



Fifth Sunday of Easter Sunday, April 28, 2024

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Rector Honorary Assistants

Parish Deacon Organist/Choir Director Parish Administrator Wardens Rev. Canon Leslie Gerlofs Rev. Canon Peter Davison Rev. Carol Overing Rev. Deacon Ann Vander Berg Richard Hansen, ARCCO Nyle Armstrong Terese Herron, O.N. Barry Shimmons Janet Cannon Christine Aiken

One License #A - 729217

Welcome to this time of worship!

Thank you for joining St. James today. It is good that you are here! If you are visiting or looking for your spiritual home, please make yourself known to us. We welcome your presence with us.

During our worship today please remember:

We are pausing our mask mandate for the time being. Masks are highly encouraged but the choice of wearing a mask in the church building is based on personal circumstances and tolerance for risk. During the sharing of the peace some people may not feel comfortable with close contact.

Children are welcome here at Saint James! Children can gather in 'The Prayer Ground' at the beginning of the service. If this is your first time here, please go with your child to meet the leader and inform them of any allergies or special needs. For those not wanting to leave their parents, the prayer-ground is available throughout the service.

An offering plate is located at the entrance to the church sanctuary. If you wish to make a gratitude offering for the blessings from God in your life, simply place the offering on the plate before the time of the offertory hymn or e-transfer your donation at <u>saintjamesgiving@gmail.com</u>. Your gift will be used to support the varied ministries of St. James. Take a moment to give thanks to God for the blessings in your life today.

The service is being livestreamed and recorded for viewing online.

The congregation responses are in **bold** type.

Prelude: Master Tallis's Testament

Herbert Howells

Welcome & Announcements

Territorial Acknowledgement

(Please stand as you are able)

- One We gather on the territory traditionally inhabited by the Haudenosaunee and the Anishinaabe nations acknowledged in the Dish with One Spoon wampum belt.
- All We commit ourselves to the work of truth and reconciliation with the Original Peoples of this land in a relationship of honour and mutual respect.

PROCESSIONAL HYMN CP 7 New Every Morning is the Love

The Gathering of the Community

- One Alleluia! Christ is risen!
- All Christ is risen indeed! Alleluia!
- One Praise to the God of Light and Life,
- All who has given us new life and hope; who has raised Jesus from the dead.
- One God has claimed us as his own.
- All God has brought us out of darkness, and made us light to the world.
- One Alleluia! Christ is risen!
- All Christ is risen indeed! Alleluia!
- One This is the day that God has made, Alleluia!
- All We will rejoice and be glad in it, Alleluia!

The Collect

The Priest will lead a prayer collecting together our thoughts for the day.

One O God, you give us your Son as the vine apart from whom we cannot live. Nourish our life in his resurrection, that we may bear the fruit of love and know the fullness of your joy, through Jesus Christ, our Saviour, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

The Proclamation of the Word

First Reading (Acts 8:26-40) Please be seated

Then an angel of the Lord said to Philip, 'Get up and go towards 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. One Holy Wisdom, Holy Word.

All Thanks be to God.

Second Reading (1 John 4:7-21) Please be seated

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 Saviour 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 judgement, 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.

One Holy Wisdom, Holy Word.

All Thanks be to God.

GRADUAL HYMN Behold, Behold, I Make All Things New

Behold, behold, I make all things new, beginning with you and starting from today. Behold, behold, I make all things new, my promise is true, for I am Christ the Way. (repeat)

The Gospel (John 15:1-8)

Please stand as you are able for the reading of the Gospel.

One God be with you

All and also with you

One Hear the Holy Gospel of Jesus Christ according to John.

All Glory to you, O Jesus Christ

Jesus said, 'I am the true vine, and my Father is the vine-grower. 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 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.

One The Gospel of Christ.

All Praise to you, O Jesus Christ

GRADUAL HYMN Behold, Behold, I Make All Things New

Behold, behold, I make all things new, beginning with you and starting from today. Behold, behold, I make all things new, my promise is true, for I am Christ the Way. (repeat)

Homily

The Reverend Canon Peter Davison

Thanksgiving for Baptism

All may make a sign of the cross, the sign that is marked at baptism, as the presiding minister begins.

- One Look, here is water!
- All Here is our water of life!
- One Immersed in the promises of baptism, let us give thanks for what God has done for us.

We give you thanks, O God, for in the beginning your voice thundered over the deep and water became the essence of life. Adam and Eve beheld Eden's verdant rivers. The ark carried your creation through the flood into a new day. Miriam led the dancing as your people passed through the sea into freedom's land. In a desert pool the Ethiopian official entered your boundless baptismal life.

- One Look, here is water!
- All Here is our water of life!
- One At the river your beloved Son was baptized by John and anointed with the Holy Spirit. By the baptism of Jesus' death and resurrection you opened the floodgates of your reconciling love, freeing us to live as Easter people.

