

St. James Episcopal Church Batavia, NY

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



Moonlight

Washington Allston 1779-1843

The Fifth Sunday of Easter May 3rd, 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

Come, thou Fount

arr. C. Phillips

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 1 *Father, we praise thee, now the night is over*

The Liturgy of the Word

Opening Sentences

BCP p. 355

Alleluia! Christ is risen!

The Lord is risen indeed. Alleluia!

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.

Almighty God, whom truly to know is everlasting life: Grant us so perfectly to know your Son Jesus Christ to be the way, the truth, and the life, that we may steadfastly follow his steps in the way that leads to eternal life; through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord, who lives and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

Filled with the Holy Spirit, Stephen gazed into heaven and saw the glory of God and Jesus standing at the right hand of God. "Look," he said, "I see the heavens opened and the Son of Man standing at the right hand of God!" But they covered their ears, and with a loud shout all rushed together against him. Then they dragged him out of the city and began to stone him; and the witnesses laid their coats at the feet of a young man named Saul. While they were stoning Stephen, he prayed, "Lord Jesus, receive my spirit." Then he knelt down and cried out in a loud voice, "Lord, do not hold this sin against them." When he had said this, he died.

The Word of the Lord

Thanks Be to God

Psalm 31:1-5, 15-16 (Let us read the Psalm responsively by whole verse)

1 In you, O LORD, have I taken refuge; let me never be put to shame; deliver me in your righteousness.

2 Incline your ear to me; make haste to deliver me.

3 Be my strong rock, a castle to keep me safe, for you are my crag and my stronghold; for the sake of your Name, lead me and guide me.

4 Take me out of the net that they have secretly set for me, for you are my tower of strength.

5 Into your hands I commend my spirit, for you have redeemed me, O LORD, O God of truth.

15 My times are in your hand; rescue me from the hand of my enemies, and from those who persecute me.

16 Make your face to shine upon your servant, and in your loving-kindness save me.

A Reading from the first letter of Peter (2:2-10)

Liz Findlay

Like newborn infants, long for the pure, spiritual milk, so that by it you may grow into salvation— if indeed you have tasted that the Lord is good. Come to him, a living stone, though rejected by mortals yet chosen and precious in God's sight, and like living stones, let yourselves be built into a

spiritual house, to be a holy priesthood, to offer spiritual sacrifices acceptable to God through Jesus Christ. For it stands in scripture:

“See, I am laying in Zion a stone, a cornerstone chosen and precious; and whoever believes in him will not be put to shame.” To you then who believe, he is precious; but for those who do not believe, “The stone that the builders rejected has become the very head of the corner”, and “A stone that makes them stumble, and a rock that makes them fall.” They stumble because they disobey the word, as they were destined to do. But you are a chosen race, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, God’s own people, in order that you may proclaim the mighty acts of him who called you out of darkness into his marvelous light. Once you were not a people, but now you are God’s people; once you had not received mercy, but now you have received mercy.

The Word of the Lord

Thanks be to God.

Sequence Hymn 455 *O Love of God, how strong and true*

The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ, according to John (14:1-14)

Glory to you Lord Christ

Jesus said, “Do not let your hearts be troubled. Believe in God, believe also in me. In my Father’s house there are many dwelling places. If it were not so, would I have told you that I go to prepare a place for you? And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again and will take you to myself, so that where I am, there you may be also. And you know the way to the place where I am going.” Thomas said to him, “Lord, we do not know where you are going. How can we know the way?” Jesus said to him, “I am the way, and the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me. If you know me, you will know my Father also. From now on you do know him and have seen him.”

Philip said to him, “Lord, show us the Father, and we will be satisfied.” Jesus said to him, “Have I been with you all this time, Philip, and you still do not know me? Whoever has seen me has seen the Father. How can you say, ‘Show us the Father’? Do 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; but the Father who dwells in me does his works. Believe me that I am in the Father and the Father is in me; but if you do not, then believe me because of the works themselves. Very truly, I tell you, the one who believes in me will also do the works that I do and, in fact, will do greater works than these, because I am going to the Father. I will do whatever you ask in my name, so that the Father may be glorified in the Son. If in my name you ask me for anything, I will do it."

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

Jim Neider

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 people in the Genesee Cycle of Prayer, and for St. Paul's in Stafford
God of Light and Life, **Hear our Prayer**

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 Peace

The Peace of the Lord be always with you!

And also with you.

