



# St. James' Episcopal Church

June 1, 2025

5 pm

## The Feast of Ascension

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

### The Gathering of the Community

Presider Alleluia! Christ is risen from the dead.

People Alleluia! Love is come again!

*O Mary, O Martha*

LEVAS 17

O Mar - y, O Mar - tha, O Mar - y, ring dem bells.

O Mar - y, O Mar - tha, O Mar - y, ring dem bells, I

hear arch-an - gels a rock-in' Je - ru - sa - lem, I hear arch-an - gels a

ring - in' dem bells. 1. Church get - tin' high - er! Rock - in' Je - ru - sa - lem!  
2. New Je - ru - sa - lem! Fine

1. Church get - ting' high - er! ring - in' dem bells. D.C.  
2. New Je - ru - sa - lem! Fine

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.

*Praise, praise, honor and glory*

LEVAS 246

1. Praise, praise, hon - or and glo - ry, Praise, praise,

1. hon - or and glo - ry, 2. Hon - or and glo - ry to Christ, our King.

### The Collect of the Day

Presider May God be with you.  
 People **And also with you.**  
 Presider Let us pray.

Almighty God, whose blessed Son our Savior Jesus Christ ascended far above all heavens that he might fill all things: Mercifully give us faith to perceive that, according to his promise, he abides with his Church on earth, even to the end of the ages; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, in glory everlasting. **Amen.**

*Please be seated for the readings.*

### The First Reading

Acts 16:16-34

Lector A reading from the Book of Acts.

In the first book, Theophilus, I wrote about all that Jesus did and taught from the beginning until the day when he was taken up to heaven, after giving instructions through the Holy Spirit to the apostles whom he had chosen. After his suffering he presented himself alive to them by many convincing proofs, appearing to them during forty days and speaking about the kingdom of God. While staying with them, he ordered them not to leave Jerusalem, but to wait there for the promise of the Father. "This," he said, "is what you have heard from me; for John baptized with water, but you will be baptized with the Holy Spirit not many days from now."

So when they had come together, they asked him, "Lord, is this the time when you will restore the kingdom to Israel?" He replied, "It is not for you to know the times or periods that the Father has

set by his own authority. But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you; and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth." When he had said this, as they were watching, he was lifted up, and a cloud took him out of their sight. While he was going and they were gazing up toward heaven, suddenly two men in white robes stood by them. They said, "Men of Galilee, why do you stand looking up toward heaven? This Jesus, who has been taken up from you into heaven, will come in the same way as you saw him go into heaven."

Lector      The Word of the Lord.

People      **Thanks be to God.**

## Psalm

Psalm 47

Clap your hands, all you peoples;  
shout to God with a cry of joy.

**For the LORD Most High is to be feared;  
he is the great King over all the earth.**

He subdues the peoples under us,  
and the nations under our feet.

**He chooses our inheritance for us,  
the pride of Jacob whom he loves.**

God has gone up with a shout,  
the LORD with the sound of the ram's-horn.

**Sing praises to God, sing praises;  
sing praises to our King, sing praises.**

For God is King of all the earth;  
sing praises with all your skill.

**God reigns over the nations;  
God sits upon his holy throne.**

The nobles of the peoples have gathered together  
with the people of the God of Abraham.

**The rulers of the earth belong to God,  
and he is highly exalted.**

## The Second Reading

Ephesians 1:15-23

Lector      A reading from the Letter to the Ephesians.

I have heard of your faith in the Lord Jesus and your love toward all the saints, and for this reason I do not cease to give thanks for you as I remember you in my prayers. I pray that the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory, may give you a spirit of wisdom and revelation as you come to know him, so that, with the eyes of your heart enlightened, you may know what is the hope to which he has called you, what are the riches of his glorious inheritance among the saints, and what is the immeasurable greatness of his power for us who believe, according to the working of his great power. God put this power to work in Christ when he raised him from the dead and seated him at his right hand in the

heavenly places, far above all rule and authority and power and dominion, and above every name that is named, not only in this age but also in the age to come. And he has put all things under his feet and has made him the head over all things for the church, which is his body, the fullness of him who fills all in all.

