

**St. James Episcopal Church
Batavia, New York**



“I have need of you.”
~Jesus

**A Guide for In-Home Morning Prayer for
Second Sunday after Pentecost**

June 14, 2020

*You are an important part of the St. James Community.
Even though we pray in our homes separated by distance,
we know that we are united in love.*

*“BCP” refers to “Book of Common Prayer”
Please join your voice in responses printed in bold*

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

Psalm 122:1

Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

Silence may be kept.

Officiant and People together

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.

Almighty God have mercy on you, forgive you all your sins through our Lord Jesus Christ, strengthen you in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep you in eternal life. **Amen.**

The Invitatory and Psalter

Lord, open our lips.

BCP p. 80

And our mouth shall proclaim your praise.

Glory to the Father, and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit: as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be for ever. Amen.

BCP. p. 81

Worship the Lord in the beauty of holiness: Come let us adore him.

Picture

**Be joyful in the Lord, all you lands;
serve the Lord with gladness
and come before his presence with a song.**

**Know this: The Lord himself is God;
he himself has made us, and we are his;
we are his people and the sheep of his pasture.**

**Enter his gates with thanksgiving;
go into his courts with praise;
give thanks to him and call upon his Name.**

**For the Lord is good;
his mercy is everlasting;
and his faithfulness endures from age to age.**

Psalm 116:1, 10-17 *Dilexi, quoniam*

BCP p. 759

**1 I love the LORD, because he has heard the voice of my
supplication, *
because he has inclined his ear to me whenever I called
upon him.**

**10 How shall I repay the LORD *
for all the good things he has done for me?**

**11 I will lift up the cup of salvation *
and call upon the Name of the LORD.**

**12 I will fulfill my vows to the LORD *
in the presence of all his people.**

**13 Precious in the sight of the LORD *
is the death of his servants.**

**14 O LORD, I am your servant; *
I am your servant and the child of your handmaid;
you have freed me from my bonds.**

**15 I will offer you the sacrifice of thanksgiving *
and call upon the Name of the LORD.**

**16 I will fulfill my vows to the LORD *
in the presence of all his people,**

**17 In the courts of the LORD's house, *
in the midst of you, O Jerusalem.
Hallelujah!**

**Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit:
as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be for ever. Amen.**

The Lessons

The First Reading

Genesis 18:1-15, (21:1-7)

The Lord appeared to Abraham by the oaks of Mamre, as he sat at the entrance of his tent in the heat of the day. He looked up and saw three men standing near him. When he saw them, he ran from the tent entrance to meet them, and bowed down to the ground. He said, "My lord, if I find favor with you, do not pass by your servant. Let a little water be brought, and wash your feet, and rest yourselves under the tree. Let me bring a little bread, that you may refresh yourselves, and after that you may pass on—since you have come to your servant." So they said, "Do as you have said." And Abraham hastened into the tent to Sarah, and said, "Make ready quickly three measures of choice flour, knead it, and make cakes." Abraham ran to the herd, and took a calf, tender and good, and gave it to the servant, who hastened to prepare it. Then he took curds and milk and the calf that he had prepared, and set it before them; and he stood by them under the tree while they ate.

They said to him, "Where is your wife Sarah?" And he said, "There, in the tent." Then one said, "I will surely return to you in due season, and your wife Sarah shall have a son." And Sarah was listening at the tent entrance behind him. Now Abraham and Sarah were old, advanced in age; it had ceased to be with Sarah after the manner of women. So Sarah laughed to herself, saying, "After I have grown old, and my husband is old, shall I have pleasure?" The Lord said to Abraham, "Why did Sarah laugh, and say, 'Shall I indeed bear a child, now that I am old?' Is anything too wonderful for the Lord? At the set time I will return to you, in due season, and Sarah shall have a son." But Sarah denied, saying, "I did not laugh"; for she was afraid. He said, "Oh yes, you did laugh."

The Lord dealt with Sarah as he had said, and the Lord did for Sarah as he had promised. Sarah conceived and bore Abraham a son in his old age, at the time of which God had spoken to him. Abraham gave the name Isaac to his son whom Sarah bore him. And Abraham circumcised his son Isaac when he was eight days old, as God had commanded him. Abraham was a hundred years old when his son Isaac was born to him. Now Sarah said, "God has brought laughter for me; everyone who hears will laugh with me." And she said, "Who would ever have said to Abraham that Sarah would nurse children? Yet I have borne him a son in his old age."

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.



