



The Seventh Sunday of Easter
May 17, 2026



St. James Staff

The Rev. Dr. Jerald W. Hyche
Rector

Jane Bates
Parish Administrator

Greg Nunn
Organist

Lacy Young
St. James School Director

Juanita Siller
Sexton

Welcome!

Wonderful to be worshipping with you today. If you're new to St. James, I invite you to take a moment to fill out one of the CONNECT cards in the pew. You can give it to an usher or simply place in the offering plate on your way out. If you do, I will be in touch to answer any questions you might have about St. James, and I would love to learn more about you, too.

Thank you for being here. Our celebration of God's work in the world today is made that much better by your presence.

Peace,



Please silence your mobile phone.



Child care for children up to 3 years old is available in the nursery across the breezeway in the Parish Hall building.



Assisted-hearing devices are available from the ushers.

(936) 756-8831

stjamesconroe.org

Send mail to:

P.O. Box 559

Conroe, Texas 77305-0559



We give thanks to Carter's Florist for generously providing our altar flowers each week. If you would like to make a donation to defray other worship expenses and commemorate a special day or someone, contact the Church Office or click GIVE on the church website.

The Holy Eucharist

According to the Book of Common Prayer

+ said or sung by the congregation

Prelude

Fairest Lord Jesus

Dale Wood

The Word of God

As the bell is rung, please stand for the hymn in procession.

+Hymn In Procession - No. 307

Lord, Enthroned in Heavenly Splendor

The Opening Acclamation

Alleluia. Christ is risen.

+The Lord is risen indeed. Alleluia.

The Collect for Purity

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 - No. S278

William Mathias



The Collect of the Day

The Lord be with you.

+And also with you.

Let us pray.

O God, the King of glory, you have exalted your only Son Jesus Christ with great triumph to your kingdom in heaven: Do not leave us comfortless, but send us your Holy Spirit to strengthen us, and exalt us to that place where our Savior Christ has gone before; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, in glory everlasting. **+Amen.**

Please be seated.

The First Lesson

Acts 1:6-14

When the apostles had come together, they asked Jesus, "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."

Then they returned to Jerusalem from the mount called Olivet, which is near Jerusalem, a sabbath day's journey away. When they had entered the city, they went to the room upstairs where they were staying, Peter, and John, and James, and Andrew, Philip and Thomas, Bartholomew and Matthew, James son of Alphaeus, and Simon the Zealot, and Judas son of James. All these were constantly devoting themselves to prayer, together with certain women, including Mary the mother of Jesus, as well as his brothers.

The Word of the Lord.

+Thanks be to God.

+The Psalm 68:1-10, 33-36

1 Let God arise, and let his enemies be scattered;
let those who hate him flee before him.

**2 Let them vanish like smoke when the wind drives it away;
as the wax melts at the fire, so let the wicked perish at the
presence of God.**

3 But let the righteous be glad and rejoice before God;
let them also be merry and joyful.

**4 Sing to God, sing praises to his Name;
exalt him who rides upon the heavens;
YAHWEH is his Name, rejoice before him!**

5 Father of orphans, defender of widows,
God in his holy habitation!

**6 God gives the solitary a home and brings forth prisoners into
freedom;
but the rebels shall live in dry places.**

7 O God, when you went forth before your people,
when you marched through the wilderness,

**8 The earth shook, and the skies poured down rain,
at the presence of God, the God of Sinai,
at the presence of God, the God of Israel.**

9 You sent a gracious rain, O God, upon your inheritance;
you refreshed the land when it was weary.

**10 Your people found their home in it;
in your goodness, O God,
you have made provision for the poor.**

33 Sing to God, O kingdoms of the earth;
sing praises to the Lord.

**34 He rides in the heavens, the ancient heavens;
he sends forth his voice, his mighty voice.**

35 Ascribe power to God;
his majesty is over Israel;
his strength is in the skies.

**36 How wonderful is God in his holy places!
the God of Israel giving strength and power to his people!
Blessed be God!**

The Second Lesson

1 Peter 4:12-14; 5:6-11

Beloved, do not be surprised at the fiery ordeal that is taking place among you to test you, as though something strange were happening to you. But rejoice insofar as you are sharing Christ's sufferings, so that you may also be glad and shout for joy when his glory is revealed. If you are reviled for the name of Christ, you are blessed, because the spirit of glory, which is the Spirit of God, is resting on you.

Humble yourselves therefore under the mighty hand of God, so that he may exalt you in due time. Cast all your anxiety on him, because he cares for you. Discipline yourselves, keep alert. Like a roaring lion your adversary the devil prowls around, looking for someone to devour. Resist him, steadfast in your faith, for you know that your brothers and sisters in all the world are undergoing the same kinds of suffering. And after you have suffered for a little while, the God of all grace, who has called you to his eternal glory in Christ, will himself restore, support, strengthen, and establish you. To him be the power forever and ever. Amen.

The Word of the Lord.

+Thanks be to God.

During the following hymn, children ages 4 and older are invited to Children's Chapel, returning at the peace.

+Sequence Hymn - No. 603

When Christ Was Lifted From the Earth

- ◆Verses 1 & 2 before the Gospel
- ◆Verse 3 & 4 after the Gospel

The Holy Gospel

John 17:1-11

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

+Glory to you, Lord Christ.

Jesus looked up to heaven and said, "Father, the hour has come; glorify your Son so that the Son may glorify you, since you have given him authority over all people, to give eternal life to all whom you have given him. And this is eternal life, that they may know you, the only true God, and Jesus Christ whom you have sent. I

glorified you on earth by finishing the work that you gave me to do. So now, Father, glorify me in your own presence with the glory that I had in your presence before the world existed.

