

ST. JAMES EPISCOPAL CHURCH

February 2, 2025

The Presentation of our Lord—Scout Sunday

Service of Holy Eucharist, Rite II

The Word of God

Piano Voluntary

Piano Sonata, K. 545 (Andante)

Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart

Played by Sean Price, organ

(1756-1791)

The flowers this Sunday are given by Bettylou O'Dell and Tim Perry
to the glory of God and in thanksgiving for:

Morgan Mitchell's Birthday and in celebration of the birth of Simone Althea O'Dell on 1/4/25.

Please stand and join in singing the hymn

Processional Hymn

Sing we of the blessed Mother

Hymn 278

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 355

The Song of Praise

Hymnal S-278

Collect of the Day

Celebrant: The Lord be with you.

People: **And also with you.**

Celebrant: Let us pray:

Almighty and everliving God, we humbly pray that, as your only-begotten Son was this day presented in the temple, so we may be presented to you with pure and clean hearts by Jesus Christ our Lord; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.
Amen.

Leader: Behold! Listen!

Congregation: **This is important!**

Collect for the Human Family

BCP Page 815

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

Malachi 3:1-4

A reading from the Prophet Malachi

Thus says the Lord, See, I am sending my messenger to prepare the way before me, and the Lord whom you seek will suddenly come to his temple. The messenger of the covenant in whom you delight—indeed, he is coming, says the Lord of hosts. But who can endure the day of his coming, and who can stand when he appears? For he is like a refiner's fire and like fullers' soap; he will sit as a refiner and purifier of silver, and he will purify the descendants of Levi and refine them like gold and silver, until they present offerings to the Lord in righteousness. Then the offering of Judah and Jerusalem will be pleasing to the Lord as in the days of old and as in former years.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

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

Psalm 84

- 1 How dear to me is your dwelling, O LORD of hosts! * **My soul has a desire and longing for the courts of the LORD; my heart and my flesh rejoice in the living God.**
- 2 The sparrow has found her a house and the swallow a nest where she may lay her young; * **by the side of your altars, O LORD of hosts, my King and my God.**
- 3 Happy are they who dwell in your house! * **they will always be praising you.**
- 4 Happy are the people whose strength is in you! * **whose hearts are set on the pilgrims' way.**
- 5 Those who go through the desolate valley will find it a place of springs, * **for the early rains have covered it with pools of water.**
- 6 They will climb from height to height, * **and the God of gods will reveal himself in Zion.**
- 7 LORD God of hosts, hear my prayer; * **hearken, O God of Jacob.**
- 8 Behold our defender, O God; * **and look upon the face of your Anointed.**
- 9 For one day in your courts is better than a thousand in my own room, * **and to stand at the threshold of the house of my God than to dwell in the tents of the wicked.**
- 10 For the LORD God is both sun and shield; * **he will give grace and glory;**
- 11 No good thing will the LORD withhold * **from those who walk with integrity.**
- 12 O LORD of hosts, * **happy are they who put their trust in you!**

The Epistle

Hebrews 2:14-18

A reading from the letter to the Hebrews

Since God's children share flesh and blood, Jesus himself likewise shared the same things, so that through death he might destroy the one who has the power of death, that is, the devil, and free those who all their lives were held in slavery by the fear of death. For it is clear that he did not come to help angels, but the descendants of Abraham. Therefore he had to become like his brothers and sisters in every respect, so that he might be a merciful and faithful high priest in the service of God, to make a sacrifice of atonement for the sins of the people. Because he himself was tested by what he suffered, he is able to help those who are being tested.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

The Holy Gospel*Luke 2:22-40**The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Luke***Glory to You, Lord Christ.**

When the time came for their purification according to the law of Moses, the parents of Jesus brought him up to Jerusalem to present him to the Lord (as it is written in the law of the Lord, "Every firstborn male shall be designated as holy to the Lord"), and they offered a sacrifice according to what is stated in the law of the Lord, "a pair of turtledoves or two young pigeons." Now there was a man in Jerusalem whose name was Simeon; this man was righteous and devout, looking forward to the consolation of Israel, and the Holy Spirit rested on him. It had been revealed to him by the Holy Spirit that he would not see death before he had seen the Lord's Messiah. Guided by the Spirit, Simeon came into the temple; and when the parents brought in the child Jesus, to do for him what was customary under the law, Simeon took him in his arms and praised God, saying, "Master, now you are dismissing your servant in peace, according to your word; for my eyes have seen your salvation, which you have prepared in the presence of all peoples, a light for revelation to the Gentiles and for glory to your people Israel." And the child's father and mother were amazed at what was being said about him. Then Simeon blessed them and said to his mother Mary, "This child is destined for the falling and the rising of many in Israel, and to be a sign that will be opposed so that the inner thoughts of many will be revealed~ and a sword will pierce your own soul too." There was also a prophet, Anna the daughter of Phanuel, of the tribe of Asher. She was of a great age, having lived with her husband seven years after her marriage, then as a widow to the age of eighty-four. She never left the temple but worshiped there with fasting and prayer night and day. At that moment she came, and began to praise God and to speak about the child to all who were looking for the redemption of Jerusalem. When they had finished everything required by the law of the Lord, they returned to Galilee, to their own town of Nazareth. The child grew and became strong, filled with wisdom; and the favor of God was upon him.

The Gospel of the Lord. **Praise to You, Lord Christ.****The Sermon****The Rev. Audrey Hasselbrook****The Nicene Creed** (*Recited In Unison*)**BCP Page 358****Prayers of the People****Form IV****BCP Page 388****Concluding Collect****Confession and Absolution****BCP Page 360****The Sharing of the Peace & Announcements****Anniversary & Birthday Blessings****Scout Pledge/Law/Promise**

The Holy Communion

Offertory Anthem

Verleih uns Frieden
Sung by the St. James Choir

Felix Mendelssohn
(1809-1847)

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

BCP Page 367

Sanctus and Benedictus

Hymnal S-129

The Fraction Anthem

Hymnal S-163

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.

Hymn for Communion

Humbly I adore thee

Hymn 314

Motet

For the Beauty of the Earth
Sung by the Treble Voices of the St. James Choir

Curtis York
(1916-1983)

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 and Benediction

Recessional Hymn

O Zion, tune thy voice

Hymn 543

Dismissal

Coffee Hour today is sponsored by the Scouts

ST. JAMES EPISCOPAL CHURCH

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OFFICE HOURS: MONDAY—FRIDAY: 10AM—3PM



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
- * **Church Security:** For security, the doors to the parking lot and driveway are locked at the start of Sunday services. Please enter through the tower doors, which remain open during services.
- * **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.
- * **Newcomers & Baptismal Family Brunch:** TODAY immediately following the 10:15am service in the Guild Room.
- * **Piano Re-Dedication and Blessing:** Join us Groundhog Day, TODAY, 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.
- * **Soup Kitchen: Saturday, February 8th.** We need your help at the Christine's Soup Kitchen. Scan QR Code below to sign up!

