

St. James Episcopal Church Batavia, NY

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



Song Sparrow

John James Audubon 1785-1851

Fourth Sunday after Pentecost

June 21st, 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.

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS – check out the announcements printed in this bulletin.

None of us are here by accident. God has called us into this time and space because God is at work in our lives – individually and corporately as the Church. Please know that God loves you regardless, just as you are, and here at St. James we do our best to practice that love. Please know that it is God who invites you into the Banquet of the Lamb – A God who welcome us and calls all of us into the divine service of discipleship!

Opening Hymn 296 *We know that Christ is raised and dies no more*



We acknowledge with deep respect the Seneca Nation known as the “Great Hill People” and the Keepers of the Western Door of the Haudenosaunee Confederacy on whose ancestral lands Saint James Episcopal Church resides. We pray for the Nation's President and Members of the Tribal Council from the Allegany and Cattaraugus Territories and give thanks to God for their stewardship of this great land and its resources.

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

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-278

Glory to God in the highest, and peace to the 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.

O Lord, make us have perpetual love and reverence for your holy Name, for you never fail to help and govern those whom you have set upon the sure foundation of your loving-kindness; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

A Reading from Genesis (21:8-21)

Lily Bringenberg

The child grew, and was weaned; and Abraham made a great feast on the day that Isaac was weaned. But Sarah saw the son of Hagar the Egyptian, whom she had borne to Abraham, playing with her son Isaac. So she said to Abraham, "Cast out this slave woman with her son; for the son of this slave woman shall not inherit along with my son Isaac." The matter was very distressing to Abraham on account of his son. But God said to Abraham, "Do not be distressed because of the boy and because of your slave woman; whatever Sarah says to you, do as she tells you, for it is through Isaac that offspring shall be named for you. As for the son of the slave woman, I will make a nation of him also, because he is your offspring." So Abraham rose early in the morning, and took bread and a skin of water, and gave it to Hagar, putting it on her shoulder, along with the child, and sent her away. And she departed, and wandered about in the wilderness of Beer-sheba. When the water in the skin was gone, she cast the child under one of the bushes. Then she went and sat down opposite him a good way off, about the distance of a bowshot; for she said, "Do not let me look on the death of the child." And as she sat opposite him, she lifted up her voice and wept. And God heard the voice of the boy; and the angel of God called to Hagar from heaven, and said to her, "What troubles you, Hagar? Do not be afraid; for God has heard the

voice of the boy where he is. Come, lift up the boy and hold him fast with your hand, for I will make a great nation of him." Then God opened her eyes and she saw a well of water. She went, and filled the skin with water, and gave the boy a drink. God was with the boy, and he grew up; he lived in the wilderness, and became an expert with the bow. He lived in the wilderness of Paran; and his mother got a wife for him from the land of Egypt.

The Word of the Lord

Thanks Be to God

Psalm 86:1-10, 16-17 (Let us read the Psalm responsively by whole verse.)

1 Bow down your ear, O LORD, and answer me, for I am poor and in misery.

2 Keep watch over my life, for I am faithful; save your servant who puts his trust in you.

3 Be merciful to me, O LORD, for you are my God; I call upon you all the day long.

4 Gladden the soul of your servant, for to you, O LORD, I lift up my soul.

5 For you, O LORD, are good and forgiving, and great is your love toward all who call upon you.

6 Give ear, O LORD, to my prayer, and attend to the voice of my supplications.

7 In the time of my trouble I will call upon you, for you will answer me.

8 Among the gods there is none like you, O LORD, nor anything like your works.

9 All nations you have made will come and worship you, O LORD, and glorify your Name.

10 For you are great; you do wondrous things; and you alone are God.

16 Turn to me and have mercy upon me; give your strength to your servant; and save the child of your handmaid.

17 Show me a sign of your favor, so that those who hate me may see it and be ashamed; because you, O LORD, have helped me and comforted me.

A Reading from the letter of Paul to the Romans (6:1-11)

Barb King

Should we continue in sin in order that grace may abound? By no means! How can we who died to sin go on living in it? Do you not know that all of us who have been baptized into Christ Jesus were baptized into his death? Therefore we have been buried with him by baptism into death, so that, just as Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father, so we too might walk in newness of life. For if we have been united with him in a death like his, we will certainly be united with him in a resurrection like his. We know that our old self was crucified with him so that the body of sin might be destroyed, and we might no longer be enslaved to sin. For whoever has died is freed from sin. But if we have died with Christ, we believe that we will also live with him. We know that Christ, being raised from the dead, will never die again; death no longer has dominion over him. The death he died, he died to sin, once for all; but the life he lives, he lives to God. So you also must consider yourselves dead to sin and alive to God in Christ Jesus.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Sequence Hymn 530 *Spread, O spread, thou mighty word*

The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ, according to Matthew (10:24-39)

Glory to you Lord Christ.

