

# ST. GEORGE'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH

*in the heart of the Historic Stockade District*

## THE FEAST OF THE ASCENSION

14 MAY 2026 - SOLEMN HIGH MASS - RITE I, 7PM

The Reverend Thomas J. Pettigrew, *Rector*  
The Reverend Abigail Bee, *Deacon*  
Dr. Brian J. Taylor, AAGO, *Director of Music*

### MASS SETTING

The Fifth Communion Service

*Leo Sowerby (1895-1968)*

### OPENING VOLUNTARY

**THE OPENING HYMN**, HYMN 216

Hail thee, festival day!

*Salve festa dies*

*Upper voices* sing the **odd** numbered stanzas, *lower voices* sing the **even** numbered stanzas, **all** sing the **Refrain**

### THE COLLECT FOR PURITY

*(people kneel)*

Almighty God, unto whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hid: Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of thy Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love thee and worthily magnify thy holy Name; through Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

### THE INTROIT

*Sung by the Cantor & Choir*

Ye men of Galilee; why stand ye gazing up into heaven alleluia: in like manner as ye have seen him going up into heaven; so shall he come again alleluia, alleluia. Ps. O clap your hands together all ye people: sing unto God with the voice of melody. Glory be.

### THE SUMMARY OF THE LAW

Hear what our Lord Jesus Christ saith: Thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy mind. This is the first and great commandment. And the second is like unto it: Thou shalt love thy neighbor as thyself. On these two commandments hang all the Law and the Prophets.

**THE KYRIE ELEISON**, SERVICE MUSIC BOOKLET 747

*Sung by all*

*(people kneel)*

**Lord, have mercy upon us. (3x)**

**Christ, have mercy upon us. (3x)**

**Lord, have mercy upon us. (3x)**

**THE GLORIA IN EXCELSIS**, HYMNAL S-204 *Sung by all*

*(people stand)*

**Glory be to God on high,  
and on earth peace, good will towards men.**

**We praise thee, we bless thee,**

**we worship thee,**

**we glorify thee,**

**we give thanks to thee for thy great glory,**

**O Lord God, heavenly King, God the Father**

**Almighty.**

**O Lord, the only-begotten Son, Jesus Christ;**

**O Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Father,**

**that takest away the sins of the world,**

**have mercy upon us.**

**Thou that takest away the sins of the world,**

**receive our prayer.**

**Thou that sittest at the right hand of God the**

**Father, have mercy upon us.**

**For thou only art holy; thou only art the Lord;**

**thou only, O Christ,**

**with the Holy Ghost, art most high in the**

**glory of God the Father. Amen.**

### THE COLLECT OF THE DAY

*Ascension*

*Celebrant* The Lord be with you.

**People And with thy spirit.**

*Celebrant*

Let us pray.

O Almighty God, whose blessed Son our Savior Jesus Christ ascended far above all heavens that he might fill all things: Mercifully give us faith to perceive that, according to his promise, he abideth with his Church on earth, even unto the end of the ages; through the same Jesus Christ our Lord, who liveth and reigneth with thee and the Holy Spirit, one God, in glory everlasting. **Amen.**

A READING from the Acts of the Apostles

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."

V. The Word of the Lord      **R. Thanks be to God**

**THE GRADUAL***Sung by all**Psalm 93*

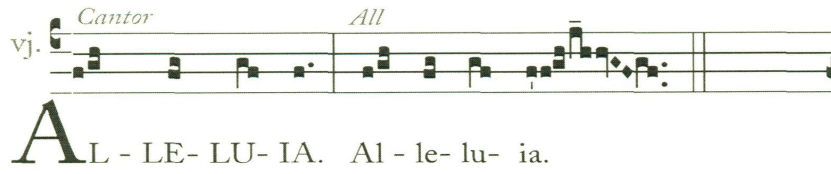
- 1 The Lord is King; he has put on splendid ap-**parel**; \*  
the Lord has put on his apparel and girded himself with **strength**.
- 2 He has made the whole world so **sure** \*  
that it cannot be **moved**;
- 3 Ever since the world began your throne has been e-**stablished**; \*  
you are from ever-**lasting**.
- 4 The waters have lifted up O Lord, the waters have lifted up their **voice**; \*  
the waters have lifted up their pounding **waves**.
- 5 Mightier than the sound of many waters, mightier than the breakers of the **sea**, \*  
mightier is the Lord who dwells on **high**.
- 6 Your testimonies are very **sure**, \*  
and holiness adorns your house O Lord, for ever and for ever-**more**.