Lector Hear what the Spirit is saying to the Church.  
 People **Thanks be to God.**

*Because He lives*

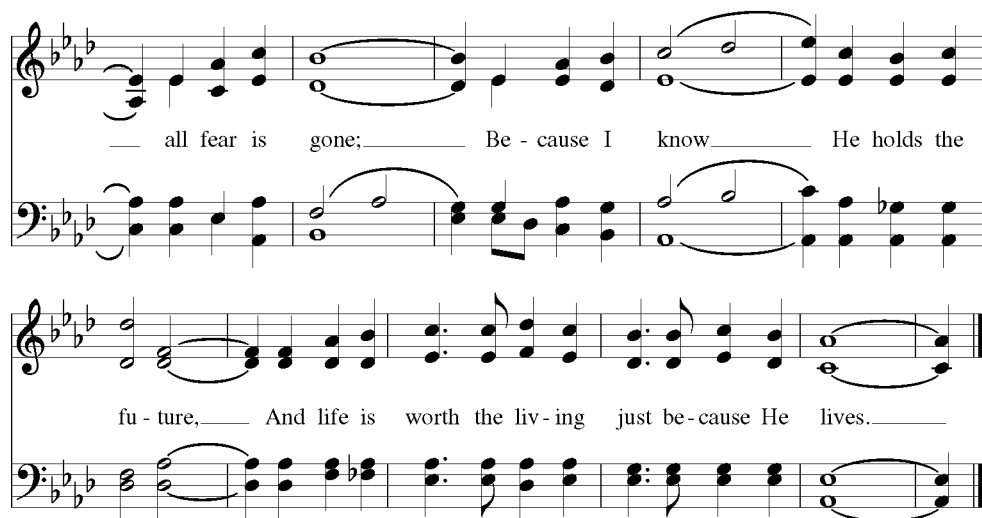
LEVAS 43

1. God sent His Son, they called Him Je - sus; He came to love,  
 2. How sweet to hold a new-born ba - by, And feel the pride,  
 3. And then one day I'll cross the riv - er; I'll fight life's fi -

1. heal, and for - give; He lived and died to buy my  
 2. and joy he gives; But great - er still the calm as -  
 3. - nal war with pain; And then as death gives way to

1. par-don, An emp - ty grave is there to prove my Sav - ior lives.  
 2. sur-ance, This child can face un-cer-tain days be-cause He lives.  
 3. vic-t'ry, I'll see the lights of glo-ry and I'll know He lives.

Be-cause He lives I can face to - mor-row; Be-cause He lives



## The Gospel

Luke 24:44-53

Deacon  
People

The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Luke.  
**Praise and Glory to God.**

Jesus said to his disciples, "These are my words that I spoke to you while I was still with you-- that everything written about me in the law of Moses, the prophets, and the psalms must be fulfilled." Then he opened their minds to understand the scriptures, and he said to them, "Thus it is written, that the Messiah is to suffer and to rise from the dead on the third day, and that repentance and forgiveness of sins is to be proclaimed in his name to all nations, beginning from Jerusalem. You are witnesses of these things. And see, I am sending upon you what my Father promised; so stay here in the city until you have been clothed with power from on high."

Then he led them out as far as Bethany, and, lifting up his hands, he blessed them. While he was blessing them, he withdrew from them and was carried up into heaven. And they worshiped him, and returned to Jerusalem with great joy; and they were continually in the temple blessing God.

Deacon  
People

The Gospel of the Lord.  
**Praise to Christ, the Word.**

## The Sermon

The Rev. Robby Vickery, Assisting Clergy

*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**      **Almighty God, our heavenly Father, you have exalted your Son Christ Jesus to your right hand: hear us as we pray for the Church throughout the world.**

*(Pause to hear the prayers of the community for the Church.)*

**Make us and all your people receptive to the gifts God pours out upon us, that we may use them to your glory, and the building up of the Body of Christ.**

**Lord, in your mercy:**

**People**            **hear our prayer.**

**Intercessor**      **Lord God Almighty, the Ancient of Days, you have given your Son all authority in heaven and on earth: hear us as we pray for the world he came to redeem.**

