

St. James Episcopal Church Batavia, NY

We're glad we're here.



The Seventeenth Sunday after Pentecost

September 20, 2026 (9:00 a.m. Zoom Liturgy of the Word)

10:00 a.m. Liturgy of the word (Enriching Our Worship)

Here children are a joyful addition to worship and all children are invited to sit up close in the "soft space" up front, designed just for them! For special services, such as baptisms and confirmations, we invite the children to come and stand as close to the "action" as they are comfortable. Remember, children will behave as children and it is okay that they don't act like little adults.

Please join your voice to the hymns (Hymnal 1982) and the prayers (Book of Common Prayer) (BCP)

Announcements & Words of Welcome

Every presence here is purposeful, brought together by a loving, liberating, and life-giving God. St. James is a place of radical hospitality and welcome, where individuals from all backgrounds, traditions, and journeys of faith, no faith, or doubt belong. The Episcopal Church believes that diversity of identity and experiences enriches the community, honors the sacred, and works to reveal the immense image of the Divine who created us in that image. Participation is welcome at whatever level feels most comfortable to you. The table of Holy Communion is open to everyone who believes called by God to eat of this divine meal. If this is your first time, please sit and enjoy the service, let the bulletin be your guide and not your boss. For any assistance, questions, or needs, please reach out to your nearest pew neighbor, speak to an usher, or corner a member of the clergy after the service. Thank you for the privilege of worshiping with you today.

Opening Hymn 390

Praise to the Lord, the Almighty

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 we give thanks to God for their stewardship of this great land and its resources.

The Liturgy of the Word*BCP p.355**Opening Sentences**Blessed be the one, holy, and living God.****Glory to God for ever and ever. 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-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.

Grant us, Lord, not to be anxious about earthly things, but to love things heavenly; and even now, while we are placed among things that are passing away, to hold fast to those that shall endure; 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 Jonah (3:10-4:11)

Barb King

When God saw what the people of Nineveh did, how they turned from their evil ways, God changed his mind about the calamity that he had said he would bring upon them; and he did not do it.

But this was very displeasing to Jonah, and he became angry. He prayed to the Lord and said, "O Lord! Is not this what I said while I was still in my own country? That is why I fled to Tarshish at the beginning; for I knew that you are a gracious God and merciful, slow to anger, and abounding in steadfast love, and ready to relent from punishing. And now, O Lord, please take my life from me, for it is better for me to die than to live." And the Lord said, "Is it right for you to be angry?" Then Jonah went out of the city and sat down east of the city, and made a booth for himself there. He sat under it in the shade, waiting to see what would become of the city.

The Lord God appointed a bush, and made it come up over Jonah, to give shade over his head, to save him from his discomfort; so Jonah was very happy about the bush. But when dawn came up the next day, God appointed a worm that attacked the bush, so that it withered. When the sun rose, God prepared a sultry east wind, and the sun beat down on the head of Jonah so that he was faint and asked that he might die. He said, "It is better for me to die than to live."

But God said to Jonah, "Is it right for you to be angry about the bush?" And he said, "Yes, angry enough to die." Then the Lord said, "You are concerned about the bush, for which you did not labor and which you did not grow; it came into being in a night and perished in a night. And should I not be concerned about Nineveh, that great city, in which there are more than a hundred and twenty thousand persons who do not know their right hand from their left, and also many animals?"

The Word of the Lord

Thanks Be to God

I will exalt you, O God my King, *

and bless your Name for ever and ever.

Every day will I bless you *

and praise your Name for ever and ever.

Great is the Lord and greatly to be praised; *

there is no end to his greatness.

One generation shall praise your works to another *

and shall declare your power.

I will ponder the glorious splendor of your majesty *

and all your marvelous works.

They shall speak of the might of your wondrous acts, *

and I will tell of your greatness.

They shall publish the remembrance of your great goodness; *

they shall sing of your righteous deeds.

The Lord is gracious and full of compassion, *

slow to anger and of great kindness.

A Reading from the letter of Paul to the Philippians (1:21-30) *Larry Belluscio*

To me, living is Christ and dying is gain. If I am to live in the flesh, that means fruitful labor for me; and I do not know which I prefer. I am hard pressed between the two: my desire is to depart and be with Christ, for that is far better; but to remain in the flesh is more necessary for you. Since I am convinced of this, I know that I will remain and continue with all of you for your progress and joy in faith, so that I may share abundantly in your boasting in Christ Jesus when I come to you again.

