



St. James Episcopal Church

204 Lee Street, Leesburg, FL 34748

(352)787-1981 / www.stjames-leesburg.org

Fourth Sunday of Easter

Order of Worship

April 26th, 2026 ~ 10:15 a.m.

Prelude: *“Savior, Like a Shepherd Lead Us”* (alt. melody by Bradbury, arr. Halberg)
 “Meditation on Fairest Lord Jesus” (arr. Goode)

Processional Hymn 208

The Strife Is O'er, The Battle Done

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

1. The strife is o'er, the battle done,
the victory of life is won;
the song of triumph has begun.
Alleluia!

2. The powers of death have done their worst,
but Christ their legions hath dispersed:
let shout of holy joy outburst.
Alleluia!

3. The three sad days are quickly sped,
he rises glorious from the dead:
all glory to our risen Head!
Alleluia!

4. He closed the yawning gates of hell,
the bars from heaven's high portals fell;
let hymns of praise his triumphs tell!
Alleluia!

5. Lord! by the stripes which wounded thee,
from death's dread sting thy servants free,
that we may live and sing to thee.
Alleluia!

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

Celebrant Alleluia. Christ is risen!
People The Lord is risen indeed. Alleluia!

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*

Hymn 178 *Alleluia, Alleluia! Give Thanks to the Risen Lord*

Refrain

Alleluia, alleluia, give thanks to the risen Lord.
Alleluia, alleluia, give praise to his Name.

1. Jesus is Lord of all the earth.
He is the King of creation. *Refrain*
2. Spread the good news o'er all the earth:
Jesus has died and has risen. *Refrain*
3. We have been crucified with Christ.
Now we shall live for ever. *Refrain*
4. Come, let us praise the living God,
Joyfully sing to our Saviour. *Refrain*

The Collect of the Day

The 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.

First Lesson ~ 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.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Psalm 23

- 1 The Lord is my shepherd; *
I shall not be in want.
- 2 He makes me lie down in green pastures *
and leads me beside still waters.
- 3 He revives my soul *
and guides me along right pathways for his Name's sake.
- 4 Though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death,
I shall fear no evil; *
for you are with me;
your rod and your staff, they comfort me.
- 5 You spread a table before me in the presence of those who trouble me; *
you have anointed my head with oil,
and my cup is running over.
- 6 Surely your goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life, *
and I will dwell in the house of the Lord for ever.

The Epistle 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.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

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 Form III (BCP 387)

The Leader and People pray responsively

Father, we pray for your Holy Catholic Church;
That we may all 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 **Sean, our Presiding Bishop, Justin our Bishop, Tom our Rector, Art and Sebastiana our Deacons**, and for all bishops, priests and deacons;
That they may be faithful ministers of your Word and Sacraments.

We pray for **Donald our President, Ron our Governor, and Allyson our Mayor**, and 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.

We especially remember **Patricia Bailey, Dawn Durst, Katie Galbreath, Alana Goodman.**

Give to all 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.
Silence

We offer our thanksgivings for both the newly born, and for those who celebrate the anniversary of their birth this week, especially, **Ralph Lambert (26th), Thomas Danielson (26th) & Richard Singeltary (26th)** and those celebrating the anniversary of their marriage this week especially **Sean & Lara Lahey (28th).**

Your own intercessions are invited at this time, either aloud or in the privacy of your hearts.

The Celebrant concludes with the following Prayer

Almighty and eternal God, ruler of all things in heaven and earth: Mercifully accept the prayers of your people, and strengthen us to do your will; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

The Peace

All stand. The Celebrant says to the people

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

Offertory: St. James Choir “The King of Love My Shepherd Is” (arr. Beck)
with Sarah Araque, directing)

Doxology Hymn 380, vs. 3

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 *Eucharistic Prayer A*

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

It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and every-where 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 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:

Celebrant and 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. Hosanna in the highest. (*Mass of Creation*)

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:

Christ has died.
Christ is risen.
Christ will come again.

Christ has died.
Christ is risen.
Christ will come again. *(Mass of Creation)*

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.

Celebrant and People

AMEN, AMEN, AMEN.
AMEN, AMEN, AMEN. *(Mass of Creation)*

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

People and Celebrant

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

Alleluia. Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us;
Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia!

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.

Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world,
have mercy on us.
Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world,
have mercy on us.
Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world,
grant us peace. *(Mass of Creation)*

Communion Hymn 664 *My Shepherd Will Supply My Need*

1 My Shepherd will supply my need,
Jehovah is His Name;
in pastures fresh he makes me feed
beside the living stream.
He brings my wandering spirit back
when I forsake his ways,
and leads me, for his mercy's sake,
in paths of truth and grace.

2 When I walk through the shades of death,
thy presence is my stay;
one word of thy supporting breath
drives all my fears away.
Thy hand, in sight of all my foes,
doth still my table spread;
my cup with blessings overflows,
thy oil anoints my head.

3 The sure provisions of my God
attend me all my days;
oh, may thy house be mine abode
and all my work be praise.

There would I find a settled rest,
while others go and come;
no more a stranger or a guest,
but like a child at home.

Hymn 383 *Fairest Lord Jesus*

1 Fairest Lord Jesus,
Ruler of all nature,
O thou of God and man the Son;
thee will I cherish, thee will I honor,
thou, my soul's glory, joy and crown.

2 Fair are the meadows,
fairer still the woodlands,
robed in the blooming garb of spring;
Jesus is fairer, Jesus is purer,
who makes the woeful heart to sing.

3 Fair is the sunshine,
fairer still the moonlight,
and all the twinkling, starry host:
Jesus shines brighter, Jesus shines purer,
than all the angels heaven can boast.

After Communion, the Celebrant says

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 Celebrant says the Blessing:

Now may the peace of God, which passes all understanding, guard your hearts and minds in in the love of God, and of his Son Jesus Christ our Lord; and may the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be amongst you, now and always. Amen.

Recessional Hymn 535 *Ye Servants of God, Your Master Proclaim*

1 Ye servants of God, your Master proclaim,
and publish abroad his wonderful Name;
the Name all-victorious of Jesus extol:
his kingdom is glorious; he rules over all.

2 God ruleth on high, almighty to save;
and still he is nigh: his presence we have.
The great congregation his triumph shall sing,
ascribing salvation to Jesus our King.

3 Salvation to God who sits on the throne!
Let all cry aloud, and honor the Son.
The praises of Jesus the angels proclaim,
fall down on their faces, and worship the Lamb.

4 Then let us adore, and give him his right:
All glory and power, all wisdom and might,
and honor and blessing, with angels above,
and thanks never-ceasing and infinite love.

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

Postlude: *“Alleluia (from Exsultate Jubilate)” (Mozart arr. Hopson)*

The Sanctuary Candle burns in honor of Amelia and Randall Chiera by the Springmanns

SENDING FORTH OF EUCHARISTIC VISITOR

Celebrant: **Patricia & Nigel** take these Holy gifts of our Lord's Body and Blood.

People: We send you forth in the name of St. James bearing these Holy gifts, so that those to whom you go may experience with us the majesty and mystery of his presence through the sharing of the bread and wine. May you carry the prayers of us all.

Celebrant: We who are many are one body because we share one bread, one cup.

Patricia & Nigel Bailey are taking Eucharist to their daughter, Dawn Durst

If you would like to give to St. James online, you may access Realm through this QR CODE



Or, you may also **Text to Give**. Type **“STJAMESLEESBURG”** to **73256**.

Then follow three easy steps:

1. Choose your reason for giving;
2. Enter your amount
3. Give by card or bank account.

(Note: standard message and data rates may apply)

Thank you for your generosity!