

ST. JAMES EPISCOPAL CHURCH

January 12, 2025

The First Sunday after the Epiphany—The Baptism of our Lord

10:15am: Service of Holy Eucharist, Rite II with Holy Baptism

The Word of God

Organ Voluntary

Impromptu, Op. 78, No. 1
Played by Sean Price, organ

Samuel Coleridge-Taylor
(1875-1912)

The flowers this Sunday are given by Nina Steadman
to the glory of God and in loving memory of:
Anaya Popovich and Calista Steadman

Please stand

Processional Hymn

As with gladness men of old

Hymn 119

The Dedication & Blessing of the Holy Communion Class (see insert)

A Prayer for Children (*Children process to their classrooms*)

Almighty God, heavenly Father, you have blessed us with the joy and care of children: Give us calm strength and patient wisdom as we bring them up, that we may teach them to love whatever is just and true and good, following the example of our Savior Jesus Christ. Amen.

The Greeting

BCP Page 299

Collect of the Day

Celebrant: The Lord be with you.
People: **And also with you.**
Celebrant: Let us pray:

Father in heaven, who at the baptism of Jesus in the River Jordan proclaimed him your beloved Son and anointed him with the Holy Spirit: Grant that all who are baptized into his Name may keep the covenant they have made, and boldly confess him as Lord and Savior; who with you and the Holy Spirit lives and reigns, one God, in glory everlasting. **Amen.**

Leader: Behold! Listen!
Congregation: **This is important!**

Collect for the Community (*Read together in unison*)

Gracious God, strengthen in us the two values that we hold central as a Christian Community. These values are inspired by Jesus' two great commandments. First, we love God or something greater than ourselves with all our hearts and mind, and second we commit to loving our neighbor as we love ourselves. There is no boundary or condition to our love and commitment to God or to our neighbor, no matter who they may be. All are welcome in this place. Amen.

Please be seated for the readings

The Old Testament Reading

A reading from the Prophet Isaiah

Isaiah 43:1-7

Thus says the Lord, he who created you, O Jacob, he who formed you, O Israel: Do not fear, for I have redeemed you; I have called you by name, you are mine. When you pass through the waters, I will be with you; and through the rivers, they shall not overwhelm you; when you walk through fire you shall not be burned, and the flame shall not consume you. For I am the Lord your God, the Holy One of Israel, your Savior. I give Egypt as your ransom, Ethiopia and Seba in exchange for you. Because you are precious in my sight, and honored, and I love you, I give people in return for you, nations in exchange for your life. Do not fear, for I am with you; I will bring your offspring from the east, and from the west I will gather you; I will say to the north, "Give them up," and to the south, "Do not withhold; bring my sons from far away and my daughters from the end of the earth~ everyone who is called by my name, whom I created for my glory, whom I formed and made."

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

The Psalm (*Read responsively by the half-verse*)

Psalm 29

- 1 Ascribe to the LORD, you gods, * **ascribe to the LORD glory and strength.**
- 2 Ascribe to the LORD the glory due his Name; * **worship the LORD in the beauty of holiness.**
- 3 The voice of the LORD is upon the waters; the God of glory thunders; * **the LORD is upon the mighty waters.**
- 4 The voice of the LORD is a powerful voice; * **the voice of the LORD is a voice of splendor.**
- 5 The voice of the LORD breaks the cedar trees; * **the LORD breaks the cedars of Lebanon;**
- 6 He makes Lebanon skip like a calf, * **and Mount Hermon like a young wild ox.**
- 7 The voice of the LORD splits the flames of fire; the voice of the LORD shakes the wilderness; * **the LORD shakes the wilderness of Kadesh.**
- 8 The voice of the LORD makes the oak trees writhe * **and strips the forests bare.**
- 9 And in the temple of the LORD * **all are crying, "Glory!"**
- 10 The LORD sits enthroned above the flood; * **the LORD sits enthroned as King for evermore.**
- 11 The LORD shall give strength to his people; * **the LORD shall give his people the blessing of peace.**

The Epistle

Acts 8:14-17

A reading from the Acts of the Apostles

When the apostles at Jerusalem heard that Samaria had accepted the word of God, they sent Peter and John to them. The two went down and prayed for them that they might receive the Holy Spirit (for as yet the Spirit had not come upon any of them; they had only been baptized in the name of the Lord Jesus). Then Peter and John laid their hands on them, and they received the Holy Spirit.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Sequence Hymn

The sinless one to Jordan came

Hymn 120

The Holy Gospel

Luke 3:15-17, 21-22

The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Luke

As the people were filled with expectation, and all were questioning in their hearts concerning John, whether he might be the Messiah, John answered all of them by saying, "I baptize you with water; but one who is more powerful than I is coming; I am not worthy to untie the thong of his sandals. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire. His winnowing fork is in his hand, to clear his threshing floor and to gather the wheat into his granary; but the chaff he will burn with unquenchable fire." Now when all the people were baptized, and when Jesus also had been baptized and was praying, the heaven was opened, and the Holy Spirit descended upon him in bodily form like a dove. And a voice came from heaven, "You are my Son, the Beloved; with you I am well pleased."

