

St. James Episcopal Church Batavia, NY

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



The Ascension
John Singleton Copley 1738-1815

Sunday after Ascension Day
May 17th, 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 450 *All hail the power of Jesus' name (verses 1,2,3,6)*



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

Alleluia! Christ is risen!

The Lord is risen indeed. Alleluia!

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, we pray, Almighty God, that as we believe your only-begotten Son our Lord Jesus Christ to have ascended into heaven, so we may also in heart and mind there ascend, and with him continually dwell; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. Amen.

A Reading from the Acts of the Apostles (1:1-11)

Joan Ellison

In the first book, Theophilus, I wrote about all that Jesus did and taught from the beginning until the day when he was taken up to heaven, after giving instructions through the Holy Spirit to the apostles whom he had chosen. After his suffering he presented himself alive to them by many convincing proofs, appearing to them during forty days and speaking about the kingdom of God. While staying with them, he ordered them not to leave Jerusalem, but to wait there for the promise of the Father. "This," he said, "is what you have heard from me; for John baptized with water, but you will be baptized with the Holy Spirit not many days from now." So when they had come together, they asked him, "Lord, is this the time when you will restore the kingdom to Israel?" He replied, "It is not for you to know the times or periods that the Father has set by his own authority. But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you; and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth." When he had said this, as they were watching, he was lifted up, and a cloud took him out of their sight. While he was going and they were gazing up toward heaven, suddenly two men in white robes stood by them. They said, "Men of Galilee, why do you stand looking up toward heaven? This Jesus, who has been taken up from you into heaven, will come in the same way as you saw him go into heaven."

The Word of the Lord

Thanks Be to God

Psalm 47 (Let us read the Psalm responsively by whole verse.)

1 Clap your hands, all you peoples; shout to God with a cry of joy.

2 **For the LORD Most High is to be feared; he is the great King over all the earth.**

3 He subdues the peoples under us, and the nations under our feet.

4 He chooses our inheritance for us, the pride of Jacob whom he loves.

5 God has gone up with a shout, the LORD with the sound of the ram's-horn.

6 Sing praises to God, sing praises; sing praises to our King, sing praises.

7 For God is King of all the earth; sing praises with all your skill.

8 God reigns over the nations; God sits upon his holy throne.

9 The nobles of the peoples have gathered together with the people of the God of Abraham.

10 The rulers of the earth belong to God, and he is highly exalted.

A Reading from the letter of Paul to the Ephesians (1:15-23)

Jim Neider

I have heard of your faith in the Lord Jesus and your love toward all the saints, and for this reason I do not cease to give thanks for you as I remember you in my prayers. I pray that the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory, may give you a spirit of wisdom and revelation as you come to know him, so that, with the eyes of your heart enlightened, you may know what is the hope to which he has called you, what are the riches of his glorious inheritance among the saints, and what is the immeasurable greatness of his power for us who believe, according to the working of his great power. God put this power to work in Christ when he raised him from the dead and seated him at his right hand in the heavenly places, far above all rule and authority and power and dominion, and above every name that is named, not only in this age but also in the age to come. And he has put all things under his feet and has made him the head over all things for the church, which is his body, the fullness of him who fills all in all.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Sequence Hymn 603 *When Christ was lifted from the earth*

The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ, according to Luke. (24:44-53)

Glory to you Lord Christ.

Jesus said to his disciples, "These are my words that I spoke to you while I was still with you-- that everything written about me in the law of Moses, the prophets, and the psalms must be fulfilled." Then he opened their minds to understand the scriptures, and he said to them, "Thus it is written, that the Messiah is to suffer and to rise from the dead on the third day, and that repentance and forgiveness of sins is to be proclaimed in his name to all nations, beginning from Jerusalem. You are witnesses of these things. And see, I am sending upon you what my Father promised; so stay here in the city until you have been clothed with power from on high." Then he led them out as far as Bethany, and, lifting up his hands, he blessed them. While he was blessing them, he withdrew from them and was carried up into heaven. And they worshiped him, and returned to Jerusalem with great joy; and they were continually in the temple blessing God.

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.

Leader: We pray for our church, for our diocese, clergy and people in the Genesee Cycle of Prayer, and for St. Paul's in Stafford

God of Light and Life,

Hear our Prayer

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, Member 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 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 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

Rejoice, the Lord is King!

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

The Sanctus

The Lord's Prayer

BCP p. 369

Hymnal S-128

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 324 *Let all mortal flesh keep silence*

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

Closing Hymn 215 *See the Conqueror mounts in triumph*

Dismissal

Postlude

Allegro Maestoso

G.F. Handel

*****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, Cal, Jolene, Mary Annette, Brian, Blake, Erica, Meagan, Christina, members of the Armed Forces, Janice, Kathy, Dave, Steve, Keith, Mike & Lisa

The Parish Office will be closed May 25th – June 1st

SANDWICHES FOR THE CATHEDRAL: Next Sunday, May 24th, we will be making sandwiches for the unhoused folks who come to the Buffalo Cathedral for a meal. All necessary ingredients will be provided. If you have just a little time following the service join us in the kitchen and help put together a much need meal for those in need. Remembering the words of Jesus, **“What you do for the least of these, you do for me.”**

AMERICAN LEGION NEED OUR HELP: Every year members of the American Legion and community volunteers place American flags on veterans’ graves for Memorial Day. This year St. James’ Outreach Committee would like to extend our help. Volunteers will meet at 10:00 A.M. Saturday May 23rd at Grandview Cemetery on Clinton St. in Batavia. All are welcome, including supervised children and high schoolers looking for community service. (Please dress for the weather.) This is an excellent way to give back to those who have served and given so much. Feel free to call me for additional information (585-409-8891) Jim Neider.

