

St. James Church, Fordham
The Episcopal Church + The Anglican Communion

The Holy Eucharist

The Fifth Sunday of Easter
April 28, 2024 at eleven o'clock in the morning



THE SEASON OF EASTER

The Fifty Days of Easter form a single festival period in which the tone of joy (created at the Easter Vigil) is sustained through the following seven weeks, and the Church celebrates the gloriously risen Christ.

The lit Easter Candle (also known as the Pascal Candle) stands prominently in church for all the Eastertide services. The Alleluia appears frequently in liturgical speech and song; white or gold vestments and decorations emphasize the joy and brightness of the season.

On the fortieth day of Easter, we celebrate Christ's ascension. He commissions his disciples to continue his work, he promises the gift of the Holy Spirit, and then he is no longer among them in the flesh. The arrival of the promised gift of the Holy Spirit on the day of Pentecost completes and crowns the Easter Festival. *Liturgy Materials* from ChurchofEngland.org *The People stand*

OPENING ACCLAMATION

Presider

Alleluia! Christ is Risen.

People

The Lord is Risen indeed. Alleluia!

OPENING HYMN 379 GOD IS LOVE, LET HEAVEN ADORE HIM

1 God is Love, let heaven a - dore him; God is Love, let
2 God is Love; and Love en - folds us, all the world in
3 God is Love; and though with blind-ness sin af - flicts all

earth re - joice; let cre - a - tion sing be - fore him
one em - brace: with un - fail - ing grasp God holds us,
hu - man life, God's e - ter - nal lov - ing - kind - ness

and ex - alt him with one voice. God who laid the earth's foun -
ev - ery child of ev - ery race. And when hu - man hearts are
guides us through our earth - ly strife. Sin and death and hell shall

da - tion, God who spread the heaven a - bove, God who breathes through
break - ing un - der sor - row's i - ron rod, then we find that
nev - er o'er us fi - nal tri - umph gain; God is Love, so

all cre - a - tion: God is Love, e - ter - nal Love.
self - same ach - ing deep with - in the heart of God.
Love for ev - er o'er the u - ni - verse must reign.

Words: Timothy Rees (1874-1939), alt. Held by A.R. Mowbray & Co. Ltd. Music: *Abbot's Leigh*, Cyril Vincent Taylor (1907-1991). Copyright © 1942 Renewal 1970, by Hope Publishing Company, Carol Stream, IL 60188. All Rights Reserved. Used by permission.

OPENING COLLECT

Presider The Lord be with you.

People **And also with you.**

Presider Let us pray. Almighty God, whom truly to know is everlasting life: Grant us so perfectly to know your Son Jesus Christ to be the way, the truth, and the life, that we may steadfastly follow his steps in the way that leads to eternal life; through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord, who lives and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

The People are seated for the readings from Holy Scripture.

A READING FROM THE BOOK OF ACTS, CHAPTER 8, BEGINNING VERSE 26

An angel of the Lord said to Philip, "Get up and go toward 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.

Chapter 8:26-40

Reader: Hear what the Spirit is saying to God's people.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

PSALM 22

The verses are read responsively by whole verse.

24 My praise is of him in the great assembly;

I will perform my vows in the presence of those who worship him.

25 The poor shall eat and be satisfied, and those who seek the LORD shall praise him:

"May your heart live for ever!"

26 All the ends of the earth shall remember and turn to the LORD,
and all the families of the nations shall bow before him.

27 For kingship belongs to the LORD; he rules over the nations.

28 To him alone all who sleep in the earth bow down in worship;
all who go down to the dust fall before him.

**29 My soul shall live for him; my descendants shall serve him;
they shall be known as the LORD's for ever.**

30a They shall come and make known to a people yet unborn

30b the saving deeds that he has done.

A READING FROM THE FIRST BOOK OF JOHN, CHAPTER 4 BEGINNING VERSE 7

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 Savior 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 judgment, 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.

Chapter 4:7-21

Reader Hear what the Spirit is saying to God's people.

***People* Thanks be to God.**

The People stand (as able) for the Processional Hymn and reading of the Gospel.

