

Blessed are those who have
not seen and yet have come
to believe."

THE GOSPEL OF JOHN



SAINTJAMES
Episcopal Church

Sunday, April 7, 2024

SECOND SUNDAY OF EASTER
8am and 10am Holy Eucharist Services.

347, South Central Avenue, Alexander City, AL 35010. 256.234.4752. stjamesalexcity.com

Second Sunday of Easter

April 7, 2024 | 8:00 am and 10:00 am

The Holy Eucharist

Opening Prayer

Processional.....Hymnal 199

The Word of God

Opening Acclamation.....BCP 355

Celebrant: Alleluia. Christ is risen.

People: The Lord is risen indeed. Alleluia.

Celebrant: Almighty God to you all hearts are open, all desires known, and from you no secrets are hid: Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you, and worthily magnify your Holy Name through Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

The Gloria.....Hymnal S-280/BCP 356

Glory to God in the highest, and peace to his 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.*

Celebrant: The Lord be with you

People: Also with you

Celebrant: Let us pray

The Collect of the Day

Almighty and everlasting God, who in the Paschal mystery established the new covenant of reconciliation: Grant that all who have been reborn into the fellowship of Christ's Body may show forth in their lives what they profess by their faith; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. *Amen.*

Please be seated

The Lessons

First Reading.....Acts 4:32-35

Now the whole group of those who believed were of one heart and soul, and no one claimed private ownership of any possessions, but everything they owned was held in common. With great power the apostles gave their testimony to the resurrection of the Lord Jesus, and great grace was upon them all. There was not a needy person among them, for as many as owned lands or houses sold them and brought the proceeds of what was sold. They laid it at the apostles' feet, and it was distributed to each as any had need.

Reader: The Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God

Our Psalm for today is Psalm 133. Let us read in unison beginning and ending with the refrain.

Refrain How good and pleasant it is to live in unity!

Oh, how good and pleasant it is, *when brethren live together in unity! It is like fine oil upon the head *that runs down upon the beard, Upon the beard of Aaron, *and runs down upon the collar of his robe. It is like the dew of Hermon *that falls upon the hills of Zion. For there the LORD has ordained the blessing: *life for evermore.

Second Reading.....1 John 1:1-2:2

We declare to you what was from the beginning, what we have heard, what we have seen with our eyes, what we have looked at and touched with our hands, concerning the word of life-- this life was revealed, and we have seen it and testify to it, and declare to you the eternal life that was with the Father and was revealed to us-- we declare to you what we have seen and heard so that you also may have fellowship with us; and truly our fellowship is with the Father and with his Son Jesus Christ. We are writing these things so that our joy may be complete. This is the message we have heard from him and proclaim to you, that God is light and in him there is no darkness at all. If we say that we have fellowship with him while we are walking in darkness, we lie and do not do what is true; but if we walk in the light as he himself is in the light, we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus his Son cleanses us from all sin. If we say that we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. If we confess our sins, he who is faithful and just will forgive us our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness. If we say that we have not sinned, we make him a liar, and his word is not in us. My little children, I am writing these things to you so that you may not sin. But if anyone does

sin, we have an advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ the righteous; and he is the atoning sacrifice for our sins, and not for ours only but also for the sins of the whole world.

Reader: The Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God

Sequence Hymn (*please stand as able*).....**Hymnal 490**

Deacon: The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ

People: Glory to you, Lord Christ

The Gospel.....**John 20:19-31**

When it was evening on that day, the first day of the week, and the doors of the house where the disciples had met were locked for fear of the Jews, Jesus came and stood among them and said, "Peace be with you." After he said this, he showed them his hands and his side. Then the disciples rejoiced when they saw the Lord. Jesus said to them again, "Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, so I send you." When he had said this, he breathed on them and said to them, "Receive the Holy Spirit. If you forgive the sins of any, they are forgiven them; if you retain the sins of any, they are retained." But Thomas (who was called the Twin), one of the twelve, was not with them when Jesus came. So the other disciples told him, "We have seen the Lord." But he said to them, "Unless I see the mark of the nails in his hands, and put my finger in the mark of the nails and my hand in his side, I will not believe." A week later his disciples were again in the house, and Thomas was with them. Although the doors were shut, Jesus came and stood among them and said, "Peace be with you." Then he said to Thomas, "Put your finger here and see my hands. Reach out your hand and put it in my side. Do not doubt but believe." Thomas answered him, "My Lord and my God!" Jesus said to

him, "Have you believed because you have seen me? Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have come to believe." Now Jesus did many other signs in the presence of his disciples, which are not written in this book. But these are written so that you may come to believe that Jesus is the Messiah, the Son of God, and that through believing you may have life in his name.

Deacon: The Gospel of the Lord

People: Praise to you, Lord Christ

Sermon (please be seated)..... **Rev. Rob Iler**

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. With the Father and the Son he is worshiped and glorified. He 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.

Prayers of the People Form III

The Leader and People pray responsively

Father, we pray for your holy Catholic Church;

That we all may be one.

Grant that every member of the Church may truly and humbly serve you;

That your Name may be glorified by all people.