**THE EPISTLE***Ephesians 1.15-23*

A READING from the Paul's Letter to the Ephesians

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.

V. The Word of the Lord      **R. Thanks be to God**



Alleluia. **Alleluia.** God is gone up with a merry noise: and the Lord with the sound of the trumpet. Alleluia. Christ to highest heaven ascending led captivity captive: and gave gifts to men. **Alleluia.**

**THE HOLY GOSPEL**

*Luke 24.44-53*

THE HOLY GOSPEL OF OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST ACCORDING TO SAINT LUKE

**R. Glory be to thee, O Lord.**

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.

V. The Gospel of the Lord. **R. Praise be to thee, O Christ.**

**THE SERMON**

The Rector

**THE NICENE CREED, said by all**

*(people stand)*

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 Ghost 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 sitteth on the right hand of the Father; and he shall come again, with glory, to Judge both the quick and the dead; whose kingdom shall have no end. And I believe in the Holy Ghost the Lord, and Giver of Life, who proceedeth from the Father (and the Son); who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped and glorified; who spake by the Prophets. And I believe one holy Catholic 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.

**ANNOUNCEMENTS & GREETINGS**

**THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE**

**THE CONFESSION & ABSOLUTION**

*(people kneel)*

*Deacon:* Ye who do truly and earnestly repent you of your sins, and are in love and charity with your neighbors, and intend to lead a new life, following the commandments of God, and walking from henceforth in his holy ways: Draw near with faith, and take this Holy Sacrament to your comfort, and make your humble confession to Almighty God, devoutly kneeling.

**ALMIGHTY GOD, Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, maker of all things, judge of all men: We acknowledge and bewail our manifold sins and wickedness, which we from time to time most grievously have committed, by thought, word, and deed, against thy divine Majesty, provoking most justly thy wrath and indignation against us. We do earnestly repent, and are heartily sorry for these our misdoings; the remembrance of them is grievous unto us, the burden of them is intolerable. Have mercy upon us, have mercy upon us, most merciful Father; for thy Son our Lord Jesus Christ's sake, forgive us all that is past; and grant that we may ever hereafter serve and please thee in newness of life, to the honor and glory of thy Name; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

**THE ABSOLUTION**

*(The Priest, alone, stands to give the absolution)*

**THE PEACE**

*(people stand)*

V. The peace of the Lord be always with you.

R. And with thy spirit.

**THE OFFERTORY SENTENCE**

*Sung by the Cantor & Choir*

God is gone up with a merry noise: and the Lord with the sound of the trumpet. Alleluia.

**OFFERTORY ANTHEM**

The Lord ascendeth up on high

*Michael Praetorius (1571-1621)*

**THE OFFERTORY, HYMN 215**

See the Conqueror mount in triumph

*In Babilone*

**THE GREAT THANKSGIVING**

*Rite I, Eucharistic Prayer I*

The musical notation consists of four staves, each with a treble clef and a key signature of one flat (B-flat). The lyrics are as follows:

- Staff 1:** Celebrant: The Lord be with you. People: And with thy spi - rit.
- Staff 2:** Celebrant: Lift up your hearts. People: We lift them up un - to the Lord.
- Staff 3:** Celebrant: Let us give thanks un - to our Lord God.
- Staff 4:** People: It is meet and right so to do.

