

The Sixth Sunday of Easter
Evening Prayer
May 5, 2024
5:00 p.m.

St. James Episcopal Church ☩ Alexandria, LA

Please ensure that you have clicked the "Mute" button on your ZOOM toolbar until the end of our service, after which you are invited to "unmute" and stay for a brief time of greeting and fellowship.

*You can find a free electronic version of the Book of Common Prayer at <https://bcponline.org/>
Evening Prayer begins on page 115.*

Alleluia! Christ is risen.

The Lord is risen indeed. Alleluia!

Thanks be to God, who gives us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ.

1 Corinthians 15:57

Invitatory and Psalter

Officiant O God, make speed to save us.

People O Lord, make haste to help us.

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit: *
as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be for ever. Amen.

Alleluia.

O Gracious Light

O gracious light, pure brightness of the everliving Father in heaven, O Jesus Christ, holy and blessed! Now as we come to the setting of the sun, and our eyes behold the vesper light, we sing your praises, O God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. You are worthy at all times to be praised by happy voices, O Son of God, O Giver of Life, and to be glorified through all the worlds.

Psalm 34

BCP p. 627

I will bless the Lord at all times; *
his praise shall ever be in my mouth.

I will glory in the Lord; *
let the humble hear and rejoice.

Proclaim with me the greatness of the Lord; *
let us exalt his Name together.

I sought the Lord, and he answered me *
and delivered me out of all my terror.

Look upon him and be radiant, *
and let not your faces be ashamed.

I called in my affliction and the Lord heard me *
and saved me from all my troubles.

The angel of the Lord encompasses those who fear him, *
and he will deliver them.

**Taste and see that the Lord is good; *
happy are they who trust in him!**

Fear the Lord, you that are his saints, *
for those who fear him lack nothing.

**The young lions lack and suffer hunger, *
but those who seek the Lord lack nothing that is good.**

Come, children, and listen to me; *
I will teach you the fear of the Lord.

**Who among you loves life *
and desires long life to enjoy prosperity?**

Keep your tongue from evil-speaking *
and your lips from lying words.

**Turn from evil and do good; *
seek peace and pursue it.**

The eyes of the Lord are upon the righteous, *
and his ears are open to their cry.

**The face of the Lord is against those who do evil, *
to root out the remembrance of them from the earth.**

The righteous cry, and the Lord hears them *
and delivers them from all their troubles.

**The Lord is near to the brokenhearted *
and will save those whose spirits are crushed.**

Many are the troubles of the righteous, *
but the Lord will deliver him out of them all.

**He will keep safe all his bones; *
not one of them shall be broken.**

Evil shall slay the wicked, *
and those who hate the righteous will be punished.

**The Lord ransoms the life of his servants, *
and none will be punished who trust in him.**

**Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit: *
as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be for ever. Amen.**

The Lessons

A Reading from the letter of James.

(1:2-8, 16-18)

My brothers and sisters, whenever you face trials of any kind, consider it nothing but joy, because you know that the testing of your faith produces endurance; and let endurance have its full effect, so that you may be mature and complete, lacking in nothing.

If any of you is lacking in wisdom, ask God, who gives to all generously and ungrudgingly, and it will be given you. But ask in faith, never doubting, for the one who doubts is like a wave of the sea, driven and tossed by the wind; for the doubter, being double-minded and unstable in every way, must not expect to receive anything from the Lord. Do not be deceived, my beloved.

Every generous act of giving, with every perfect gift, is from above, coming down from the Father of lights, with whom there is no variation or shadow due to change. In fulfilment of his own purpose he gave us birth by the word of truth, so that we would become a kind of first fruits of his creatures.

The Word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

8. The Song of Moses *Exodus 15:1-6, 11-13, 17-18*

I will sing to the Lord, for he is lofty and uplifted; *
the horse and its rider has he hurled into the sea.
The Lord is my strength and my refuge; *
the Lord has become my Savior.
This is my God and I will praise him, *
the God of my people and I will exalt him.
The Lord is a mighty warrior; *
Yahweh is his Name.
The chariots of Pharaoh and his army has he hurled into the sea; *
the finest of those who bear armor have been drowned in the Red Sea.
The fathomless deep has overwhelmed them; *
they sank into the depths like a stone.
Your right hand, O Lord, is glorious in might; *
your right hand, O Lord, has overthrown the enemy.
Who can be compared with you, O Lord, among the gods? *
who is like you, glorious in holiness, awesome in renown, and worker of wonders?
You stretched forth your right hand; *
the earth swallowed them up.
With your constant love you led the people you redeemed; *
with your might you brought them in safety to your holy dwelling.
You will bring them in and plant them *
on the mount of your possession,
The resting-place you have made for yourself, O Lord, *
the sanctuary, O Lord, that your hand has established.
The Lord shall reign *
for ever and for ever.
Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit: *
as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be for ever. Amen.

