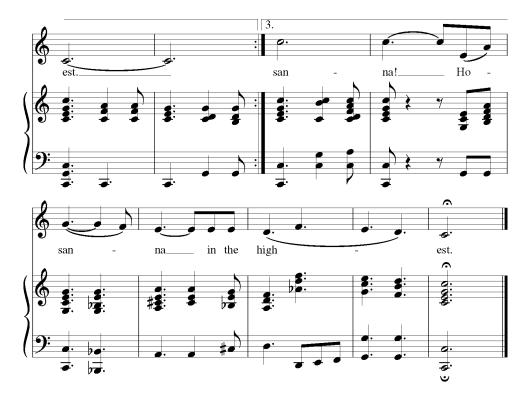
Sanctus











As you are able, please remain standing.

Presider

All glory and honor to you, God of grace, for you gave your only Son Jesus Christ once for all on the cross to be the one perfect sacrifice for the sin of the world, that all who believe in him might have eternal life.

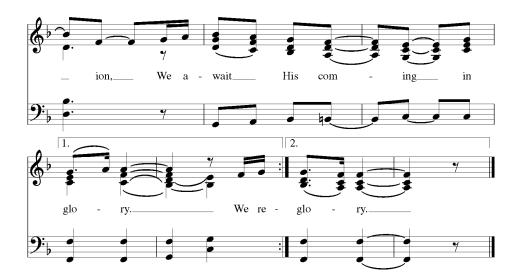
The night before he died he took bread, and when he had given you thanks, he broke it, gave it to his friends and said: Take, eat, this is my body which is given for you; do this to remember me.

After supper he took the cup, and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them and said: Drink this, all of you, for this is my blood of the new covenant which is shed for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins; do this as often as you drink it, to remember me.

Therefore heavenly Father, in this sacrament of suffering and death of your Son, we now celebrate the wonder of your grace and proclaim the mystery of our faith.

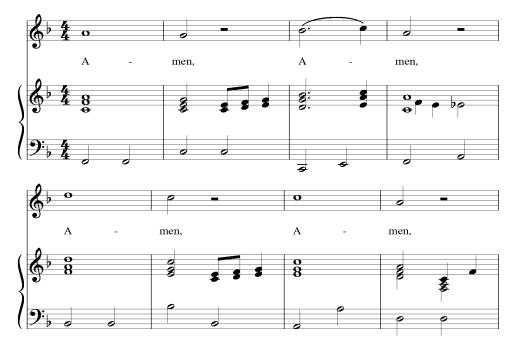
Memorial Acclamation



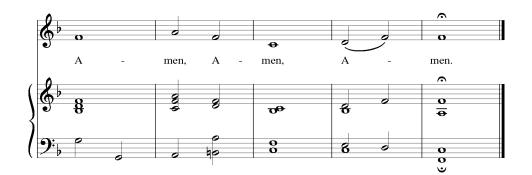


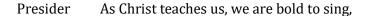
Presider Redeemer God, rich in mercy, infinite in goodness, we were far off until you brought us near and our hands are empty until you fill them. As we eat this bread and drink this wine, through the power of your Holy Spirit feed us with heavenly food, renew us in your service, unite us with Christ, and bring us to your everlasting kingdom. O the depths and the riches of your wisdom, O God: how unsearchable are your judgments and untraceable your ways.

People From you, and through you, and for you are all things. To you be the glory forever.



The Great Amen









The Breaking of the Bread





Presider Bread and wine; the gifts of God for the people of God.

People May we who share these gifts be found in Christ and Christ in us.

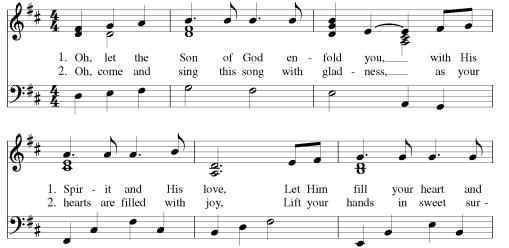
Presider Wherever you are on your journey of faith,

People You are welcome at this table.

