



St. Joseph's
Episcopal Church

May 5, 2024

Sixth Sunday of Easter

Morning Prayer Rite II | Year B



St. Joseph's
Episcopal Church



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Episcopal Church

We welcome you to St. Joseph's Episcopal Church, *the church on the way*, with open arms and open hearts.

Please be reverent while we worship; we encourage you to fully participate in our service with responses and with song. Please use the chat to add your prayers, thanksgivings, and petitions—before the sermon—so we may include them in the service.

Prelude Hymn | LEV 115

Spirit of the living God,
fall fresh on me.



WELCOME

Officiant:

The Rev. Canon Dr. Fred Vergara

Voice of the People:

Hyacinth Hutchinson



Opening Hymn | 657 (1982 Hymnal)

LOVE DIVINE

Opening Sentences

Alleluia! Christ is risen.

The Lord is risen indeed. Alleluia!

Thanks be to God, who gives us victory
through our Lord Jesus Christ.

1 Corinthians 15:57



The Invitatory

Officiant Lord, open our lips.

People **And our mouth shall proclaim your praise.**

Officiant Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit:
as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be for ever.
Amen. Alleluia.

The Invitatory

Alleluia. The Lord is risen indeed: Come let us adore him. Alleluia.

Alleluia.

Christ our Passover has been sacrificed for us; *

therefore let us keep the feast,

Not with the old leaven, the leaven of malice and evil, *

but with the unleavened bread of sincerity and truth. Alleluia.

Christ being raised from the dead will never die again; *

death no longer has dominion over him.

continued

The Invitatory

The death that he died, he died to sin, once for all; *
but the life he lives, he lives to God.

So also consider yourselves dead to sin, *
and alive to God in Jesus Christ our Lord. Alleluia.

Christ has been raised from the dead, *
the first fruits of those who have fallen asleep.

For since by a man came death, *
by a man has come also the resurrection of the dead.

continued

The Invitatory

For as in Adam all die, *
so also in Christ shall all be made alive. Alleluia.



Psalm 98 | Reynold Bradshaw

¹ Sing to the Lord a new song, *
for he has done marvelous things.

² With his right hand and his holy arm *
has he won for himself the victory.

³ The Lord has made known his victory; *
his righteousness has he openly shown in the sight of the
nations.

continued

Psalm 98 | Reynold Bradshaw

⁴ He remembers his mercy and faithfulness to the house of Israel, *
and all the ends of the earth have seen the victory of our God.

⁵ Shout with joy to the Lord, all you lands; *
lift up your voice, rejoice, and sing.

⁶ Sing to the Lord with the harp, *
with the harp and the voice of song.

⁷ With trumpets and the sound of the horn *
shout with joy before the King, the Lord.

continued

Psalm 98 | Reynold Bradshaw

⁸ Let the sea make a noise and all that is in it, *
the lands and those who dwell therein.

⁹ Let the rivers clap their hands, *
and let the hills ring out with joy before the Lord,
when he comes to judge the earth.

continued

Psalm 98 | Reynold Bradshaw

¹⁰ In righteousness shall he judge the world *
and the peoples with equity.

Lector Glory to the Father, and to the Son,
and to the Holy Spirit:

People as it was in the beginning, is now,
and will be for ever. Amen.



The First Lesson | Marie Gonet

A reading from Acts of the Apostles, Chapter 10, verses 44 to 48.

While Peter was still speaking, the Holy Spirit fell upon all who heard the word. The circumcised believers who had come with Peter were astounded that the gift of the Holy Spirit had been poured out even on the Gentiles, for they heard them speaking in tongues and extolling God. Then Peter said, "Can anyone withhold the water for baptizing these people who have received the Holy Spirit just as we have?"

continued

The First Lesson | Marie Gonet

So he ordered them to be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ. Then they invited him to stay for several days.

Lector The Word of the Lord.

People Thanks be to God.



Canticle N | A Song of God's Love

Beloved, let us love one another, *
for love is of God.

Whoever does not love, does not know God, *
for God is Love.

In this the love of God was revealed among us, *
that God sent his only Son into the world,
so that we might live through Jesus Christ.

