



St James's
PICCADILLY

The Eucharist for the Second Sunday of Easter

Sunday 27th April 2025
at 11am

With a congregation in the church
and live on YouTube



Welcome to St James's Church. Whether you are with us in person or joining us online, you are very welcome.

Everyone is warmly invited to receive communion or a blessing so please do come forward at the appropriate time.

ORDER OF SERVICE

OPENING HYMN

[Tune: Truro; Words: Brian Wren (b. 1936)]

**Christ is alive! Let Christians sing.
The cross stands empty to the sky.
Let streets and homes with praises ring.
Love, drowned in death, shall never die.**

**Christ is alive! No longer bound
to distant years in Palestine,
but saving, healing, here and now,
and touching every place and time.**

**In every insult, rift and war,
where colour, scorn or wealth divide,
Christ suffers still, yet loves the more,
and lives, where even hope has died.**

**Christ is alive, and comes to bring
good news to this and every age,
till earth and sky and ocean ring
with joy, with justice, love, and praise.**

OPENING RESPONSE

The priest says

Alleluia! Christ is risen.

He is risen indeed. Alleluia!

The priest welcomes everyone and introduces the service.

**Eternal God, to whom all hearts are open,
all desires known,
and from whom no secrets are hidden;
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.**

PRAYER OF RECONCILIATION

The deacon says

The risen Christ appeared to the disciples
behind the doors they had locked out of fear.
Let us make our confession to God,
acknowledging all that separates us from Christ
risen from the dead today.

Silence is kept.

**Ever-loving God,
we confess that we have sinned
in thought, word and deed.
We have not loved you with our whole heart.**

**We have not loved our neighbours as ourselves.
In your mercy
forgive what we have been,
help us to amend what we are,
and direct what we shall be,
that we may do justly, love mercy,
and walk humbly with you our God.
Amen.**

THE ABSOLUTION

The priest says

May the God who is both power and love forgive you
and free you from your sin;
give you healing and strength,
and raise you to new life in Christ.
Amen.

THE GLORIA *(St Augustine)*

The cantor sings

Gloria, Gloria in excelsis Deo.
Gloria, Gloria in excelsis Deo.

Glory to God in the highest.
Peace to God's people on earth.
Gloria, Gloria in excelsis Deo.

Holy One, Heavenly God, our Sovereign and Creator.
Gloria, Gloria in excelsis Deo.

We worship you, we give you thanks,
we praise you for your glory.
Gloria, Gloria in excelsis Deo.

Jesus Christ, God's only begotten.
Miserere nobis.

Miserere nobis.

Lord God, Lamb of God.

Miserere nobis.

You take away the sin of the world.

Miserere nobis.

You are seated at the right hand of Majesty:
receive our prayer.

Gloria, Gloria in excelsis Deo.

Gloria, Gloria in excelsis Deo.

For you alone are the Holy One.

Gloria, Gloria in excelsis Deo.

You alone are the Lord.

Gloria, Gloria in excelsis Deo.

You alone are the Most High.

Gloria, Gloria in excelsis Deo.

Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit
in the glory of the Triune God.

Gloria, Gloria in excelsis Deo.

Gloria in saecula saeculorum. Amen.

Gloria in saecula saeculorum. Amen.

LITURGY OF THE WORD

The Collect

The priest says

Risen Christ,
for whom no door is locked,
no entrance barred:
open the doors of our hearts,
that we may seek the good of others
and walk the joyful road of sacrifice and peace
to the praise of God.

Amen.

FIRST READING

Acts 5.27-32

A reading from the Acts of the Apostles.

When they had brought them, 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 Saviour, so 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.'

Listen for what the Spirit is saying.

Thanks be to God.

Please stand.

During the psalm, the Gospel is carried in procession down the central aisle of the church where it is read among the people.

Please turn and face the Gospel as it passes.

PSALM 150

*Response: **Alleluia. Let everything that has breath praise God.***

Alleluia. Praise God in the holy temple;

Praise God in the firmament of power.

Praise God for every mighty act;

Praise God's excellent greatness.

Praise God with the blast of the ram's horn;

Praise God with lyre and harp.

Praise God with timbrel and dance;

Praise God with strings and pipe.

Praise God with sounding cymbals;

Praise God with clanging cymbals.

Let everything that has breath;

Praise God. Alleluia.

THE GOSPEL

The cantor sings

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

All sing

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

(repeat as a round)

The reader says

Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to John.