THE PROCESSIONAL HYMN LEVAS 219 THIS IS THE DAY

Eb Eb F7 Eb/Bb Bb
 This is the day — this is the day — that the Lord has made that the Lord has made
 5 F13sus7 Bb F13sus7 Bb Fm/Ab Eb/G /F /Eb Db Ddim7 Eb
 We will re joice we will re joice and be glad in it — and be glad in it —
 9 Ab A dim7 Eb/Bb G/B Cm Fm7 Ab/Bb Gm G/B Cm Bmaj7
 This is the day — that the Lord has — made We will re joice and be glad in — it —
 13 Eb/Bb Cm6/A Ab Eb/G Fm9 Bb
 This is the — day this is the — day that the Lord has
 16 Eb Ab7 Db7 Abmaj7/Bb Eb Ab7 Db7 1, 2, 3. Ab/Bb
 made BREAK

THE GOSPEL

Presider The Holy Gospel of the Lord Jesus Christ, according to John.
People **Glorify to you, Lord Christ.**

Jesus said to his disciples, "I am the true vine, and my Father is the vinegrower. 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."

Chapter 15:1-8

Presider The Gospel of the Lord.
People **Praise to you, Lord Christ.**

THE SERMON

After a few moments for reflection and silence, the People are invited to stand (as they are able) for The Creed and Prayers.

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.

THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Presider: With the light of Christ before us and the power of his resurrection behind us, let us now offer our prayers and intercessions to God's Holy and Risen Son.

Leader: Lord Jesus Christ, risen from death, we praise you for changed lives and new hope in this Easter Season. You came to Mary in the garden and turned her tears into joy. We pray that you would turn our nations and leaders away from wars and injustice toward the peace and joy of your kingdom.

For your love and mercy: We give you thanks, O Lord.

You came to the disciples in the upper room and turned their fear into courage. We pray for the whole Church, our deacons, priests, and bishops, and for this congregation here today. Turn our divisions and fear into strength and courage, that we might proclaim by word and example the good news to all people.

For your love and mercy: We give you thanks, O Lord.

You came to the disciples by the lakeside and turned their doubts into determination. We pray for our political leaders, our president, our congress, and judges, our governor, mayor, and local representatives. Transform their doubts into a deep determination, to make wise decisions and work for the common good.

For your love and mercy: We give you thanks, O Lord.

You came to the travelers on the Emmaus Road and turned their despair into hope. We pray for the poor, the persecuted, the sick, and all fellow travelers on our spiritual path who have asked for our prayers, and those we name aloud or silently in our hearts that in your presence they may find strength. *[we pause in silence]*

For your love and mercy: We give you thanks, O Lord.

You come to us in our unworthiness and shame and turn our weakness into triumph. We pray for ourselves and our own needs. *[we pause]*. We also all who have died, including those including those we name either silently or aloud *[we pause again]*, that our weakness in death will be turned into triumph, on the final day of resurrection in your heavenly kingdom.

For your love and mercy: We give you thanks, O Lord.

Presider: Lord Jesus, wherever we experience heartache, fear, or failure, despair, disappointment and doubt: Come to us today, and reveal your great love, your infinite mercy, and your risen power; for the glory of your name.
Alleluia and Amen.

THE PEACE

The People stand.

Presider The peace of the Lord be always with you.
People **And also with you.**

WELCOME, ANNOUNCEMENTS, AND BIRTHDAY BLESSINGS

OFFERTORY

Presider

Walk in love as Christ loved us and gave himself a fragrant offering and sacrifice to God.

GIVING AT ST. JAMES

- (1) From your phone: text your offering amount to 833-977-0553
- (2) From our website: www.SaintJamesFordham.org; click on ONLINE GIVING
- (3) From the mail, send checks to:
St. James Church, Fordham; 2500 Jerome Ave.; Bronx, NY 10468

OFFERTORY HYMN 304 I COME WITH JOY TO MEET MY LORD

Unison or harmony

1 I come with joy to meet my Lord, for -
2 I come with Chris - tians far and near to
3 As Christ breaks bread and bids us share, each
4 And thus with joy we meet our Lord. His
5 To - geth - er met, to - geth - er bound, we'll

1 giv - en, loved, and free, in awe and won - der
2 find, as all are fed, the new com - mu - ni -
3 proud di - vi - sion ends. That love that made us
4 pres - ence, al - ways near, is in such friend - ship
5 go our dif - ferent ways, and as his peo - ple

1 to re - call his life laid down for me.
2 ty of love in Christ's com - mun - ion bread.
3 makes us one, and stran - gers now are friends.
4 bet - ter known: we see, and praise him here.
5 in the world, we'll live and speak his praise.

Words: Brian A. Wren (b. 1936), alt. Copyright © 1971 by Hope Publishing Company Carol Stream, IL 60188. All Rights Reserved. Used by permission. Music: *Land of Rest*, American folk melody; adapt. and harm. Annabel Morris Buchanan (1889-1983).

