



# St. James Episcopal Church

*Our commitment: Walk in love with God.*

***The Fourth Sunday of Easter  
Holy Eucharist, Rite Two  
April 26, 2026***

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**The Very Rev. Dr. Jennifer Lazzuri**  
*Rector*  
*Dean of the Charlottesville Region, Diocese of Virginia*

**Tara Ford**  
*Organist-Choir Director*

**The Fourth Sunday of Easter**  
**Holy Eucharist, Rite Two**  
**April 26, 2026**

**Prelude:** *The Lord's My Shepherd, I'll Not Want*  
*Lord, Let My Heart Be Good Soil*

EVAN tune; arr. James Mansfield  
Handt Hanson

**Processional Hymn #492** *Sing ye faithful, sing with gladness* (**Please Stand**)

**The Word of God**

**Opening Acclamation**

*The Book of Common Prayer, page 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.**

**Gloria S-280**

**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.**

**Collect of the Day**

*The Book of Common Prayer, page 225*

*Celebrant* The Lord be with you.  
**People** **And also with you.**  
*Celebrant* Let us pray.

O God, whose Son Jesus is the good shepherd of your people: Grant that when we hear his voice we may know him who calls us each by name, and follow where he leads; who, with you and the Holy Spirit, lives and reigns, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

*Please be seated for the Readings*

**First Reading: Acts 2:42-47**

Those who had been baptized devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching and fellowship, to the breaking of bread and the prayers.

Awe came upon everyone, because many wonders and signs were being done by the apostles. All who believed were together and had all things in common; they would sell their possessions and goods and distribute the proceeds to all, as any had need. Day by day, as they spent much time together in the temple, they broke bread at home and ate their food with glad and generous hearts, praising God and having the goodwill of all the people. And day by day the Lord added to their number those who were being saved.

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

**Psalm 23** (Turn to page 612 in the *Book of Common Prayer*) (*We will read as instructed by the Lector*)

**Second Reading: 1 Peter 2:19-25**

It is a credit to you if, being aware of God, you endure pain while suffering unjustly. If you endure when you are beaten for doing wrong, what credit is that? But if you endure when you do right and suffer for it, you have God's approval. For to this you have been called, because Christ also suffered for you, leaving you an example, so that you should follow in his steps.

“He committed no sin, and no deceit was found in his mouth.”

When he was abused, he did not return abuse; when he suffered, he did not threaten; but he entrusted himself to the one who judges justly. He himself bore our sins in his body on the cross, so that, free from sins, we might live for righteousness; by his wounds you have been healed. For you were going astray like sheep, but now you have returned to the shepherd and guardian of your souls.

*Lector*     The Word of the Lord.

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

**Sequence Hymn #343** *Shepherd of souls, refresh and bless*

**Gospel: John 10:1-10**                     *Please Stand*

*Celebrant*     The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to John.

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

Jesus said, “Very truly, I tell you, anyone who does not enter the sheepfold by the gate but climbs in by another way is a thief and a bandit. The one who enters by the gate is the shepherd of the sheep. The gatekeeper opens the gate for him, and the sheep hear his voice. He calls his own sheep by name and leads them out. When he has brought out all his own, he goes ahead of them, and the sheep follow him because they know his voice. They will not follow a stranger, but they will run from him because they do not know the voice of strangers.” Jesus used this figure of speech with them, but they did not understand what he was saying to them.

So again Jesus said to them, “Very truly, I tell you, I am the gate for the sheep. All who came before me are thieves and bandits; but the sheep did not listen to them. I am the gate. Whoever enters by me will be saved, and will come in and go out and find pasture. The thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy. I came that they may have life, and have it abundantly.”

*Celebrant*     The Gospel of the Lord.

