

St. James Episcopal Church Batavia, NY

I was glad when they said to me, "Let us go to the house of the Lord"



Artist's Garden at Giverny
Claude Monet 1840-1926

The Fifth Sunday after the Epiphany February 8th, 2026

(9:00 a.m. zoom Liturgy of the Word)

10:00 a.m. Holy Eucharist

Children of every age are welcome here and are invited to join in the opening and closing processions. In the front of the church, on the left side, is a "soft space" where children can "be children" and watch the service up close. Canon Johnnie invites everyone who would like to assist with the final blessing to stand in place and at the mention of the Trinity, Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, to gently raise your right hand, palm up.

Please join your voice to the hymns and to the bolded portions of the liturgy taken from the Book of Common Prayer-BCP, red book in the pew.

Prelude

I Want to Walk as a Child of the light

Welcome and Announcements

None of us are here by accident. God has called us into this space and at this time, because God is working in our lives – individually and corporately. Please know that God loves you regardless, just as you are, and that love is practiced here at St. James. Also know that it is God who invites you into the Banquet of the Lamb – A God who welcome us all!

Opening Hymn 543

O Zion, tune thy voice

The Liturgy of the Word

Opening Sentences

BCP p. 355

Blessed be God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit.

And blessed be God's kingdom, now and forever. Amen.

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.**

The Gloria (*spoken at 9 am, sung at 10*)

Hymnal S-280

Glory to God in the highest, and peace to God's people on earth. Lord God, heavenly King, almighty God and Father, we worship you, we give you thanks, we praise you for your glory. Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father, Lord God, Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us; you are seated at the right hand of the Father; receive our prayer. For you alone are the Holy One, you alone are the Lord, you alone are the Most High, Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit, in the glory of God the Father. Amen.

The Collect of the Day

The Lord be with you

And also with you.

Let us pray.

Set us free, O God, from the bondage of our sins, and give us the liberty of that abundant life which you have made known to us in your Son our Savior Jesus Christ; who lives and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

A Reading from the book of Isaiah (58:1-12)

Lily Bringenberg

Shout out, do not hold back! Lift up your voice like a trumpet!

Announce to my people their rebellion, to the house of Jacob their sins.

Yet day after day they seek me and delight to know my ways,
as if they were a nation that practiced righteousness and did not

forsake the ordinance of their God; they ask of me righteous
judgments, they delight to draw near to God. "Why do we fast, but you
do not see? Why humble ourselves, but you do not notice?" Look, you
serve your own interest on your fast day, and oppress all your workers.

Look, you fast only to quarrel and to fight and to strike with a wicked
fist. Such fasting as you do today will not make your voice heard on
high. Is such the fast that I choose, a day to humble oneself? Is it to
bow down the head like a bulrush, and to lie in sackcloth and ashes?

Will you call this a fast, a day acceptable to the LORD? Is not this the
fast that I choose: to loose the bonds of injustice, to undo the thongs
of the yoke, to let the oppressed go free, and to break every yoke?

Is it not to share your bread with the hungry, and bring the homeless
poor into your house; when you see the naked, to cover them, and not
to hide yourself from your own kin? Then your light shall break forth
like the dawn, and your healing shall spring up quickly; your vindicator
shall go before you, the glory of the LORD shall be your rear guard.

Then you shall call, and the LORD will answer; you shall cry for help,
and he will say, Here I am. If you remove the yoke from among you,
the pointing of the finger, the speaking of evil, if you offer your food to

the hungry and satisfy the needs of the afflicted, then your light shall rise in the darkness and your gloom be like the noonday. The LORD will guide you continually, and satisfy your needs in parched places, and make your bones strong; and you shall be like a watered garden, like a spring of water, whose waters never fail. Your ancient ruins shall be rebuilt; you shall raise up the foundations of many generations; you shall be called the repairer of the breach, the restorer of streets to live in.

The Word of the Lord

Thanks Be to God.

