

The Fifth Sunday of Easter

May 7, 2023

Hymn of Invocation # 656

A Mighty Fortress Is Our God

1 A might - y for - tress is our God,
2 With might of ours can naught be done,
3 Though dev - ils all the world should fill,
4 The Word they still shall let re - main

A trust - y shield and weap - on;
Soon were our loss ef - fect - ed;
All ea - ger to de - vour us,
Nor an - y thanks have for it;

He helps us free from ev - 'ry need
But for us fights the val - iant One,
We trem - ble not, we fear no ill;
He's by our side up - on the plain

That hath us now o'er - tak - en.
Whom God Him - self e - lect - ed.
They shall not o - ver - pow'r us.
With His good gifts and Spir - it.

The old e - vil foe Now means
Ask ye, Who is this? Je - sus
This world's prince may still Scowl fierce
And take they our life, Goods, fame,

dead - ly woe; Deep guile and great might
Christ - ly it is; Of Sab - a - oth Lord,
as he will, He can harm us none.
child, and wife, Though these all be gone,

Are his dread arms in fight; On earth
And there's none oth - er He holds
He's judged; the deed is done; One lit -
Our vic - t'ry has been won; The King -

is the not his e - qual.
the field for - ev - er.
tle word can fell him.
dom ours re - main - eth.

Text: tr. Composite; Text and tune: Martin Luther, 1483–1546; Text and tune: Public domain

Confession and Absolution

Invocation

- P** In the name of the Father and of the ☩ Son and of the Holy Spirit.
C Amen.

Kyrie

- P** Lord, have mercy upon us.
C Christ, have mercy upon us.
Lord, have mercy upon us.

Confession and Absolution

- P** Let us confess our sin to God:
O Lord, God of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob, be the God of your people today!
- C** We confess that we have worshiped too many other gods.
We have devoted ourselves to all too many different values.
Turn our hearts to you again!
- P** O Lord, God of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob, be the God of your people today!
- C** We confess that we have visited all too many sanctuaries.
We have tried to find the sources of life in all too many other places.
Turn our hearts to you again!
- P** O Lord, God of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob, be the God of your people today!
- C** We turn to you, and to you alone, to be our God, our only God.
Forgive our sins. Give us spiritual integrity. Give us wholeness and holiness.
Answer us in the name of Christ, for he has promised to intercede for us.
It is in him that we pray in the fellowship of his body.
Amen.
- P** Because of Jesus, God has forgiven all our sin. Hear the gospel of Christ from Psalm 103:
"Bless the LORD, O my soul, and forget not all his benefits - who forgives all your iniquity, who heals all your diseases, who redeems your life from the pit, who crowns you with steadfast love and mercy, who satisfies you with good so that your youth is renewed like the eagles."
-

- P** Remember these things, O Jacob, and Israel, for you are my servant;
C **I formed you; you are my servant; O Israel, you will not be forgotten by me.**
P I have blotted out your transgressions like a cloud and your sins like a mist;
C **Return to me, for I have redeemed you.**
P Sing, O heavens, for the LORD has done it; shout, O depths of the earth;
C **For the LORD has redeemed Jacob, and will be glorified in Israel.**

Service of the Word

Psalm

Psalm 146

- P** Praise the LORD! Praise the LORD, O my soul!
C **I will praise the LORD as long as I live; I will sing praises to my God while I have my being.**
P Put not your trust in princes, in a son of man, in whom there is no salvation.
C **When his breath departs he returns to the earth; on that very day his plans perish.**
P Blessed is he whose help is the God of Jacob, whose hope is in the LORD his God,
C **who made heaven and earth, the sea, and all that is in them, who keeps faith forever;**
P who executes justice for the oppressed, who gives food to the hungry. The LORD sets the prisoners free;
C **the LORD opens the eyes of the blind. The LORD lifts up those who are bowed down; the LORD loves the righteous.**
P The LORD watches over the sojourners; he upholds the widow and the fatherless, but the way of the wicked he brings to ruin.
C **The LORD will reign forever, your God, O Zion, to all generations. Praise the LORD!**
C **Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit; as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen**
-

Gloria in Excelsis



1 To God on high be glo - ry And peace to all the earth;
2 To You, O sole-be - got - ten, The Fa - ther's Son, we pray;
3 For You a - lone are ho - ly; You on - ly are the Lord.



