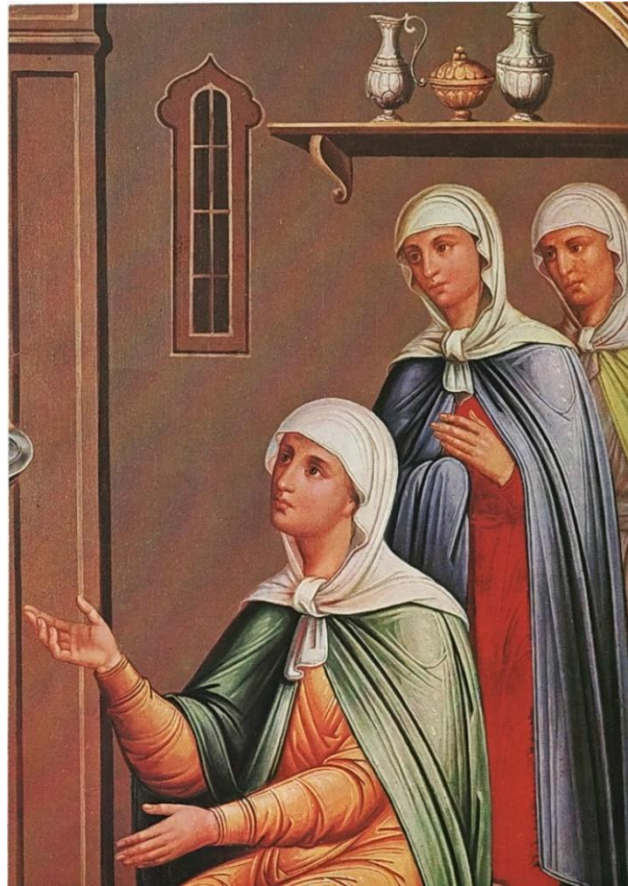


St. James Episcopal Church Batavia, NY

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



Parable of the Widow and the Unjust Judge

The 19th Sunday after Pentecost October 19, 2025
(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

Though I May Speak

arr. D. Wood

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 688

A mighty fortress is our God

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.

Almighty and everlasting God, in Christ you have revealed your glory among the nations: Preserve the works of your mercy, that your Church throughout the world may persevere with steadfast faith in the confession of your Name; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

A Reading from the book of Genesis (32:22-31)

Liz Findlay

The same night Jacob got up and took his two wives, his two maids, and his eleven children, and crossed the ford of the Jabbok. He took them and sent them across the stream, and likewise everything that he had. Jacob was left alone; and a man wrestled with him until daybreak. When the man saw that he did not prevail against Jacob, he struck him on the hip socket; and Jacob's hip was put out of joint as he wrestled with him. Then he said, "Let me go, for the day is breaking." But Jacob said, "I will not let you go, unless you bless me." So he said to him, "What is your name?" And he said, "Jacob." Then the man said, "You shall no longer be called Jacob, but Israel, for you have striven with God and with humans, and have prevailed." Then Jacob asked him, "Please tell me your name." But he said, "Why is it that you ask my name?" And there he blessed him. So Jacob called the place Peniel, saying, "For I have seen God face to face, and yet my life is preserved." The sun rose upon him as he passed Penuel, limping because of his hip.

The Word of the Lord

Thanks Be to God.

Psalm 121 (Let us read the psalm responsively by half verse)

- 1 I lift up my eyes to the hills; *
from where is my help to come?
- 2 My help comes from the LORD, *
the maker of heaven and earth.

3 He will not let your foot be moved *

and he who watches over you will not fall asleep.

4 Behold, he who keeps watch over Israel *

shall neither slumber nor sleep;

5 The LORD himself watches over you; *

the LORD is your shade at your right hand,

6 So that the sun shall not strike you by day, *

nor the moon by night.

7 The LORD shall preserve you from all evil; *

it is he who shall keep you safe.

8 The LORD shall watch over your going out and your coming in, *

from this time forth for evermore.

A Reading from the second letter of Paul to Timothy (3:14-4:5)

Lily Bringenberg

As for you, continue in what you have learned and firmly believed, knowing from whom you learned it, and how from childhood you have known the sacred writings that are able to instruct you for salvation through faith in Christ Jesus. All scripture is inspired by God and is useful for teaching, for reproof, for correction, and for training in righteousness, so that everyone who belongs to God may be proficient, equipped for every good work. In the presence of God and of Christ Jesus, who is to judge the living and the dead, and in view of his appearing and his kingdom, I solemnly urge you: proclaim the message; be persistent whether the time is favorable or unfavorable; convince, rebuke, and encourage, with the utmost patience in teaching. For the time is coming when people will not put up with sound doctrine, but having itching ears, they will accumulate for themselves teachers to suit their own desires, and will turn away from listening to the truth and wander away to myths. As for you, always be sober, endure suffering, do the work of an evangelist, carry out your ministry fully.