In this is love, not that we loved God, but that God loved us *
and sent his Son that sins might be forgiven.

continued

Canticle N | A Song of God's Love

Beloved, since God loved us so much, *
we ought also to love one another.
For if we love one another, God abides in us, *
and God's love will be perfected in us.



The Epistle | Jennifer Maxfield

A reading from John's First Letter, Chapter 5, verses 1 to 6.

Everyone who believes that Jesus is the Christ has been born of God, and everyone who loves the parent loves the child. By this we know that we love the children of God, when we love God and obey his commandments. For the love of God is this, that we obey his commandments. And his commandments are not burdensome, for whatever is born of God conquers the world. And this is the victory that conquers the world, our faith.

continued

The Epistle | Jennifer Maxfield

Who is it that conquers the world but the one who believes that Jesus is the Son of God?

This is the one who came by water and blood, Jesus Christ, not with the water only but with the water and the blood. And the Spirit is the one that testifies, for the Spirit is the truth.

Lector The Word of the Lord.

People Thanks be to God.



Gospel Hymn | LEV 109



The Gospel

The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to John, Chapter 15, verses 9 to 17.

Jesus said to his disciples, “As the Father has loved me, so I have loved you; abide in my love. If you keep my commandments, you will abide in my love, just as I have kept my Father’s commandments and abide in his love. I have said these things to you so that my joy may be in you, and that your joy may be complete.

continued

The Gospel

“This is my commandment, that you love one another as I have loved you. No one has greater love than this, to lay down one’s life for one’s friends. You are my friends if you do what I command you. I do not call you servants any longer, because the servant does not know what the master is doing; but I have called you friends, because I have made known to you everything that I have heard from my Father. You did not choose me but I chose you.

continued

The Gospel

And I appointed you to go and bear fruit, fruit that will last, so that the Father will give you whatever you ask him in my name. I am giving you these commands so that you may love one another.”

Lector The Gospel of the Lord.

People **Glory to you, Lord Christ.**





Sermon | Love, Friendship,
and Calling

The Rev. Canon Dr. Winfred Vergara

The Apostles' Creed

I believe in God, the Father Almighty, creator of heaven and earth. I believe in Jesus Christ, God's 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 again 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 Lord's Prayer

Officiant The Lord be with you.

People And also with you.

Officiant Let us pray.

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 Suffrages

V. Show us your mercy, O Lord;

R. And grant us your salvation.

V. Clothe your ministers with righteousness;

R. Let your people sing with joy.

V. Give peace, O Lord, in all the world;

R. For only in you can we live in safety.

V. Lord, keep this nation under your care;

R. And guide us in the way of justice and truth.

continued

The Suffrages

V. Let your way be known upon earth;

R. Your saving health among all nations.

V. Let not the needy, O Lord, be forgotten;

R. Nor the hope of the poor be taken away.

V. Create in us clean hearts, O God;

R. And sustain us with your Holy Spirit.



Collect of the Day

O God, you have prepared for those who love you such good things as surpass our understanding: Pour into our hearts such love towards you, that we, loving you in all things and above all things, may obtain your promises, which exceed all that we can desire; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

Collect for Our Parish

Almighty God, hear our prayer for this our parish family at St. Joseph's Episcopal Church of Queens Village. Strengthen the faithful, revive the inactive, restore the penitent and inspire us for mission. Grant to us all things necessary for our common life, provide for our ministries and bring us to unity of heart and mind, through Jesus Christ, our Lord.
Amen.

Collect for the Renewal of Life

O God, the King eternal, whose light divides the day from the night and turns the shadow of death into the morning: Drive far from us all wrong desires, incline our hearts to keep your law, and guide our feet into the way of peace; that, having done your will with cheerfulness during the day, we may, when night comes, rejoice to give you thanks; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.



Prayers of the People | Wendy Riley

The Lord has done marvelous things. So let us boldly pray, saying, “We lift up our voices to you: Holy Spirit, fall upon us.”

continued

Prayers of the People | Wendy Riley

Loving Parent, you have chosen us to be members of your Church:
help us to obey what you command; help us to love one another as
you love us.