*(Pause to hear the prayers of the community for the world.)*

**Grant that we may know even in this time the things that make for peace and may strive for the reconciliation of all people in God's kingdom of justice and love.**

**Lord, in your mercy:**

**People**            **hear our prayer.**

Intercessor Father of all, whose Son has promised to be with us always, to the end of the age:  
hear us as we pray for those among whom we live and work.  
*(Pause to hear the prayers of the community for those among who we live and move and have our being.)*  
Grant that we may be so aware of his presence with us, that others may encounter Christ's presence through us.  
Lord, in your mercy:

**People hear our prayer.**

Intercessor O God our Redeemer, whose Son ever lives to make intercession for us:  
hear us as we pray for those in any kind of need.  
*(Pause to hear the prayers of the community for those in struggle.)*  
May he who has borne our infirmities strengthen and bring healing, that grace may be found to help in time of need.  
Lord, in your mercy:

**People hear our prayer.**

Intercessor Heavenly Father, whose Son has gone before us to prepare a place for us: hear us as we remember those whose earthly sojourn is over, and whose life is now hidden in him with you.  
*(Pause to hear the prayers of the community for those who have died.)*

Presider Make us joyful and expectant, that at his coming with all his own we too may go forth to meet him, and share in his eternal joy. Merciful Father, accept these prayers for the sake of your Son, our Savior Jesus Christ. **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.

**People Praise to Christ who unites us in peace.**

*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 as you are able.*

## Holy Communion

### The Great 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.

Therefore, with people of every nation, tribe, and language, joyfully we give you thanks and sing:

*Sanctus*

LEVAS 253





ho - ly, ho - ly Lord,

God of pow - er and might,

1. Heav - en and earth are full  
2.,3. Bless - ed is he who comes

1. of your glo - ry.  
2.,3. in the name of the Lord.

1., 2.

Ho - san - na! Ho - san -

na in the high

3.

est. san - na! Ho -

san - na in the high est.

*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

LEVAS 260

We re - mem - ber His death, — We pro - claim His re - sur - rect -  
— ion, — We a - wait — His com - ing — in  
glo - ry. — We re - glo - ry. —

**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

LEVAS 261

A - men, A - men,

A - men, A - men,

A - men, A - men, A - men.

Presider

As Christ has taught us to pray, we are bold to sing:

D D A D  
Our Fa - ther in hea - ven,  
D C D G  
Hal - low - ed be Your Name. Your king - dom come, Your

will be done one earth as in hea - ven.

Give us to-day our dai - ly bread. For - give us our sins as we for -

give those who sin a - gainst us. Save us from the time of trial

and de - li - ver us from e - vil. For the

king dom, the pow - er, and the glo - ry, are

Yours now and for - e - ver. A - men, A - men.

## The Breaking of the Bread

*Celebrant*

We break this bread to share in the bo - dy of Christ.

*3 People*

We who are ma - ny are one bo - dy for we all share the one 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.*

*Please stand as you are able.*

**Prayer after Communion**

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.**

**The Blessing**

Presider God the Creator, by whose love Christ was raised from the dead, open to you 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.**

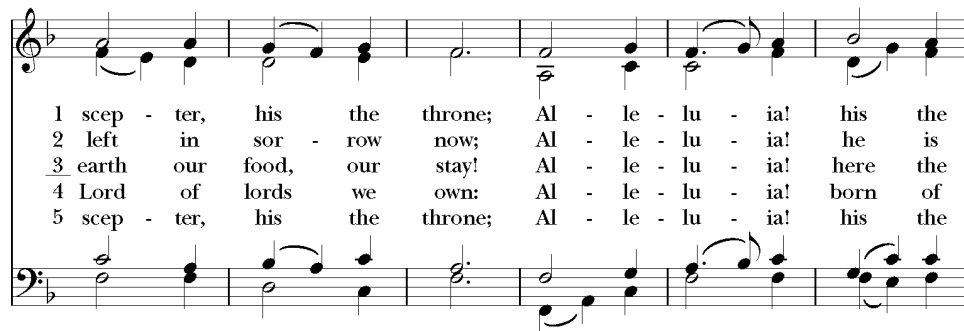
God the Giver of Life, who filled the disciples with the life of the risen Lord, empower you and fill you with Christ's peace. **Amen.**