The cantor sings

Glory to you O Lord

Glory to you O Lord.

John 20.19-end

On the evening of that first day of the week, when the disciples were together, with the doors locked for fear of the Jewish leaders, Jesus came and stood among them and said, "Peace be with you!" After he said this, he showed them his hands and side. The disciples were overjoyed when they saw the Lord.

Again Jesus said, "Peace be with you! As the Father has sent me, I am sending you." And with that he breathed on them and said, "Receive the Holy Spirit. If you forgive anyone's sins, their sins are forgiven; if you do not forgive them, they are not forgiven."

Now Thomas (also known as Didymus), one of the Twelve, was not with the disciples when Jesus came. So the other disciples told him, "We have seen the Lord!"

But he said to them, "Unless I see the nail marks in his hands and put my finger where the nails were, and put my hand into his side, I will not believe."

A week later his disciples were in the house again, and Thomas was with them. Though the doors were locked, Jesus came and stood among them and said, "Peace be with you!" Then he said to Thomas, "Put your finger here; see my

hands. Reach out your hand and put it into my side.
Stop doubting and believe.”

Thomas said to him, “My Lord and my God!”
Then Jesus told him, “Because you have seen me, you have believed; blessed are those who have not seen and yet have believed.”

Jesus performed many other signs in the presence of his disciples, which are not recorded in this book. But these are written that you may believe that Jesus is the Messiah, the Son of God, and that by believing you may have life in his name.

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

The cantor sings

Praise to you O Christ
Praise to you O Christ.

The cantor sings

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

All sing

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

Please sit.

SERMON

The Revd Daniel Norris

A period of silence is kept for personal reflection.

APOSTLES' CREED (*3rd century creed used during Eastertide*)

**I believe in God, the Father almighty,
creator of heaven and earth.**

**I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord,
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,
born of the Virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died, and was buried;
he descended to the dead.
On the third day he rose again;
he ascended into heaven,
he is seated at the right hand of the Father,
and he will come to judge the living and the dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy catholic Church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting.
Amen.**

THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

The deacon says

Let us pray for the world, for the church,
for all in need and for those who have asked for our prayers.

*Please kneel or sit for prayers led by a member of the
congregation.*

THE PEACE

The priest says

The risen Christ came and stood among his disciples and said 'Peace be with you'.

Then were they glad when they saw the Lord.

The deacon says

The peace of the Lord be always with you.

And also with you.

The priest says

Let us offer one another a sign of peace.

Please share the Peace in a socially distanced way if you are in the building, and in the YouTube chat box if you are online.

During the offertory hymn, a collection will be taken. If you have cash, please fill in the Gift Aid envelopes in the pews with the pens available.

If you don't have cash, please use the tap donate device in the collection plate, which is set to £5, or the QR code on page 19.

OFFERTORY HYMN

[Tune: My soul in stillness waits; Words & Music: Marty Haugen (b. 1950)]

**O Lord of light, our only hope of glory,
your radiance shines in all who look to you,
come, light the hearts of all in dark and shadow.**

Refrain:

***For you, O Lord, my soul in stillness waits,
truly my hope is in you.***

**O Spring of Joy, rain down upon our spirits,
our thirsty hearts are yearning for your word,
come, make us whole, be comfort to our hearts.**

**O Root of Life, implant your seed within us,
and in your advent, draw us all to you,
our hope reborn in dying and in rising.**

**O Key of Knowledge, guide us in our pilgrimage,
we ever seek, yet unfulfilled remain,
open to us the pathway of your peace.**

**Here we shall meet the Maker of the heavens,
Creator of the mountains and the seas,
Lord of the stars, and present to us now.**

PRAYER AT THE PREPARATION OF THE TABLE

The priest says

Risen Christ Jesus,
in this bread soon to be broken
and this wine soon to be poured out,
may we know you as the fire that burns within us,
that we may bring light to your world.

Amen.

GATHERING

*All are invited to gather round the altar. Should you need to sit,
please use any of the benches or seats around the altar at the
front of the church.*

While moving to the altar, please join in singing ...

Halle- halle- halle- lujah!

Halle- halle- halle- lujah!

Halle- halle- halle- lujah!

Hallelujah, hallelujah!

The priest leads the Church's Thanksgiving for Creation and Redemption in Christ ...

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 thanks and praise.

The priest continues the Church's prayer of thanksgiving ...

