

# St. James Episcopal Church Batavia, NY

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



*Transfiguration of Christ  
Giovanni Bellini 1426-1516*

## **The Last Sunday after the Epiphany February 15, 2026**

**(9:00 a.m. zoom) 10:00 a.m. Communion  
From the Reserved Sacrament**

*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 427

*When morning gilds the skies*

**The Liturgy of the Word**

Opening Sentences

BCP p 355

Blessed be God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit

**And blessed be his kingdom, now and forever. Amen**

The Collect for Purity

Almighty God, to you all hearts are open, all desires are 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, 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.**

Collect of the Day

The Lord be with you

**And also with you**

Let us pray

O God, who before the passion of your only begotten Son revealed his glory upon the holy mountain: Grant to us that we, beholding by faith the light of his countenance, may be strengthened to bear our cross, and be changed into his likeness from glory to glory; 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 Exodus (24:12-18)*

*Anne Iannello*

The LORD said to Moses, "Come up to me on the mountain, and wait there; and I will give you the tablets of stone, with the law and the commandment, which I have written for their instruction." So Moses set out with his assistant Joshua, and Moses went up into the mountain of God. To the elders he had said, "Wait here for us, until we come to you again; for Aaron and Hur are with you; whoever has a dispute may go to them." Then Moses went up on the mountain, and the cloud covered the mountain. The glory of the LORD settled on Mount Sinai, and the cloud covered it for six days; on the seventh day he called to Moses out of the cloud. Now the appearance of the glory of the LORD was like a devouring fire on the top of the mountain in the sight of the people of Israel. Moses entered the cloud, and went up on the mountain. Moses was on the mountain for forty days and forty nights.

The Word of the Lord

**Thanks Be to God**

*Psalm 99 (Let us read the Psalm responsively by whole verse)*

*We read the psalm responsively by half verse*

1 The LORD is King; let the people tremble; he is enthroned upon the cherubim; let the earth shake.

**2 The LORD is great in Zion; he is high above all peoples.**

3 Let them confess his Name, which is great and awesome; he is the Holy One.

4 **"O mighty King, lover of justice, you have established equity;  
you have executed justice and righteousness in Jacob."**

5 Proclaim the greatness of the LORD our God and fall down before his footstool; he is the Holy One.

6 **Moses and Aaron among his priests, and Samuel among those who call upon his Name, they called upon the LORD, and he answered them.**

7 He spoke to them out of the pillar of cloud; they kept his testimonies and the decree that he gave them.

8 **O LORD our God, you answered them indeed; you were a God who forgave them, yet punished them for their evil deeds.**

9 Proclaim the greatness of the LORD our God and worship him upon his holy hill; for the LORD our God is the Holy One.

*A Reading from the second Letter of Peter (1:16-21)*

Jim Neider

We did not follow cleverly devised myths when we made known to you the power and coming of our Lord Jesus Christ, but we had been eyewitnesses of his majesty. For he received honor and glory from God the Father when that voice was conveyed to him by the Majestic Glory, saying, "This is my Son, my Beloved, with whom I am well pleased." We ourselves heard this voice come from heaven, while we were with him on the holy mountain. So we have the prophetic message more fully confirmed. You will do well to be attentive to this as to a lamp shining in a dark place, until the day dawns and the morning star rises in your hearts. First of all you must understand this, that no prophecy of scripture is a matter of one's own interpretation, because no prophecy ever came by human will, but men and women moved by the Holy Spirit spoke from God.

The Word of the Lord

**Thanks be to God**

Sequence Hymn 135

*Songs of thankfulness and praise*

*The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ, according to Matthew (17:1-9)*

## **Glory to you, Lord Christ**

Six days later, Jesus took with him Peter and James and his brother John and led them up a high mountain, by themselves. And he was transfigured before them, and his face shone like the sun, and his clothes became dazzling white. Suddenly there appeared to them Moses and Elijah, talking with him. Then Peter said to Jesus, "Lord, it is good for us to be here; if you wish, I will make three dwellings here, one for you, one for Moses, and one for Elijah." While he was still speaking, suddenly a bright cloud overshadowed them, and from the cloud a voice said, "This is my Son, the Beloved; with him I am well pleased; listen to him!" When the disciples heard this, they fell to the ground and were overcome by fear. But Jesus came and touched them, saying, "Get up and do not be afraid." And when they looked up, they saw no one except Jesus himself alone. As they were coming down the mountain, Jesus ordered them, "Tell no one about the vision until after the Son of Man has been raised from the dead."

