



Photo by Alison Hartwell

**Ascension Day
(trans.)
May 17, 2026, 10:00 AM
Join the Path Forward**

Our Mission as St. James Episcopal Church; 1750 – Today

We are a welcoming community that invites all to share God's light and beauty through music, liturgy and action; to seek the sacred and to walk in love with all creation.



Service Participants

CELEBRANT:	Rev. Judy Ferguson
MUSIC and CHOIR DIRECTOR:	Michael Mulder
LAY READER:	Susan Romanski
LECTOR:	Josh Leicht
PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE:	Andrea Good
USHER:	Dawn Irizarry
COFFEE HOUR HOST:	Lorraine Janus

St. James Episcopal Church

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Sr. Warden: Tom Stratman (203) 482-3405 **Jr. Warden:** Michael Mulder (212) 243-0615
Vestry: Philip Anderson Margaret Eaton Robert Herzberg Jeremy Rhizor
Jen Upchurch Carolyn Young

Music Director: Michael Mulder (914) 485-1128
Pledge Recorders: Dawn Irizarry (914) 617-8241 Josh Leicht (914) 669-6743
Treasurer: Kipp Good (646) 641-9286

HOLY EUCHARIST: Rite II

WORD OF GOD

Prelude

Allegro by Leon Boellmann

Michael Mulder

Opening Hymn

All hail the power of Jesus' Name!

Hymnal # 450

Opening Sentences

Celebrant: Alleluia! Christ is risen!

People: The Lord is risen indeed! Alleluia!

Celebrant: We have a great high priest

People: who has passed into the heavens, Jesus Christ the Son of God.

Easter Season Proclamation

Celebrant: May we who in baptism die to sin,

People: rise again to new life

Celebrant: and find our true place in your living body.

People: Through us may the new covenant sealed in your blood

Celebrant: bring healing and reconciliation

People: to this wounded and estranged world.

Celebrant: Alleluia! You are risen!

People: Praise and glory to the living God! We are risen!

Glory to God *Gloria in excelsis*

LEVAS #243

The musical score is written for a choir in 4/4 time with a key signature of one flat (B-flat). It consists of seven staves of music. The lyrics are as follows:

Glo - ry,

Glo-ry, hal-le-lu - jah, Lord we praise your Ho - ly name, — Glo-ry,

Glo-ry hal-le-lu - jah, Lord we praise your Ho - ly name. —

1. Glo-ry to God — in the high-est, and peace to His peo - ple on earth. —

2. Lord God, heav-en - ly King, al - migh-t - y God and Fa-ther, we

wor-ship you, we give you thanks, we praise you for your glo-ry.

Unison

3. Lord Je-sus Christ, on-ly son of the Fa - ther, Lord God, Lamb of God, Glo-ry,

Glo-ry, hal-le-lu - jah, Lord we praise your Ho - ly name, Glo-ry,

Glo-ry hal-le-lu - jah, Lord we praise your Ho - ly name. 4. You

take a - way the sin of the world: have mer - cy on us, 5. You are

seat-ed at the right hand of the Fa - ther: re - ceive our prayer. 6. For

you a - lone are the Ho - ly One, You a - lone are the Lord,

Unison

7. You a - lone are the Most High, Je-sus Christ, with the Ho - ly Spir-it, in the

glo - ry of the Fa - ther. Glo - ry, Glo-ry, hal - le - lu - jah, Lord we

praise your Ho - ly name, Glo-ry, Glo-ry hal-le-lu - jah, Lord we

Women

Praise your Ho - ly name.

Men

Praise your Ho - ly name.

Salutation and Collect of the Day

Celebrant: The Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

Celebrant: Let us pray. Grant, we pray, Almighty God, that as we believe your only-begotten Son our Lord Jesus Christ to have ascended into heaven, so we may also in heart and mind there ascend, and with him continually dwell; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever .

People: Amen.