"And Sarah Laughed" by Abel Pann, 1883-1963

Surely, it is God who saves me;
I will trust in him and not be afraid.
For the Lord is my stronghold and my sure defense,
and he will be my Savior.
Therefore you shall draw water with rejoicing
from the springs of salvation.
And on that day you shall say,
Give thanks to the Lord and call upon his Name;
Make his deeds known among the peoples;
see that they remember that his Name is exalted.
Sing the praises of the Lord, for he has done great things,
and this is known in all the world.
Cry aloud, inhabitants of Zion, ring out your joy,
for the great one in the midst of you is the Holy One of Israel.

**Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit:
as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be for ever. Amen.**

The Second Reading

Romans 5:1-8

Since we are justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ, through whom we have obtained access to this grace in which we stand; and we boast in our hope of sharing the glory of God. And not only that, but we also boast in our sufferings, knowing that suffering produces endurance, and endurance produces character, and character produces hope, and hope does not disappoint us, because God's love has been poured into our hearts through the Holy Spirit that has been given to us. For while we were still weak, at the right time Christ died for the ungodly. Indeed, rarely will anyone die for a righteous person-- though perhaps for a good person someone might actually dare to die. But God proves his love for us in that while we still were sinners Christ died for us.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

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



A Reading from the Gospel of Matthew

Matthew 9:35-10:8

Jesus went about all the cities and villages, teaching in their synagogues, and proclaiming the good news of the kingdom, and curing every disease and every sickness. When he saw the crowds, he had compassion for them, because they were harassed and helpless, like sheep without a shepherd. Then he said to his disciples, "The harvest is plentiful, but the laborers are few; therefore ask the Lord of the harvest to send out laborers into his harvest."

Then Jesus summoned his twelve disciples and gave them authority over unclean spirits, to cast them out, and to cure every disease and every sickness. These are the names of the twelve apostles: first, Simon, also known as Peter, and his brother Andrew; James son of Zebedee, and his brother John; Philip and Bartholomew; Thomas and Matthew the tax collector; James son of Alphaeus, and Thaddaeus; Simon the Cananaean, and Judas Iscariot, the one who betrayed him.

These twelve Jesus sent out with the following instructions: "Go nowhere among the Gentiles, and enter no town of the Samaritans, but go rather to the lost sheep of the house of Israel. As you go, proclaim the good news, 'The kingdom of heaven has come near.' Cure the sick, raise the dead, cleanse the lepers, cast out demons. You received without payment; give without payment.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Reflection by Mother Bonnie Morris+

Jesus says, "The harvest is plentiful, but the laborers are few; or in the translation of the Common English Bible, "The size of the harvest is bigger than you can imagine". There is work for you to do, here, now. I need you, because I don't have enough people to do it. In fact, I won't have enough people at work until I have ALL people at work. So, there is much to do. And, Jesus goes on to say, be prepared because the work won't be easy, the path I send you on will be full of perils. Go on anyway—because it's worth it.

Let's think about harvest. We, of grocery stores a-plenty, living in a perpetual season of having all that we need may have forgotten the poignant meaning of "harvest".

It was time restricted—you can't delay the harvest. When the wheat is ripe, you harvest it, not sometime later. When the barley is ready, you harvest it, or you lose it. So, when Jesus describes his work as a harvest, there is a sense of urgency. Do the work when it is time to do the work.

It was necessary. If you didn't bother to do the hard work of the harvest, you had no crop, you had nothing to eat.

It was vital. Some people within earshot of Jesus may have been rich or secure enough to lose a harvest and still be able to live comfortably. For most, they were one day's work away from starvation or homelessness. If you didn't take care of the crop you had nothing to eat. If the weather was bad, you could lose your crop and you had nothing to eat. If you didn't weed, water and protect, you had nothing to eat. The loss of the harvest, an entire crop of wheat or barley would be been disastrous.

It was valuable and it was not wasted. Even the last bits of grain in the field had a purpose; they were supposed to be left so that they could be gathered by the poor who had nothing else on which to live. Seeds are planted, tended and then harvested. It was not wasted because it was valuable, and it took hard work to bring it from seed to harvest.

Timely, necessary, vital, and valuable. That is what a harvest is.

"I need you for my harvest" Jesus said 2,000 years ago. "I need you for my harvest, right now in 2020 you people of St. James. It is not wheat or barley that is my concern, it is my people."

Some of my people are lost, and I want them back.

Some of my people are in pain, and I want them comforted.

Some of my people face injustice and cruelty, and I want justice and mercy for them.