The Gospel of the Lord

**Praise to you Lord Christ**

Sermon

Deacon Diane Cox

The Nicene Creed

BCP p.358

The Prayers of the People

Larry Belluscio

*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 to God, our neighbor and ourselves.

**God of all mercy,  
we confess that we have sinned against you,  
opposing your will in our lives.  
We have denied your goodness in each other,  
in ourselves, and in the world you have created.  
We repent of the evil that enslaves us,  
the evil we have done,  
and the evil done on our behalf.  
Forgive, restore, and strengthen us  
through our Savior Jesus Christ,  
that we may abide in your love  
and serve only your will. Amen.**

The Peace

The Peace of the Lord be always with you.

**And also with you.**

Offertory Sentence

Offertory Anthem

*Gracious Spirit, Dwell with Me*

*K. Lee Scott*

*Please stand as you are able*

Doxology

Old 100th

**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.**

The Lord's Prayer

Invitation to Communion

These are the gifts of God given for us, the beloved of God: Come 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 328

*Draw nigh and take the Body of the Lord*

Communion Hymn 339

*Deck thyself, my soul with gladness*

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 Mutual Blessing

Live without fear: our Creator has made us holy, has always protected us, and loves us as a mother. Go in peace to follow the good road and may the blessing of the Holy and Undivided Trinity be with us now and always.

**Amen**

Closing Hymn 460

*Alleluia! Sing to Jesus (verses 1, 3 & 4)*

## Dismissal

Postlude

*Finale*

*G. Young*

**\*\*\*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 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!*

## Closing Prayer

Let us pray.

**God of abundance, you have fed us with the fellowship of love your**

**Son taught us, making us one with all your people in heaven and on earth. Now send us forth in the power of your Spirit, that we may proclaim your redeeming love to the world and continue for ever in the risen life of Christ our Savior. Amen.**

The Blessing

Live without fear: our Creator has made us holy, has always protected us, and loves us as a mother. Go in peace to follow the good road and may the blessing of the Holy and Undivided Trinity be with us now and always.

**Amen**

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

**Vigil**

This Sunday, February 15th at 4:00 there will be a solemn and respectful national vigil across the United States. The names of the 36 individuals who lost their lives while in custody at an ICE facility in 2025 will be remembered. One of the sites for this vigil is the Batavia Detention Center. If you are interested in going but are reluctant to go alone speak to Jo-Ann Bestine about going together.

**Ash Wednesday, February 18<sup>th</sup>**

Ashes to Go in the East Parking Lot 7:00 am – 9:00 am

# Lenten & Holy Week Schedule

*Ash Wednesday - February 18 7am – 9am*

*Holy Week is March 29 - April 5*

*Mark your calendar for:*

*Palm Sunday, March 29th*

*Maundy Thursday, April 2, 5:30PM*

Good Friday - Stations of the Cross & A Good Friday Service is being planned. Watch this space!

**Lenten Book Study - "The False White Gospel,"** by Jim Wallis  
beginning Thursday, February 26 - March 26, 2026, 5PM

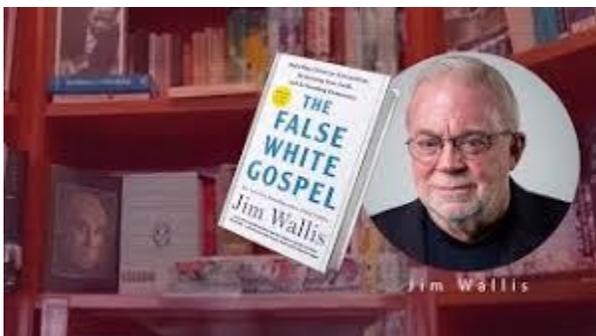
Jim Wallis, author of *The False White Gospel*, says it's time to call out a genuine faith to reject and help dismantle a false gospel that propagates white supremacy and autocracy. In doing so, Wallis turns our attention to six iconic texts at the heart of what a genuine biblical faith really means and what Jesus, in the gospels, calls his followers to do - both then and now. Perhaps the same question asked of Martha about the resurrection, Jesus asks us: "Do you believe this?" Yet unlike Martha, we are not so quick to say, "Yes Lord I believe..."

