

 **ST. JAMES EPISCOPAL CHURCH**

Welcome!

April 21, 2024

*Fourth Sunday
of Easter*

Morning Prayer

Presider/Reader 1/Preacher

Sister D. Bracher, LSSC

Reader 2

Beth Zielinski

Lector

Lloyd Riches

Minister of Music

James Jelasic

Cantors

The St. James Chancel Choir

Violin

Bill McAdams



Thanksgivings

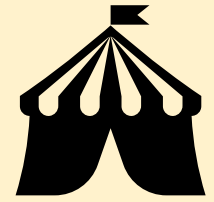
Accept, O Lord, our thanks and praise for all that you have done for us. You set us free when we are hard-pressed; you have mercy on us and hear us when we call upon you. We know that we are loved by you and called your children, and we thank you. We thank you for the faithful worshipping community of St. James and for the ways that we gather. We thank you for those who give of their treasure, time, and talent. Thank you for the gift of community. Amen.



Announcements



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Donate, volunteer, and purchase scrip!

Visit www.stjameskent.org/francis-fest.html

- Come downstairs for **coffee** following the service and stay for **Bible Study!**
- Join the **WONDERFUL WEEDERS!** Contact Ann Aarhus for info.
- Next Saturday, April 27, is **ROGATION DAY!** Bring your outdoor tools and join us any time from 10 – 4.

No offering will be taken today. You may place your offering in the plate OR Text to Give (253) 303-5850 OR <https://stjameskent.breezechms.com/give/online>



Prayer List

Erin Osbye, Alan Alstad, Liam Figg, Randall Daniioth, the McLaughlan family, Aidan Dike, Bailey Aylward, Sharon Rockwell, David Daniioth, Anne Richardson, Sister D. Bracher, Chris Huff, Cliff Sipe, James Sipe, Tom Soran, Lillie Makumbi, Jeremy Bacon & Mother Ruth Anne, Darla Reed, Doreen Miller, Olivia & Luke Eldredge, Marcia Wesley, Ellen Flick, Cathryn Wilkerson, Kathy Scholl, and Dorothy Yantis; repose of the soul of Jack McLaughlan.





Welcoming Hymn
The King of Love My Shepherd Is
1982 Hymnal 645, v. 1-3

Hymn permission used by Rite Song, a one-time use reprint license for congregational use.

The King of love my shepherd is,
whose goodness faileth never;
I nothing lack if I am his,
and he is mine for ever.

Where streams of living water flow,
my ransomed soul he leadeth,
and where the verdant pastures grow,
with food celestial feedeth.

Perverse and foolish oft I strayed,
but yet in love he sought me,
and on his shoulder gently laid,
and home, rejoicing, brought me.

Morning Prayer

Morning Prayer is adapted with permission from Lighting the Beacons: A Liturgy for Life © 2015 Dot Woods, Josh Walker, Tim Watson

Opening Prayer

Reader 1 We gather to meet with God

People Father, Son and Holy Spirit

Reader 2 To give God praise

People And to seek God's face

Reader To bring you our worship

People And offer you our praise

Reader 2 To bring before God all our ways

People And every part of our lives

Reader 1 To be aware of your presence in our day

People For you Lord are here now; your Spirit dwells within us

Reader 2 To be conscious that you walk beside us

People And we do not make the journey alone

Reader 1 Father, Son and Holy Spirit, draw near to us

People As we draw near to you. Amen.

Silence and stillness are kept

The Liturgy of the Word

Reader 1 The Lord be with you.

People And also with you.

Reader 1 Let us pray.

O God, whose Son Jesus is the good shepherd of your people: Grant that when we hear his voice we may know him who calls us each by name, and follow where he leads; who, with you and the Holy Spirit, lives and reigns, one God, for ever and ever.

Amen.

The First Lesson: A reading from A reading from the Acts of the Apostles, Chapter 4: 5-12 (MSG).