We pray for all bishops, priests, and deacons; especially Michael, our presiding bishop, Glenda our bishop, Brian our assisting bishop, Rob our priest, and Judy our deacon.

That they may be faithful ministers of your Word and Sacraments.

We pray for all who govern and hold authority in the nations of the world;

That there may be justice and peace on the earth.

Give us grace to do your will in all that we undertake;

That our works may find favor in your sight.

Have compassion on those who suffer from any grief or trouble;

That they may be delivered from their distress.

Give to the departed eternal rest.

Let light perpetual shine upon them.

We praise you for your saints who have entered into joy;

May we also come to share in your heavenly kingdom.

Let us pray for our own needs and those of others, including those on our parish prayer list.

Silence

The Peace

Celebrant: The peace of the Lord be always with you.

People: And also with you.

Announcements

- Thank you St. James Family for your participation in our Easter Brunch. You are fantastic. Sydney Smith
- Due to facility availability conflicts, the St James Parish Retreat at Camp McDowell scheduled for Dec. 6-8 will be rescheduled for 2025.
- A sign up sheet for lay ministry volunteers for April is available in Stough Hall. Please sign up to volunteer where you are able.

Offertory

Offertory Response..... “*All Things Come of Thee O Lord, and of Thine own have we given Thee.*” Amen.

The Great Thanksgiving

The Great Thanksgiving - Eucharistic Prayer C

Celebrant: The Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

Celebrant: Lift up your hearts.

People: We lift them to the Lord.

Celebrant: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People: It is right to give him thanks and praise.

Celebrant: God of all power, Ruler of the Universe, you are worthy of glory and praise.

People: Glory to you for ever and ever.

Celebrant: At your command all things came to be: the vast expanse of interstellar space, galaxies, suns, the planets in their courses, and this fragile earth, our island home.

People: By your will they were created and have their being.

Celebrant: From the primal elements you brought forth the human race, and blessed us with memory, reason, and skill. You made us the rulers of creation. But we turned against you, and betrayed your trust; and we turned against one another.

People: Have mercy, Lord, for we are sinners in your sight.

Celebrant: Again and again, you called us to return. Through prophets and sages you revealed your righteous Law. And in the fullness of time you sent your only Son, born of a woman, to fulfill your Law, to open for us the way of freedom and peace.

People: By his blood, he reconciled us. By his wounds, we are healed.

Celebrant: And therefore we praise you, joining with the heavenly chorus, with prophets, apostles, and martyrs, and with all those in every generation who have looked to you in hope, to proclaim with them your glory, in their unending hymn:

Sanctus.....Hymnal S125/BCP 362

Holy, Holy, Holy Lord, God of power and might, heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest. Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.

Celebrant: And so, Father, we who have been redeemed by him, and made a new people by water and the Spirit, now bring before you these gifts. Sanctify them by your Holy Spirit to be the Body and Blood of Jesus Christ our Lord.

On the night he was betrayed he took bread, said the blessing, broke the bread, and gave it to his friends, and said, "Take, eat: This is my Body, which is given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me."

After supper, he took the cup of wine, gave thanks, and said, "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. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me."

Remembering now his work of redemption, and offering to you this sacrifice of thanksgiving,

People: We celebrate his death and resurrection, as we await the day of his coming.

Celebrant: Lord God of our Fathers: God of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob; God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ: Open our eyes to see your hand at work in the world about us. Deliver us from the presumption of coming to this Table for solace only, and not for strength; for pardon only, and not for renewal. Let the grace of this Holy Communion make us one body, one spirit in Christ, that we may worthily serve the world in his name.

People: Risen Lord, be known to us in the breaking of the Bread.

Celebrant: Accept these prayers and praises, Father, through Jesus Christ our great High Priest, to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit, your Church gives honor, glory, and worship, from generation to generation. *AMEN.*

Celebrant: And now, as our Savior Christ has taught us, we are bold to say,

Celebrant and People: Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy Name, thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, for ever and ever.

The Breaking of the Bread.....BCP 364

Celebrant: Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us;

People: Therefore let us keep the feast.

Fraction Anthem.....Hymnal S155/BCP 364

Communion Hymn 1.....Hymnal 508

Communion Hymn 2.....Hymnal 336

Post Communion Prayer.....BCP 365

Eternal God, heavenly Father, you have graciously accepted us as living members of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ, and you have fed us with spiritual food in the Sacrament of his Body and Blood. Send us now into the world in peace, and grant us strength and courage to love and serve you with gladness and singleness of heart; through Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

