

ST. JAMES EPISCOPAL CHURCH

February 11, 2024

The Last Sunday after the Epiphany—Scout Sunday

Service of Holy Eucharist, Rite II

The Word of God

Voluntary

Go Down, Moses
Played by Sean Price, organ

Traditional Spiritual
arr. Sean Price

The flowers this Sunday are given by John & Katherine Rollo
to the glory of God and in celebration of the life of:

Joseph Rollo

Please stand

Processional Hymn

Alleluia! Sing to Jesus!

Hymn 460

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

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The Song of Praise

Hymnal S-280

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.

Collect of the Day

Celebrant: The Lord be with you.

People: **And also with you.**

Celebrant: 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.

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 Contemporary Reading

A'n't I A Woman (Sojourner Truth)

An address to the women's suffrage movement in 1851

... And a'n't I a woman? Look at me! Look at my arm! (and she bared her right arm to the shoulder, showing her tremendous muscular power)! I have ploughed, and planted, and gathered into barns, and no man could head me! And a'n't I a woman? I could work as much and eat as much as a man – when I could get it – and bear de lash as well! And a'n't I a woman? I have borne thirteen chilern, and seen 'em mos' all sold off to slavery, and when I cried our with my mother's grief, none but Jesus heard me! And a'n't I a woman?

Here ends the reading.

The First Reading

2 Kings 2:1-12

A reading from the Second Book of Kings

When the Lord was about to take Elijah up to heaven by a whirlwind, Elijah and Elisha were on their way from Gilgal. Elijah said to Elisha, "Stay here; for the Lord has sent me as far as Bethel." But Elisha said, "As the Lord lives, and as you yourself live, I will not leave you." So they went down to Bethel. The company of prophets who were in Bethel came out to Elisha, and said to him, "Do you know that today the Lord will take your master away from you?" And he said, "Yes, I know; keep silent." Elijah said to him, "Elisha, stay here; for the Lord has sent me to Jericho." But he said, "As the Lord lives, and as you yourself live, I will not leave you." So they came to Jericho. The company of prophets who were at Jericho drew near to Elisha, and said to him, "Do you know that today the Lord will take your master away from you?" And he answered, "Yes, I know; be silent." Then Elijah said to him, "Stay here; for the Lord has sent me to the Jordan." But he said, "As the Lord lives, and as you yourself live, I will not leave you." So the two of them went on. Fifty men of the company of prophets also went, and stood at some distance from them, as they both were standing by the Jordan. Then Elijah took his mantle and rolled it up, and struck the water; the water was parted to the one side and to the other, until the two of them crossed on dry ground. When they had crossed, Elijah said to Elisha, "Tell me what I may do for you, before I am taken from you." Elisha said, "Please let me inherit a double share of your spirit." He responded, "You have asked a hard thing; yet, if you see me as I am being taken from you, it will be granted you; if not, it will not." As they continued walking and talking, a chariot of fire and horses of fire separated the two of them, and Elijah ascended in a whirlwind into heaven. Elisha kept watching and crying out, "Father, father! The chariots of Israel and its horsemen!" But when he could no longer see him, he grasped his own clothes and tore them in two pieces.

The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

The Epistle

2 Corinthians 4:3-6

A reading from Paul's second letter to the Corinthians

Even if our gospel is veiled, it is veiled to those who are perishing. In their case the god of this world has blinded the minds of the unbelievers, to keep them from seeing the light of the gospel of the glory of Christ, who is the image of God. For we do not proclaim ourselves; we proclaim Jesus Christ as Lord and ourselves as your slaves for Jesus' sake. For it is the God who said, "Let light shine out of darkness," who has shone in our hearts to give the light of the knowledge of the glory of God in the face of Jesus Christ.

The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

Please stand

Sequence Hymn

Thy strong word did cleave the darkness

Hymn 381

The Holy Gospel

Mark 9: 2-9

The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Mark

Jesus took with him Peter and James and John, and led them up a high mountain apart, by themselves. And he was transfigured before them, and his clothes became dazzling white, such as no one on earth could bleach them. And there appeared to them Elijah with Moses, who were talking with Jesus. Then Peter said to Jesus, "Rabbi, it is good for us to be here; let us make three dwellings, one for you, one for Moses, and one for Elijah." He did not know what to say, for they were terrified. Then a cloud overshadowed them, and from the cloud there came a voice, "This is my Son, the Beloved; listen to him!" Suddenly when they looked around, they saw no one with them any more, but only Jesus. As they were coming down the mountain, he ordered them to tell no one about what they had seen, until after the Son of Man had risen from the dead.

