

St. James Episcopal Church Batavia, NY

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



Sermon on the Mount

Friedrich Karl Hermann von Udhe 1848-1911

The Fourth Sunday after the Epiphany **February 1st, 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

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 477 *All praise to thee, for thou, O King divine*

The Liturgy of the WordOpening 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.

Almighty and everlasting God, you govern all things both in heaven and on earth: Mercifully hear the supplications of your people, and in our time grant us your peace; 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 the book of Micah (6:1-8)

Joan Ellison

Hear what the LORD says: Rise, plead your case before the mountains, and let the hills hear your voice. Hear, you mountains, the controversy of the LORD, and you enduring foundations of the earth; for the LORD has a controversy with his people, and he will contend with Israel. "O my people, what have I done to you? In what have I wearied you? Answer me! For I brought you up from the land of Egypt, and redeemed you from the house of slavery; and I sent before you Moses, Aaron, and Miriam. O my people, remember now what King Balak of Moab devised, what Balaam son of Beor answered him, and what happened from Shittim to Gilgal, that you may know the saving acts of the LORD." "With what shall I come before the LORD, and bow myself before God on high? Shall I come before him with burnt-offerings, with calves a year old? Will the LORD be pleased with thousands of rams, with tens of thousands of rivers of oil? Shall I give my firstborn for my transgression, the fruit of my body for the sin of my soul?" He has told you, O mortal, what is good; and what does the LORD require of you but to do justice, and to love kindness, and to walk humbly with your God?

The Word of the Lord

Thanks Be to God.

Psalm 15 (Let us read the Psalm responsively by whole verse)

1 LORD, who may dwell in your tabernacle?
who may abide upon your holy hill?

**2 Whoever leads a blameless life and does what is right,
who speaks the truth from his heart.**

3 There is no guile upon his tongue; he does no evil to his friend;
he does not heap contempt upon his neighbor.

**4 In his sight the wicked is rejected, but he honors those who
fear the LORD.**

5 He has sworn to do no wrong and does not take back his word.

**6 He does not give his money in hope of gain, nor does he take
a bribe against the innocent.**

7 Whoever does these things shall never be overthrown.

A Reading from the first letter of Paul to the Corinthians (1:18-31)

Anne Iannello

The message about the cross is foolishness to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God. For it is written, "I will destroy the wisdom of the wise, and the discernment of the discerning I will thwart." Where is the one who is wise? Where is the scribe? Where is the debater of this age? Has not God made foolish the wisdom of the world? For since, in the wisdom of God, the world did not know God through wisdom, God decided, through the foolishness of our proclamation, to save those who believe. For Jews demand signs and Greeks desire wisdom, but we proclaim Christ crucified, a stumbling block to Jews and foolishness to Gentiles, but to those who are the called, both Jews and Greeks, Christ the power of God and the wisdom of God. For God's foolishness is wiser than human wisdom, and God's weakness is stronger than human strength. Consider your own call, brothers and sisters: not many of you were wise by human standards, not many were powerful, not many were of noble birth. But God chose what is foolish in the world to shame the wise; God chose what is weak in the world to shame the strong; God chose what is low and despised in the world, things that are not, to reduce to nothing things that are, so that no one might boast in the presence of God. He is the source of your

life in Christ Jesus, who became for us wisdom from God, and righteousness and sanctification and redemption, in order that, as it is written, "Let the one who boasts, boast in the Lord."

The Word of the Lord

Thanks be to God.

Sequence Hymn 656 *Blest are the pure in heart*

The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ, according to Matthew (5:1-12)
Glory to you Lord Christ

When Jesus saw the crowds, he went up the mountain; and after he sat down, his disciples came to him. Then he began to speak, and taught them, saying: "Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven. "Blessed are those who mourn, for they will be comforted. "Blessed are the meek, for they will inherit the earth. "Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they will be filled. "Blessed are the merciful, for they will receive mercy. "Blessed are the pure in heart, for they will see God. "Blessed are the peacemakers, for they will be called children of God. "Blessed are those who are persecuted for righteousness' sake, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven. "Blessed are you when people revile you and persecute you and utter all kinds of evil against you falsely on my account. Rejoice and be glad, for your reward is great in heaven, for in the same way they persecuted the prophets who were before you."

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.**

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

Let All Mortal Flesh Keep Silence

arr. R. Price

Doxology

Please stand as you are able.

Old 100th

**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 593

Lord, make us servants of your peace

Communion Hymn 654

Day by day, dear Lord

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 539

O Zion, haste, thy mission high fulfilling

Dismissal

Postlude

Trumpet Tune

N. Bowden

*****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

Visioning Meeting Highlights

On Tuesday January 27th at 5:00 pm we held a visioning meeting.

- A motion was brought forward and seconded to form a Outreach committee. Those serving on this committee are: Deacon Diane Cox, Dorian Ely, Jim Neider, Diane Skelton and Jo-Ann Bestine
- A letter from The Rev. Canon Barbara Price was shared and discussed about the environmental impacts of the STAMP project and how we might be able to help assist.
- Canon Johnnie discussed and shared handouts with important thoughts and questions about what qualities to seek in a Priest as our search continues. The handouts are available if you were not able to attend the meeting



WEDNESDAY
FEBRUARY

4TH

12:00 -
12:30 PM

BLESSINGS OF FREEDOM: A MIDDAY PRAYER SERVICE

"FOR FREEDOM CHRIST HAS SET US FREE." — GALATIANS 5:1

In a world that often feels heavy and divided, we invite you to pause, breathe, and give thanks for the profound gift of freedom—the freedom of the spirit, the freedom from fear, and the liberty we share as a community. Join our neighbors and friends for a quiet, contemplative service of prayer, scripture, and song as we celebrate the light of liberty that dwells within every soul.

A Joint Community Effort Hosted by:

Batavia First Presbyterian Church

St. James Episcopal

First Baptist Church

Mt. Zion Baptist

Location: St. James Episcopal Church, 405 E. Main St, Batavia, NY

Zoom Option: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/8085432266?pwd=ZlBCZEIOWDQlSzk5TEF2dFllbm4rUT09>

Meeting ID: 808 543 2266 Passcode: zrXG3y



St. James Calendar

| | | |
|-----------------|---------------------|-----------------|
| Sun, February 1 | 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 |

| | | |
|-----------------|---------------------|-------------------------|
| Mon, February 2 | 9:00 am – 2:00 pm | Office open |
| Tue, February 3 | 9:00 am – 2:00 pm | Office open |
| Wed, February 4 | 9:00 am – 2:00 pm | Office open |
| | 10:00 am | Canon Johnnie in office |
| | 12:00 pm – 12:30 pm | Blessings of Freedom |
| | 7:00 pm | Choir Rehearsal |
| Thu, February 5 | 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 6 | | Office closed |
| 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 | Annual Meeting |

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 | | Jim Isaac |
| Acolyte | Kim Isaac | Jo-Ann Bestine | Jo-Ann Bestine | Kim Isaac |
| Lesson 1 & Psalm | Joan Ellison | Terry McGuire | 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
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