Only, live your life in a manner worthy of the gospel of Christ, so that, whether I come and see you or am absent and hear about you, I will know that you are standing firm in one spirit, striving side by side with one mind for the faith of the gospel, and are in no way intimidated by your opponents. For them this is evidence of their destruction, but of your salvation. And this is God's doing. For he has graciously granted you the privilege not only of believing in Christ, but of suffering for him as well-- since you are having the same struggle that you saw I had and now hear that I still have.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks Be to God.

Sequence Hymn 660

O Master let me walk thee

The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ, according to Matthew.

Glory to you, Lord Christ.

Jesus said, "The kingdom of heaven is like a landowner who went out early in the morning to hire laborers for his vineyard. After agreeing with the laborers for the usual daily wage, he sent them into his vineyard. When he went out about nine o'clock, he saw others standing idle in the marketplace; and he said to them, 'You also go into the vineyard, and I will pay you whatever is right.' So they went. When he went out again about noon and about three o'clock, he did the same. And about five o'clock he went out and found others standing around; and he said to them, 'Why are you standing here idle all day?' They said to him, 'Because no one has hired us.' He said to them, 'You also go into the vineyard.' When evening came, the owner of the vineyard said to his manager, 'Call the laborers and give them their pay, beginning with the last and then going to the first.' When those hired about five o'clock came, each of them received the usual daily wage. Now when the first came, they thought they would receive more; but each of them also received the usual daily wage. And when they received it, they grumbled against the landowner, saying, 'These last worked only one hour, and you have made them equal to us who have borne the burden of the day and the scorching heat.' But he replied to one of them, 'Friend, I am doing you no wrong; did you not agree with me for the usual daily wage? Take what belongs to you and go; I choose to give to this last the same as I give to you. Am I not allowed to do what I choose with what belongs to me? Or are you envious because I am generous?' So the last will be first, and the first will be last."

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

Lily Bringenberg

Deacon/Presider:

Let us pray for the Church and the world.

Prayers of the People (the Yellow Sheet in your pew.)

The Absolution

The Peace

"The Question in the Box"

Zoom attendees turn to page 8

Offertory Sentence

Offertory Solo

Lead Me, Lord

S. S. Weasley

Doxology

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.

THE HOLY COMMUNION

Eucharistic Prayer A

BCP p. 361

The Sanctus

Hymnal S – 128

The Lord's Prayer

BCP p. 364

The Breaking of the Bread

Hymnal S- 155

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. 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 343
Communion Hymn 332

Shepherd of souls, refresh and bless
O God, unseen yet ever near

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.)

Recessional Hymns 690

Guide me, O thou great Jehovah

Dismissal

Postlude

Trumpet Tune in D Major

D. Johnson

*****Those attending the Zoom service please continue here.*****

The Doxology

Praise God from whom all blessings flow, praise Him all creatures, here below. Praise Him 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!

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 your bulletin home with you!
Announcements for September 20, 2026

Happy Birthday

September 22nd Breanna Petts, 23rd Steve Rumery, 23rd Alexandra Belluscio, 25th John Swartz Jr., 26th Lois Call, 28th Judith O'Neill, and 28th Karen Day

PRAYER LIST

John, 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 & Sharon, Janice, Kathy, Dave, Steve, Keith, Mike, Lisa, Nancy and Peter, Joanne, Matt and Ryan and the Fleming Family. For Becca, Madison, Gylnn, Jason, Camille, Leila, Amelia, Inara, Nate and Zack, Maureen, Dr. Pierce, Wayne, Lilo and sister.

Pray for Victims of Human Trafficking, Prisoners, Captives, and all those held against their will. Pray for those who die from violence, those executed by the State. Pray for Emergency Responders, Hospital Workers, and Care Givers.

HELP OUR NEIGHBORS IN NEED **Undie Sundays & Socks in the Box**

We are collecting essential items for the unhoused in our area. Your small donation makes a massive dignity and comfort impact.