Good-will from God in heav - en Pro-claimed at Je-sus' birth!
O Lamb of God, our Sav - ior, You take our sins a - way.
For - ev - er and for - ev - er, Be wor-shipped and a - dored;



We praise and bless You, Fa - ther; Your ho - ly name, we sing—
Have mer - cy on us, Je - sus; Re - ceive our heart - felt cry,
You with the Ho - ly Spir - it A - lone are Lord Most High,



Our thanks for Your great glo - ry, Lord God, our heav'n-ly King.
Where You in pow'r are seat-ed At God's right hand on high—
In God the Fa - ther's glo - ry. "A - men!" our glad re - ply.

Text: Stephen P. Starke

Acts Reading

Acts 6:1–9; 7:2a, 51–60

¹Now in these days when the disciples were increasing in number, a complaint by the Hellenists arose against the Hebrews because their widows were being neglected in the daily distribution. ²And the twelve summoned the full number of the disciples and said, "It is not right that we should give up preaching the word of God to serve tables. ³Therefore, brothers, pick out from among you seven men of good repute, full of the Spirit and of wisdom, whom we will appoint to this duty. ⁴But we will devote ourselves to prayer and to the ministry of the word." ⁵And what they said pleased the whole gathering, and they chose Stephen, a man full of faith and of the Holy Spirit, and Philip, and Prochorus, and Nicanor, and Timon, and Parmenas, and Nicolaus, a proselyte of Antioch. ⁶These they set before the apostles, and they prayed and laid their hands on them.

⁷And the word of God continued to increase, and the number of the disciples multiplied greatly in Jerusalem, and a great many of the priests became obedient to the faith.

⁸And Stephen, full of grace and power, was doing great wonders and signs among the people. ⁹Then some of those who belonged to the synagogue of the Freedmen (as it was called), and of the Cyrenians, and of the

Alexandrians, and of those from Cilicia and Asia, rose up and disputed with Stephen. . . .

²And Stephen said:

“Brothers and fathers, hear me. . . .

⁵¹You stiff-necked people, uncircumcised in heart and ears, you always resist the Holy Spirit. As your fathers did, so do you. ⁵²Which of the prophets did not your fathers persecute? And they killed those who announced beforehand the coming of the Righteous One, whom you have now betrayed and murdered, ⁵³you who received the law as delivered by angels and did not keep it.”

⁵⁴Now when they heard these things they were enraged, and they ground their teeth at him. ⁵⁵But he, full of the Holy Spirit, gazed into heaven and saw the glory of God, and Jesus standing at the right hand of God. ⁵⁶And he said, “Behold, I see the heavens opened, and the Son of Man standing at the right hand of God.” ⁵⁷But they cried out with a loud voice and stopped their ears and rushed together at him. ⁵⁸Then they cast him out of the city and stoned him. And the witnesses laid down their garments at the feet of a young man named Saul. ⁵⁹And as they were stoning Stephen, he called out, “Lord Jesus, receive my spirit.” ⁶⁰And falling to his knees he cried out with a loud voice, “Lord, do not hold this sin against them.” And when he had said this, he fell asleep.

P This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Epistle

1 Peter 2:2–10

²Like newborn infants, long for the pure spiritual milk, that by it you may grow up to salvation— ³if indeed you have tasted that the Lord is good.

⁴As you come to him, a living stone rejected by men but in the sight of God chosen and precious, ⁵you yourselves like living stones are being built up as a spiritual house, to be a holy priesthood, to offer spiritual sacrifices acceptable to God through Jesus Christ. ⁶For it stands in Scripture:

“Behold, I am laying in Zion a stone, a cornerstone chosen and precious, and whoever believes in him will not be put to shame.” ⁷So the honor is for you who believe, but for those who do not believe, “The stone that the builders rejected has become the cornerstone,” ⁸and “A stone of stumbling, and a rock of offense.”

They stumble because they disobey the word, as they were destined to do.

⁹But you are a chosen race, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, a people for his own possession, that you may proclaim the excellencies of him who called you out of darkness into his marvelous light. ¹⁰Once you were not a people, but now you are God’s people; once you had not received mercy, but now you have received mercy.

P This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

P The Holy Gospel according to St. John, the fourteenth chapter.

C Glory to You, O Lord.