Jesus said to the twelve disciples, "A disciple is not above the teacher, nor a slave above the master; it is enough for the disciple to be like the teacher, and the slave like the master. If they have called the master of the house Beelzebul, how much more will they malign those of his household!

“So have no fear of them; for nothing is covered up that will not be uncovered, and nothing secret that will not become known. What I say to you in the dark, tell in the light; and what you hear whispered, proclaim from the housetops. Do not fear those who kill the body but cannot kill the soul; rather fear him who can destroy both soul and body in hell. Are not two sparrows sold for a penny? Yet not one of them will fall to the ground apart from your Father. And even the hairs of your head are all counted. So do not be afraid; you are of more value than many sparrows.

“Everyone therefore who acknowledges me before others, I also will acknowledge before my Father in heaven; but whoever denies me before others, I also will deny before my Father in heaven. “Do not think that I have come to bring peace to the earth; I have not come to bring peace, but a sword. For I have come to set a man against his father, and a daughter against her mother, and a daughter-in-law against her mother-in-law; and one’s foes will be members of one’s own household. Whoever loves father or mother more than me is not worthy of me; and whoever loves son or daughter more than me is not worthy of me; and whoever does not take up the cross and follow me is not worthy of me. Those who find their life will lose it, and those who lose their life for my sake will find it.”

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.

Refrain

**God ever faithful,
God ever merciful,
God of your people,
hear our prayer.**

For those who lead and guide the Church of Christ; (especially Steve, Cathy, Barbara, and Johnnie) for loving care, we pray to you, O Lord: *Refrain*

For faithful witness, fellowship in love; for living hope, we pray to you, O Lord: *Refrain*

For those who guide the nations of the earth; especially Kathy our Governor, Donald, our President, Members of Congress, the Justices of the US Supreme Court, and all elected leaders. For the Seneca Nation, their President, and the members of the Tribal Council- that wisdom reign, we pray to you, O Lord: *Refrain*

For those whose seek and serve the common good and for the voters in this country; that justice reign, we pray to you, O Lord: *Refrain*

For neighbors' needs, for shelter from the storm; for homes of peace, we pray to you, O Lord: *Refrain*

For those in sorrow, anguish, and despair; that they find hope, we pray to you, O Lord: *Refrain*

For those oppressed, for those who live in fear; that they be freed, we pray to you, O Lord: *Refrain*

For all the sick, the dying, and the dead, be life and grace, we pray to you, O Lord: *Refrain*

That the whole world may live in peace from day to day; that wars will cease, we pray to you, O Lord: *Refrain*

That we may stay faithful, open to your Word; your Kingdom come! We pray to you, O Lord: *Refrain*

For all the dreams held deep within our hearts; for all our needs, we pray to you, O Lord: *Refrain*

Entrusting all we are into your hands, we call your name, and pray to you, O Lord: *Refrain*

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)*

Celebrant will offer concluding prayer

The Confession

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 out whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We are truly sorry and humbly repent. For the sake of our Savior 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 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

To Everything There Is a Season

E. Harris

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 654 *Day by day, dear Lord*
Communion Hymn 675 *Take up your cross, the Savior said*

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.
Do this by holding out your right hand to mimic his.*

Closing Hymn *Christ for the world we sing!*
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

Anne & Don, Charlene, Bill, Pat, Patrick, Richard, Sue, Ronnie, Greg, Connie, Brandon, Kay, Jackie, Teddy, Kerrie, Bill, Roger, Jolene, Mary Annette, Brian, Blake, Erica, Meagan, Christina, members of the Armed Forces, Janice, Kathy, Dave, Paul, Steve, Keith, Mike, Lisa, Nancy and Peter, Joanne, Matt and Ryan and the Fleming family

Family in need

The Deacons in our diocese have joined together to help an immigrant family that is struggling. Despite having been here for a couple of years, this Afghan family with many children is still trying to manage their new life in Buffalo. The father is employed but doesn't earn enough to support his large family. The Deacons have organized the deaneries in our diocese to take turns supplying some needed items to help out. The Genesee Deanery has been asked to take the month of June. St. James will be donating paper towels and rice. On your next trip to the grocery store pick up one of these items and drop it off at church. If many people pitch in a little we can make a big difference.

Worship, Wine, and Lemonade on the Lawn will begin on the first Sunday in July, the 5th at 10AM and will continue through August 30, 2026. If you have a favorite hymn, please give this information to John Novak and we will do our best to include it in a Sunday services.