We rejoice with glad hearts, giving all honour and praise to you, through the risen Christ, our source of living water, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, now and forever. **Amen.**

Prayers of the People

(standing, sitting or kneeling as is comfortable)

The Peace

- One The risen Christ stood among his disciples and said, 'Peace be with you' and they were glad when they saw the Lord. Alleluia! The peace of Christ be always with you.
- All And also with you.

OFFERTORY HYMN CP 482 Come and Journey with a Saviour

Prayer over the Gifts

- One Risen One, You call us to believe and bear fruit.
- All May the gifts that we offer here be signs of your abiding love. Form us to be your witnesses in the world, through Jesus Christ, our true vine. Amen.

The Great Thanksgiving

- One God be with you.
- All And also with you.
- One Lift up your hearts.
- All We lift them to our God.
- One Let us give thanks to God our Creator.
- All It is right to give our thanks and praise.
- One: Abiding God, you planted the vineyard of creation, and called your chosen people to be your vine, rooted and grounded in you.

In Jesus you gave us the true vine, turning earth into grapes and the water of life into the wine of eternal life. Through your son you abide in us, and in the power of your Holy Spirit you shape the branches of the vine to make fruit that will last. Your Son was crucified on the vine of our sin, that the blood of his sacrifice might be the wine through which we may never be thirsty again. In this meal of creation, of resurrection, and of everlasting life, you pour out the cup of your abundance to give us eternal joy in you. And so we gladly thank you, with angels and archangels, and all the company of heaven, singing the hymn of your unending praise.

All: Holy, holy Lord, CP 732
God of power and might.
Heaven and earth are full of your glory,
Hosanna in the highest, hosanna in the highest
Blessed, is the one who comes in the name of the Lord,
Hosanna in the highest, hosanna in the highest.

One: Transforming God, your Son took the ordinary substance of human flesh and bone; and on his last night with his friends he took the ordinary materials of bread and wine. Come among us now, and make the ordinariness of our lives glow with the wonder of your eternal life. Take these gifts of bread and wine and make them be for us the body and blood of your Son Jesus Christ; who at supper with his disciples, took bread, gave you thanks, broke the bread, and gave it to them saying, "Take, eat, this is my body which is given to you; Do this in remembrance of me".

After supper he took the cup.

Again he gave you thanks, and gave it to his disciples, saying: "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. Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me."

One Great is the mystery of faith:

All Christ has died; Christ is risen; Christ will come again.

One Companion God,

you turn Word into flesh,
and your perfect love casts out our fear.
You show us a way to love you
by giving us brothers and sisters to love as we love you.
Abide with all whose lives are far from fruitful;
remain with those who have experienced pruning;
dwell with any who feel like branches
that have not been discarded.
Unite your whole church, living and departed,
as branches of your one vine,
and through being rooted and grounded in you,
make us fruitful in body, mind, and spirit,
until we stand before you, with your whole creation,
and you are all in all, one God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

The Lord's Prayer

- One Jesus, remember us in your kingdom and teach us as we sing.
- All 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.

Breaking of Bread

- One The risen Lord is made known to us in the breaking of the bread. Come and eat at God's table.
- One Alleluia! The gifts of God for the people of God.

All Thanks be to God. Alleluia!

All are welcome at God's table. If you require gluten-free wafers please indicate to your server.

COMMUNION HYMNS CP 56 *I am the Bread, the Bread of Life*

Ablutions Anthem This Joyful Easter Tide arr. Charles Wood

Prayer after Communion

(Please stand as you are able)

- One Shepherding God, you have prepared a table before us and nourished us with your love.
- All Send us forth from this banquet to proclaim your goodness and share the abundant mercy of Jesus, our redeemer and friend. Amen.

The Blessing

- One Alleluia Christ is risen!
- All Christ is risen indeed! Alleluia!
- One The God of resurrection power, the Christ of unending joy, and the Spirit of Easter hope bless you now and always. **Amen.**

RECESSIONAL HYMN CP 425 Joyful, Joyful, We Adore Thee

DISMISSAL

One Alleluia! Go in peace. Rejoice and be glad!

All Thanks be to God! Alleluia!

Voluntary 'Great' Praeludium in c minor, BWV 546

Johann S. Bach

Cycle of Prayer

ACC/ The Most Rev. Anne Germond, Bishop, the Most Rev. Fred Hiltz, Assisting Bishop, the Rt. Rev. Victoria Matthews, Episcopal Administrator, and the clergy and people of the Diocese of Moosonee **ELCIC**/ The congregations of the Winnipeg area of the Manitoba-Northwestern Ontario Synod *IN THE NIAGARA DIOCESE* Christ Church, Flamborough, The

Reverend Naomi Kabuki, Rector; and the honorary assistants and people of that parish.

PARISH/ Paul Jefferson, Pat Johnson, and Nina Macintosh

Today's Ministry Team

Presiding and Preaching Eucharistic Assistant Server	The Rev. Canon Peter Davison Sharon White Victoria Baldwin
Readers	Lorna Janitz
	Carleon Hardie
Organist/Music Director	Richard Hansen
Greeters	Brent Bentham
	Norma Coe
Warden on Duty	Janet Cannon-Davison