We lift up our voices to you:
Holy Spirit, fall upon us.

continued

Prayers of the People | Wendy Riley

Loving Parent, you have openly shown your righteousness in the sight of the nations: we pray you judge the people of the world according to your righteousness, not according to our ignorance or folly.

We lift up our voices to you:

Holy Spirit, fall upon us.

continued

Prayers of the People | Wendy Riley

Loving Parent, the rivers clap their hands and the hills ring out with joy before you: open our eyes to recognize your gracious hand in all your works.

We lift up our voices to you:

Holy Spirit, fall upon us.

continued

Prayers of the People | Wendy Riley

Loving Parent, Jesus taught us that no one has greater love than this, to lay down one's life for one's friends: bless the first responders who consistently risk their health and lives for friends and strangers.

We lift up our voices to you:

Holy Spirit, fall upon us.

continued

Prayers of the People | Wendy Riley

Loving Parent, you always remember your mercy and faithfulness to your people: we ask you, in Jesus' name, to heal and comfort those for whom we pray at this time.

We lift up our voices to you:

Holy Spirit, fall upon us.

continued

Prayers of the People | Wendy Riley

Loving Parent, you have prepared for those who love you such good things as surpass our understanding: may we, with those who have died, abide in your love forever.

We lift up our voices to you:

Holy Spirit, fall upon us.

continued

Concluding Collect

Holy Parent, in your tenderness and compassion, hear our prayers. May they be to you as a precious offering from the treasure of our hearts. We present them to you because you are faithful and your love endures forever and ever. **Amen.**



Prayers from the Congregation

- ✝ We ask for God's blessings upon those celebrating birthdays and anniversaries.

Prayers for Birthdays/Anniversaries

O God, our times are in your hand, Look with favor, we pray, on your servants as they begin another year. Grant that they may grow in wisdom and grace, and strengthen their trust in your goodness all the days of their lives; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Most Gracious God, look with favor upon these your servants as they celebrate their wedding anniversary. By the power of your Holy Spirit, pour out the abundance of Your grace and blessing, that they may continue to cherish each other and continue to grow in love and peace, through Jesus Christ, our Lord. **Amen.**

Prayer for Travelers

Heavenly Father, whose glory fills the whole creation and whose presence we find everywhere: Preserve those who travel; surround them with your loving care, protect them from any danger, and bring them in safety to their journey's end; through Jesus Christ, our Lord. **Amen.**

Prayers from the Congregation

We continue to pray for the people of the world recovering from earthquakes, floods, hurricanes, fire, and other natural disasters;

We pray for a permanent ceasefire in Gaza, occupied Palestine. We pray for the hungry and thirsty, for the homeless, the imprisoned and the suffering.

We pray for the ongoing war in Ukraine, and the genocides in Palestine and Congo.

We pray for students and activists protesting injustice and fighting for true liberation of all peoples.

Prayer for the Human Family

O God, you made us in your own image and redeemed us through Jesus your Son: Look with compassion on the whole human family; take away the arrogance and hatred which infect our hearts; break down the walls that separate us; unite us in bonds of love; and work through our struggle and confusion to accomplish your purposes on earth; that, in your good time, all nations and races may serve you in harmony around your heavenly throne; through Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen.

Prayers from the Congregation

The Bryan Walker family asks us to pray for Edris who is in hospital. May the Holy Spirit guide those who care for her.

We pray for the family of Gloria Scudder who has gone home to the Lord. May her soul rest in peace and rise in glory and her memory be a blessing to those who knew her.

Prayer List

Afua J.

Agatha D.

Alison B.

Ancil W.

Anne A.

Anthony L.

Audi W.

Audley O.

Audrey A.

Avril S.

Azikiwea G.

Barbara L.

Beverly W.

Cessarine M.

Chandra R.

Charles K.

Christopher W.

Clarence S.

Claudette G.

Crystal N.

Daniela F.

Daphne A.

Daphne P.

David T.

Deborah S.

Desiree P.

Desmond G.

Desmond S.

Doreen R.

Dorothy M.

Dossie C.

Eda D.

Edris B.

Prayer List

Edson J.