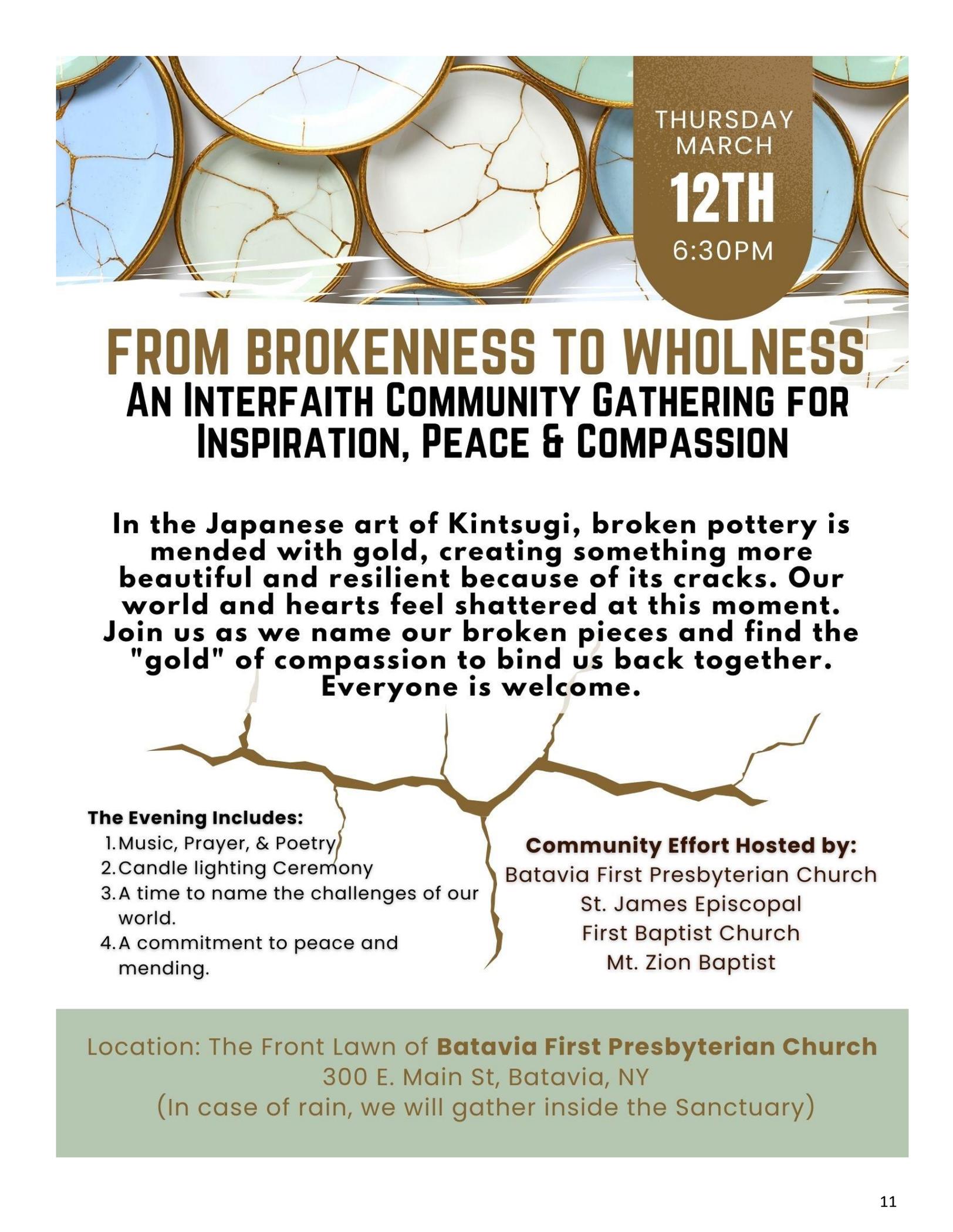
With all this Christian talk one would imagine this book to be written exclusively for Christians and yet it is not! *The False White Gospel* is a book for people of all faith traditions and even those with no faith at all. When we see a civic promotion of fear, hate, and violence for the trajectory of our politics, we need a civic faith of love, healing, and hope in order to defeat it - which is this very prescription offered by the Gospel of Jesus.

Yet this antidote of love, healing and hope, while offered by "the Christ" is not particularly "Christian." At the time it was offered Jesus was a faithful Jew - worshipping and teaching in the synagogue. Therefore, the antidote offered by "the Christ" must involve all of us – "for thus is the Kingdom of God" – religious or not.