¹[Jesus said:] “Let not your hearts be troubled. Believe in God; believe also in me. ²In my Father’s house are many rooms. If it were not so, would I have told you that I go to prepare a place for you? ³And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again and will take you to myself, that where I am you may be also. ⁴And you know the way to where I am going.” ⁵Thomas said to him, “Lord, we do not know where you are going. How can we know the way?” ⁶Jesus said to him, “I am the way, and the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me. ⁷If you had known me, you would have known my Father also. From now on you do know him and have seen him.”

⁸Philip said to him, “Lord, show us the Father, and it is enough for us.”

⁹Jesus said to him, “Have I been with you so long, and you still do not know me, Philip? Whoever has seen me has seen the Father. How can you say, ‘Show us the Father’? ¹⁰Do you not believe that I am in the Father and the Father is in me? The words that I say to you I do not speak on my own authority, but the Father who dwells in me does his works. ¹¹Believe me that I am in the Father and the Father is in me, or else believe on account of the works themselves.

¹²“Truly, truly, I say to you, whoever believes in me will also do the works that I do; and greater works than these will he do, because I am going to the Father. ¹³Whatever you ask in my name, this I will do, that the Father may be glorified in the Son. ¹⁴If you ask me anything in my name, I will do it.”

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C Praise to You, O Christ.

Nicene Creed

C I believe in one God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth and of all things visible and invisible. And in one Lord Jesus Christ, the only-begotten Son of God, begotten of His Father before all worlds, God of God, Light of Light, very God of very God, begotten, not made, being of one substance with the Father, by whom all things were made; who for us men and for our salvation came down from heaven and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the virgin Mary and was made man; and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate. He suffered and was buried. And the third day He rose again according to the Scriptures and ascended into heaven and sits at the right hand of the Father. And He will come again with glory to judge both the living and the dead, whose kingdom will have no end. And I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord and giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped and glorified, who spoke by the prophets. And I believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church, I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins, and I look for the resurrection of the dead and the life of the world to come. Amen.

Sermon Hymn

My Savior's Love



What tongue could tell my Sav - ior's love What
What tune could car - ry on its wings The
And when in death this tongue is stilled, My
song of an - gels could de - scribe; Could end-less prais-es be e - nough To
beau - ty of that fi - nal breath; What words dare paint the awe-some scene When
song of life has reached the end; Though as a flow - er I may wilt This
e - cho full His sac - ri - fice? How wor - thy is the Lamb of God Be -
God stood in the stead of man? When Je - sus Christ the ra - diant One Took
ev - er - last-ing truth will stand. No death or life could se - pa - rate Me
yond all might or skill of pen; Still we con - fess and strain to - wards Such
on the sha - dows of our hate; Then rose a - gain just as the sun With
from the love of Christ my Lord; This hope is sure from age to age My
mys - tery and mag - ni - fi - cence.
light and power in full - est grace. My
song will be for - ev - er - more.
Sav - ior's love, My Sav - ior's love. What
could com - pare, what tongue could tell My Sav - ior's love.

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Sermon

Offering

Prayer of the Church

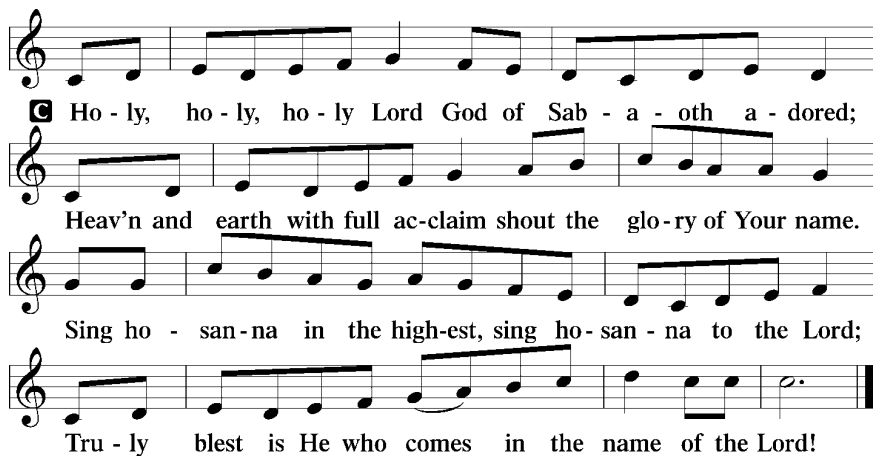
- P** Lord, in Your mercy,
- C** hear our prayer.