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

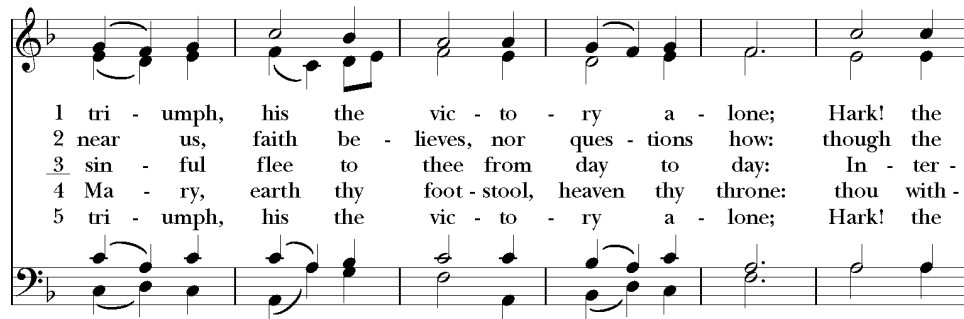
*Alleluia! Sing to Jesus!* verses 1, 3-5

H460

1 Al - le - lu - ia! sing to Je - sus! his the  
\*2 Al - le - lu - ia! not as or - phans are we  
3 Al - le - lu - ia! bread of Hea - ven, Thou on  
4 Al - le - lu - ia! King e - ter - nal, thee the  
\*5 Al - le - lu - ia! sing to Je - sus! his the



1 scep - ter, his the throne; Al - le - lu - ia! his the  
 2 left in sor - row now; Al - le - lu - ia! he is  
 3 earth our food, our stay! Al - le - lu - ia! here the  
 4 Lord of lords we own: Al - le - lu - ia! born of  
 5 scep - ter, his the throne; Al - le - lu - ia! his the



1 tri - umph, his the vic - to - ry a - lone; Hark! the  
 2 near us, faith be - lieves, nor ques - tions how: though the  
 3 sin - ful flee to thee from day to day: In - ter -  
 4 Ma - ry, earth thy foot - stool, heaven thy throne: thou with -  
 5 tri - umph, his the vic - to - ry a - lone; Hark! the



1 songs of peace - ful Zi - on thun - der like a  
 2 cloud from sight re - ceived him, when the for - ty  
 3 ces - sor, friend of sin - ners, earth's Re - deem - er,  
 4 in the veil hast en - tered, robed in flesh, our  
 5 songs of ho - ly Zi - on thun - der like a



1 might - y flood; Je - sus out of ev - ery  
 2 days were o'er, shall our hearts for - get his  
 3 plead for me, where the songs of all  
 4 great High Priest: thou on earth both Priest and  
 5 might - y flood; Je - sus out of ev - ery



1 na - tion hath re - deemed us by his blood.  
 2 prom - ise, "I am with you ev - er - more?"  
 3 sin - less sweep a - cross the crys - tal sea.  
 4 Vic - tim in the eu - cha - ris - tic feast.  
 5 na - tion hath re - deemed us by his blood.

## 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 [prayerbox@stjamesaustin.org](mailto:prayerbox@stjamesaustin.org). Prayer requests from the website will be auto-forwarded to the pastoral care ministry and the office.