You, my people, says Jesus, are necessary to me. Everyone single one of you. You are a vital part of my kingdom, and now is the time to bring you in.

**I believe in God, the Father almighty,
creator of heaven and earth;
I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.
He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit
and born of the Virgin Mary.
He suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died, and was buried.
He descended to the dead.
On the third day he rose again.
He ascended into heaven,
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.
He will come again to judge the living and the dead.
I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy catholic Church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins
the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting. Amen.**

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Let us pray.

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, for ever and ever. Amen.

Keep, O Lord, your household the Church in your steadfast faith and love, that through your grace we may proclaim your truth with boldness, and minister your justice with compassion; for the sake of our Savior Jesus Christ, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

O God you make us glad in the weekly remembrance of the glorious resurrection of your Son our Lord: Give us this day such blessing through our worship of you, that the week to come may be spent in your favor; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

The Prayers of the People

The Spirit of God aids us in our weakness and teaches us to pray. In the power of the Spirit let us offer prayers to God for the needs, concerns, and hopes of all the world.

For churches in every place, for all of God's beloved people across the world and for the unity of all.

Glory and praise to you, O living God.

For Michael our presiding bishop, Sean our bishop, Bonnie our priest, Diana our deacon, and all who minister in Christ, and for all the holy people of God.

Glory and praise to you, O living God.

For the world and its leaders, our nation and its people, and for all those who share God's covenant of peace, **especially Eric, David, Paul, Brandon, Michael, Alex, Chad, Jim, Devyn and Trevor. Glory and praise to you, O living God.**

For all those in danger and need, the sick and the suffering, the strayed and the lost.

Glory and praise to you, O living God.

For ourselves, our families, and those we love,

Especially Douglas, Tim, Aiden, Gabriella, Diana, Carla, Venus, Debbie, Beth Ann, Cathy, Wendy, Evan, Travis, Pat, Nicholas, Bob, Charlene, Brian, Rita, Garth, Jessica, Richie, Mark, Brett, Harold, Charlie, Steve, Lew-Ann, Joanne and *(Please add names on your personal prayer list here.)* May God keep our loved ones in his hand.

Glory and praise to you, O living God.

We support in prayer those who left messages on our Prayer Fence: For family, health, freedom, safety, world sanity, peace, justice, mercy, faith, forgiveness, and for hope.

Glory and praise to you, O living God.

For the dying and the dead.

Glory and praise to you, O living God.

Remembering the blessed Virgin Mary and all the saints, let us offer ourselves and one another to the living God through Christ.

To you, O Lord, our God.

Presider

Blessed are you, O Lord our God, who transforms our lives and makes us new. Hear our prayers which we offer in confidence and breathe upon us with your Holy Spirit; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Blessing

May God give us strength, courage, and compassion to go out and be workers in His Harvest. And the blessing of God Almighty, Father, Son and Holy Spirit, be with us today and always. **Amen.**

Dismissal

Let us go forth into the world, rejoicing in the power of the Spirit.

Thanks be to God.



*Thank you for joining the St. James community,
and the whole church in prayer and worship.*

Planned Communications
Week of June 14th through June 20th

June 14 10:30 a.m. Morning Prayer

11:00 a.m. Zoom Coffee Hour

11:20 a.m. Our Faith Discussion Group

All three will use the same Zoom Meeting link.

You can join as early as 10:20 a.m.

To join go to <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89810857988>

Or join by phone: (646) 558-8656, and use code 898 108 57988

June 17th Noon Bible Discussion Group

To join go to <https://zoom.us/j/579180457>

or join by phone: (646) 558-8656 and use code 579 180 457

Monday through Friday Evenings

7 p.m. Evening Prayer with the Genesee Deanery

To join go <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84159068421>

or join by phone: (929) 205-6099 and use code: 841 590 68421

Next Sunday, June 21st

Please join us for Morning Prayer, Coffee Hour and Our Faith Discussion beginning at 10:30 via Zoom Meeting

To join go to <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89810857988>

Or join by phone: (646) 558-8656, and use code 898 108 57988

Join Bishop Sean in a Zoom Worship at 10:00 a.m.

<https://zoom.us/j/127336938?pwd=cm8zUWh0Y2loTjYyKy91YURsTVBCQT0>. If you are asked for a password, use **lakeerie**.

To join by phone instead of video, dial 646-876-9923 and use code 127336938#



St. James Episcopal Church

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Check out our website and Facebook for online worship opportunities

Everyone is Welcome!

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