SANCTUS (*Williams*)

Sing each phrase after the cantor

Holy, holy, holy Lord,

God of power and might,

Heaven and earth are full of your glory,

Hosanna,

Hosanna,

Hosanna in the highest.

The cantor sings

Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord.

All sing after the cantor

**Hosanna,
Hosanna,
Hosanna in the highest.**

*The prayer of consecration continues recalling Christ's command to his disciples at the Last Supper, ending with:
"... as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me"*

The cantor sings

Great is the mystery of faith.

All sing after the cantor

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

The prayer continues ...

At the end of the prayer, sing after the cantor ...

**Blessing and honour,
glory and power,
be yours for ever and ever.
Amen.**

Silence is kept.

THE LORD'S PRAYER

You are invited to pray in your own language.

The priest says

Let us pray in the words that Jesus gave us.

Our Father in heaven,
hallowed be your name,
your kingdom come, your will be done,
on earth as in heaven.
Give us today our daily bread.
Forgive us our sins
as we forgive those who sin against us.
Lead us not into temptation
but deliver us from evil.
For the kingdom, the power,
and the glory are yours
now and for ever.
Amen.

The Bread is broken and the priest says

We break this bread to share in the body of Christ.
**Though we are many, we are on body,
because we all share in one bread.**

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

The priest says

Draw near with faith.
Receive the body of our Lord Jesus Christ
which he gave for you,
and his blood which he shed for you.
Eat and drink in remembrance that Christ died for you,
and feed on him in your hearts by faith with thanksgiving.

THE COMMUNION

*During Communion, Talia will sing **I Know That My Redeemer Liveth**, words: Job 19:25-26; music: GF Handel (from Messiah).*

I know that my redeemer liveth
and that he shall stand at the latter day, upon the earth.
And though worms destroy this body
yet in my flesh shall I see God.
For now is Christ risen from the dead,
the first fruits of them that sleep.

A Prayer for Spiritual Communion

inspired by Richard of Chichester (1198-1253)

*Thanks be to you, Christ Jesus,
for all the benefits you have given me for all the pains and
insults you have borne for me.
Since I cannot now receive you sacramentally,
I ask you to be present with me spiritually in my heart.
O most merciful redeemer, friend and brother,
may I know you more clearly, love you more dearly,
and follow you more nearly, day by day.
Amen.*

Prayers for use during Communion

*Christ Jesus, you promised in your gospel
'I am with you always'. Be with me as part of
this community today in this Eucharist;
Hear my prayers for others and for myself.
May I bind myself to you,
in communion with all that lives this day,
knowing that nothing can separate me from your love.
Amen.*

*O God, help me to trust you,
and to know that you are with me now.
Help me to know that all are yours,
and you are ours, in this Eucharist and for ever.
Amen.*

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

**God of life and love,
we thank you for feeding us with the body
and blood of Jesus Christ.
As we have received these gifts of your creation,
may we go out with joy and gratitude to live as witnesses
to your hope and justice for the whole earth.
Amen.**

Notices are given by the congregation, wardens and clergy.

HYMN

[Tune: Carlisle; Words: Edwin Hatch (1835-1889)]

**Breathe on me, Breath of God;
fill me with life anew,
that I may love what thou dost love,
and do what thou wouldst do.**

**Breathe on me, Breath of God,
until my heart is pure,
until with thee I will one will,
to do and to endure.**

**Breathe on me, Breath of God,
till I am wholly thine,
until this earthly part of me
glows with thy fire divine.**

**Breathe on me, Breath of God;
so shall I never die,
but live with thee the perfect life
of thine eternity.**

THE BLESSING

The priest says

God the Creator;
by whose love Christ was raised from the dead,
open to you the gates of everlasting life.

Amen.

God the Son;
who in bursting from the grave has overcome
the forces of death and hell,
give you joy as you share the Easter faith.

Amen.

God the Holy Spirit;
who filled the disciples with the life of the risen Christ
empower you and fill you with peace.

Amen.

And the blessing of God almighty:
the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit
be with you this Easter and for ever.

Amen.

The deacon says

Go in the peace of Christ.
Alleluia! Alleluia!

Thanks be to God.

Alleluia! Alleluia!



In addition to the physical collection, if you do not have cash with you, please scan this QR code with your smartphone to make a one-off or regular donation.

Alternatively, please visit sjp.org.uk/donate, or us one of the tap donation points in the church.