***People***         **Praise to you, Lord Christ.**

**The Sermon:** The Very Rev. Dr. Jennifer Lazzuri

**The Nicene Creed**                     (*Please stand and turn to pg. 358 in The Book of Common Prayer*)

**Prayers of the People** (*please kneel or be seated as you are able*)  
(*the congregation will respond with the **bolded italicized words***)

*Leader:* Beloved in Christ, our Lord Jesus hears our voice when we call to him. Let us remember all those in his flocks, saying, “O Christ, hear us.”

*Leader:* Jesus our Guide, you promised that there would be one flock, one shepherd. Until that time, remember your Church, dispersed throughout the world. Remember our brothers and sisters in every Christian community and denomination, regardless of the barriers we have put in place, that we may find common mission and common worship; remember those engaged in ecumenical and interfaith dialogue; remember the Anglican Communion and its leaders, especially **Sarah**

**Mullally**, Archbishop of Canterbury, and **Sean Rowe**, our Presiding Bishop; remember all the people of this diocese and our Bishop, **Mark Stevenson**, and our Rector, **Jennifer**. Remember all those newly baptized this Eastertide throughout the world. Let us pray, ***O Christ, hear us.***

*Leader:* Jesus the Gate for the Sheep: Remember all those who govern and hold authority in the world, especially **Donald J. Trump**, the President of the United States, **Abigail Spanberger**, our Governor, and **Ashley Michael**, the Mayor of the Town of Louisa, and grant your wisdom to all legislatures and courts. Let us pray, ***O Christ, hear us.***

*Leader:* Jesus our Redeemer, you laid down your life for your sheep. Remember all people everywhere, especially those struggling with war, pestilence, and disaster. Remember all those affected by natural disaster, epidemic, and inclement weather. Let us pray, ***O Christ, hear us.***

*Leader:* Jesus our Savior, you said to Peter, “Feed my sheep.” Inspire us all to feed your sheep, especially those who need food, clothing or shelter; those who are addicted, ill or dying; those who are in prison or held against their will, and those who are oppressed or enslaved. Remember those we name now silently or aloud, including **Alex Dockum**, **Bill Treiber**, **Errol & Anna Lou Flynn**, **Gerry Higgins**, **Linda Boxley**, **Sunny Agee**, **Mary-Frances & LaVahn Hoh**, **Garland Nuckols**, **Emma Pugh**, **Mary Morris**, **Jimmy & Karen Funke Caldwell**, **Lydia Hayes**, **Jack Steele**, **Gary Grossman**, **Zach Yarborough**, **Ted Crackel**, **John Cochrane**, & **Nancy Miller**. Let us pray, ***O Christ, hear us.***

*Leader:* Risen Jesus, you call us each by our own name into your flock. Remember all who have died, who reside within the safety of your fold and can now never be snatched away. Remember those we name now, silently or aloud. *Moment of silence.* Let us pray, ***O Christ, hear us.***

*Leader:* Christ our Passover, you died to sin, once for all, and the life you live, you live to God. We rejoice that, in you, we are dead to sin and alive to God for all ages. We give thanks to you for all the blessings of our lives, including those we name now silently or aloud. *Moment of silence.* Let us pray, ***O Christ, hear us.***

*Celebrant:* Call us, Lord Jesus, to your side and inspire us to follow where you lead until that blessed time when all your flocks are gathered together under one Shepherd, who lives and reigns with the Father and Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. *Amen.*

### **Peace & Greeting**

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

*People* **And also with you.**

### **Welcome**

**Children’s Homily:** Debbie Wesley

### **Offering of Gifts and Praise**

*Celebrant* "From the very beginning, ‘Those who had been baptized devoted themselves to the apostles’ teaching and fellowship, to the breaking of bread and the the prayers.’” *(adapted from Acts)*

**Anthem:** *You, Lord, Are Both Lamb and Shepherd* Sylvia Dunstan; PICARDY tune

**Doxology** *(please stand)*

*Praise God from whom all blessings flow / Praise Him all creatures here below*

*Praise Him above ye heavenly host / Praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost. Amen.*

**The Great Thanksgiving, Prayer B**

*The Book of Common Prayer, pg. 367*

*(please remain standing)*

*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.