Psalm 112:1-9 (Let us read the Psalm responsively by whole verse)

- 1 Hallelujah! Happy are they who fear the Lord
and have great delight in his commandments!
- 2 **Their descendants will be mighty in the land;
the generation of the upright will be blessed.**
- 3 Wealth and riches will be in their house,
and their righteousness will last for ever.
- 4 **Light shines in the darkness for the upright;
the righteous are merciful and full of compassion.**
- 5 It is good for them to be generous in lending and to manage their
affairs with justice.
- 6 **For they will never be shaken; the righteous will be kept in
everlasting remembrance.**
- 7 They will not be afraid of any evil rumors;
their heart is right; they put their trust in the Lord.
- 8 **Their heart is established and will not shrink,
until they see their desire upon their enemies.**
- 9 They have given freely to the poor, and their righteousness stands
fast for ever; they will hold up their head with honor.

A Reading from the first letter of Paul to the Corinthians (2:1-16)

Joan Ellison

When I came to you, brothers and sisters, I did not come proclaiming the mystery of God to you in lofty words or wisdom. For I decided to know nothing among you except Jesus Christ, and him crucified. And I came to you in weakness and in fear and in much trembling. My speech and my proclamation were not with plausible words of wisdom, but with a demonstration of the Spirit and of power, so that your faith might rest not on human wisdom but on the power of God. Yet among the mature we do speak wisdom, though it is not a wisdom of this age or of the rulers of this age, who are doomed to perish. But we speak God's wisdom, secret and hidden, which God decreed before the ages for our glory. None of the rulers of this age understood this; for if they had, they would not have crucified the Lord of glory. But, as it is written, "What no eye has seen, nor ear heard, nor the human heart conceived, what God has prepared for those who love him"— these things God has revealed to us through the Spirit; for the Spirit searches everything, even the depths of God. For what human being knows what is truly human except the human spirit that is within? So also no one comprehends what is truly God's except the Spirit of God. Now we have received not the spirit of the world, but the Spirit that is from God, so that we may understand the gifts bestowed on us by God. And we speak of these things in words not taught by human wisdom but taught by the Spirit, interpreting spiritual things to those who are spiritual. Those who are unspiritual do not receive the gifts of God's Spirit, for they are foolishness to them, and they are unable to understand them because they are spiritually discerned. Those who are spiritual discern all things, and they are themselves subject to no one else's scrutiny. "For who has known the mind of the Lord so as to instruct him?" But we have the mind of Christ.

The Word of the Lord

Thanks be to God.

Sequence Hymn 488 *Be thou my vision, O Lord of my heart*

The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ, according to Matthew (5:13-20)
Glory to you Lord Christ

Jesus said, "You are the salt of the earth; but if salt has lost its taste, how can its saltiness be restored? It is no longer good for anything, but is thrown out and trampled under foot. "You are the light of the world. A city built on a hill cannot be hid. No one after lighting a lamp puts it under the bushel basket, but on the lampstand, and it gives light to all in the house. In the same way, let your light shine before others, so that they may see your good works and give glory to your Father in heaven. "Do not think that I have come to abolish the law or the prophets; I have come not to abolish but to fulfill. For truly I tell you, until heaven and earth pass away, not one letter, not one stroke of a letter, will pass from the law until all is accomplished. Therefore, whoever breaks one of the least of these commandments, and teaches others to do the same, will be called least in the kingdom of heaven; but whoever does them and teaches them will be called great in the kingdom of heaven. For I tell you, unless your righteousness exceeds that of the scribes and Pharisees, you will never enter the kingdom of heaven."

The Gospel of the Lord
Praise to you, Lord Christ.

The Sermon

The Reverend Canon Johnnie E. Ross

The Nicene Creed (*You are invited to stand as you are able.*) BCP p. 358

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.

The Prayers of the People

Anne Iannello

Presider: Let us pray for the Church and the world.

Leader: Father, we pray for your holy Catholic Church, that our divisions may cease and we, as a unified Christian faith, may spread God's love to all people, in all places, and at all times. **That we all may be one.**

Leader: We pray for our church, for our diocese, clergy and all people, and in the Genesee Cycle of Prayer, *St. Paul's in Holley*.
God of Light and Life

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 all bishops, priests, and deacons;
That they may be faithful ministers of your Word and Sacraments.