The first lesson is taken from The Message: The Bible in Contemporary Language© 2002 by Eugene H. Peterson. All rights reserved.

The next day a meeting was called in Jerusalem. The rulers, religious leaders, religion scholars, Annas the Chief Priest, Caiaphas, John, Alexander—everybody who was anybody was there. They stood Peter and John in the middle of the room and grilled them:

“Who put you in charge here? What business do you have doing this?”

With that, Peter, full of the Holy Spirit, let loose:

“Rulers and leaders of the people, if we have been brought to trial today for helping a sick man, put under investigation regarding this healing, I’ll be completely frank with you—we have nothing to hide. By the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth, the One you killed on a cross, the One God raised from the dead, by means of his name this man stands

before you healthy and whole. Jesus is ‘the stone you masons threw out, which is now the cornerstone.’ Salvation comes no other way; no other name has been or will be given to us by which we can be saved, only this one.”

Lector Hear what the Spirit is saying to the Church.

People Thanks be to God.

The Response: A reading from Psalm 23.

Reader 1 The Lord is my shepherd; *

People I shall not be in want.

Reader 2 He makes me lie down in green pastures *

People and leads me beside still waters.

Reader 1 He revives my soul *

People and guides me along right pathways for
his Name's sake.

Reader 2 Though I walk through the valley of the
shadow of death, I shall fear no evil; *

People for you are with me; your rod and your staff, they comfort me.

Reader 1 You spread a table before me in the presence of those who trouble me; *

People you have anointed my head with oil, and my cup is running over.

Reader 2 Surely your goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life, *

People and I will dwell in the house of the Lord forever.

The Second Lesson: A reading from 1 John, Chapter 3:16-24 (MSG).

This is how we've come to understand and experience love: Christ sacrificed his life for us. This is why we ought to live sacrificially for our fellow believers, and not just be out for ourselves. If you see some brother or sister in need and have the means to do something about it but turn a cold shoulder and do nothing, what happens to God's love? It disappears. And you made it disappear.

My dear children, let's not just talk about love; let's practice real love. This is the only way we'll know we're living truly, living in God's reality. It's also the way to shut down debilitating self-criticism, even when there is something to it. For God is greater than our worried hearts and knows more about us than we do ourselves.

And friends, once that's taken care of and we're no longer accusing or condemning ourselves, we're bold and free before God! We're able to stretch our

hands out and receive what we asked for because we're doing what he said, doing what pleases him. Again, this is God's command: to believe in his personally named Son, Jesus Christ. He told us to love each other, in line with the original command. As we keep his commands, we live deeply and surely in him, and he lives in us. And this is how we experience his deep and abiding presence in us: by the Spirit he gave us.

Lector Hear what the Spirit is saying to the Church.

People Thanks be to God.

Anthem

The Lord is My Shepherd

Based on Psalm 23 / Carl W. Lang

*The St. James Episcopal Chancel Choir
with James Jelasic, Piano*

The Gospel

Reader 2 The Holy Gospel According to
John 10:11-18 (MSG).

People **Glory to you, Lord Christ.**

I am the Good Shepherd. The Good Shepherd puts the sheep before himself, sacrifices himself if necessary. A hired man is not a real shepherd. The sheep mean nothing to him. He sees a wolf come and runs for it, leaving the sheep to be ravaged and

scattered by the wolf. He's only in it for the money. The sheep don't matter to him.

“I am the Good Shepherd. I know my own sheep and my own sheep know me. In the same way, the Father knows me and I know the Father. I put the sheep before myself, sacrificing myself if necessary. You need to know that I have other sheep in addition to those in this pen. I need to gather and bring them, too. They'll also recognize my voice. Then it will be one flock, one Shepherd. This is why the Father loves

me: because I freely lay down my life. And so I am free to take it up again. No one takes it from me. I lay it down of my own free will. I have the right to lay it down; I also have the right to take it up again. I received this authority personally from my Father.”

Reader 2 The Gospel of the Lord.