The Word of the Lord

Thanks be to God.

Sequence Hymn 470

There's a wideness in God's mercy

The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ, according to Luke (18:1-8)

Glory to you Lord Christ

Jesus told his disciples a parable about their need to pray always and not to lose heart. He said, "In a certain city there was a judge who neither feared God nor had respect for people. In that city there was a widow who kept coming to him and saying, 'Grant me justice against my opponent.' For a while he refused; but later he said to himself, 'Though I have no fear of God and no respect for anyone, yet because this widow keeps bothering me, I will grant her justice, so that she may not wear me out by continually coming.'" And the Lord said, "Listen to what the unjust judge says. And will not God grant justice to his chosen ones who cry to him day and night? Will he delay long in helping them? I tell you, he will quickly grant justice to them. And yet, when the Son of Man comes, will he find faith on earth?"

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

Rose Rumery

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,+ especially Gerald Christopher Ely and the Ely family (*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

Presider:

Almighty God, to whom our needs are known before we ask, help us to ask only what accords with your will; and those good things which we dare not, or in our blindness cannot ask, grant us for the sake of your Son Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

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

Celtic Laud

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 A

BCP p. 361

The Sanctus

Hymnal S-125

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 707 *Take my life, and let it be*
Communion Hymn 337 *And now, O Father, mindful of the love*

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 636 *How firm a foundation*

Dismissal

Postlude *Praise and Thanksgiving* *arr. D. Wood*

*****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, Celentano family, Roger, Terry, Russell, David, Kennedy, Harrison, Margaret, Lucy, Sue, Brian, Jim & Marsha, Janice, Cal, Beverly, Missy, Jolene, Mary Annette, Lois, Sharon, Melinda, Dane, Blake, Erica, Debbie

Coffee Hour at the Towers

Today, October 19th, we will be having our Coffee Hour across the street at 400 Towers. After our service we will take our goodies across the street and sit down and get to know our neighbors better and let them know we care.

Thanksgiving Pies

Pie season at St. James has begun. All skills are needed from apple peeling to rolling crust. There is a spot for you to help. Hope to see some new faces in the kitchen.

New Stewardship Year Begins!

As you may know by now, our Stewardship Season kicked off last Sunday, October 5th, with a brief address from our senior warden, Jim Ellison. This year's theme is ***Tell Out My Soul*** and we are encouraged to share our personal stories of stewardship stories. In doing so, I ask that you think about a couple of questions:

1. Why do Christians give?
2. Why is the church important?
3. What responsibility do we have to future Episcopalians who might search for a church in Batavia.

Others who will be speaking this month include; Maureen Scoville, Jim Neider, and Jim Isaac.

Pledge Cards can be found on the tables as you enter the Nave and they were mailed to you. To return them, you can either drop them in the Orange Pledge Collection Box on the front table, drop them off to Bobbi Jo, place them in the offer plate, or simply mail them to the church office. We will celebrate the pledge gifts given to the Glory of God and to the ministry of this church on All Saints Sunday, November 2, with a special service and coffee hour.

This year, let your soul tell of your gratitude for all that God has given to you and how much of that divine gift you can honestly afford to give back to God and the Church.

Everliving God, whose will it is that all should come with the reach of your saving embrace: Inspire our witness to you so that all may know the power of your loving acceptance and hope in the resurrection of your Son; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. Amen.

Happy Birthday

June Myers 10-19, Cal Fleming 10-22

Larry Belluscio 10-24, Rick Iannello & Anne Wolf 10-25

St. James Calendar

Sun, October 19	9:00 am - 9:30 am 9:00 am 10:00 am – 11:15 am 10:15 am 11:15 am	Zoom Service Choir Rehearsal Holy Eucharist Sunday School Coffee Hour @ 400 Towers
Mon, October 20	9:00 am – 2:00 pm	Office open
Tue, October 21	9:00 am – 2:00 pm 6:00 pm	Office open Vestry Meeting
Wed, October 22	9:00 am – 2:00 pm 10:00 am 7:00 pm	Office open Canon Johnnie in office Choir Rehearsal
Thu, October 23	9:00 am – 2:00 pm 11:00 am – 2:00 pm	Office open Thrift store open
Fri, October 24		Office closed
Sun, October 26	9:00 am – 9:30 am 9:00 am 10:00 am – 11:15 am 11:15	Zoom Service Choir Rehearsal Liturgy of the Word Coffee Hour