Wallis writes that "learning to practice a politics of neighborly love will be central to the future of democracy in America. And more than ever, the words of Jesus ring, "You will know the truth, and the truth will set you free."

Come join in the fun... and if you need a book, please call the office and let Bobbi Jo know that.





THURSDAY  
MARCH

**12TH**

6:30PM

# **FROM BROKENNESS TO WHOLNESS**

## **AN INTERFAITH COMMUNITY GATHERING FOR INSPIRATION, PEACE & COMPASSION**

**In the Japanese art of Kintsugi, broken pottery is mended with gold, creating something more beautiful and resilient because of its cracks. Our world and hearts feel shattered at this moment. Join us as we name our broken pieces and find the "gold" of compassion to bind us back together. Everyone is welcome.**

### **The Evening Includes:**

1. Music, Prayer, & Poetry
2. Candle lighting Ceremony
3. A time to name the challenges of our world.
4. A commitment to peace and mending.

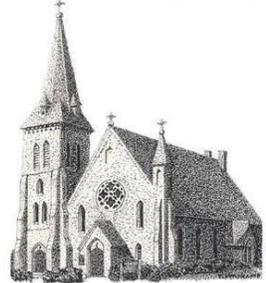
### **Community Effort Hosted by:**

Batavia First Presbyterian Church  
St. James Episcopal  
First Baptist Church  
Mt. Zion Baptist

Location: The Front Lawn of **Batavia First Presbyterian Church**  
300 E. Main St, Batavia, NY  
(In case of rain, we will gather inside the Sanctuary)

# MUSIC at St. Mark's

THURSDAYS AT 7:00 PM



## FEB 12 Strummerz

Music of the 50s, 60s, & 70s with Rich Conroy & Don Bouchard

## MAR 19 Ravi Padmanabha & David Mussen

A new and full musical experience with gongs, crystal bowls, tabla, hand pan, clarinet and ocean drum

## APR 16 Gracias a la Vida: Music & Poetry of Chile

Pablo Willey-Bustos, Tenor & Priscilla Yuen, Piano

## MAY 21 Creek Bend

Bluegrass

**ALL CONCERTS ARE FREE**

St. Mark's Episcopal Church  
1 East Main St., LeRoy

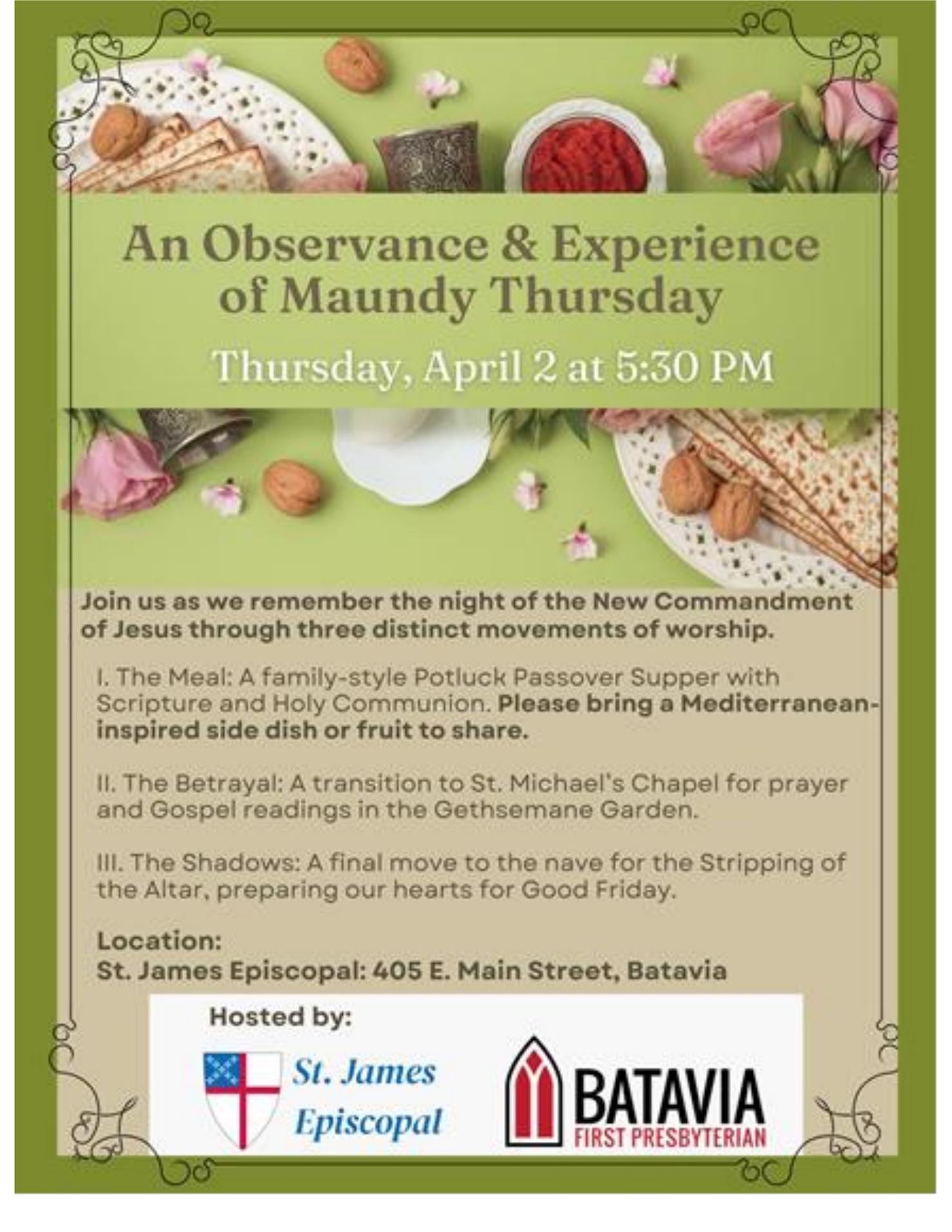
More information at [stmarksleroy.org](http://stmarksleroy.org)