The People remain standing

Presider The Lord be with you.
People **And also with you.**
Presider Lift up your hearts.
People **We lift them to the Lord.**
Presider Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
People **It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth. *[The presider adds a proper preface, stating why we offer our thanks and praise to God].* Therefore we praise you, joining our voices with Angels and Archangels and with all the company of heaven, who forever sing this hymn to proclaim the glory of your Name:

**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.**

After the Sanctus, the People stand or kneel. Then the Presider continues the Eucharistic Prayer:

Holy and gracious Father: In your infinite love you made us for yourself; and, when we had fallen into sin and become subject to evil and death, you, in your mercy, sent Jesus Christ, your only and eternal Son, to share our human nature, to live and die as one of us, to reconcile us to you, the God and Father of all. He stretched out his arms upon the cross, and offered himself, in obedience to your will, a perfect sacrifice for the whole world.

On the night he was handed over to suffering and death, our Lord Jesus Christ took bread; and when he had given thanks to you, he broke it, and gave it to his disciples, 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; and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, 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."

Therefore we proclaim the mystery of faith:

Presider and People
Christ has died, Christ is risen, Christ will come again.

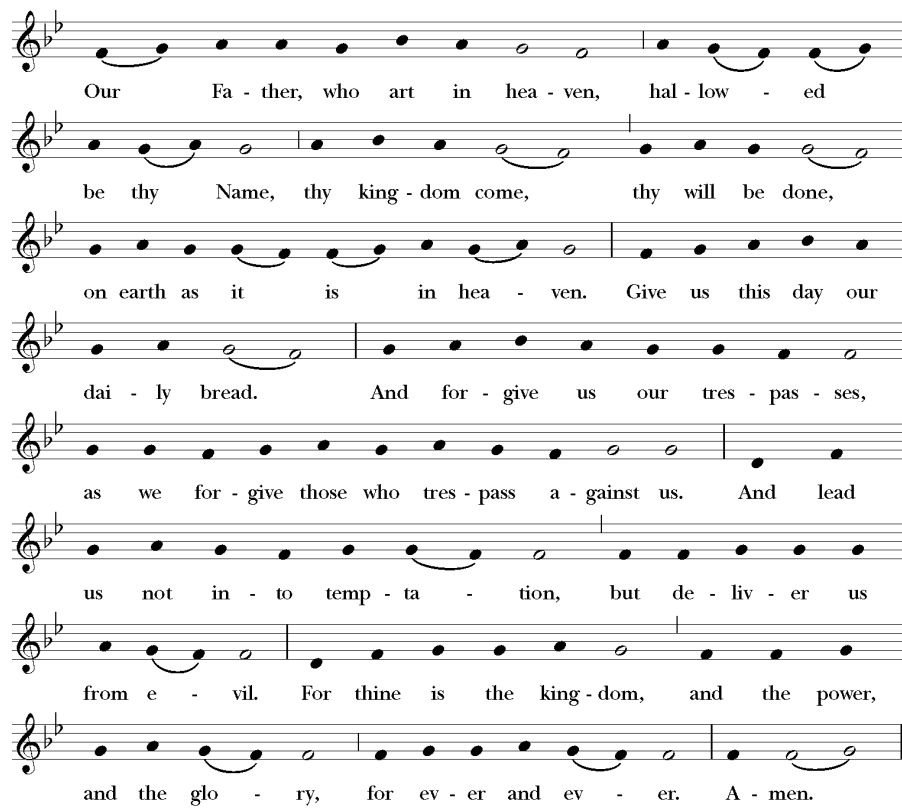
The Presider continues
 We celebrate the memorial of our redemption, O Father, in this sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving. Recalling his death, resurrection, and ascension, we offer you these gifts. Sanctify them by your Holy Spirit to be for your people the Body and Blood of your Son, the holy food and drink of new and unending life in him. Sanctify us also that we may faithfully receive this holy Sacrament, and serve you in unity, constancy, and peace; and at the last day bring us with all your saints into the joy of your eternal kingdom.

All this we ask through your Son Jesus Christ. By him, and with him, and in him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit all honor and glory is yours, Almighty Father, now and for ever.