Breastplate by Sara Mark

FINAL DAY - Sunday 27th April in the Side Chapel

'Breastplate' was commissioned with a 'poetic instruction' sent unannounced to artist/seamstress Kim Thornton in the summer of 2023.

The pattern is based on a flak-jacket; body-armour designed to protect against flying fragments of shrapnel and other projectiles.



It is displayed behind the altar of the Side Chapel and lit from below so that it glows from within, thereby revealing its feather-filled fragility and the talismanic contents of its pockets ... Amethyst, Oil and Phial, Coin, Crux, Lens, Seeds, Compass, Benediction, Lamp and Cell.

Ephesians 6 v.14

Stand firm then, with the belt of truth buckled around your waist, with the breastplate of righteousness in place.

Holding the Silence at St James's

TODAY - Sunday 27th April at 1pm in the church

All are welcome to this monthly gathering in the church at 1pm for a short introduction followed by 20 minutes of silence, ending with an opportunity to share reflections.



Each session will end at approximately 1.30pm.

Soul at Saint James

Sunday 4th May 2pm-5pm in the courtyard

Soul at Saint James is back for its 2025 season! This year our theme is: The Fruits of the Spirit! An ancient and beautiful description of what it means to love ourselves and others.



Join us for the first event on Sunday 4th of May at 2pm where the power of gospel music will be on full display with Soul Sanctuary Gospel Choir.

The set list includes: *Since Jesus Came* by Tonex; *Peace Like A River* arr. by Peter Yarde Martin, Chris Bullock, Clarence Hunte; *Higher (You're Love Keeps Lifting Me)* Jackie Wilson; *When I Get There* by Kirk Franklin; *Bridge Over Troubled Water* (Whitney and Cece version); and *You Are Good* by Israel Houghton.

Full Review of the Church Electoral Roll

This year, we must complete a full review of the Church Electoral Roll which means that **everybody comes off the roll and must re-apply.**



We actively encourage members of our congregation to join, as being a member of the Electoral Roll serves as a sign of belonging to our community.

Membership of the Electoral Roll also entitles you to vote in the election for Churchwardens and PCC members at the APCM (Annual Parochial Church Meeting) on Sunday 18th May.

The number on our electoral roll also determines the number of representatives we are entitled to send to the Deanery Synod. Extra representation in the wider church means that the voice of SJP becomes more influential.

Electoral Roll registration forms may be found on the table at the back of the church or downloaded at:

www.sjp.org.uk/governance

Once completed, please hand to one of the Churchwardens or Vergers, or return to the Parish Office **by Sunday 6th May.**

Join the Pilgrimage for the Feast of St Pancras

Sunday 11th May 12.45pm

After the service on Sunday 11th May, join the St James's pilgrimage to St Pancras Euston Road. The 'Walking Boots' team will lead those of us on foot (50 minutes and step free),



and our Churchwarden will accompany whoever wishes to travel on the tube or bus, and St Pancras are welcoming us for lunch.

Every St James's group will be sending representatives and this is a good chance to get to know St Pancras if you haven't been before, as this will be our home for a year during the Wren Project construction.

Meet in the courtyard at St James's at 12.45pm on the day.

Choral Evensong, sung by the combined St Pancras and St James's musicians is at 3pm at St Pancras for those who would like to stay.

Service of Thanksgiving for the life of The Revd Donald Reeves

Tuesday 20th May at 12noon in church and online

All are welcome to celebrate the life and ministry of former Rector of St James's, The Revd Donald Reeves.

The service will be led by the current Rector, The Revd Lucy Winkett, and the preacher is Rowan Williams, former Archbishop of Canterbury.



The service will include music by Jonathan Dove, commissioned by Donald whilst he was at St James's.

A reception will be held after the service in the church, and the service itself will be online too.

For your prayers this week

Parish life and events

All members of our online community.

The Wren Project.

The St James's visit to New York.

Those who have asked for our prayers

Meg Stewart, Jessica, Lucille

Those who are ill

Peter

Recently departed

Joseph, and for Stephen and all who mourn him.

Stefano, and for all who mourn him.

May they rest in peace and rise in glory.

As part of the Anglican Communion, and the Diocese of London Prayer Cycle, we pray today for:

The Province of the Indian Ocean: Gilbert Rakotondravelo (Archbishop, and Bishop of Fianarantsoa).

Göteborg (Sweden): Susanne Rappmann (Bishop).

Capital Vision Confident Disciples: for those who work in justice and law in our city.

The work of the Area Administrator, Sara Black.

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