We would also encourage you to bring a lawn chair to these services, as your lawn chair will be much more comfortable than the folding chairs that will be provided. If you would like to supply lemonade and cookies for the summer fellowship after the service, please see Jo-Anne Bestine or call the office and speak with Kelley.

Bishop Discussion

Deacon Diane will be here on Sunday July 26th, after the service to discuss thoughts and opinions on the Bishop.



Hi, I'm Kelley McClenney, and my story begins—and continues—in Caledonia, New York. Though I spent 15 years living in South Jersey and working in Philadelphia, Caledonia has always been home. It's where my roots are, where my community is, and where my heart continues to lead me back.

Faith has been a cornerstone of my life from the very beginning. As a cradle Episcopalian, I grew up attending St. Simon of Cyrene in Rochester, New York. In 1988, our church merged with St. Luke's, forming what is now known as "Two Saints." That church community helped shape who I am today. As a child, I served as an acolyte, learning the importance of service and reverence. Over the years, my role has evolved—I now serve on the Altar Guild and have also been a member of the Vestry and served as a Warden. My faith journey has always been grounded in showing up, giving back, and helping guide the church forward.

Professionally, I've spent more than 30 years in the travel industry. Travel has opened my eyes to the beauty and diversity of the world, and I still have two continents left on my list to visit. Even after decades in the field, the sense of curiosity and adventure has never faded. Travel, for me, isn't just about destinations—it's about connection, understanding, and the stories we gather along the way.

Back home in Caledonia, I've found many ways to stay involved and give back. I currently serve on the Board of the Big Springs Museum, helping preserve and share the rich history of our community. I was recently honored to be asked to join the Caledonia Recreation Commission, another opportunity to contribute to the place that has given me so much. Each year, I also volunteer at the Trout Festival—this marks my fourth year.

Volunteering is an important part of my life, and I've recently begun working with Camp Good Days, an organization that supports children and families facing serious challenges. Being able to give my time and energy to causes like this is something I value.

Outside of work and volunteering, I'm a self-proclaimed sports junkie. I love supporting family and friends in their athletic pursuits—whether that means cheering from the sidelines, traveling to games, or simply celebrating their dedication and hard work. For me, it's not just about the sport; it's about the people and the moments.

At the heart of everything I do is a love for connection—whether through faith, travel, community service, or time spent with family and friends. My journey has taken me to different places, introduced me to countless people, and offered me opportunities to grow. But no matter where life leads, I remain grounded in the values taught to me by my mother; service, community, and togetherness.

I am looking forward to meeting you, knowing you, and using my gifts to meet the task of Parish Administrator at St. James. Feel free to stop in and say hello. As I get to know the new job, it would be nice to get to know you.

I thank the wardens and Canon Johnnie for this opportunity.

Canon's Note: Kelley is a Steelers fan as her godfather played for Pittsburgh. Some of you may remember NFL offensive tackle, John Calvin Brown, Jr. Brown was first drafted in 1962 by the Washington Redskins and later won an NFL Championship with the Cleveland Browns before served as a banking executive after his NFL career ended.

St. James Calendar
Happy Birthday!!

Keith Price 6-24

Sunday June 21	9:00 am - 9:30 am	Zoom Service
	10:00 am – 11:15 am	Holy Eucharist
	10:15 am	Sunday School
	11:15 am	Coffee Hour
	3:00 pm	BHS Piano Recital
Monday June 22	9:00 am – 2:00 pm	Office open
Tuesday June 23	9:00 am – 2:00 pm	Office open
Wednesday June 24	9:00 am – 2:00 pm	Office open
	10:00 am	Canon Johnnie in office
Thursday June 25	9:00 am – 2:00 pm	Office open
	11:00 am – 2:00 pm	Thrift store open
Friday June 26		Office closed
Sunday June 28	9:00 am – 9:30 am	Zoom Service
	10:00 am – 11:15 am	Liturgy of the Word
	11:15 am	Coffee Hour

Zoom meetings use the following link:

[https://us02web.zoom.us/j/8085432266?pwd=ZlBCZEI0WDQ1Szk5TEF2dFlb
m4rUT09](https://us02web.zoom.us/j/8085432266?pwd=ZlBCZEI0WDQ1Szk5TEF2dFlb
m4rUT09)

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!



St. James Episcopal Church

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Batavia, NY 14020

The Rev. Canon Johnnie E. Ross
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The Rev. Deacon Diane Cox
Faith Community Nurse
dianesbcox@gmail.com

John Novak
Organist/Choir Director

Kelley McClenney
Parish Administrator

Wardens:

Jo-Ann Bestine, (585) 409-0031 jbestine152@rochester.rr.com
Tim Thomas, (585) 574-6449 tthomas2522@gmail.com

Vestry:

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

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