We pray for all who govern and hold authority in the nations of the world, especially Kathy, our Governor, Donald, our President and all elected leaders. **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,+ (*pause for names either aloud or silently*) **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.

We pray for those mentioned on our parish prayer list, and for those who we hold in our hearts, (*pause for names either aloud or silently*)

Silence

Celebrant will offer concluding prayer

The Confession of Sin

Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

Most merciful God, we confess that we have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done, and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We are truly sorry and we humbly repent. For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ, have mercy on us and forgive us; that we may delight in your will, and walk in your ways, to the glory of your Name. Amen.

The Absolution

The Peace

The Peace of the Lord be always with you!

And also with you.

Offertory Sentence

Offertory Anthem

Where Shall I Go From your Spirit?

K. Potter

Doxology

Old 100th

Please stand as you are able.

**Praise God from whom all blessings flow, Praise God all creatures,
here below. Praise God above ye heavenly host. Praise Father, Son,
and Holy Ghost. Amen.**

Eucharistic Prayer B

BCP p. 367

The Sanctus

Hymnal S-130

The Lord's Prayer

BCP p. 364

The Breaking of the Bread

Hymnal S-154

Invitation to Communion

These are the gifts of God for us, the beloved of God: Come to the Table of the Lord and be fed.

All who desire communion are welcome to receive, for this is God's Table, not ours. If you are not baptized and desire to be baptized, please speak to the clergy. The distribution of communion is done in both kinds, the bread and the wine (in a common cup). Feel free to only receive the bread if that is more comfortable for you. Gluten free options are available. All people will receive communion (or a blessing) from the main floor at the top of the center aisle. We do this so that everyone may receive communion together, as one family. If you prefer to receive a blessing, simply cross your arms over your chest when you come forward and the priest will bestow God's blessing to you.

Communion Hymn 321

My God, thy table now is spread

Communion Hymn 306

Come, risen Lord and deign to be our guest

Post Communion Prayer

BCP p. 365

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

Canon Johnnie invites all children present to join him for the Blessing

Closing Hymn 655

O Jesus, I have promised

Dismissal

Postlude

Sound the Trumpet

F. J. Haydn

*****Those attending the Zoom service please continue here.*****

The Peace of the Lord be always with you. **And also with you.**

The Doxology

Praise God from whom all blessings flow, Praise God all creatures, here below. Praise God above ye heavenly host. Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen

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, forever and ever. Amen.**

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

We will observe a moment of silence. If you have consecrated wafers please consume one now, If you don't, please know that as others receive the sacrament, so do you!

Closing Prayer

Let us pray.

Loving God, we give you thanks for restoring us in your image and nourishing us with the spiritual food of common prayer. Now send us forth a people, forgiven, healed, renewed; that we may proclaim your love to the world and continue in the risen life of Christ our Savior. Amen.

The Blessing

The Dismissal

Please take this bulletin home with you!

Please pray for those on our parish prayer List

Ed, Debbie, Anne & Don, Paul, Peggy, James, Wayne, Angelique, Charlene, Bill, Pat, Patrick, Judi, Kim, Devon, Tim, Jean, Diane, Tom, Rich, Jane, Pearl, Bob, Sue, James, Bill, Chad, Jeff, Shirley, Judy, Lucas, Owen, Savannah, Nancy, Greg, Grace, Roger, Terry, Russell, Kennedy, Harrison, Margaret, Lucy, Sue, Brian, Jim & Marsha, Janice, Cal, Beverly, Missy, Jolene, Mary Annette, Lois, Sharon, Melinda, Dane, Blake, Erica, Debbie, Kathy, Peter, Meagan, and Christina

Blessing Box

It's very cold outdoors, especially if you don't have the proper winter wear. The Blessing Box would like to be able to supply some needed clothing. We welcome donations of adult sized hats and gloves. Just drop them off in the basket in church

Annual Meeting is today immediately following the service

At the annual meeting we will be electing a Senior warden to a two-year term and 3 vestry positions for three year terms. If you wish to nominate yourself, please speak to any member of the vestry or Canon Johnnie. If you wish to nominate another, receive their consent and then submit their name to a member of the vestry or Canon Johnnie.

St. James Calendar
Happy Birthday!!