Offertory Sentence

What does the Lord require of you but to do justice, love kindness and walk humbly with God. Micah 6:8

Offertory Anthem

The Yearning

C. Courtney

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 C

BCP p. 369

The Sanctus

Hymnal S-128

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 the people of God, take them in remembrance that Christ rose for you and feed on him in your hearts by faith with Thanksgiving.

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 487 *Come, my Way, my Truth, my Life*
Communion Hymn 314 *Humbly I adore thee*

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

Recessional Hymn 366 *Holy God we praise thy Name (verses 1-4)*

Dismissal

Postlude

Allegro Maestoso

G. F. Handel

*****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

Anne & Don, Charlene, Bill, Pat, Patrick, Richard, Sue, Ronnie, Greg, Connie, Brandon, Kay, Jackie, Teddy, Kerrie, Bill, Roger, Cal, Jolene, Mary Annette, Brian, Blake, Erica, Meagan, Christina, members of the Armed Forces & Sharon, Janice, Kathy, Dave

Did you know?

Any money in the collection plate on the first Sunday of the month that is not towards your annual pledge goes in the priest's discretionary fund.

Hats and Mittens

The stores have started marking down their winter hats and mittens. We plan to once again collect such items for our area school children who come to school without proper winter gear. We bring the items to both the elementary and middle schools so all sizes are needed. We already have a bin started here at church to collect and save the hats and mittens until next

winter. If you run across a bargain, scoop it up and bring it to church. We'll store it until next season.

United Way Day of Caring

United Way Day of Caring activities are scheduled for Thursday May 21st. Volunteers will be onsite to complete spring cleanup, a little gardening and perhaps some painting. The event runs from 9:00 until about 2:30 and Parishioners are encouraged to participate as they are able. The Outreach committee will provide lunch for all at midday. Please contact Gregg Ely with questions. 5Geep6@gmail.com.

Day of Caring set up Schedule

Wednesday, May 20, 9 am till done Set up and prep.

Thursday, May 21, 9am till 2pm

Serving and clean-up

Needed:

Table setter, sandwich makers, turkey carvers, turkey salad makers, servers and cleanup crew.

Also needed: Cookie, cupcake donations

For any questions, contact any outreach committee member:

Jo-Ann Bestine, Diane Cox, Dorian Ely, Kim Isaac, Terry McGuire, Jim Neider, Diane Skelton

If you can't help any of those times but want to, let us know. We'll find a job for you! Help us show hospitality!

Terry, 585-356-4375

St. James Scholarship

- Scholarships are available for any post-high school education, including college, trade school, or any career preparation with certification.
- Applications from individuals who are affiliated with a church in the Genesee Regional Initiative, but not members of St. James, must include a recommendation from their priest, vestry member, or warden.
- Questions can be directed to: Diane Skelton at 716-474-2765

The deadline to file an application is May 23rd. Applications are available on the Church's website www.sjecbatavianny.org or you can pick one up at the Church office during business hours.

St. James Calendar
Happy Birthday!!

Jenna Essig 5-6, Jason Skelton 5-7, Freya Collee 5-9

Sunday May 3	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	Coffee Hour
Monday May 4	9:00 am – 2:00 pm	Office open
Tuesday May 5	9:00 am – 2:00 pm	Office open
Wednesday May 6	9:00 am – 2:00 pm	Office open
	10:00 am	Canon Johnnie in office
	6:30 pm	Choir Rehearsal
Thursday May 7	9:00 am – 2:00 pm	Office open
	11:00 am – 2:00 pm	Thrift store open
Friday May 8		Office closed
Sunday May 10	9:00 am – 9:30 am	Zoom Service
	9:00 am	Choir Rehearsal
	10:00 am – 11:15 am	Holy Eucharist
	11:15 am	Coffee Hour

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.



St. James Episcopal Church

405 East Main Street
Batavia, NY 14020

The Rev. Canon Johnnie Ross
canonjohnnie@gmail.com

The Rev. Deacon Diane Cox
Faith Community Nurse
dscox@rochester.rr.com

John Novak
Organist/Choir Director

Bobbi Jo Voelker
Administrator

Wardens:

Jo-Ann Bestine, (585) 409-0031 jbestine152@rochester.rr.com

Tim Thomas, (585) 574-6449 tthomas2522@gmail.com

Vestry:

Kim Isaac, Liz Findlay, Barb Pierce
Steve Rumery, Terry McGuire, Tom Bringenberg
Dorian Ely: Clerk of the Vestry
Bette Van Buskirk: Treasurer

Office Phone: 585-343-6802

Johnnie's cell phone: 859-285-9361

Website: www.sjecbataviany.org

Email: Saint.James2@sjecbataviany.org

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