First Reading

A Reading from the Acts of the Apostles [1:1-11]

In the first book, Theophilus, I wrote about all that Jesus did and taught from the beginning until the day when he was taken up to heaven, after giving instructions through the Holy Spirit to the apostles whom he had chosen. After his suffering he presented himself alive to them by many convincing proofs, appearing to them during forty days and speaking about the kingdom of God. While staying with them, he ordered them not to leave Jerusalem, but to wait there for the promise of the Father. "This," he said, "is what you have heard from me; for John baptized with water, but you will be baptized with the Holy Spirit not many days from now." So when they had come together, they asked him, "Lord, is this the time when you will restore the kingdom to Israel?" He replied, "It is not for you to know the times or periods that the Father has set by his own authority. But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you; and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth." When he had said this, as they were watching, he was lifted up, and a cloud took him out of their sight. While he was going and they were gazing up toward heaven, suddenly two men in white robes stood by them. They said, "Men of Galilee, why do you stand looking up toward heaven? This Jesus, who has been taken up from you into heaven, will come in the same way as you saw him go into heaven."

Lector: The Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

Psalm 47 *Omnes gentes, plaudite*

Psalms for All People V1.2

- 1 Clap your hands, all you peoples; *
shout to God with a cry of joy.
- 2 For the LORD Most High is to be feared; *
God is the great Ruler over all the earth.
- 3 The LORD subdues the peoples under us, *
and the nations under our feet.
- 4 The LORD chooses our inheritance for us, *
the pride of beloved Jacob.
- 5 God has gone up with a shout, *
the LORD with the sound of the ram's-horn.
- 6 Sing praises to God, sing praises; *
sing praises to our Sovereign, sing praises.
- 7 For God reigns over all the earth; *
sing praises with all your skill.
- 8 God reigns over the nations; *
God sits upon the holy throne.
- 9 The nobles of the peoples have gathered together *
with the people of the God of Abraham.

10 The sovereigns of the earth belong to God, *
who is highly exalted.

Second Reading

A Reading from the Letter of Paul to the Ephesians [1:15-23]

I have heard of your faith in the Lord Jesus and your love toward all the saints, and for this reason I do not cease to give thanks for you as I remember you in my prayers. I pray that the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory, may give you a spirit of wisdom and revelation as you come to know him, so that, with the eyes of your heart enlightened, you may know what is the hope to which he has called you, what are the riches of his glorious inheritance among the saints, and what is the immeasurable greatness of his power for us who believe, according to the working of his great power. God put this power to work in Christ when he raised him from the dead and seated him at his right hand in the heavenly places, far above all rule and authority and power and dominion, and above every name that is named, not only in this age but also in the age to come. And he has put all things under his feet and has made him the head over all things for the church, which is his body, the fullness of him who fills all in all.

Lay Reader: The Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

Sequence Hymn

Alleluia! Sing to Jesus!

Hymnal # 460

Celebrant: The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Luke [24:44-53]

People: Glory to you, Lord Christ.

Jesus said to his disciples, "These are my words that I spoke to you while I was still with you—that everything written about me in the law of Moses, the prophets, and the psalms must be fulfilled." Then he opened their minds to understand the scriptures, and he said to them, "Thus it is written, that the Messiah is to suffer and to rise from the dead on the third day, and that repentance and forgiveness of sins is to be proclaimed in his name to all nations, beginning from Jerusalem. You are witnesses of these things. And see, I am sending upon you what my Father promised; so stay here in the city until you have been clothed with power from on high." Then he led them out as far as Bethany, and, lifting up his hands, he blessed them. While he was blessing them, he withdrew from them and was carried up into heaven. And they worshiped him, and returned to Jerusalem with great joy; and they were continually in the temple blessing God.

Celebrant: The Gospel of the Lord.

People: Praise to you, Lord Christ.

Sermon

Rev. Judy Ferguson

Profession of Faith (South Indian), *said together, standing*

**We believe in God, who creates all things,
who embraces all things, who celebrates all things,
who is present in every part of the fabric of creation.**

**We believe in God as the source of all life,
who baptizes this planet with living water.**

**We believe in Jesus Christ, the suffering one, the poor one,
the malnourished one, the climate refugee,
who loves and cares for this world**

and who suffers with it.

And we believe in Jesus Christ, the seed of life,
who came to reconcile and renew this world
and everything in it.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the breath of God,
who moves with God
and who moves among and with us today.

We believe in everlasting life in God.

And we believe in the hope that one day

God will put an end to death and all destructive forces.

Prayers of the People

Form III

BCP 387

Reader: Father, we pray for your holy Catholic Church;

People: That we all may be one.

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

People: That your Name may be glorified by all people.

Reader: We pray for our Presiding Bishop, Sean; our Bishops: Matthew and Allen; and all
bishops, priests, and deacons;

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

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

People: That there may be justice and peace on the earth.