Eric L.

Eulalee P.

Fitzroy G.

Freddie M.

George U.

Greta P.

Gwendolyn W.

Harold J.

Heather G.

Hyacinth D.

James H.

Janelle A.

John E.

John L.

Jonathan N.

Joy S.

Julene K.

Justice D.

Kathleen N.

Keisha A.

Larie M.

Leighton G.

Leonard R.

Lois T.

M. Family

Marcia L.

Maria A.

Marilyn W.

Marina C.

Marlon K.

Marshall E.

Prayer List

Mary M.

Maureen T.

Melissa A.

Michael A.

Michelle G.

Natalie B.

Nicola F.

Nishah C.

Noel J.

Noel K.

Norma J.

Norma M.

Orinthia S.

Marilyn W.

Pat W.

Pat Z.

Peggy D.

Peter T.

Rosa S.

Rosalind M.

Rosalind S.

Rose C.

Rupert W.

Ruth E.

Sade C.

Sheila S.

Shelly R.

Shelly R.

Sonia B.

Sr. Sheila

Verely P.

Willacy & Maxfield family

Yolanda E.

Prayer List

You may speak aloud the names of those for whom you would like to pray.



Prayer for Healing

God of all power and wisdom, by the might of Your command, drive away from our bodies all sickness and all infirmity; grant to your servants your healing touch so that their weakness may vanish and their strength renewed; through Jesus Christ, our Lord. **Amen.**