*The Celebrant sings the Proper Preface*

**THE SANCTUS & BENEDICTUS QUI VENIT, SERVICE MUSIC BOOKLET 799**

*Sung by All*

**Holy, holy, holy, Lord God of Hosts:**

**Heaven and earth are full of thy Glory. Glory be to thee, O Lord Most High.**

**✠ Blessed is he that cometh in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.**

## THE EUCHARISTIC PRAYER

*(people kneel)*

ALL GLORY BE TO THEE, Almighty God, our heavenly Father, for that thou, of thy tender mercy, didst give thine only Son Jesus Christ to suffer death upon the cross for our redemption; who made there, by his one oblation of himself once offered, a full, perfect, and sufficient sacrifice, oblation, and satisfaction, for the sins of the whole world; and did institute, and in his holy Gospel command us to continue, a perpetual memory of that his precious death and sacrifice, until his coming again.

For in the night in which he was betrayed, he took bread; and when he had given thanks, he brake it, and gave it to his disciples, saying, "Take, eat, this is my Body, which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me." ✠

Likewise, after supper, he took the cup; and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, saying, "Drink ye all of this; for this is my Blood of the New Testament, which is shed for you, and for many, for the remission of sins. Do this, as oft as ye shall drink it, in remembrance of me." ✠

Wherefore, O Lord and heavenly Father, according to the institution of thy dearly beloved Son our Savior Jesus Christ, we, thy humble servants, do celebrate and make here before thy divine Majesty, with these thy holy gifts, which we now offer unto thee, the memorial thy Son hath commanded us to make; having in remembrance his blessed passion and precious death, his mighty resurrection and glorious ascension; rendering unto thee most hearty thanks for the innumerable benefits procured unto us by the same.

And we most humbly beseech thee, O merciful Father, to hear us; and, of thy almighty goodness, vouchsafe to bless and sanctify, with thy Word and Holy Spirit, these thy gifts and creatures of bread and wine; that we, receiving them according to thy Son our Savior Jesus Christ's holy institution, in remembrance of his death and passion, may be partakers of his most blessed Body and Blood.

And we earnestly desire thy fatherly goodness mercifully to accept this our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving; most humbly beseeching thee to grant that, by the merits and death of thy Son Jesus Christ, and through faith in his blood, we, and all thy whole Church, may obtain remission of our sins, and all other benefits of his passion.

And here we offer and present unto thee, O Lord, ourselves, our souls and bodies, to be a reasonable, holy, and living sacrifice unto thee; humbly beseeching thee that we, and all others who shall be partakers of this Holy Communion, may worthily receive the most precious Body and Blood of thy Son Jesus Christ, be filled with thy ✠ grace and heavenly benediction, and made one body with him, that he may dwell in us, and we in him.

And although we are unworthy, through our manifold sins, to offer unto thee any sacrifice, yet we beseech thee to accept this our bounden duty and service, not weighing our merits, but pardoning our offenses, through Jesus Christ our Lord; By whom, and with whom, in the unity of the Holy Ghost, all honor and glory be unto thee, O Father Almighty, world without end. **AMEN.**

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

## THE LORD'S PRAYER

*sung by all*

Our Fa - ther, who art in hea - ven, hal - low - ed  
be thy Name, thy king - dom come, thy will be done,  
on earth as it is in hea - ven. Give us this day our  
dai - ly bread. And for - give us our tres - pas - ses,  
as we for - give those who tres - pass a - gainst us. And lead  
us not in - to temp - ta - tion, but de - liv - er us  
from e - vil. For thine is the king - dom, and the power,  
and the glo - ry, for ev - er and ev - er. A - men.

## THE FRACTION

*Celebrant* Alleluia. Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us;  
*People* **Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia.**

**THE AGNUS DEI**, SERVICE MUSIC BOOKLET 749 *Sung by All* *(people kneel)*  
**O Lamb of God, that takest away the sins of the world, have mercy upon us.**  
**O Lamb of God, that takest away the sins of the world, have mercy upon us.**  
**O Lamb of God, that takest away the sins of the world, grant us thy peace.**

**THE PRAYER OF HUMBLE ACCESS** *Said by All* *(people kneel)*

**WE DO NOT PRESUME to come to this thy Table, O merciful Lord, trusting in our own righteousness, but in thy manifold and great mercies. We are not worthy so much as to gather up the crumbs under thy Table. But thou art the same Lord whose property is always to have mercy. Grant us therefore, gracious Lord, so to eat the flesh of thy dear Son Jesus Christ, and to drink his blood, that we may evermore dwell in him, and he in us. Amen.**

## THE INVITATION TO HOLY COMMUNION

*Celebrant* 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.