A Reading from the Gospel According to Luke.

(12:13-21)

Someone in the crowd said to him, "Teacher, tell my brother to divide the family inheritance with me." But he said to him, "Friend, who set me to be a judge or arbitrator over you?" And he said to them, "Take care! Be on your guard against all kinds of greed; for one's life does not consist in the abundance of possessions." Then he told them a parable: "The land of a rich man produced abundantly. And he thought to himself, 'What should I do, for I have no place to store my crops?' Then he said, 'I will do this: I will pull down my barns and build larger ones, and there I will store all

my grain and my goods. And I will say to my soul, Soul, you have ample goods laid up for many years; relax, eat, drink, be merry.' But God said to him, 'You fool! This very night your life is being demanded of you. And the things you have prepared, whose will they be?' So it is with those who store up treasures for themselves but are not rich towards God."

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

20. Glory to God

Glory to God in the highest,

and peace to God's 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 Apostles' Creed

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

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.

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. Amen.

The Prayers

Officiant The Lord be with you.

People **And also with you.**

Officiant Let us pray.

**Our Father in heaven,
hallowed be your Name,
your kingdom come,
your will be done,
on earth as in heaven.
Give us today our daily bread.
Forgive us our sins,
as we forgive those
who sin against us.
Save us from the time of trial,
and deliver us from evil.
For the kingdom, the power,
and the glory are yours,
now and for ever. Amen.**

Suffrages B

That this evening may be holy, good, and peaceful.
We entreat you, O Lord.

That your holy angels may lead us in paths of peace and goodwill,
We entreat you, O Lord.

That we may be pardoned and forgiven for our sins and offenses,
We entreat you, O Lord.

That there may be peace to your Church and to the whole world,
We entreat you, O Lord.

That we may depart this life in your faith and fear, and not be condemned before the great judgment seat of Christ,
We entreat you, O Lord.

That we may be bound together by your Holy Spirit in the communion of the Ever Blessed Virgin Mary, Blessed James, and all your saints, entrusting one another and all our life to Christ,
We entreat you, O Lord.

O God, you have prepared for those who love you such good things as surpass our understanding: Pour into our hearts such love towards you, that we, loving you in all things and above all things, may obtain your promises, which exceed all that we can desire; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

Lord God, whose Son our Savior Jesus Christ triumphed over the powers of death and prepared for us our place in the new Jerusalem: Grant that we, who have this day given thanks for his resurrection, may praise you in that City of which he is the light, and where he lives and reigns for ever and ever. **Amen.**

O God and Father of all, whom the whole heavens adore: Let the whole earth also worship you, all nations obey you, all tongues confess and bless you, and men and women everywhere love you and serve you in peace; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Please offer your own prayers and intercessions either silently or aloud.

In the Diocesan Cycle of Prayer, we pray for Christ Church, Bastrop, the Rev. Gregg Riley; St. George's, Bossier City, the Rev. Terry Deokaran, the Rev. Deacon Lois Maberry.

The General Thanksgiving

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Almighty God, Father of all mercies, we your unworthy servants give you humble thanks for all your goodness and loving-kindness to us and to all whom you have made. We bless you for our creation, preservation, and all the blessings of this life; but above all for your immeasurable love in the redemption of the world by our Lord Jesus Christ; for the means of grace, and for the hope of glory. And, we pray, give us such an awareness of your mercies, that with truly thankful hearts we may show forth your praise, not only with our lips, but in our lives, by giving up our selves to your service, and by walking before you in holiness and righteousness all our days; through Jesus Christ our Lord, to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit, be honor and glory throughout all ages. Amen.

Officiant Alleluia, alleluia. Let us bless the Lord.
People **Thanks be to God. Alleluia, alleluia.**

The Officiant then concludes with

May the God of hope fill us with all joy and peace in believing through the power of the Holy Spirit.
Amen.

Romans 15:13