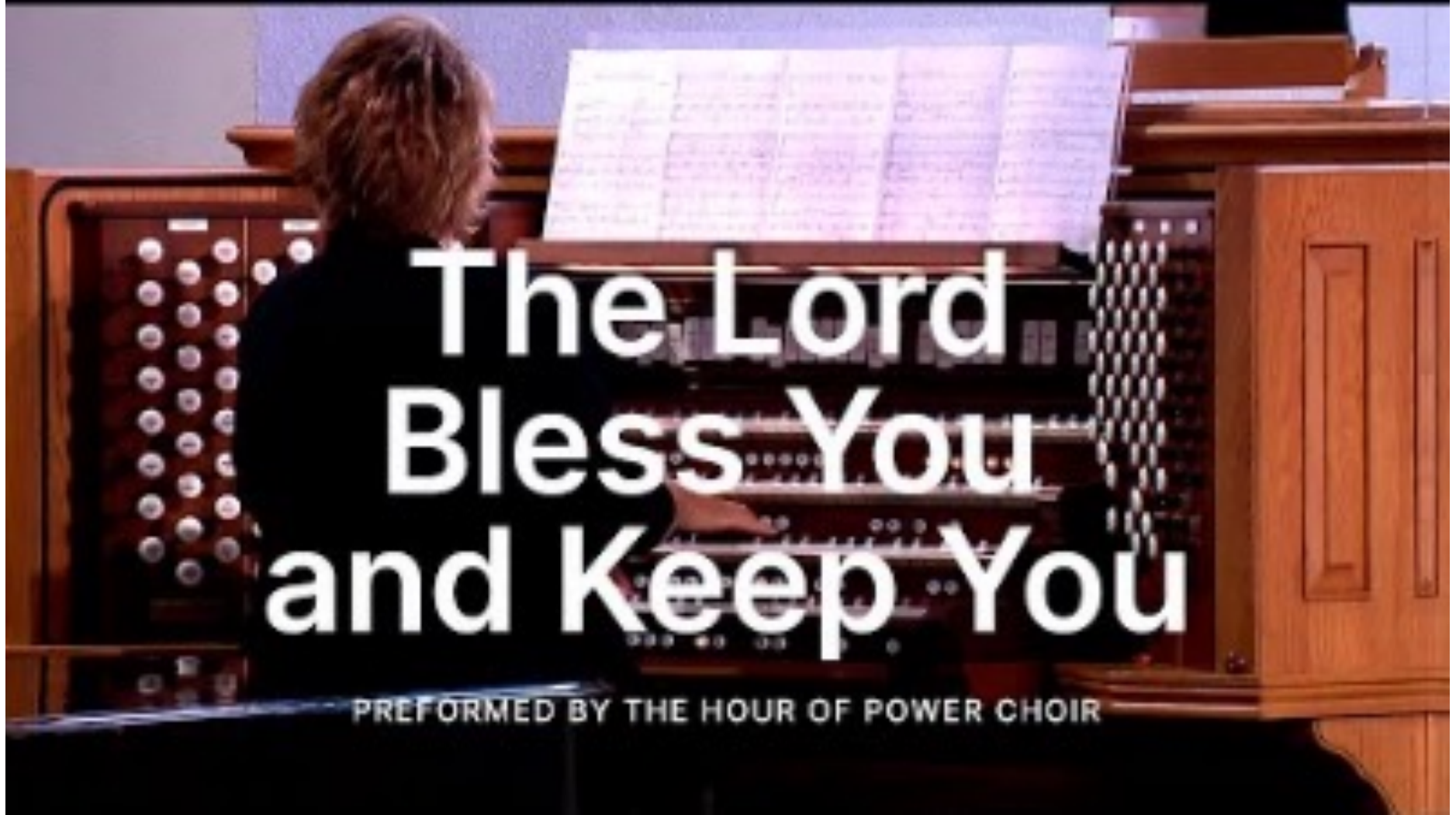
The Peace

Officiant The peace of the Lord be always with you.

People And also with you.



The Peace | The Lord Bless You and Keep You



An Invitation to Support Our Ministry

When you are blessed by our ministry, we invite you to donate.



To support us, please visit our website at www.stjosephqv.org/donate or scan this QR code by opening the camera on your cell phone, scanning this image, and clicking on the yellow link that pops up.



Offertory Prayer

Creator God, you made the heavens and the earth and all that is in them. You have blessed us with your abundant, abiding love so that we may be inspired to live generously. From your plentiful gifts, we give you our own first fruits, the gathering of our time, talent, and treasure. May they be a blessing to the world. **Amen.**



The General Thanksgiving

Almighty God, Father of all mercies,
we your unworthy servants give you humble thanks
for all your goodness and loving-kindness
to us and to all whom you have made.
We bless you for our creation, preservation,
and all the blessings of this life;
but above all for your immeasurable love
in the redemption of the world by our Lord Jesus Christ;
for the means of grace, and for the hope of glory.

continued

The General Thanksgiving

And, we pray, give us such an awareness of your mercies,
that with truly thankful hearts we may show forth your praise,
not only with our lips, but in our lives,
by giving up our selves to your service,
and by walking before you
in holiness and righteousness all our days;
through Jesus Christ our Lord,
to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit,
be honor and glory throughout all ages. Amen.



The Blessing

May Almighty God, who has redeemed us and made us his children through the resurrection of his Son our Lord, bestow upon you the riches of this blessing. **Amen.**

May God, who through the water of baptism has raised us from sin into newness of life, make you holy and worthy to be united with Christ for ever. **Amen.**

May God, who has brought us out of bondage to sin into true and lasting freedom in the Redeemer, bring you to your eternal inheritance. **Amen.**

The Blessing & Dismissal

And the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be upon you and remain with you for ever. **Amen.**

Celebrant Let us bless the Lord. Alleluia, Alleluia.

People Thanks be to God. Alleluia, Alleluia.

The grace our our Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit, be with us all evermore. **Amen.**

2 Corinthians 13:14



Closing Hymn | LEV 218

*Yes, Jesus loves me
Yes, Jesus loves me
Yes, Jesus loves me
For the Bible tells me so*

*Jesus loves me
This I know
For the Bible, it tells me so
Little ones to Him belong
They are weak, but He is strong*

*Yes, Jesus loves me
Yes, Jesus loves me
Yes, Jesus loves me
For the Bible tells me so*

*Pressing on the upper way
Always guide me, Lord, I pray
Undeserving and stubborn-willed
Never fails to love me still*

*Yes, Jesus loves me
Yes, Jesus loves me
Oh yes, Jesus loves me
For the Bible, it tells me so*



Announcements



St. Joseph's
Episcopal Church

TEN BIBLE DOCTRINES

Join The Rev. Canon Dr. Fred Vergara of St. Joseph's Episcopal Church, Queens Village for a riveting 10 week Bible Study Course discussing 10 Great Biblical Doctrines.