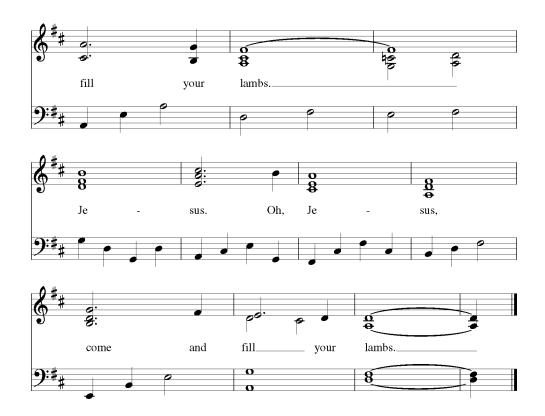
Please follow the guidance of the ushers to approach the altar to receive communion. Gluten free wafers are available.

Spirit Song









Please stand as you are able.

Prayer after Communion

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Presider	Blessed be God who calls us together.
People	Praise to God who makes us one people.
Presider	Blessed be God who has forgiven our sin.
People	Praise to God who gives hope and freedom.
Presider	Blessed be God whose Word is proclaimed.
People	Praise to God who is revealed as love.
Presider	Blessed be God who alone has called us.
People	Therefore we offer all that we are and all that we shall become.
Presider	Accept, O God, our sacrifice of praise.
People	Amen. Accept our thanks for all you have done. Our hands were empty, and
	you filled them.
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The Blessing

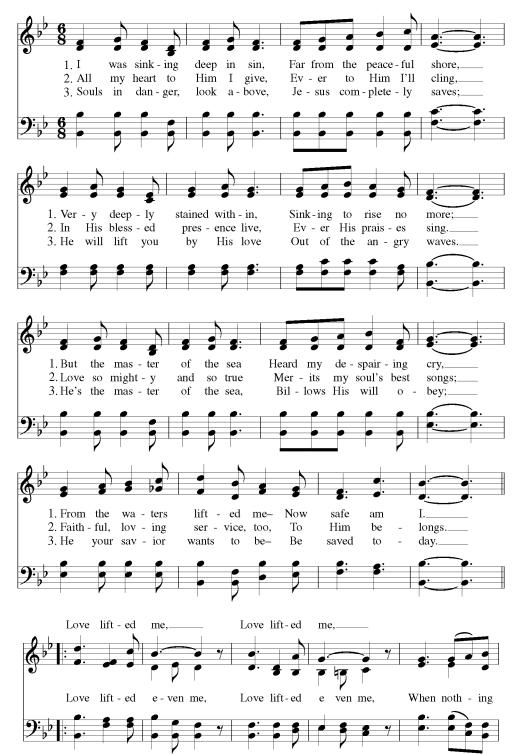
Celebrant God the Creator, by whose love Christ was raised from the dead, open to you who believe the gates of everlasting life. **Amen.**

God the Redeemer, who in bursting from the grave has won a glorious victory, give you joy as you share the Easter faith. **Amen.**

God the Giver of Life, who filled the disciples with the life of the risen Lord, empower you and fill you with Christ's peace. **Amen.**

And the blessing of God, Creator, Redeemer, and Giver of Life. be with you now and remain with you always. **Amen.**

Love lifted me





The Dismissal

CelebrantGo now to love and serve the Lord. Go in peace. Alleluia, Alleluia!PeopleAmen. We go in the name of Christ. Alleluia, Alleluia!

Prayer List

The Prayer List is prayed on a regular basis by our Monday night Intercessory Prayer Group. We invite you to incorporate praying the list into your own prayer practices. To add a name to the prayer list, email <u>prayerbox@stjamesaustin.org</u>. Prayer requests from the website will be auto-forwarded to the pastoral care ministry and the office.