## THE ADMINISTRATION OF COMMUNION

*All baptized Christians may receive communion.  
If you wish to not receive, you are invited to come forward and cross your arms,  
indicating that you wish to receive a blessing.  
Gluten-free hosts are available.*

**THE COMMUNION SENTENCE** *Sung by the Cantor & Choir*

Sing ye to the Lord who ascended the heaven of heavens: to the sun rising alleluia.

**THE COMMUNION ANTHEM** A hymn of glory let us sing *English Ballad Melody, 15<sup>th</sup> Century*

**THE POST COMMUNION PRAYER** *Said by All* *(people kneel)*  
**Almighty and everliving God, we most heartily thank thee for that thou dost feed us, in these holy mysteries, with the spiritual food of the most precious Body and Blood of thy Son our Savior Jesus Christ; and dost assure us thereby of thy favor and goodness towards us; and that we are very members incorporate in the mystical body of thy Son, the blessed company of all faithful people; and are also heirs, through hope, of thy everlasting kingdom. And we humbly beseech thee, O heavenly Father, so to assist us with thy grace, that we may continue in that holy fellowship, and do all such good works as thou hast prepared for us to walk in; through Jesus Christ our Lord, to whom with thee and the Holy Ghost, be all honor and glory, world without end. Amen.**

**THE BLESSING** *(people kneel)*

The peace of God, which passeth all understanding, keep your hearts and minds in the knowledge and love of God, and of his Son Jesus Christ our Lord; and the blessing of God Almighty, ✠ the Father, the Son, and the Holy Ghost, be upon you and remain with you for ever. **Amen.**

**THE DISMISSAL** *(people stand)*

*Deacon:* Go in peace to love and serve the Lord. Alleluia, Alleluia.  
*People:* **Thanks be to God. Alleluia, Alleluia.**

**THE RETIRING PROCESSION**, HYMN 214 Hail the day that sees him rise *Llanfair*

## ORGAN VOLUNTARY

*All are invited to a enjoy some light refreshments in St. George's House following the service!*

### MINISTERS OF TODAY'S LITURGY

Celebrant & Preacher:	The Reverend Thomas J. Pettigrew, Rector
Deacon:	The Reverend Abigail Bee
Subdeacon:	Dr. Kevin Decker
Master of Ceremonies:	David Kennison
Organist:	Dr. Brian J. Taylor
Cantor:	Miss Starrla Lares
Thurifer:	Mr. Christopher Henry
Boat Boy:	Aiden Bassant
Crucifer:	Mr. Eric Bassant
Acolytes:	Mr. Daniel Miess & Mrs. Anne Kennison
Lector:	
Sacristans:	Mr. & Mrs. David & Anne Kennison

### YOUR PRAYERS ARE ASKED FOR:

**The Sick and those in need:** Jamie, Pat, Gabriella Rose, Katie, Chase, Pedro, Isabella, Dan Bornt, Dinorah Jimenez, Nancy, Karen Perretta, Sharon A. Wemtle, Lorna, Richard, Abigail, Suzanne, Ann, Josh, Den, Sherrie, Ann-Marie, Lynn Paska, Larry, Robbie, Aubrey, Tamara, Mtr. Lisa Schoonmaker, Fred, Anna, James, Suzie, Dennis, Warren Crow, Ruth, Simon, Shannon, Robert, Diane, Chelsea, Casey, Jo-Anne, Jeff, Lisa, Patti N, Patricia, Ken Bee, and Martha.