DROP-OFF LOCATION IS HERE AT THE CHURCH

WHEN TO DONATE YOUR SOCKS:

Every Sunday morning (10am service) September & October OR the Church office Monday – Thursday, 10am-1pm

SEPTEMBER COLLECTION – UNDIE SUNDAYS

- **Underwear:** New pairs for men and women (all sizes).

OCTOBER COLLECTION – SOCKS IN THE BOX

- **Socks:** New socks for men and women (all sizes).

IMPORTANT NOTE

- **All donations must be brand new.**
- **Please leave items in their original packaging.**



Thank you for your generosity and support!
St. James Outreach Committee



**Save this date;
Blessing of the Animals
October 3rd at 10:30 AM**

WEEK AT A GLANCE

Sunday September 20	9:00 am – 9:30 am 10:00 am – 11:15 am	Zoom Service Eucharist & Coffee Hour
Monday September 21	10:00 am – 1:00 pm Out of the office 6:300 pm	Office Hours Canon Johnnie Genesee Chorale
*Tuesday September 22	10AM – 1PM Out of the office	Office Hours Canon Johnnie
*Wednesday September 23	10AM– 1:00PM 6PM 7PM	Office Hours Canon Johnnie Al-Anon Choir Rehearsal
*Thursday September 24	10:00 am – 1:00 Pm 11:00 am – 1 pm	Office Open Thrift Store
Friday September 25		Office Closed
Sunday September 27	9:00 am – 9:30 10:00 am – 11:15 am 11:15 am	Zoom Service Liturgy of the Word Coffee Hour

First time here? If you'd like to learn more about St. James, receive regular emails from the Church, or simply have your questions answered, then please contact our priest, Canon Johnnie at canonjohnnie@gmail.com, (859)285-9361, or call the office at 585-343-6802.

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

Please keep in touch:

The Rev. Canon Johnnie Ross
canonjohnnie@gmail.com
(859)285-9361 (cell)

Kelley McClenney
Parish Administrator
Saint.James2@sjecbataviany.org
Church Office: 585-343-6802

Mark Your Calendar Now: *All Saints Day, November 1, 10AM*
Our Worship will include a Native American Component.

Re-thinking Thanksgiving – A Native American Perspective on an American

Holiday – *This lively, content-based presentation will give an overview of the history of a very misunderstood holiday. Based on primary historic source documents that chronicles the "First Thanksgiving" and using a quiz-style format of True/False questions, participants will learn accurate and culturally appropriate information about the English settlers at Plymouth and the Wampanoag, the Native people who inhabited that area.*

The PowerPoint presentation will discuss the actual events of 1621 in Plymouth, the relationship between the English settlers and the Wampanoag, and how this story became the holiday we know today. The concept of thanksgiving held by many Native Americans will be emphasized throughout.

Although they were not present in Plymouth in 1621, connections to the Haudenosaunee (Iroquois) concepts of Thanksgiving will be discussed so participants will understand how Native People view Thanksgiving today.

We will have a special speaker that day; Master Storyteller and Cultural Educator Perry Ground, a member of the Turtle Clan, The Onondaga Nation of the Haudenosaunee (Iroquois) Confederacy. Perry is an Episcopalian, has been a storyteller and educator for over 25 years and enjoys sharing the stories of the history and culture of Native Peoples. His presentations are lively, engaging, inclusive and filled with cultural and historical information that audiences young and old will enjoy. Perry brings his stories to life with dynamic movement and dramatic voice. Totally appropriate for audiences grade 4 through adults.

Invite your friends and bring your family. *There will be a brief worship and the presentation with a wonderful coffee hour to better know and ask questions of Perry.*

Do not miss it!



Thursday, November 19th, 6:30PM
COMMUNITY THANKSGIVING
INTERFAITH SERVICE
A Gathering of Gratitude, Unity, and Hope

We will join with neighbors, friends, and other faith communities from across Genesee County as we come together to give thanks, share traditions, and celebrate the strength of our shared community believing in one God.

- *Interfaith Reflection: Readings, Prayers, and Insights shared by our local religious leaders.*
- *Music & Worship: Shared hymns and songs expressing thanksgiving.*
- *Friendship & Fellowship: Light refreshments and conversation following the service.*

Location:
Saint James Episcopal Church
405 E Main Street
Batavia, NY 14020



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Church**

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Batavia, NY 14020

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