“I have made your name known to those whom you gave me from the world. They were yours, and you gave them to me, and they have kept your word. Now they know that everything you have given me is from you; for the words that you gave to me I have given to them, and they have received them and know in truth that I came from you; and they have believed that you sent me. I am asking on their behalf; I am not asking on behalf of the world, but on behalf of those whom you gave me, because they are yours. All mine are yours, and yours are mine; and I have been glorified in them. And now I am no longer in the world, but they are in the world, and I am coming to you. Holy Father, protect them in your name that you have given me, so that they may be one, as we are one.”

The Gospel of the Lord.

+Praise to you, Lord Christ.

The Sermon

The Rev. Dr. Jerald W. Hyche

Please stand as you are able.

+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.

Please remain standing or kneel as you are able.

The Prayers of the People

Form III

Father, we pray for your holy catholic Church;

+That we all may 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 Sarah, the Archbishop of Canterbury; Sean, our
Presiding Bishop; Andrew, Jeff, Kai, Hector, and Brian, the Bishops
of Texas; Jerald, our Rector; and for all bishops and ministers;

**+That they may be faithful ministers of your Word and
Sacraments.**

We pray for Donald, our president, 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.

Give to 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 is kept, after which the people may add their own petitions.

The Peace

The peace of the Lord be always with you.

+And also with you.

The Holy Communion

Music at the Offertory

I Lift Up My Eyes, B.D. Griffin

Please stand.

+The Doxology

The Eighth Tune

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.

The Great Thanksgiving

Eucharistic Prayer B

The Lord be with you.

+And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

+We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

+It is right to give him 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.

Here a proper preface is said.

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:

***Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,
Heaven and earth are full, full of your glory.
Hosanna in the highest. Hosanna in the highest.
Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna in the highest. Hosanna in the highest.***

Stand or kneel as you are able.

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 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.**

The Lord's Prayer

And 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.**

The Breaking of the Bread

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

The Invitation

***All who seek God are welcome at Christ's table.
To receive the sacrament, either bread and wine or bread alone, come forward as directed by the ushers and stand or kneel at the rail.
To receive the bread, extend your open hands, palm up.
For a gluten-free wafer, hold one arm across your chest.
To receive the wine, sip from the chalice, or dip the wafer into the chalice.
For a blessing only, cross both arms across your chest.
Unable to come forward? Let us know; the sacrament will be brought to you.***

+Hymn at Communion - No. 315

Thou, Who at Thy First Eucharist Didst Pray

The Post Communion Prayer

+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

+Hymn in Procession - No. 215

See the Conqueror Mounts in Triumph

The Dismissal

+Thanks be to God. Alleluia. Alleluia.

Coffee hour after worship

In the parish hall; hosted by the Brotherhood of St. Andrew

Everyone is invited!

Come, make connections, have a cup of refreshment!

next Sunday

Pentecost Sunday

Wear red, the color of the Holy Spirit!

Named for marking the “50th day” of the Easter Season, Pentecost commemorates the moment the early church received the gift of the Holy Spirit. On this Sunday, we celebrate not just an historical moment, but a living reminder that the Spirit of God still moves among us in surprising ways — and we do it by wearing red!

Want to be baptized?

Baptism scheduled for next Sunday, May 24

We will celebrate our central sacrament of baptism during worship next Sunday, May 24. If you are interested in being baptized or having someone baptized in your family, **contact Fr. Jerald by TODAY** at jhyche@stjames-conroe.org.



Giving campaign surpasses \$90,000

Our special, Easter season giving campaign is off to a terrific start with more than \$90,000 in contributions and pledges made toward our \$100,000 goal.

A big **THANK YOU** to all who have joined the campaign so far! For those who haven't pledged/given yet...please do. The campaign continues through June 30. Thank you, in advance, for your faithfulness to the mission and ministry of St. James parish.

For more information, contact Senior Warden John Rothwell at management@stjames-conroe.com.

HELPING HANDS— Shampoo This month we are collecting shampoo for the Community Assistance Center.

Grape jelly appreciated year-round.

(please place in the bin in the narthex).

Collections are gathered and delivered by the Daughters of the King.

Art Camp

VBS 2026

Monday, July 20 - Friday, July 24

9 a.m. to noon

Ages 4-10; Registration is \$75

**Registration for Campers and Volunteers is
now OPEN for 2026!**

BE A VOLUNTEER

*Giving of your time will make a difference in your life
and the lives of the campers.*

No experience required - just a willingness to serve and have fun!

MAKE A DONATION

Click on the GIVING button on the church website — stjamesconroe.org.

*Your generosity will provide scholarships
and supplies for campers.*

For more information, contact Art Camp VBS Directors:

Jessi Swearingen at artcampvbs@stjames-conroe.org

and Chet Zabik at czabik@gmail.com

St. James School summer camp

Registration for St. James Episcopal School's summer session now is open. Over seven weeks June to August, summer camps are offered for all ages up to 11 years old. For more information contact Lacy Young, Head of School, at lyoung@stjames-conroe.org or visit stjamesconroe.school.

Ministers of the Day

Ushers

Jim Cheatham

Bob Walsh

Greeter

Fran Rightmer

Eucharistic Minister

Chris Tassos

Lector

Cliff Vlasin

Videographer

Travis Wernecke

Vestry of the Day

John Rothwell

Kevin Tucker