**For:** Tarik and Pattie Wareh, as they make the Camino de Santiago. Learn more about the Camino at <https://santiago-compostela.net/>

*The prayer list will be reset every 3 months. Did we miss an important date for our birthday and faithful departed intentions? If you would like a name included on the prayer list or on the annual rota of intentions, send an email to [rector@stgeorgesschenectady.org](mailto:rector@stgeorgesschenectady.org)*

### SERVICES THIS WEEK

**Friday, May 15**      8:30 a.m. — Morning Prayer — Lady Chapel  
12:00 p.m. — Low Mass — Lady Chapel  
5:30 p.m. — Evening Prayer — Lady Chapel

**Sunday, May 17**      **EASTER 7: THE SUNDAY AFTER THE ASCENSION**  
8:30 a.m. — Morning Prayer — Lady Chapel  
9:00 a.m. — Sunday School (Grades 1-6) — Acolyte Vestry Room  
9:15 a.m. — Holy Rosary — Lady Chapel  
10:00 a.m. — Solemn High Mass — High Altar  
5:30 p.m. — Evening Prayer — Lady Chapel

## **PARISH NOTICES**

**WELCOME VISITORS!** We'd like to extend a warm welcome to our visitors today. Whether you live in our area and decided to worship with us today or if you are visiting from out of town, we offer you a warm Georgian welcome! There are visitor cards in most of the pews and we ask that you fill one out and give it to the Greeters at the door or simply drop it in the offering plate. We'd love to see you again. Our Sunday Mass is at 10am. Details are on our website, [www.stgeorgesschenectady.org](http://www.stgeorgesschenectady.org).

### **Parish Life and Beyond**

**ROSARY** – Sunday, May 17 at 9:15 a.m. – The Society of Mary will offer the Rosary in the Lady Chapel. All are welcome to join in this devotional service.

**MAY CROWNING** – following Mass on May 17<sup>th</sup>. The month of May is dedicated to the Blessed Virgin Mary. In honor and thanksgiving for the life and witness of the Blessed Virgin, we will crown an statue of her in the forecourt following Mass this day.

**BOOK CLUB** — (DATE CHANGE!!!) The All on the Same Page Book Club will be reading The Correspondent by Virginia Evans. This book has surprised critics and delighted readers since it came out about one year ago. Its themes of aging, hope, anxiety and forgiveness have resonated particularly well with a mature audience. **We will discuss the book after Mass on May 24th.**

### **Parish Outreach**

**LOAVES AND FISHES** — The next opportunity to serve lunch to the community at St. Francis Mission will be Saturday, May 30th.

**YWCA WOMEN'S SHELTER** — The next collection of items for the YWCA Women's Shelter will be June 14th.

### **Looking Ahead**

**CORPUS CHRISTI WEEKEND** - St. George's will host The Confraternity of the Blessed Sacrament, a devotional society of the Episcopal Church dedicated to increasing reverence for the Holy Communion, the weekend of June 5th & 6th. The weekend begins with a Choral Evensong on Friday evening at 6:00 p.m. featuring choral music all by local composers including our own Dr. Taylor. A reception will follow at the Rectory. On Saturday morning at 11:00 a.m. the Confraternity will offer a Solemn High Pontifical Mass with The Right Rev'd Daniel Martins, Bishop of Springfield retired, celebrating and preaching. This Mass will conclude with a Procession and Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament. A garden luncheon in the backyard of the Rectory will follow. All are invited and encouraged to all the events.

**PRAYER LIST** — If you have a name that you would like added to the prayer list please email the church office at [office@StGeorgesSchenectady.org](mailto:office@StGeorgesSchenectady.org) and we will insure that this person will be remembered in the prayers.

**PARISH MINISTRY SCHEDULES POSTED ONLINE** — The most recent schedule of greeters, lectors, counters, and altar guild is published online. If you are interested in serving as a lector, greeter, counter, or acolyte, please speak to Fr. Pettigrew or email him at [rector@StGeorgesSchenectady.org](mailto:rector@StGeorgesSchenectady.org) for more information.