People: **AMEN.**
Presider: And now, as our Savior Christ has taught us, we are bold to say:

The People and Presider all join:

THE LORD'S PRAYER HYMNAL S-119



Our Fa - ther, who art in hea - ven, hal - low - ed
be thy Name, thy king - dom come, thy will be done,
on earth as it is in hea - ven. Give us this day our
dai - ly bread. And for - give us our tres - pas - ses,
as we for - give those who tres - pass a - gainst us. And lead
us not in - to temp - ta - tion, but de - liv - er us
from e - vil. For thine is the king - dom, and the power,
and the glo - ry, for ev - er and ev - er. A - men.

THE BREAKING OF THE BREAD

Presider

Alleluia. Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us.

People

Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia.

FRACTION HYMN: JESUS LAMB OF GOD



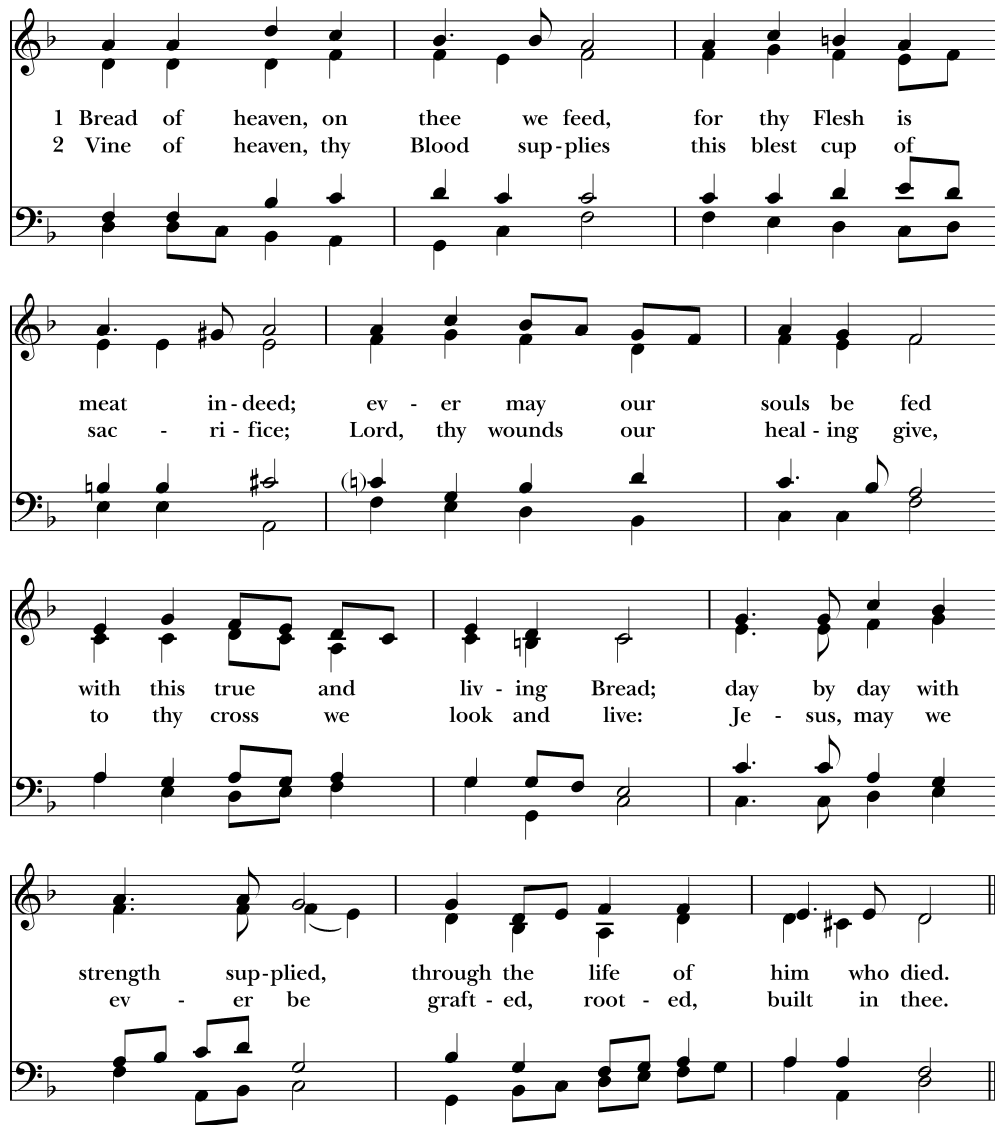
Lamb of God, you take a -
way the sins of the world: have mer - cy on us. Lamb of
God, you take a - way the sins of the world: have mer - cy on
us. Lamb of God, you take a - way the
sins of the world: grant us peace.

