**The Holy Friendship**

of

**St. James Episcopal Church**

95 Route 2A | Preston, CT 06365

860-889-0150 | email: office@stjamespreston.org

&

**Grace Episcopal Church**

4 Chapel Hill Road | Yantic, CT 06389

860-887-2082



**The Second Sunday of Easter**

April 24, 2022 at 9:00 am

The Reverend Patricia M. Hames, Celebrant

Myra Day, Organist

**The Liturgy of the Word**

**Welcome**

**Opening Hymn #178 Alleluia, Alleluia! Give Thanks**

Celebrant: Alleluia. Christ is risen.

**People:** **The Lord is risen indeed. Alleluia.**

Celebrant: The Lord be with you.

**People: And also with you.**

Celebrant: Let us pray.

**The Collect**

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.**

**The Gloria |#S280**

**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.**

**The Lessons**

**Acts 5:27-32**

When the temple police had brought the apostles, they had them stand before the council. The high priest questioned them, saying, "We gave you strict orders not to teach in this name, yet here you have filled Jerusalem with your teaching and you are determined to bring this man's blood on us." But Peter and the apostles answered, "We must obey God rather than any human authority. The God of our ancestors raised up Jesus, whom you had killed by hanging him on a tree. God exalted him at his right hand as Leader and Savior that he might give repentance to Israel and forgiveness of sins. And we are witnesses to these things, and so is the Holy Spirit whom God has given to those who obey him."

The Word of the Lord. **People:** **Thanks be to God**

**Psalm 118:14-29**

14 The Lord is my strength and my song, \*  
and he has become my salvation.

15 **There is a sound of exultation and victory \*  
in the tents of the righteous:**

16 "The right hand of the Lord has triumphed! \*  
the right hand of the Lord is exalted!  
the right hand of the Lord has triumphed!"

17 **I shall not die, but live, \*  
and declare the works of the Lord.**

18 The Lord has punished me sorely, \*  
but he did not hand me over to death.

19 **Open for me the gates of righteousness; \*  
I will enter them;  
I will offer thanks to the Lord.**

20 "This is the gate of the Lord; \*  
he who is righteous may enter."

21 **I will give thanks to you, for you answered me \*  
and have become my salvation.**

22 The same stone which the builders rejected \*  
has become the chief cornerstone.

23 **This is the Lord'S doing, \*  
and it is marvelous in our eyes.**

24 On this day the Lord has acted; \*  
we will rejoice and be glad in it.

25 **Hosannah, Lord, Hosannah! \*  
Lord, send us now success.**

26 Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord; \*  
we bless you from the house of the Lord.

27 **God is the Lord; he has shined upon us; \*  
form a procession with branches up to the horns of the altar.**

28 "You are my God, and I will thank you; \*  
you are my God, and I will exalt you."

29 **Give thanks to the Lord, for he is good; \*  
his mercy endures for ever.**

**The New Testament**

**Revelation 1:4-8**

John to the seven churches that are in Asia: Grace to you and peace from him who is and who was and who is to come, and from the seven spirits who are before his throne, and from Jesus Christ, the faithful witness, the firstborn of the dead, and the ruler of the kings of the earth. To him who loves us and freed us from our sins by his blood, and made us to be a kingdom, priests serving his God and Father, to him be glory and dominion forever and ever. Amen. Look! He is coming with the clouds; every eye will see him, even those who pierced him; and on his account all the tribes of the earth will wail. So it is to be. Amen. "I am the Alpha and the Omega," says the Lord God, who is and who was and who is to come, the Almighty.

The Word of the Lord.

**People: Thanks be to God.**

**Sequence Hymn #209 We Walk by Faith, and Not by Sight**

Officiant: The Holy Gospel of our Savior Jesus Christ, according to John.

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

**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.

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

**The Homily** The Rev. Pat Hames

*A short silence will be kept*

**Nicene Creed** |BCP Page 358

**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**

**Prayers of the People Form VI** | BCP page 392

Leader: In peace, we pray to you, Lord God.

*Silence*

For all people in their daily life and work;  
**For our families, friends, and neighbors, and for those who  
are alone.**

For this community, the nation, and the world;  
**For all who work for justice, freedom, and peace.**

For the just and proper use of your creation;  
**For the victims of hunger, fear, injustice, and oppression.**

For all who are in danger, sorrow, or any kind of trouble;  
**For those who minister to the sick, the friendless, and the needy.**

For the peace and unity of the Church of God;  
**For all who proclaim the Gospel, and all who seek the Truth.**

For our Presiding Bishop, and our Bishops; and for all bishops and other ministers;  
**For all who serve God in his Church.**

For the special needs and concerns of this congregation. Let us pray for our deployed members of the Armed Services. and especially Dan Miller.

*The People may add their own petitions.*

*Silence*

We thank you, Lord, for all the blessings of this life.

*The People may add their own thanksgivings.*

*Silence*

We will exalt you, O God our King;  
**And praise your Name for ever and ever.**

We pray for all who have died, that they may have a place in your eternal kingdom.

*The People may add their own petitions.*

*Silence*

Lord, let your loving-kindness be upon them;  
**All who put their trust in you.**

Let us pray for the people of the Ukraine.