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

People: That our works may find favor in your sight.

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

People: That they may be delivered from their distress;

Reader: Give to the departed eternal rest;

People: Let light perpetual shine upon them.

Reader: We praise you for your saints who have entered into joy, especially Thurgood
Marshall, *Public Servant* (1993); Dunstan, *Archbishop of Canterbury* (988); Alcuin of York,
Deacon (804); Lydia of Thyatira, *Coworker of Paul* (1st Cent.), and Helena of Constantinople,
Protector of the Holy Places (330).

People: May we also come to share in your heavenly kingdom.

Reader: Let us pray for our own needs and those of others.

[People add their prayers or thanksgivings]

Reader: Comfort and heal all those who suffer in body, mind, or spirit; give them courage
and hope in their troubles, and bring them the joy of your salvation, especially **Bennett,
Ginny and Maar family, Dylan and Ann Marie, Rob K., Nina T., Mackenzie, Jennifer C.,
Marissa, Randy S., Fawn, Logan, Michael W., John C., Alan, Linda, Vince P., Mike T., Bob F.,
Larry D., Mary Pat, Family and friends of Mike Marshall, those who have lost their jobs; those
who have been taken and put into detention centers, especially Ben;** and watch over those
who care for them; that they may be delivered from their distress. We pray for guidance for
the **resolution of conflicts around the world, all those who suffer injustice and violence in the
US and abroad, mitigation of the effects of climate change, those who suffer from mental
illness, and our Community Ministries.** May those who govern, especially Donald our
President, do so for the good of their people and with the respect and gentleness you show
to those who are most weak and vulnerable.

Reader: King of kings, Lord of lords,

People: you have ascended your royal throne

Reader: carrying the crossbar for your crucifixion.

People: Now you are lifted high,

Reader: exalted to draw us all to your love.

People: You are a captive savior,

Reader: who has led us in triumph

People: from the sin, the anxiety, and the doom

Reader: which held us captive.

People: May we whom you have redeemed

Reader: and called to be guests at your table

People: receive and put to use the gifts you offer us.

Reader: Praise and glory to you, God of space and time,

People: humble savior, King of Love.

The Peace *All stand.*

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

People: And also with you.

Announcements

HOLY COMMUNION

Offertory Sentence

Celebrant: O Lord our God, you are worthy to receive glory and honor and power; because you have created all things, and by your will they were created and have their being.

[Revelation 4:11]

Offertory

Now the green blade riseth from the buried grain

Karen Midkiff

Great Thanksgiving Eucharistic Prayer B

BCP 361

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, through your dearly beloved Son Jesus Christ our Lord. After his glorious resurrection he openly appeared to his disciples, and in their sight ascended into heaven, to prepare a place for us; that where he is, there we might also be, and reign with him in glory. 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

Sanctus

Hymnal S-129



might, hea - ven and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho -

san - na in the high - est. Bless - ed is he who

comes in the name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est._____

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,

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

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 blessed 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!**

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

**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.

Communion Music

Let all mortal flesh keep silence

Hymnal # 324

Postcommunion Prayer

Celebrant: Let us pray.

**God of abundance, you have fed us
with the bread of life and cup of salvation;
you have united us with Christ and one another;
and you have made us one with all your people
in heaven and on earth. Now send us forth
in the power of your Spirit, that we may proclaim
your redeeming love to the world and
continue for ever in the risen life of Christ our Savior. Amen.**

Easter Season Blessing

Celebrant: 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; through Jesus Christ, to whom be glory for ever and ever. **Amen.**

Ascension Blessing

May Christ, who is human and divine, who is of heaven and also of earth, lift up your hearts, lift up your lives to God; and the blessing of God our Creator, Redeemer and Giver of life be with you always. **Amen.**

Closing Hymn

Crown him with many crowns

Hymnal # 494

Dismissal

Celebrant: Eternal Giver of love and power,

People: your Son Jesus Christ has sent us into all the world

Celebrant: to preach the gospel of his loving kingdom.

People: Help us to live the good news we proclaim.