This project is made possible with funds from the Statewide Community Regrant Program, a regrant program of the New York State Council on the Arts with the support of the office of the Governor and the New York State Legislature and administered by GO ART!



2026



## An Observance & Experience of Maundy Thursday

Thursday, April 2 at 5:30 PM



Join us as we remember the night of the New Commandment  
of Jesus through three distinct movements of worship.

I. The Meal: A family-style Potluck Passover Supper with  
Scripture and Holy Communion. **Please bring a Mediterranean-  
inspired side dish or fruit to share.**

II. The Betrayal: A transition to St. Michael's Chapel for prayer  
and Gospel readings in the Gethsemane Garden.

III. The Shadows: A final move to the nave for the Stripping of  
the Altar, preparing our hearts for Good Friday.

**Location:**

**St. James Episcopal: 405 E. Main Street, Batavia**

Hosted by:



*St. James*  
*Episcopal*



**BATAVIA**  
FIRST PRESBYTERIAN

## **St. James Calendar**

Sun, February 15	9:00 am - 9:30 am	Zoom Service
	9:00 am	Choir Rehearsal
	10:00 am – 11:15 am	Deacon's service
	11:15 am	Coffee Hour

Mon, February 16	President's Day	Office closed
Tue, February 17	9:00 am – 2:00 pm	Office open
Wed, February 18	9:00 am – 2:00 pm	Office open
	7:00 am – 9:00 am	Ashes to go
	6:30 pm	Choir Rehearsal
Thu, February 19	9:00 am – 12:00 pm	Office open
	11:00 am – 2:00 pm	Thrift store open
Fri, February 20		Office closed
Sun, February 22	9:00 am – 9:30 am	Zoom Service
	9:00 am	Choir Rehearsal
	10:00 am – 11:15 am	Liturgy of the Word
	10:15 am	Sunday School

### **Zoom meetings use the following link:**

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/8085432266?pwd=ZIBCZEI0WDQ1Szk5TEF2dFILbm4rUT09>

Meeting ID: 808 543 2266 Passcode: zrXG3y

[canonjohnnie@gmail.com](mailto: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](mailto: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.*

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Name

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Other family members

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**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](mailto:canonjohnnie@gmail.com)

The Rev. Deacon Diane Cox  
Faith Community Nurse  
[dscox@rochester.rr.com](mailto:dscox@rochester.rr.com)

John Novak  
Organist/Choir Director

Bobbi Jo Voelker  
Administrator

### Wardens:

Jo-Ann Bestine, (585) 409-0031 [jbistine152@rochester.rr.com](mailto:jbistine152@rochester.rr.com)  
Tim Thomas, (585) 754-6449 [tthomas2522@gmail.com](mailto:tthomas2522@gmail.com)

### Vestry:

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  
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