THE INVITATION

Presider: The Gifts of God for the People of God. Take them in remembrance that Christ died for you, and feed on him in your hearts by faith, with thanksgiving.

Everyone is welcome and encouraged to come forward during communion.

COMMUNION HYMN 323 BREAD OF HEAVEN, ON THEE WE FEED



1 Bread of heaven, on thee we feed, for thy Flesh is
2 Vine of heaven, thy Blood sup-plies this blest cup of
meat in-deed; ev-er may our souls be fed
sac-ri-fice; Lord, thy wounds our heal-ing give,
with this true and liv-ing Bread; day by day with
to thy cross we look and live: Je-sus, may we
strength sup-plied, through the life of him who died.
ev-er be graft-ed, root-ed, built in thee.

Words: Josiah Conder (1789-1855), alt. Music: *Jesu, Jesu, du mein Hirt*, melody Paul Heinlein (1626-1686); harm. *The English Hymnal*, 1906.

COMMUNION HYMN 529 IN CHRIST THERE IS NO EAST OR WEST

1. In Christ there is no East or West In
 2. In Him shall be ture hearts ey ery where their
 3. Join hands di ci ples of the faith what
 4. In Christ now meet both East and West in

Him no South or North; But one great fel low
 high com mu nion may be! His ser vice my fa is low
 e'er your race may and; Him meet South and North; All Christ my ly sould ther are

ship gold of love through out the whole wide earth.
 as en his in cord child close bind ing hu man kind.
 one his in him is through out sure ly the kin to me. earth.

THE PEOPLE STAND OR KNEEL.

POST COMMUNION PRAYER

Presider: Let us pray.

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.

THE BLESSING

May God's Holy Spirit, who filled the disciples with the life of the risen Lord, empower you and fill you with Christ's peace. And the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be upon you and remain with you for ever. Amen.

CLOSING HYMN 599 LIFT EVERY VOICE AND SING



1 Lift ev-ery voice and sing till earth and hea - ven ring, ring with the
 2 Ston-y the road we trod, bit - ter the chas-tening rod, felt in the
 3 God of our wea - ry years, God of our si - lent tears, thou who hast



har - mon - ies of lib - er - ty. Let our re - joic - ing rise
 days when hope un - born had died; yet, with a stead - y beat,
 brought us thus far on the way; thou who hast by thy might



high as the lis - tening skies; let it re - sound loud as the
 have not our wea - ry feet come to the place for which our
 led us in - to the light; keep us for ev - er in the



roll - ing sea. Sing a song full of the faith that the dark past has
 par - ents sighed? We have come o - ver a way that with tears has been
 path, we pray. Lest our feet stray from the pla - ces, our God, where we



taught us; sing a song full of the hope that the pres - ent has
 wa - tered; we have come, tread - ing our path through the blood of the
 met thee; lest, our hearts drunk with the wine of the world, we for-



brought us; fac - ing the ris - ing sun of our new
 slaugh - tered, out from the gloom - y past, till now we
 get thee; sha-dowed be - neath thy hand may we for



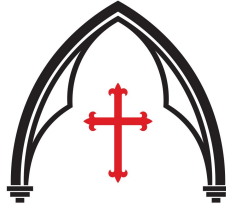
day be - gun, let us march on, till vic - to - ry is won.
 stand at last where the white gleam of our bright star is cast.
 ev - er stand, true to our God, true to our na - tive land.



THE DISMISSAL

Presider Alleluia, Alleluia! Let us go forth into the world, rejoicing in the power of the Spirit.
People **Thanks be to God. Alleluia, Alleluia!**

POSTLUDE



SAINT JAMES CHURCH, FORDHAM

The Episcopal Church + The Anglican Community

We Pray ... and worship the God of Love
We Proclaim ... and share the Good News of Christ
We Promote ... justice and peace in the power of the Spirit

Vestry Person on Duty

Arthur Longworth

347-443-0682

Alternate:
Abby Laryea

+++

LEADERSHIP AT ST. JAMES, FORDHAM

The Rev. Megan Sanders, *Presider*
Ms. Abby Laryea, *Director of Lay Ministries*
Norma Jones, *Worship Leader*
Jeff Caldwell, *Pianist*

Vestry Members

Jewel Ford (Warden); Raquel Davis; Arthur Longworth (Warden), Class of 2024
Michaeline Branker-Cooper; Norma Jones; Albert McFadzean, Class of 2025
Glenford Nicholas; Michelle Jordan-Sarr; Abby Laryea, Class of 2026

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