Zoom meetings use the following link:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/8085432266?pwd=ZlBCZEI0WDQ1Szk5TEF2dFJlbn4rUT09>

Meeting ID: 808 543 2266 Passcode: zrXG3y

CANON COMMENTS ON VERGERS

THE VERGER'S OFFICE



CartoonChurch.com

You may have noticed Julie's vestments being a little bit different than those of the choir. It's a vestment developed in cooperation with the Vergers' Guild of the Episcopal Church, a traditional sleeveless gown with velvet-trimmed front and full, pleated back to be worn over a cassock. It is what a verger wears. But what's a verger?

The verger has its roots in the earliest days of the Church and shares traditional duties much like those of a "porter." They are responsible for the order of the service as directed in the bulletin in much the same way a Master of Ceremonies, just quieter. Working with the priest, the verger prepares for the orderly execution of liturgy, the conduct of the laity participating, and back when churches had cemeteries, the verger oversaw grave-digging as well as the graveside services.

In the Middle Ages, the verger had a more practical role as they were considered the "Protector of the Procession." He, as they were all men in those days, would lead the procession from outside into the church, clearing the way for the procession and protecting it from "vagabonds and animals that may try to attack." Today you will see a verger ceremonially leading the procession in much the same way as then, always walking in front of the cross. As you have no doubt noticed, the verger wears a particular set of vestments and typically carries a stick called a virge. Where used, virge always points to the Altar of God (the High Altar) as the procession enters the Church and upward toward the throne of God during the exit.

Although there is no definitive historical account for the office of verger, in the Anglican Church they can be traced as far back as the 16th century. Julie has served as a verger from before we were married until now and has maintained her membership in The Vergers Guild for the Episcopal Church. She was one of two vergers serving at St. Peter's, Paris, KY when we met. Later I would ask her to verge at St. Raphael's, Lexington, the church I was serving as rector. I did so with the hopes of her training others to take on that ministry after we left and I have the same

hopes for here.

Nowadays, the vergers are most often ceremonial in nature, a lay person, either male or female, who assists the clergy in the conduct of public worship, offering welcome and organization to the flow of liturgy. When at the last minute changes occur due to an emergency, the vergers will find a replacement or step sometimes in to fulfill that liturgical role themselves. The cartoon chosen for this article lists all the possible duties a vergers might have and only in cathedrals would you find an office for the vergers. If you would be interested in serving as a vergers, please speak with Canon Johnnie or Julie, and they will make sure room is made for you on the schedule

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.

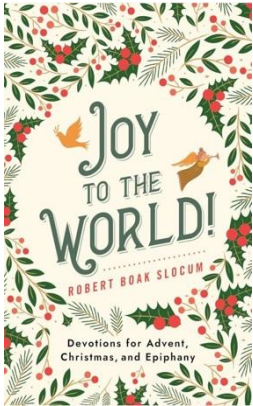
Bathrooms are located up the ramp (found at the left entrance nearest the small side altar) and then to your left.

Name

Other family members

At St. James You are Welcome Regardless!

Book Study from Advent through Epiphany



From Advent through Epiphany, Canon Johnnie will lead a book study with us using this beautifully designed devotional by the Reverend Robert B. Slocum. Father Slocum is an Episcopal Priest who will offer us heartwarming devotions for the seasons of Advent, Christmas, and Epiphany. Our study will take us from the miraculous conception of Jesus to the visit of the Magi, as we experience Joy to the World! in the wonders of the God's coming to us. We will explore ways of how we can embrace the Incarnation and make it meaningful in our everyday life. "Each devotion offers a passages from scripture, thought-provoking questions, and soulful prayers to help us contemplate God's steadfast presence and love in our lives."

You can order the book from Amazon yourself, or call the office where we will be placing a single order. This study will also be made available via Zoom for those who might find winter night driving a challenge. Funds are available for book scholarships, so please don't feel like you must be able to afford the book to attend the study. Dates and times are currently being discussed, but it is safe to say they will occur in the evening on either Tuesday or Thursday night, beginning on either December 2nd or 4th. Specifics as to the precise date and time will be announced soon.



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

Jim Ellison, (717) 503-5749 jdellison@gmail.com

Vestry:

Kim Isaac, Liz Findlay,
Barb Pierce, Steve Rumery, Tim Thomas
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

<https://www.facebook.com/share/174RPsQRBD/?mibextid=wwXIfr>

All music is used by permission through CCLI License 742131-A