We pray for (3 weeks list): The White family

We also pray for those with long-term needs: Jeremy Alexander, Johann and Susanna, Judy Jenkins, Nancy Gabin, Wiley Williams, Michael Hughes, Anget, Marcia Ellison, Susan Gunn, BJ Taylor, Russel Taulli, Pedro E., Robin Fuller, Kisa Niewenhuis, Frank Weir and his family, Candice Brown, Jacob Schumacher and his family, Shirley Gordon, Bowen W., Vanessa Williams, Jim Burgess, Cindy, Jason and Jalen Castillo, Niesha Jones, Truitt Ray, Jerry, Marty, Emma McPherson, Pat, Kamilah Myrie, Tom and Dee Esquivel, Sammie A. Eppright, David Batty, Samuel Carothers, Anna Pecorino, Philip and family, John White, Brigitte Rhedin, Dan Shaw, Kirk Richter, Raymond Coleman, Cecilia Harris, Lily Thomas, Sandra Gilkey, Leslie Rose, Sean Calloway, Miles Calloway, Carrie Eppright-Givens, Clayton Givens, Roland Brown, Joy Roswell, Gaye Evans, Rose Watley, Carolyn Caffrey, Joseph Naranjo, Margaret Ann Bledsoe, Brandy, Andrea, Vanessa, Lorenza, Mrs. Lakeyshia Brown, Pam Beachley, Stephanie Smith, Elizabeth Sherar Gammon and Steven Sherar, Rebecca Kary, Sherry Ward, Carrie Schumacher, William Collier, Adrian Spears, Mark Werner, Myrna, Evelyn Marie Taylor, Nellie White, Gail Jackson, James Gibson, Richard Ezell, Mary Glennie, Edith Conde and family, Jacob Blake, John Paul Guajardo, Richard White, Andre Watkins, Jana Murphy, Justin Howell and his family, Bruce Blackwell, Doug Lawrie, Tara Turner, Gertrude Fowler, Claudette Milne, Frankie Scott, Mark McCrary, Kési Anderson, Rev. James Palmore, Cleo B., Jason A., Reed B., Angelina, Mike C., Diane Hoffman, Brian M, Joyce, Ganelle, Noah, Thor, Troy, Allissa, Charlene Moore, Eugenia Hayes, Tim and Shalmah, Carol Daughtry, Rachel and Daniel, Rebekah, Diane Neill, Cecile, Mildred Grimble, Margie Lawson, Melvin Alfred, Natrice Harding, Anne Osbourne, Richelle Easley, Patricia Harding, Brandon Williams, Joey Ramirez, Marvin Sykes, Max and his mother, Paul Gill, Samuel Kraemer-Dahlin, Jacquelyn Ferrell Mccadden, Ursula Ferrell Jackson, Ronnie Yarmuck, Bertha Malone, Samah Al Adawi, Hazel Livingston, Arthur Shelton, Caren Bradshaw; and for all who

are incarcerated and for their families, and all the refugees throughout the world. God of hope, comfort and restore all who suffer in body, mind or spirit.

We pray for all who have died, including Dorothy Ruhl, and Ann Hardy, wife of John White. Notes of condolence may be sent to the White Family at 2600 Stratford Drive, Austin, Texas 78746.

Announcements

May 2, 6:30-7:30 pm: Join Restaurant Group! Our next meeting will be on May 2 at 6:30 pm at The Brewtorium near Lamar and Koenig. Let Teresa Chang know if you are coming so we know how many seats we need to save. See you there!

May 11, 9-11:30 am: St. James' will be hosting a first aid training. Participants will receive a first aid certification certificate upon completion of the course. Things to note:

1. You must be present for the entire course.

2. St James is covering the cost. If you later realize you cannot attend, please

contact **office@stjamesaustin.org** asap so we can fill your spot.

- 3. Limited spots available
- 4. This training focuses on First Aid only, not CPR or AED.

May 12: Thurgood Marshall/Mother's Day

Join on May 12 as we honor the life and legacy of Thurgood Marshall and celebrate mothers everywhere. The Hon. Lora Livingston will preach.

May 19: Pentecost This is the Day of Pentecost! Email <u>office@stjamesaustin.org</u> if you want to join in the reading of Acts in many languages. Wear red. The Rev. Steven Tomlinson will preach. We will also be celebrating our seminarians. Bring a prepared dish from your heritage to share after the 10:30 service.

May 19, 2-4 pm: Trinity Center Our team prepares and serves a meal and prays with our neighbors at Trinity Center. Email Will Clark at <u>will.clark.jr@gmail.com</u> for more information or to join the team.

Vacation Bible School at St. David's

St. James' Children's Ministries will be working with St. David's for Vacation Bible School this year. May 28-31 (Tuesday-Friday), 9 am-12 pm, Age 3-5th grade (Scholarships are available, contact the Rev. Jim Harrington at <u>jim@stjamesaustin.org</u>.) Register at

https://stdave.shelbynextchms.com/external/form/8c423282-4848-4e7d-bd7fe2c111135618

Volunteers needed!

Welcome Table needs volunteers for Neighbor 2 Neighbor in April and May. This is a time when a lot of our regular volunteers travel, so jump in where you can! Did you know that we have been distributing almost as many bags of food on Tuesdays as we did during the height of the pandemic? The need is great! Small teams of work colleagues are welcome. Sign up with this form **https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpOLSc-PuiU4winn4P95K7-**

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Emergency Pastoral Care Line • 512•677•7991