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to You, Lord Christ.

The Sermon

The Rev. Audrey Hasselbrook

The Baptism

Baptismal Booklet or BCP Page 301

We welcome into the family of God:

Millie May Cliff

The Sharing of the Peace

Celebrant The peace of the Lord be always with you.

People **And also with you.**

Announcements

The Holy Communion

Offertory Anthem	These are they which follow the Lamb <i>Sung by the St. James Choir</i>	<i>John Goss (1800-1880)</i>
Doxology	<i>Hymn 380, Vs. 3</i>	
	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.	
Eucharistic Prayer B		BCP Page 367
Sanctus and Benedictus		<i>Hymnal S-125</i>
The Fraction Anthem	Alleluia: Christ our Passover	<i>Hymnal S-155</i>
The Invitation		
	<i>Celebrant:</i> The Gifts of God for the People of God. Take them in remembrance that Christ died for you, and feed on him in your hearts by faith, with thanksgiving.	
Hymn for Communion	Deck thyself, my soul, with gladness	<i>Hymn 339</i>
A Prayer for Spiritual Communion		
	Almighty God, we believe that you are truly present in this Holy Sacrament. Whether we can be at your table or not, we unite ourselves with you and embrace you with all our hearts, our souls, and our minds. Let nothing separate us from you; let us serve you in this life until, by your grace, we come to your glorious kingdom and unending peace. Amen.	
Post-Communion Prayer		
	<i>Celebrant:</i> Let us pray	
	<i>People:</i> 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 and Benediction		
Closing Hymn	God the Omnipotent	<i>Hymn 569</i>
Dismissal		

ST. JAMES EPISCOPAL CHURCH

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OFFICE HOURS: MONDAY—FRIDAY: 10AM—3PM

LINK TO WEBSITE



The Rev. C. Melissa Hall, Rector

The Rev. Audrey Hasselbrook, Assistant Rector

Sean Price, Director of Music Ministries

The Rev. Deacon Jill Singleton, Parish Secretary

Zachary Zembower, Videographer

Stephen Sutton, Building & Grounds

The Rev. Dr. Walter Lewis, Assisting Priest

Martha Boughner, Verger

Bettylou O'Dell, Business Manager

Cathlyn Robinson, MSN, RN, Parish Nurse

Bruce Tomo, Building & Grounds

The St. James Vestry

Michael Porcelli (Senior Warden)

John Rollo (Treasurer)

Martha Boughner

Kerri McMahon

Joanne Torrisi

Karen Mingo-Campbell

Romesh Sukhdeo

Angela Bylancik (Junior Warden)

Susan Cancelosi (Assistant Treasurer)

Tara Lewis

Phil Delp

Richard Schmermund

Enver Acevedo

Angela Pagliaro

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- * **Prayer Requests:** Call or e-mail Rev. Audrey with prayer requests.
- * **Church Office Hours:** We are open from 10am—3pm Monday—Friday
- * **COFFEE HOUR!!** Have you been enjoying our lively coffee hours? Please consider sponsoring one! You can mark a birthday, anniversary, baptism or other special occasion. We are looking for sponsors for January to mid April. Please speak to Barbara Boehm or email her at barbaradrakeboehm@gmail.com
- * **Little Free Pantry on the Front lawn:** We are in need of sources of protein, especially canned tuna, meats, and peanut butter. Donations can be brought to the church.
- * **Piano Re-Dedication and Blessing:** Join us Groundhog Day, **Sunday, Feb. 2nd at 3pm** as we formally celebrate the full renovation of our Steinway Model L grand piano. Our music director, Sean Price will present a recital that showcases the capabilities of the instrument and Rev. Melissa will bless it for its liturgical use.
- * **Chili Cook-off on Sunday, January 19th** after the 10:15am service. Enter your favorite chili into the competition (prepare enough for 8-10 people) or come join us for a lunch with sides prepared by our friends from the Lighthouse. Help the thrift store, make friendship bracelets, work on the puzzle project.

THE DEDICATION AND BLESSING OF THE HOLY COMMUNION CLASS

Dear Olivia, in your classes you have learned about Jesus, God's love for all people, and the importance of your church community in your life . Will you do your best to continue to read stories from the Bible, say your prayers, be kind and honest, and helpful to the people around you?

Class: **I will.**

Clergy: Let us pray:

Gracious God strengthen Olivia Fernandes as she receives the bread and wine of your holy meal. Help her to be the best she can be each and every day.

Clergy: (to the congregation) Will all you who witness these promises do all in your power to support this child in her life in Christ?

People: **We will, with God's help.**

Clergy: (blessing the children)

May Almighty God fill you with courage, wisdom and joy. **Amen.**

May Jesus Christ, your strong companion and never-failing friend, make you strong in faith and defend you on every side. **Amen.**

May the Holy Spirit guide you in truth and peace. **Amen.**

And may the blessing of God Almighty, Creator, Redeemer and Sustainer, rest upon you this day and for evermore. **Amen.**