The Gospel of the Lord. **Praise to You, Lord Christ.**

Please be seated

The Sermon

The Rev. C. Melissa Hall

The Nicene Creed (*Recited In Unison, standing*)

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Prayers of the People

Form IV

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Concluding Collect

Confession and Absolution (*standing or kneeling*)

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The Sharing of the Peace

Celebrant The peace of the Lord be always with you.
People **And also with you.**

Welcoming /Announcements

Scout Pledge/Law/Promise

The Holy Communion

Offertory Anthem

Steal Away

Traditional Spiritual

Sung by the Saint James Choir

Doxology

Hymn 380, Verse 3

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

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Sanctus and Benedictus

Hymnal S-125

The Fraction Anthem

Alleluia: Christ our Passover

Hymnal S-155

The Invitation

Celebrant: 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.

Communion Hymn

Lord of all being

Hymn 419

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

Celebrant: Let us pray

People: 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, Benediction, and Dismissal

The Burying of the Alleluias

Please stand

Closing Hymn

Christ upon the mountain peak

Hymn 129

Coffee hour today is the Annual Pancake Breakfast; please join us after service in the Parish Hall!

LINK TO WEBSITE



ST. JAMES EPISCOPAL CHURCH

581 VALLEY ROAD, UPPER MONTCLAIR, NJ 07043

(973) 744-0270

[HTTP://WWW.STJAMESEPISCOPAL.ORG](http://www.stjamesepiscopal.org)

PARISHSECRETARY@STJAMESEPISCOPAL.ORG

OFFICE HOURS: MONDAY—FRIDAY: 10AM—3PM

The Rev. C. Melissa Hall, Rector

The Rev. Audrey Hasselbrook, Assistant Rector

Mr. Sean Price, Director of Music Ministries

The Rev. Deacon Jill Singleton, Parish Secretary

Mr. Zachary Zembower, Videographer

The Rev. Dr. Walter Lewis, Assisting Priest

Ms. Martha Boughner, Verger

Ms. Bettylou O'Dell, Business Manager

Ms. Cathlyn Robinson, MSN, RN, Parish Nurse

The St. James Vestry

Charlotte Judd (Senior Warden)

Martha Boughner

Kerri McMahon

Joanne Torrisi

Karen Mingo-Campbell

Romesh Sukhdeo

Michael Porcelli (Junior Warden)

Tara Lewis

Angela Bylancik

Richard Schmermund

Enver Acevedo

Angela Pagliaro

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- * **Prayer Requests:** Call or e-mail Rev. Audrey with prayer requests.
- * **E-Newsletter:** The church office sends out a weekly e-news to keep everyone up to date. If you don't receive it, please email the church office: stjamesmontclairoffice@gmail.com
- * **Ash Wednesday Services:** 12noon and 7pm (also on Zoom), February 14th
- * **Church Office Hours:** We are open from 10am—3pm Monday—Friday
- * **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.
- * **Pancake Brunch:** TODAY following the 10:15am service. Sign-up sheet in the hall

2024 BLACK HERITAGE MONTH

During the month of February we recognize the contributions and influence of Black Americans to the history, culture, and achievements for the United States in our prayers and music.

Wednesday, February 28, 6:00pm - 7:30pm Black History Month Poetry Workshop (Ages 12 - 18) at the Montclair Public Library

Feb 18, 12 p.m, Guided Tour: Eyewitness to Black History. 110 Orange Road in Montclair, at the Crane House and Museum

Thursday, Feb, 29 -Leap Day Concert, A Celebration of African American Women Composers featuring Jessica Valiente, 8 p.m. .at the Unitarian Universalist Congregation in Montclair.

THE H.O.S.T CORNER (HERE'S ONE SMALL THING)

I will do this one small thing:

- Write a letter about gun safety to your elected officials
- Come to church as often as I can
- Volunteer for the parish's food insufficiency program
- Sign up for the choir
- Sign up your children for church programming
- Donate food to the soup kitchens
- Give one hour in our thrift store
- Say grace at the dinner table
- Say prayers thanking God for the day at waking and sleeping
- Give one Sunday to help gather this community in worship by being an usher
- Be a Church Reader
- Learn the names of our confirmation class
- Volunteer to work with our teens and youth.
- Offer a ride to church for someone who needs it
- Make a short weekly phone call to the homebound
- Help with social media posts
- Reach out by email to welcome a new member
- Invite a friend to Church
- Talk about our church's good works with others
- Show up to events at the church.
- Say hello to a neighbor
- Volunteer to keep the outdoor food pantry stocked.
- Learn the names of three teens or children in our church
- Say Hello to three teens or children in our church
- Become informed about our town government

Be good stewards.

We urge you to keep up to date with your financial support of the church.