But chiefly are we bound to praise you for the glorious resurrection of your Son Jesus Christ our Lord; for he is the true Paschal Lamb, who was sacrificed for us, and he has taken away the sin of the world. By his death he has destroyed death, and by his rising to life again he has won for us everlasting life.

Therefore we praise you, joining our voices with Angels and Archangels and with all the company of heaven, who for ever sing this hymn to proclaim the glory of your Name:

### **Sanctus S-128**

**Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might, heaven and earth are full, 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 James and all your saints, we may enter the everlasting heritage of your sons and daughters; through Jesus Christ our Lord, the first born 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,

*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. Amen.**

**Breaking of the Bread**

*Celebrant* Alleluia! Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us.

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

*Celebrant* 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.

**Fraction Anthem S-164 Jesus, Lamb of God**

**Communion Hymns:**

**#304** *I come with joy to meet my Lord*

**#712** *Dona nobis pacem (Grant us peace)*

**Post-Communion Prayer**

*The Book of Common Prayer, page 365*

*Celebrant and People*

**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**

*Celebrant* Do all the good you can, By all the means you can, In all the ways you can, In all the places you can, At all the times you can, To all the people you can, As long as you ever can. And may the blessing of new life promised to us by our Resurrected Lord, Jesus, be among you and with you always. **Amen.**

**Recessional Hymn #708 Savior, like a shepherd lead us**

**Dismissal**

*Celebrant* Let us go forth in the name of Christ! Alleluia, alleluia!

*People* **Thanks be to God! Alleluia, alleluia!**

**Postlude**

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**Those Who Serve Today**

Crucifer/Intinction Cup Holder: Greg Schumacher

Chalice: David Koegle

Lector: Sunny Agee (8) / Sharon Boivin (10)

Prayers of the People: Graven Craig (8) / Gail Funke (10)

Usher: Terry Cole / Sherry Morris

Videographer: Jim Brickey

Altar Guild: Lin Kogle

Counters: Greg Schumacher / Patty Madison

Sunday School: Amy Shiflett / Debbie Wesley

## Intercessions

**Church Members:** Alex Dockum, Bill Treiber, Errol & Anna Lou Flynn, Gerry Higgins, Linda Boxley, Sunny Agee, Mary-Frances & LaVahn Hoh

**Family of Church Members:** Garland Nuckols (*Dana Racette's Dad*), Emma Pugh (*Tara Ford's Mom*), Mary Morris, Jimmy & Karen Funke Caldwell, Lydia Hayes, Jack Steele

**Friends of Church Members:** Gary Grossman, Zach Yarborough, Ted Crackel, John Cochrane, Nancy Miller

**For the clergy & congregations** of Grace & Holy Trinity, Richmond; Good Shepherd, Burke; Beckford Parish (Emmanuel, Woodstock & St. Andrew's, Mt. Jackson)

**For those in military service, especially:** Jacob Laws, Garrett & Rebecca Bond, Holly-Ann Hess, Nicholas Boivin

**For the departed:**

**For those celebrating Birthdays/Anniversaries/Thanksgiving:**

April 26-Alexis Downey; 28-Molly Barr, John & Mary Miller; 30-Mike & Dona Breen; May 02-Sherry Morris

*Jesus said, "My house shall be called a house of prayer."*

We welcome all visitors to St. James. If you would like to know more about our church family, please sign a pew card as well as the guest register on the table in the back. We want to know that you were here, so be sure to leave your contact information, including your email and mailing address, so that someone can contact you. Thank you for joining us this morning.

The flowers on the altar are given by Rev. Jennifer to the Glory of God and in honor of Jim Brickey and his faithful service each week to our video recording ministry, we couldn't do it without him.

The National Day of Prayer is Thursday, May 7<sup>th</sup>. The program will begin at Noon on the Louisa Courthouse Lawn with music starting at 11:30am. Rain location will be at New Life Community Church (509 E. Main St. Louisa). All are welcome!