People Praise to you, Lord Christ.

Reflection
Sister D. Bracher, LSSC



We pause for reflection...





Post Reflection Hymn
**Shepherd of Souls,
Refresh and Bless**
1982 Hymnal 343, v. 1-4

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Shepherd of souls, refresh and bless
thy chosen pilgrim flock
with manna in the wilderness,
with water from the rock.

We would not live by bread alone,
but by thy word of grace,
in strength of which we travel on
to our abiding-place.

Be known to us in breaking bread,
and do not then depart;
Savior, abide with us, and spread
thy table in our heart.

Lord, sup with us in love divine
thy Body and thy Blood,
that living bread, that heavenly wine,
be our immortal food.

The Peace

Presider

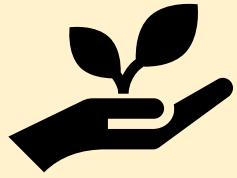
**The Peace of the Lord
be with you!**

People

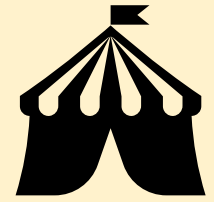
And also with you!



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The Nicene Creed

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.
Who with the Father and the Son is
worshiped and glorified.
Who 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.

Intercessions

Reader 1 We hold before God this day and the opportunities it bears. Great Shepherd make yourself known to us, help us to see you amid the noise and clamor of this world:

Reader 2 Lord, for this new day,

People We give you thanks.

Reader 1 Lord, for the moments will encounter your grace and beauty. In our St. James community, we give thanks for...

People We give you thanks.

Reader 2 Lord, for conversations that we will have today that make an impact on our lives. In our St. James community, we pray for...

People Great Shepherd hear us.

Reader 1 Lord, for the times today we will see you at work. In our St. James community, we pray for...

People Great Shepherd hear us.

Reader 2 Lord, for the ways that you give us strength for the journey. In our St. James community, we pray for...

People Great Shepherd hear us. Amen.

Closing Prayer

Reader 1 Lord, you know the shape of our lives at this time, you know the delights we enjoy and the pressures we endure.

Reader 2 Guide us and give us wisdom to know your will, strengthen our resolve to discern your call.

Reader 1 Lord, make yourself known to us in the daily pattern of our lives,

Reader 2

Help us to see the fruit borne out of
small actions,

Reader 1

Lord, help us to live faithfully amidst
uncertainty,

Reader 2

Fortify us to be followers in your Way,

Reader 1

Lord, help us to not live as autonomous
units,

Reader 2

But as fellow travelers on a journey.

Reader 1 Lord, build up the community of which
we are part,

Reader 2 And shape it around the cross of your
Son Jesus Christ. **Amen.**

The background of the slide is a warm, orange-toned sunset over a field. In the foreground, three simple wooden crosses are visible, standing on a grassy area. The sun is low on the horizon, creating a soft, glowing light that fills the sky and the field.

Sending Hymn
**My Shepherd Will Supply
My Need**

1982 Hymnal 664, v. 1-3

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My Shepherd will supply my need,
Jehovah is his Name;
in pastures fresh he makes me feed
beside the living stream.
He brings my wandering spirit back
when I forsake his ways,
and leads me, for his mercy's sake,
in paths of truth and grace.

When I walk through the shades of death,
thy presence is my stay;
one word of thy supporting breath
drives all my fears away.
Thy hand, in sight of all my foes,
doth still my table spread;
my cup with blessings overflows,
thy oil anooints my head.

The sure provisions of my God
attend me all my days;
oh, may thy house be mine abode
and all my work be praise.
There would I find a settled rest,
while others go and come;
no more a stranger or a guest,
but like a child at home.

Sending Prayer

All Father, Son and Holy Spirit: send us out to live lives that glorify you. Help us to be people of peace. Empower us to recognize your call in our families, in our communities, in our work-places and schools, and in our churches and in our world. Amen.