Celebrant: Confirm us in this mission. Go in peace to love and serve the Lord!
Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

People: Thanks be to God! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

Postlude

Leaning on the everlasting arms arr. Carl Maultsby

Michael Mulder



Thurgood Marshall, Public Servant (1993) was a distinguished American jurist and the first African American to become an Associate Justice of the United States Supreme Court. Marshall was born on July 2, 1908, in Baltimore, Maryland. He was denied admission to the University of Maryland Law School due to its segregationist admissions policy. He enrolled and graduated magna cum laude from the Law School of Howard University in Washington. Marshall began the practice of law in Baltimore in 1933 and began representing the local chapter of the NAACP in 1934, eventually becoming the legal counsel for the national organization, working in New York City. He won his first major civil rights decision in 1936, *Murray v. Pearson*, which forced the University of Maryland to open its doors to Black people. At the age of 32, Marshall successfully argued his first case before the United States Supreme Court and went on to win 29 of the 32 cases he argued before the court. As a lawyer, his crowning achievement was arguing successfully for the plaintiffs in *Brown v. Board of Education of Topeka*, in 1954. The Supreme Court ruled that the “separate but equal” doctrine was unconstitutional and ordered the desegregation of public schools across the nation. President Lyndon Johnson appointed Marshall as the ninety-sixth Associate Justice of the United States Supreme Court in 1967, a position he held for 24 years. Marshall compiled a long and impressive record of decisions on civil rights, not only for African Americans, but also for women, Native Americans, and the incarcerated; he was a strong advocate for individual freedoms and human rights. He adamantly believed that capital punishment was unconstitutional and should be abolished. As a child, Marshall attended St. Katherine’s Church, one of Baltimore’s historic African American parishes. While living in New York, he was the senior warden of St. Phillip’s Church in Harlem and served as a deputy to General Convention in 1964. During his years in Washington, Marshall and his family were members of St. Augustine’s Episcopal Church, where he was affectionately known as “the Judge.” He is remembered as “a wise and godly man who knew his place and role in history and obeyed God’s call to follow justice wherever it led.” Thurgood Marshall died on January 24, 1993.

[Lesser Feasts and Fasts 2024]

Continuing Prayer List

Sara, Pam P., Kate C., Kristin and Gizzi Family, Robert and family, Morgan, Susan and Dan S., St. Luke's Haiti, Lee, Barry, Ben, Will and family, John R., Rebecca, Teddy and Jeff, Ann B., Joyce and Douglas K., Betsy, John W. and Susan, Jeanette, Dean W., Walter and family, Eileen, Sister CG, Jackie A., Abdul and Mohammed, Joanne and Marie, Robert, Sue, Ewa, Jeannie and Margaret, Ross, Abu, Sheryl and family, Jeffrey, Bro, Kathleen, Janet, Biran, Annie, Bill, Claudia



Upcoming Services and Events

- May 24: **Day of Pentecost–Whitsunday:** Holy Eucharist service at 10 am;
May 31: **First Sunday after Pentecost–Trinity Sunday:** Holy Eucharist service at 10 am
June 7: **Second Sunday after Pentecost; Proper 5:** Holy Eucharist service at 10 am
June 14: **Third Sunday after Pentecost; Proper 6:** Holy Eucharist service at 10 am
June 21: **Fourth Sunday after Pentecost; Proper 7:** Holy Eucharist service at 10 am
June 28: **Fifth Sunday after Pentecost; Proper 8:** Holy Eucharist service at 10 am
July 5: **Sixth Sunday after Pentecost; Proper 9:** Morning Prayer II at 10 am
July 12: **Seventh Sunday after Pentecost; Proper 10:** Holy Eucharist service at 10 am
July 19: **Eighth Sunday after Pentecost; Proper 11:** Holy Eucharist service at 10 am
July 25: **St. James' Summer Auction**
July 26: **Ninth Sunday after Pentecost; Proper 12:** Holy Eucharist service at 10 am

SATURDAY / JULY 25, 2026 / 10AM–2PM

SAVE THE DATE!
ST. JAMES
67TH AUCTION
& Community Fest

Save the date for something that's truly "six-seven"—as in *so good it's legendary!* St. James is excited to kick off planning for our 67th Annual Summer Auction on Saturday, July 25th. This beloved tradition only gets better with time, and we can't wait to celebrate another year with our parish community. Starting July 1st, we'll be accepting donations to make this year's auction a success—drop-offs will be held Wednesdays from 7–9 PM and Saturdays from 9 AM–12 PM. Start setting aside your treasures and join us in making this 67th year one for the books!"



Photo by Alison Hartwell