**God of peace and justice, we pray for the people of Ukraine today. We pray for peace and the laying down of weapons. We pray for all those who fear for tomorrow, that your Spirit of comfort would draw near to them. We pray for those with power over war or peace, for wisdom, discernment and compassion to guide their decisions. Above all, we pray for all your precious children, at risk and in fear, that you would hold and protect them. We pray in the name of Jesus, the Prince of Peace. Amen.**

*(England’s Archbishops of Canterbury and York)*

We pray to you also for the forgiveness of our sins.

*Silence may be kept.*

**Leader and People:**

**Have mercy upon us, most merciful Father;  
  in your compassion forgive us our sins,  
  known and unknown,  
  things done and left undone;  
  and so uphold us by your Spirit  
  that we may live and serve you in newness of life,  
  to the honor and glory of your Name;  
  through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

**Celebrant concludes with an Absolution**

**The Peace**

The peace of the Lord be always with you.

**People: And also with you.**

**† THE HOLY COMMUNION †**

**Offertory Hymn #192 This Joyful Eastertide**

**The Presentation of the Gifts: The Doxology**

**Praise God from whom all blessings flow,**

**Praise Him all creatures here below,**

**Praise Him above ye heavenly hosts.**

**Praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost. Amen**

**† THE GREAT THANKSGIVING †**

**Eucharistic Prayer B**

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: It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth. Because you sent your beloved Son to redeem us from sin and death, and to make us heirs in him of everlasting life; that when he shall come again in power and great triumph to judge the world, we may without shame or fear rejoice to behold his appearing. Therefore we praise you, joining our voices with Angels and Archangels and with all the company of heaven, who for ever sing this hymn proclaim the glory of your Name.

Celebrant and the people: 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:We give thanks to you, O God, for the goodness and love which you have made known to us in creation; in the calling of Israel to be your people; in your Word spoken through the prophets; and above all in the Word made flesh, Jesus, your Son. For in these last days you sent him to be incarnate from the Virgin Mary, to be the Savior and Redeemer of the world. In him, you have delivered us from evil, and made us worthy to stand before you. In him, you have brought us out of error into truth, out of sin into righteousness, out of death into life.

On the night before he died for us, 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, according to his command, O Father,

Celebrant and People:

**We remember his death,  
We proclaim his resurrection,  
We await his coming in glory;**

Celebrant*:* And we offer our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving to you, O Lord of all; presenting to you, from your creation, this bread and this wine.

We pray you, gracious God, to send your Holy Spirit upon these gifts that they may be the Sacrament of the Body of Christ and his Blood of the new Covenant. Unite us to your Son in his sacrifice, that we may be acceptable through him, being sanctified by the Holy Spirit. In the fullness of time, put all things in subjection under your Christ, and bring us to that heavenly country where, with St. James and all your saints, we may enter the everlasting heritage of your sons and daughters; through Jesus Christ our Lord, the firstborn of all creation, the head of the Church, and the author of our salvation.

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. **Amen.**

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

**The Lord’s Prayer |** BCP Page 364

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. **Amen.**

**The Breaking of the Bread**

Celebrant:Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us,

**People: Therefore let us keep the feast.**

Celebrant: The Gifts of God for the People of God.

*Silence*

**A Prayer for Spiritual Communion**

Celebrant: Let us pray.

**I believe that you are truly present in the Holy Sacrament, and since I cannot at this time receive communion, I pray you to come into my heart. I unite myself with you and embrace you with all my heart, my soul, and my mind. Let nothing separate me from you; let me serve you in this life until, by your grace, I come to your glorious kingdom and unending peace. Amen.**

**Communion Hymn #328 Draw Nigh and Take the Body of the Lord**

*Silence*

**The Prayer after Communion:**

Celebrant: Let us pray.

**Almighty and everliving God, we thank you for feeding us with the spiritual food of the most precious**

**Body and Blood of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ; and for assuring us in these holy mysteries that we are living members of the Body of your Son, and heirs of your eternal kingdom. And now, Father, send us out to do the work you have given us to do, to love and serve you as faithful witnesses of Christ our Lord. To him, to you, and to the Holy Spirit, be honor and glory, now and for ever. Amen.**

**Easter Blessing †**

The God of peace, who brought again from the dead our Lord Jesus Christ, the great Shepherd of the sheep, through the blood of the everlasting covenant, make you perfect in every good work to do his will, working in you that which is well-pleasing in his sight; and the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be among you, and remain with you always. **Amen.**

**Recessional Hymn #205 Good Christians All Rejoice and Sing!**

**The Dismissal**

**Announcements**

**Announcements**

**Congratulations to St. James** for being voted into the top 5 for the best fish and chips in The Day newspaper Best of the Best Contest. Thank you to all that have voted. The next round of voting for the top 3 starts May 15th. More info to come.

**OWL Luncheon:** May 12th at 12pm in the St. James parish hall.

**Vestry Meeting:** May 17th at 7pm on Zoom.

**Scripture & Compline:** Thursdays, 7pm on Zoom.

**Guided Healing Prayers:** Fridays, 8am on Zoom.

Please continue to keep the **Preston Food Pantry** in mind. You may place your food items, cosmetics, toiletries, cleaning products, cat/dog food, etc...in the blue box in the church lobby.

We appreciate your kind consideration.