Service of the Sacrament

Preface

- P** The Lord be with you.
- C** **And also with you.**
- P** Lift up your hearts.
- C** **We lift them to the Lord.**
- P** Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
- C** **It is right to give him thanks and praise.**
- P** It is truly meet, right, and salutary that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to You, holy Lord, almighty Father, everlasting God. And most especially are we bound to praise You on this day for the glorious resurrection of Your Son, Jesus Christ, the very Paschal Lamb, who was sacrificed for us and bore the sins of the world. By His dying He has destroyed death, and by His rising again He has restored to us everlasting life. Therefore with Mary Magdalene, Peter and John, and with all the witnesses of the resurrection, with angels and archangels, and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising You and saying:

Sanctus



C Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord God of Sab - a - oth a - dored;
Heav'n and earth with full ac-claim shout the glo-ry of Your name.
Sing ho - san-na in the high-est, sing ho-san - na to the Lord;
Tru - ly blest is He who comes in the name of the Lord!

Text: Stephen P. Starke

Lord's Prayer

C 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
forever and ever. Amen.

The Words of Our Lord

Agnus Dei

C 1 O Je - sus Christ, true Lamb of God,
2 O Je - sus Christ, true Lamb of God,
You take the sin of the world a - way;
You take the sin of the world a - way;
O Je - sus Christ, true Lamb of God,
Have mer - cy on us, Je - sus Christ,
Have mer - cy on us, Lord, we pray.
And grant us peace, O Lord, we pray.

Text: Stephen P. Starke

Distribution

Distribution Hymn # 570

Just as I Am, without One Plea



1 Just as I am, with - out one plea But that Thy
2 Just as I am, and wait - ing not To rid my
3 Just as I am, though tossed a - bout With man - y a
4 Just as I am, poor, wretch - ed, blind; Sight, rich - es,



blood was shed for me And that Thou bidd'st me come to
soul of one dark blot, To Thee, whose blood can cleanse each
con - flict, man - y a doubt, Fight - ings and fears with - in, with -
heal - ing of the mind, Yea, all I need, in Thee to

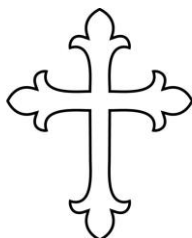


Thee, O Lamb of God, I come, I come.
spot, O Lamb of God, I come, I come.
out, O Lamb of God, I come, I come.
find, O Lamb of God, I come, I come.

5 Just as I am, Thou wilt receive,
Wilt welcome, pardon, cleanse, relieve;
Because Thy promise I believe,
O Lamb of God, I come, I come.

6 Just as I am; Thy love unknown
Has broken ev'ry barrier down;
Now to be Thine, yea, Thine alone,
O Lamb of God, I come, I come.

Text: Charlotte Elliott, 1789–1871; Tune: William B. Bradbury, 1816–68; Text and tune: Public domain



Distribution Hymn # 621

Let All Mortal Flesh Keep Silence



1 Let all mor - tal flesh keep si - lence And with fear and
 2 King of kings yet born of Mar - y, As of old on
 3 Rank on rank the host of heav - en Spreads its van - guard
 4 At His feet the six - winged ser - aph, Cher - u - bim with



trem - bling stand; Pon - der noth - ing earth - ly - mind - ed,
 earth He stood, Lord of lords in hu - man ves - ture,
 on the way As the Light of Light, de - scend - ing
 sleep - less eye, Veil their fac - es to the pres - ence



For with bless - ing in His hand Christ our God to earth de -
 In the bod - y and the blood, He will give to all the
 From the realms of end - less day, Comes the pow'rs of hell to
 As with cease - less voice they cry: "Al - le - lu - ia, al - le -



scend - ing Comes our hom - age to de - mand.
 faith - ful His own self for heav'n - ly food.
 van - quish As the dark - ness clears a - way.
 lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia, Lord Most High!"