Beth Thomas 2-11, Debbie Barone & Nick Bestine 2-12

| | | |
|-----------------|---------------------|-----------------|
| Sun, February 8 | 9:00 am - 9:30 am | Zoom Service |
| | 9:00 am | Choir Rehearsal |
| | 10:00 am – 11:15 am | Holy Eucharist |
| | 10:15 am | Sunday School |
| | 11:15 am | Annual Meeting |

| | | |
|------------------|---------------------|-------------------------|
| Mon, February 9 | 9:00 am – 2:00 pm | Office open |
| | 10:30 am – 2:30 pm | Respite Care |
| Tue, February 10 | 9:00 am – 2:00 pm | Office open |
| Wed, February 11 | 9:00 am – 2:00 pm | Office open |
| | 10:00 am | Canon Johnnie in office |
| | 7:00 pm | Choir Rehearsal |
| Thu, February 12 | 9:00 am – 2:00 pm | Office open |
| | 11:00 am – 2:00 pm | Thrift store open |
| | 5:00 pm | Advent Book Study |
| Fri, February 13 | | Office closed |
| Sun, February 15 | 9:00 am – 9:30 am | Zoom Service |
| | 9:00 am | Choir Rehearsal |
| | 10:00 am – 11:15 am | Holy Eucharist |

Zoom meetings use the following link:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/8085432266?pwd=ZIBCZEI0WDQ1Szk5TEF2dFILbm4rUT09>

Meeting ID: 808 543 2266 Passcode: zrXG3y

canonjohnnie@gmail.com, (859)285-9361, or call the office. Keep in touch, if you wish to be added to our mailing list fill out this form and place in the offering plate or hand to an usher.

First time here?

We welcome you and hope you have felt that welcome! If you'd like to learn more about St. James, please contact our priest, Canon Johnnie at canonjohnnie@gmail.com, (859)285-9361, or call the office. Keep in touch, if you wish to be added to our mailing list fill out this form and place in the offering plate or hand to an usher.

Bathrooms are located up the ramp (found at the left entrance nearest the small side altar) and then to your left.

Name

Other family members

Here at St. James You are Welcome Regardless!

Lay Minister February Schedule

| | February 1 | February 8 Annual Meeting | February 15 Reserved Sac | February 22 |
|-----------------------|---|--|--|---|
| Officiant | Canon Johnnie | Canon Johnnie | Deacon Diane | Canon Johnnie |
| Chalice 1 | Deacon Diane | | Jo-Ann Bestine | Jo-Ann Bestine |
| Chalice 2 | Jo-Ann Bestine | Jim Ellison | Terry McGuire | Jim Isaac |
| Acolyte | Kim Isaac | Jo-Ann Bestine | Jo-Ann Bestine | Kim Isaac |
| Lesson 1 & Psalm | Joan Ellison | Lily Bringenberg | Anne Iannello | Terry McGuire |
| Lesson 2 | Anne Iannello | Joan Ellison | Jim Neider | Terry McGuire |
| Prayers of the People | Jim Neider | Anne Iannello | Larry Belluscio | Jim Neider |
| Ushers/Greeters | Jane McKeehen Bill Coughlin | Anne Iannello Bill Coughlin | Anne Iannello Jane McKeehen | Jane McKeehen Bill Coughlin |
| Building Attendant | Larry Belluscio | Larry Belluscio | Larry Belluscio | Larry Belluscio |
| Opener-Closer | Jo-Ann | Liz | Tim | Dorian |
| Live Streamers | Kevin Skelton | Kevin Skelton | Kevin Skelton | |
| Church School | *** | Judy | *** | Judy |
| Altar Guild | Bill Coughlin Carol Queal Anne Iannello | Jo-Ann Bestine Joanne Fleming Donna Kauffman | Kathy Belluscio Debbie Barone June Myers | Bill Coughlin Carol Queal Anne Iannello |



St. James Episcopal Church

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Vestry:

Kim Isaac, Liz Findlay,
Barb Pierce, Steve Rumery, Tim Thomas
Dorian Ely: Clerk of the Vestry
Bette Van Buskirk: Treasurer

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