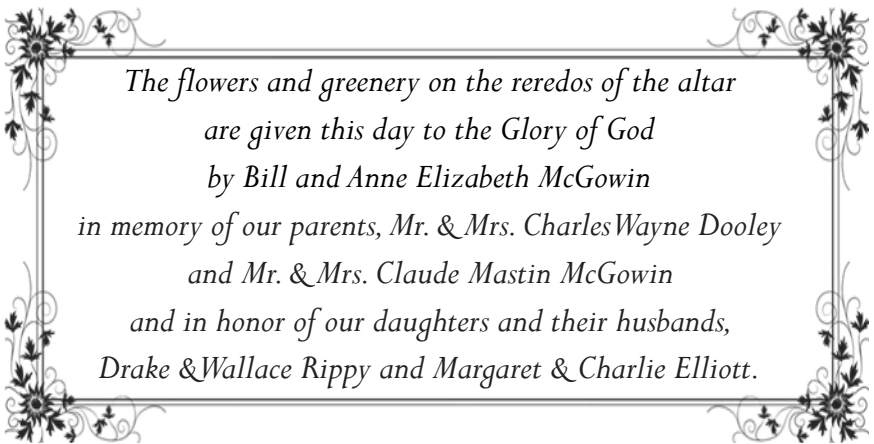
Blessing

Recessional.....Hymnal 193

Dismissal

Deacon: Let us go forth into the world, rejoicing in the power of the Holy Spirit. Alleluia, alleluia!

People: Thanks be to God. Alleluia, alleluia!



*The flowers and greenery on the reredos of the altar
are given this day to the Glory of God
by Bill and Anne Elizabeth McGowin
in memory of our parents, Mr. & Mrs. Charles Wayne Dooley
and Mr. & Mrs. Claude Mastin McGowin
and in honor of our daughters and their husbands,
Drake & Wallace Rippy and Margaret & Charlie Elliott.*

St. James Prayer Requests

The following parishioners, friends and extended family members are remembered in our prayers.

Our Parish Family

Jim Bent	Janice Boone	Alyce Carlisle
Florence Copeland	Faye Holliday	Phyllis McAnally
Ann Regnier	Angie Smith	Jimbo Spencer
Sherwood Stewart	Judy Stone	

Family and Friends

Ann Phillips Arrington		Leslie Avel
Ruth Barbee	Joe Beard	Nan Beard
Lauren Cessna	Tommy Chance	Johndra Culp
Jerry Dickson	Bob Dixon	Jane Fenwick
Joe Fenwick	Derek Fox	Katy Gaddis
Brenda Gainey	Vicki Galamore	Emiko Garner
Mary Garner	Joe Gassenheimer	Susan Hammock
Carolyn Keesee	Tom Lamberth	Clint Langley
Buddy Looney	Dale Martin	Carolyn Nalls
Mary Frances Nelson	John Nichols	Jayne Ogilvie
Jim Peace	Joe Peel	Dana Poisal
Eric Reutebuch	Chris Sheheane	Carol Sims
Richard Smith	Mary Taylor	Ann Grey Tate
Honey Trowbridge	Dot Vines	Nina Ware
Ronnie Weathers	Rusty White	Cyndi Wilson
Annette Worthy	Dave Young	

Please keep all of our military personnel in your prayers. Please pray for the following active military personnel.

Drew Belcher	Alex Duldt	Orrin Harbol
Seth Harbol	K.C. Hollon	Paul Krattiger
Ryan Sullivan	Bo Shippen Waldo	Andrew Walker

We give thanks for the following parishioners and family members celebrating birthdays this week.

Leanne Price	Peggy Clayton	Sonny Bozeman
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In our Diocesan Cycle of Prayer we pray for our Companion Diocese of Honduras and their bishop, Lloyd. We pray for Holy Comforter (Gadsden) and Holy Comforter (Montgomery).

Throughout the Anglican Communion we pray for The Episcopal/Anglican Province of Alexandria.

Prayer for the Parish Almighty and ever living God, ruler of all things in heaven and earth, hear our prayers for this parish family. Strengthen the faithful, arouse the careless, and restore the penitent. Grant us all things necessary for our common life, and bring us all to be of one heart and mind within your holy Church; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

St. James Episcopal Church

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THE MOST REV. MICHAEL CURRY
PRESIDING BISHOP OF THE EPISCOPAL CHURCH

THE RT REV. GLENDA CURRY
BISHOP OF THE DIOCESE OF ALABAMA

THE RT. REV. BRIAN PRIOR
ASSISTING BISHOP OF THE DIOCESE OF ALABAMA

ST. JAMES EPISCOPAL CHURCH STAFF

THE REV. ROBERT ST. GERMAIN-ILER, RECTOR

THE REV. JUDY QUICK, DEACON

BARBARA BARNES, ORGANIST

JENNIFER JAMES, PARISH ADMINISTRATOR

KRISTY STEELE, DIGITAL MEDIA PRODUCER

2024 VESTRY AND OFFICERS

Barbara Barnes, Hospitality

Charles Copeland, Finance

Kathy Graham, Sr. Warden

Randy Adair, Jr. Warden

Mel Loftis, Clerk

Scotti Bozeman, Parish Life

Rick Gassenheimer, Outreach

Jill Hiers, Kitchen

Harry DeNegre, Hospitality

Susan Mange, Treasurer

	8:00 am	10:00 am
Readers	Charlotte Bent	Betsy Iler & Sonny Bozeman
Intercessor	Diana French	Cathy Gassenheimer
Servers	Joanna Roberson	Joe Smith & TBD
Oblations		Rick & Cathy Gassenheimer
Ushers		Dick Chambliss & Billy Harrison
Coffee Hosts		Hugh & Sarah Neighbors