



Sixth Sunday of Easter Sunday, May 5, 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 saintjamesgiving@gmail.com. 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: Music for a Quiet Occasion Anonymous

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 Let Us Build a House

Let us build a house where love can dwell and all can safely live, a place where saints and children tell how hearts learn to forgive.
Built of hopes and dreams and visions, rock of faith and vault of grace; here the love of Christ shall end divisions.
All are welcome, all are welcome, all are welcome in this place.

Let us build a house where prophets speak, and words are strong and true, where all God's children dare to seek to dream God's reign anew.
Here the cross shall stand as witness and as symbol of God's grace; here as one we claim the faith of Jesus: All are welcome, all are welcome, all are welcome.

Let us build a house where love is found in water, wine and wheat; a banquet hall on holy ground, where peace and justice meet. Here the love of God, through Jesus, is revealed in time and space; as we share in Christ the feast that frees us: All are welcome, all are welcome, all are welcome in this place.

Let us build a house where hands will reach beyond the wood and stone to heal and strengthen, serve and teach, and live the Word they've known. Here the outcast and the stranger bear the image of God's face; let us bring an end to fear and danger: All are welcome, all are welcome, all are welcome in this place.

Let us build a house where all are named, their songs and visions heard and loved and treasured, taught and claimed as words within the Word.
Built of tears and cries and laughter, prayers of faith and songs of grace; let this house proclaim from floor to rafter: All are welcome, all are welcome, all are welcome.

The Gathering of the Community

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.

Alleluia! Christ is risen!

One

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 Living God,

long ago, faithful women proclaimed the good news of Jesus' resurrection, and the world was changed forever.

Teach us to keep faith with them, that our witness may be as bold,

our love as deep,

and our faith as true. Amen.

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The Proclamation of the Word

First Reading (Acts 10:44-48) Please be seated

While Peter was still speaking, the Holy Spirit fell upon all who heard the word. The circumcised believers who had come with Peter were astounded that the gift of the Holy Spirit had been poured out even on the Gentiles, for they heard them speaking in tongues and extolling God. Then Peter said, 'Can anyone withhold the water for baptizing these people who have received the Holy Spirit just as we have?' So he ordered them to be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ. Then they invited him to stay for several days.

One Holy Wisdom, Holy Word.

All Thanks be to God.

Second Reading (1 John 5:1-6) Please be seated

Everyone who believes that Jesus is the Christ has been born of God, and everyone who loves the parent loves the child. By this we know that we love the children of God, when we love God and obey his commandments. For the love of God is this, that we obey

his commandments. And his commandments are not burdensome, for whatever is born of God conquers the world. And this is the victory that conquers the world, our faith. Who is it that conquers the world but the one who believes that Jesus is the Son of God? This is the one who came by water and blood, Jesus Christ, not with the water only but with the water and the blood. And the Spirit is the one that testifies, for the Spirit is the truth.

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 15:9-17)

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

As the Father has loved me, so I have loved you; abide in my love. If you keep my commandments, you will abide in my love, just as I have kept my Father's commandments and abide in his love. I have said these things to you so that my joy may be in you, and that your joy may be complete. 'This is my commandment, that you love one another as I have loved you. No one has greater love than this, to lay down one's life for one's friends. You are my friends if you do what I command you. I do not call you servants any longer, because the servant does not know what the master is doing; but I have called you friends, because I have made known to you everything that I have heard from my Father. You did not choose me but I chose you. And I appointed you to go and bear fruit, fruit that will last, so that

the Father will give you whatever you ask him in my name. I am giving you these commands so that you may love one another.

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 J. Lefebvre

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 Faster people.

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 487 Where Charity and Love Prevail

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.

Wondrous and merciful God. One: we thank and praise you because we did not choose you but you chose us. You destined us to become your friends from before the foundation of the world. You showed steadfast love and faithfulness to your covenant people and remembered your promises in every generation. Greater love hath no one than you, because in Christ you laid down your life and turned us from servants into friends, and by your Spirit you raise us up to be your beloved companions forever. And so we gladly thank you, with angels and archangels, and all the company of heaven,

All: Holy, 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.

singing the hymn of your unending praise.

One: God of joys and surprises,
your Son's apostles were astounded
that you sent your Holy Spirit upon the Gentiles
and that all the earth was awakening
to the praise of your name.
You invite us to join your company through baptism
and sustain us in your fellowship
through this meal of memory and hope.

Send your Holy Spirit upon your church that it may bear the image of your crucified and resurrected Son.

By the power of that same Spirit, bless this bread and this cup that they may 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 Overwhelming God,

you give your children faith that celebrates your sovereignty. Renew that faith among any who see your son's continuing crucifixion more evidently than his glorious resurrection. Restore and inspire all who, in the face of evil and suffering, feel less like conquerors and more like the conquered. Walk with those who find your commandments a burden rather than a gift.

Hasten the day when all shall be drawn into the banquet of your kingdom, and you fill heaven and earth with the triumphs of your grace,

ever one God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, now and forever. **Amen.**

The Lord's Prayer

One Jesus, remember us in your kingdom and teach us as we sing:

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

ΑII

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 70 Jesus, the Joy of Loving Hearts

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 240 Retell What Christ's Great Love

Has Done (Tune: Melita)

DISMISSAL

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

All Thanks be to God! Alleluia!

Voluntary

'Little' Prelude and Fugue in C Major, BWV 553, Johann S. Bach

We would like to thank the Rev. Canon J. Lefebvre for joining us this morning and officiating the service. We are blessed to have you.

Cycle of Prayer

ACC/ The Rt. Rev. Susan Bell, Bishop, The Most Rev. Colin Johnson, Assistant Bishop, and the clergy and people of the Diocese of Niagara **ELCIC/** Bishop Sid Haugen, the people and rostered ministers of the Saskatchewan Synod

IN THE NIAGARA DIOCESE St. Paul, Glanford, The Reverend Sue Nicolls, Interim Priest-in-Charge, and the people of that parish.

PARISH/ John Kirstein, Joanna Douglas, Louis, Mikaiah, and Skye.

Today's Ministry Team

Presiding and Preaching The Reverend Canon J. Lefebvre

Eucharistic Assistant Lynn Dykeman Server Christine Aiken

Readers Pat Johnson, Richard Mugarura

Organist/Music Director Richard Hansen

Greeters Gillian Hendry, Maureen Ash

Warden on Duty Barry Shimmons