Text: Liturgy of St. James, 5th cent.; tr. Gerard Moultrie, 1829–85, alt.; Tune: French, 17th cent.; Text and tune: Public domain

Distribution Hymn # 643

Sent Forth by God's Blessing



1 Sent forth by God's bless-ing, Our true faith con-fess-ing,
 2 With praise and thanks-giv-ing To God ev-er-liv-ing,
 The peo-ple of God from His dwell-ing take leave.
 The tasks of our ev-'ry-day life we will face.
 The Sup-per is end-ed. O now be ex-tend-ed
 Our faith ev-er shar-ing, In love ev-er car-ing,
 The fruits of this ser-vice in all who be-lieve.
 Em-brac-ing His chil-dren of each tribe and race.
 The seed of His teach-ing, Re-cep-tive souls reach-ing,
 With Your feast You feed us, With Your light now lead us;
 Shall blos-som in ac-tion for God and for all.
 U-nite us as one in this life that we share.
 His grace did in-vite us, His love shall u-nite us
 Then may all the liv-ing With praise and thanks-giv-ing
 To work for God's king-dom and an-swer His call.
 Give hon-or to Christ and His name that we bear.

Text: Omer E. Westendorf, 1916–97, alt.; Tune: Welsh; Text: © 1964 World Library Publications. Used by permission: LSB Hymn License no. 110001220; Tune: Public domain

The Dismissal



Nunc Dimittis

1 O Lord, now let Your ser - vant De -
2 All glo - ry to the Fa - ther, All
 part in heav'n - ly peace, For I have seen the
 glo - ry to the Son, All glo - ry to the
 glo - ry Of Your re - deem - ing grace:
 Spir - it, For - ev - er Three in One;
 A light to lead the Gen - tiles Un -
 For as in the be - gin - ning, Is
 to Your ho - ly hill, The glo - ry of Your
 now, shall ev - er be, God's tri - une name re -
 peo - ple, Your cho - sen Is - ra - el.
 sound - ing Through all e - ter - ni - ty.

Benediction

- P** Let us bless the Lord.
- C** **Thanks be to God.**
- P** The Lord bless you and keep you.
 The Lord make His face shine on you and be gracious to you.
 The Lord look upon you with favor and ☩ give you peace.
- C** **Amen**

This Week at-a-Glance

Today

- Worship Service – 9:00 AM
- [Adult Bible Study and Sunday School](#) - 10:30 AM, Downstairs
- Youth Confirmation 11:45 AM, Downstairs
- [New Member Class](#) – 6:00 PM – 7:30 PM

Tuesday

- [Youth Group](#) – 6:30 PM – 8:00 PM

Wednesday

- [Men's Bible Study](#) 6:30 – 7:30 AM

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Youth Annual Yard Sale

Please mark your calendars. The Yard Sale will be on Saturday, June 17. Items can be dropped off at church the week before. Funds raised will help with expenses for the Mission Trip and the 2025 Youth Gathering.

Community Groups

There is a community group ready to welcome you! If you are interested in joining a group, please contact Shanna at Shannacovarrubias@saintjamesglencarbon.org for locations and times available, or call the church office.



In your personal Bible study, do you struggle to understand the meaning of the text? Have you started to read your Bible only to become frustrated and give up? On our most recent edition of [Craving Answers Craving God](#) we offer a “how to” approach to Bible Study. Aaron offers suggestions on ways to make Bible reading more meaningful. Look for Episode 64.



Ministry Opportunities – Get Involved!

How are you serving?

Summer Sunday School

We are very blessed with wonderful Sunday School teachers that share Jesus every week with our children. With summer approaching, and a new summer Sunday school program beginning in June, it's a perfect time to give them a break! To that end, we are seeking aides to assist with the Sunday morning program. There is No preparation or experience necessary. The program and curriculum is set, but adults are needed to help assist the leader on Sunday mornings. If you feel called to serve in this way, please contact Cheryl in the church office or email at cheryl@stjamesglencarbon.org

Audio and Video Help Needed

No experience required. The media ministry and technology team is in need of individuals that can assist with audio or video and cameras during worship and other events at St James.

All tasks are easy to learn regardless of your age! Whether you have never done any of them or are an experienced audio engineer or video producer, your help would be greatly appreciated and welcomed. If you are interested or have questions regarding this opportunity, please email Larry O'Leary larry@stjamesglencarbon.org or contact the church office.

Altar Guild

This could be a great individual or family service opportunity. If you're available to assist one Sunday per month or more, contact judyreese@saintjamesglencarbon.org or call the church office for more information!

[St. James Attendance](#)



SAINT JAMES
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GLEN CARBON

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