ST. JAMES SCHOLARSHIP

- Scholarships are available for any post-high school education, including college, trade school, or any career preparation with certification.
- Applications from individuals who are affiliated with a church in the Genesee Regional Initiative, but not members of St. James, must include a recommendation from their priest, vestry member, or warden.
- Questions can be directed to: Diane Skelton at 716-474-2765

The deadline to file an application is May 23rd. Applications are available on the Church’s website www.sjecbataviany.org or you can pick one up at the Church office during business hours.

UNITED WAY DAY OF CARING

United Way Day of Caring activities are scheduled for Thursday May 21st. Volunteers will be onsite to complete spring cleanup, a little gardening and perhaps some painting.

The event runs from 9:00 until about 2:30 and Parishioners are encouraged to participate as they are able. The Outreach committee will provide lunch for all at midday. Please contact Gregg Ely with questions. 5Geep6@gmail.com.

DAY OF CARING SET UP SCHEDULE

Wednesday, May 20, beginning at 9AM Set-up and food preparation

Thursday, May 21, 9am till 2pm Serving, Sharing a meal with our Guests, and Clean-up

Needed: People to set tables, make sandwich, carve turkey and ham, make salad, servers, and cleanup crew.

Items Needed: Cookies and Cupcake donations

For any questions, contact any member of The Outreach Committee:

Jo-Ann Bestine, Diane Cox, Dorian Ely, Kim Isaac, Terry McGuire, Jim Neider, Diane Skelton.

If you would like to help and the posted those times just don't fit into your schedule, please let us know and we will find a time that works best for you. *"Do not forget to show hospitality to strangers, for by so doing some people have shown hospitality to angels without knowing it."* (Hebrews 13:2)

This is a ministry of hospitality!

Terry, 585-356-4375

SEARCH COMMITTEE UPDATE (PRIEST)

The search committee has been meeting since last fall preparing the information required by the Diocese for the pastoral vacancy at St. James.

We have been very fortunate to have Barbara Price from the Genesee Deanery as our facilitator and liaison between St. James and the Diocese. The first step in the process was to update our Parish Profile. The profile will be viewed by prospective applicants to learn more about St. James, our congregation and community. The updated profile was officially submitted to the Diocese this past January.

The next step was to share with the Diocese how much St. James could afford for a new priest. After seeking input from Vestry and a review of our current and projected financial health. It was decided to develop a compensation package commensurate with

a half-time position. This was submitted to the Diocese, via Barbara Price, on May 7th. The search committee believes this is the most prudent, fiscally responsible, and sustainable approach for St. James in the coming years.

At this time we are currently in a holding pattern while we wait for further direction from the Diocese. Our hope is the Diocese will "post" the St. James position this summer so that interviews can begin this fall.

There is some good news. Canon Johnnie has agreed to continue as our interim until a new priest has been called to St. James.

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact anyone on the search committee.

Tom Bringenberg, Liz Findlay, Rick Iannello and Tim Thomas

Thank You,
Tim Thomas

JOIN US FOR A

FREE COMMUNITY LUNCH



EVERYONE IS WELCOME! Enjoy a free, delicious lunch & community connection.

DATE: Thursday, May 21

TIME: 12 noon – until gone

LOCATION: St. James Church Parish Hall

405 E. Main St., Batavia

**Featuring Fresh Sandwiches, Chips & Drinks
Bring your friends & family! No RSVP required.**

ALL ARE WELCOME!

Gather * Eat * Connect

Hosted by St. James Episcopal Church in gratitude for United Way's Day of Caring

St. James Calendar
Happy Birthday!!

Tommy Bringenberg 5-19

Sunday May 17	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 am	Coffee Hour
	4:00 pm	Genesee Chorale concert
Monday May 18	9:00 am – 2:00 pm	Office open
Tuesday May 19	9:00 am – 2:00 pm	Office open
	6:30 pm	Vestry Meeting
Wednesday May 20	9:00 am – 2:00 pm	Office open
	10:00 am	Canon Johnnie in office
	6:30 pm	Choir Rehearsal
Thursday May 21	9:00 am – 2:00 pm	Office open
	11:00 am – 2:00 pm	Thrift store open
		Day of Caring
Friday May 22		Office closed
Sunday May 24	9:00 am – 9:30 am	Zoom Service
	9:00 am	Choir Rehearsal
	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=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!



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
dianesbcox@gmail.com

John Novak
Organist/Choir Director

Bobbi Jo Voelker
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

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