### **We pray for (3 weeks list):**

**We also pray for those with long-term needs:** Rachel Kraus, Eden Poon, Cara Ann Cummins, and her partner Kenneth, Fletcher Michael Francis and his family, Joel, Kurt, Sandy and the Armstrong family, Scott Alfano and family, Rene Beteille, Kathryn Lanier, Arlene Youngblood, Emma McPherson, Joann Darr, Kevin Reed, Amy Weir, the Rev. Dr. Sondra Coleman, Cliff Keeling, Geneva Elliott, Larry Schanki, Amy, Horace Bledsoe, Jeremy and Shelby, Jimmy Alexander, Mahealani, Robin Clough Powell, Melinda King, John Baxton, Mary Ellen, Curt Jones, James Gibson, Michele Bondy, Jeremy Alexander, Donna Plowman, Johann and Susanna, Judy Jenkins, Nancy Gabin, Wiley Williams, Michael Hughes, Anquet, Susan Gunn, BJ Taylor, Russel Tauli, 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, 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, Richard Ezell, 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; 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 Kathleen Armstrong Thomerson.

## Announcements

**This week, pray for the St. James' youth group and adult volunteers as they travel to Houston. They will be volunteering with organizations such as The Beacon, The Houston Food Bank, Casa Mateo, Olivewood Cemetery, etc.**

### **June 1, First Sundays Dinner after Late Service**

Join us for the Late Service at 5 pm and stay after for dinner in Founders Hall.

### **Wednesday, June 5, Young Adults Bible Study, 7 pm**

The Young Adults (20s and 30s) will meet in Founders Hall for bible study and fellowship.



**Friday, June 6, Next Vigil for the Rule of Law at the Capitol, 12-1 pm**

Please spread the word

**Thursday, June 6, 6:30, Restaurant Group**

The Restaurant Group will meet at La Mancha, 2203 Hancock. Let Teresa Chang [turner.teresa@gmail.com](mailto:turner.teresa@gmail.com) know if you are coming so we know how many seats we need to save. See you there!



**Saturday, June 7, 6 pm, Jazz at St. James' presents: Texas and West Coast Voices Joining Hands for Love of the Diaspora**

Come join us for an evening of soulful tunes and captivating verses at St. James' Episcopal Church. Enjoy the sweet melodies of jazz, watch live painting, and let poets transport you through the power of words. Immerse yourself in the rich tapestry of the diaspora as we celebrate love, culture, and unity through music and poetry. Don't miss out on this unforgettable experience, which includes a catered meal by Ghar Ka Khana caterers. Get your tickets (\$15 each ahead of the date).

**Sunday, June 8, This is the Day of Pentecost!**



On June 8, Pentecost, we will combine the 10:30 am and 5 pm services at the 10:30 am time. Get ready to welcome those who are to be baptized and hear the Word of God in the language of your heart. We will honor Sharon Coleman on that day as she re-retires from the piano bench. **Use the QR code to sign up to bring foods from your cultural background for the reception from 12-1 pm. Wear your red!**

Email [office@stjamesaustin.org](mailto:office@stjamesaustin.org) if you want to join in the reading of Acts in another language aside from English and Spanish.

**Sunday, June 15, Freedom Schools Commissioning Sunday,**

Mark your calendars for the Freedom Schools Commissioning on June 15, during the 10:30 service. Add your hopes and prayers and best wishes for the team of staff and volunteers who will be leading this summer's scholars toward inspiration and achievement. The summer Freedom Schools session begins on June 16 at Norman-Sims Elementary.

**Thursday, June 19, 10 am Juneteenth Round Rock Slave Cemetery Memorial Ceremony**



St. James' and the Union of Black Episcopalians have been invited by the Members of Thomas H. Keithley Lodge No. 45 to participate in a solemn tribute and memorial ceremony in remembrance of those enslaved and buried within the Williamson County Round Rock Cemetery. Stand on holy ground with us on Juneteenth. Please register to attend using the QR code.

**June 22, Newcomer Coffee Hangout Sunday, 12-1 pm**

New to St. James'? Come learn more about our church community and meet other newcomers. We will gather in Founders Hall between the 12 pm and 1 pm services. Let Rev. Eileen know you are in by emailing [rector@stjamesaustin.org](mailto:rector@stjamesaustin.org).

**Saturday, June 28, Diocesan Deacons Ordinations Christ Church Cathedral, Houston, 11 am**

Our own Scott Madison will be ordained to the transitional diaconate at the Cathedral in Houston on June 28. Join the celebration there or congratulate him on June 29 when he will be deaconing all day at St. James' on Pauli Murray Sunday.