Wednesdays at 8 PM (EST)

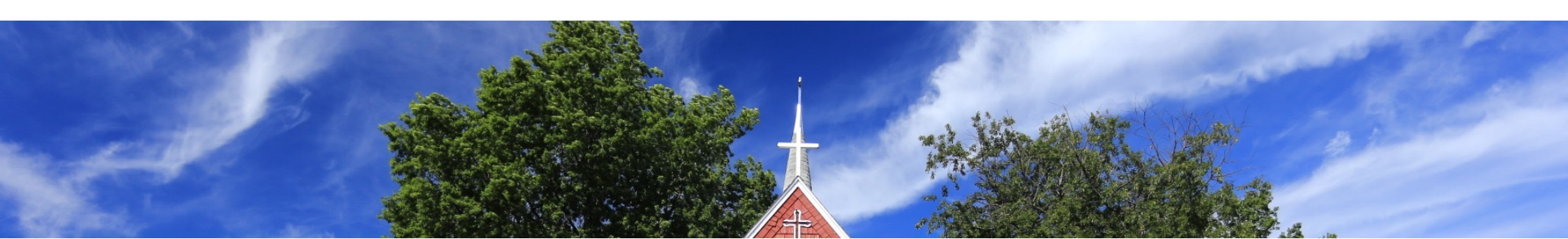
April 17th to June 19th

This course is free and all are welcome!

Meeting ID: 810 2521 4922

Passcode: 756513



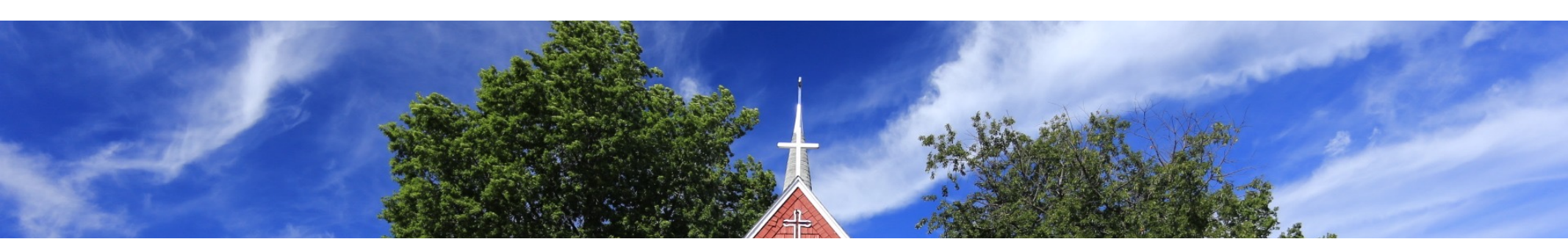


HOMEGOING FOR GLORIA SCUDDER

Gloria Scudder's Homegoing Service will be held on Monday, May 6 at 10 AM at Morningstar Missionary Baptist Church at 114-44 Merrick Blvd.

COMMUNITY FOOD GIVEAWAY

The Outreach Committee requests our support for food items and/or cash donations for a Community Food Giveaway on Saturday, May 11 from 9 AM to 1 PM on the St. Joseph's Rectory Lawn.



ERROL C. BYFIELD SCHOLARSHIP

The Errol Carlton Byfield Scholarship Foundation will award three scholarships to students enrolling in college or trade/vocational schools. Eligible students must apply by June 28, 2024 with an essay, a biography, and two letters of reference. Chosen applicants will be awarded \$1500 each and honored at an awards dinner on August 23, 2024. Details are on the St. Joseph's website.

End of Announcements



St. Joseph's Episcopal Church

The Rev. Canon Dr. Winfred Vergara, Interim Priest-in-Charge

www.stjosephqv.org

admin@stjosephqv.org

99-10 217th Lane

Queens Village, NY 11429

Phone: 718.464.8913, ext. 2

Fax: 718.464.2366

Email: admin@stjosephqv.org

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