

THE EPISCOPAL CHURCH OF SAINT JAMES

September 17, 2023

The Sixteenth Sunday after Pentecost

Service of Holy Eucharist, Rite II

The Word of God

Voluntary Oboe Concerto in F, BWV 1053R (Allegro) *Johann Sebastian Bach*
Played by Randall Wolfgang, oboe and Sean Price, organ (1685-1750)

Please stand

Processional Hymn All Are Welcome! *Bulletin Page 9*

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

Celebrant Blessed be God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.
People **And Blessed be God's kingdom, now and forever.**

Almighty God, to you all hearts are open, all desires 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 Song of Praise

Hymnal S-278

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:

Almighty God, you have so linked our lives one with another that all we do affects, for good or ill, all other lives: So guide us in the work we do, that we may do it not for self alone, but for the common good; and, as we seek a proper return for our own labor, make us mindful of the rightful aspirations of other workers, and arouse our concern for those who are out of work; 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 First Reading

Exodus 3:1-15

A reading from the Book of Exodus

Moses was keeping the flock of his father-in-law Jethro, the priest of Midian; he led his flock beyond the wilderness, and came to Horeb, the mountain of God. There the angel of the Lord appeared to him in a flame of fire out of a bush; he looked, and the bush was blazing, yet it was not consumed. Then Moses said, "I must turn aside and look at this great sight, and see why the bush is not burned up." When the Lord saw that he had turned aside to see, God called to him out of the bush, "Moses, Moses!" And he said, "Here I am." Then he said, "Come no closer! Remove the sandals from your feet, for the place on which you are standing is holy ground." He said further, "I am the God of your father, the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob." And Moses hid his face, for he was afraid to look at God. Then the Lord said, "I have observed the misery of my people who are in Egypt; I have heard their cry on account of their taskmasters. Indeed, I know their sufferings, and I have come down to deliver them from the Egyptians, and to bring them up out of that land to a good and broad land, a land flowing with milk and honey, to the country of the Canaanites, the Hittites, the Amorites, the Perizzites, the Hivites, and the Jebusites. The cry of the Israelites has now come to me; I have also seen how the Egyptians oppress them. So come, I will send you to Pharaoh to bring my people, the Israelites, out of Egypt." But Moses said to God, "Who am I that I should go to Pharaoh, and bring the Israelites out of Egypt?" He said, "I will be with you; and this shall be the sign for you that it is I who sent you: when you have brought the people out of Egypt, you shall worship God on this mountain." But Moses said to God, "If I come to the Israelites and say to them, 'The God of your ancestors has sent me to you,' and they ask me, 'What is his name?' what shall I say to them?" God said to Moses, "I am who I am." He said further, "Thus you shall say to the Israelites, 'I am has sent me to you.'" God also said to Moses, "Thus you shall say to the Israelites, 'The Lord, the God of your ancestors, the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob, has sent me to you': This is my name forever, and this my title for all generations.

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

The Psalm (*Read responsively by whole verse*)

Psalm 105:1-6, 23-26, 45c

1 Give thanks to the LORD and call upon his Name; * make known his deeds among the peoples.

2 **Sing to him, sing praises to him, * and speak of all his marvelous works.**

3 Glory in his holy Name; * let the hearts of those who seek the LORD rejoice.

4 **Search for the LORD and his strength; * continually seek his face.**

5 Remember the marvels he has done, * his wonders and the judgments of his mouth,

6 **O offspring of Abraham his servant, * O children of Jacob his chosen.**

23 Israel came into Egypt, * and Jacob became a sojourner in the land of Ham.



24 The LORD made his people exceedingly fruitful; * he made them stronger than their enemies;
25 Whose heart he turned, so that they hated his people, * and dealt unjustly with his servants.
26 He sent Moses his servant, * and Aaron whom he had chosen.
45 Hallelujah!

The Epistle

Romans 12:9-21

A reading from Paul's letter to the Romans

Let love be genuine; hate what is evil, hold fast to what is good; love one another with mutual affection; outdo one another in showing honor. Do not lag in zeal, be ardent in spirit, serve the Lord. Rejoice in hope, be patient in suffering, persevere in prayer. Contribute to the needs of the saints; extend hospitality to strangers. Bless those who persecute you; bless and do not curse them. Rejoice with those who rejoice, weep with those who weep. Live in harmony with one another; do not be haughty, but associate with the lowly; do not claim to be wiser than you are. Do not repay anyone evil for evil, but take thought for what is noble in the sight of all. If it is possible, so far as it depends on you, live peaceably with all. Beloved, never avenge yourselves, but leave room for the wrath of God; for it is written, "Vengeance is mine, I will repay, says the Lord." No, "if your enemies are hungry, feed them; if they are thirsty, give them something to drink; for by doing this you will heap burning coals on their heads." Do not be overcome by evil, but overcome evil with good.

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

Please Stand

Sequence Hymn

Lord, make us servants of your peace

Bulletin Page 10

The Holy Gospel

Matthew 16:21-28

The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew

Glory to you, Lord Christ.

Jesus began to show his disciples that he must go to Jerusalem and undergo great suffering at the hands of the elders and chief priests and scribes, and be killed, and on the third day be raised. And Peter took him aside and began to rebuke him, saying, "God forbid it, Lord! This must never happen to you." But he turned and said to Peter, "Get behind me, Satan! You are a stumbling block to me; for you are setting your mind not on divine things but on human things." Then Jesus told his disciples, "If any want to become my followers, let them deny themselves and take up their cross and follow me. For those who want to save their life will lose it, and those who lose their life for my sake will find it. For what will it profit them if they gain the whole world but forfeit their life? Or what will they give in return for their life? "For the Son of Man is to come with his angels in the glory of his Father, and then he will repay everyone for what has been done. Truly I tell you, there are some standing here who will not taste death before they see the Son of Man coming in his kingdom."

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

Please be seated

The Sermon

The Rev. C. Melissa Hall

Please stand

The Nicene Creed (*Recited In Unison*)

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 human. 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.

Prayers of the People

Form III

Father, we pray for your holy Catholic Church;
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;
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; especially The victims of natural disasters and victims of violence, the people of Ukraine, the People of Maui, the people of Marrakech, Morgan, Rilee, Margie, Peter, Jim, George, Doug, Helen
That they may be delivered from their distress.

Give to the departed eternal rest. (*Please pause for names*)
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.

For the contributions and influence of Hispanic Americans that have enriched our common lives together. **We give thanks.**

Let us pray for our own needs and those of others.
Silence

We invite you now to make your own prayers and thanksgivings aloud or in the privacy of your heart.

Holy, Holy, Holy Lord, God of power and might,
heaven and earth are full of your glory.

Hymnal S-127

Hosanna in the highest.

Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.

Hosanna in the highest.

Holy and gracious Father: In your infinite love you made us for yourself, and, when we had fallen into sin and become subject to evil and death, you, in your mercy, sent Jesus Christ, your only and eternal Son, to share our human nature, to live and die as one of us, to reconcile us to you, the God and Father of all. He stretched out his arms upon the cross, and offered himself, in obedience to your will, a perfect sacrifice for the whole world.

On the night he was handed over to suffering and death, our Lord Jesus Christ took bread; and when he had given thanks to you, he broke it, and gave it to his disciples, and said, "Take, eat: This is my Body, which is given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me."

After supper he took the cup of wine; and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, and said, "Drink this, all of you: This is my Blood of the new Covenant, which is shed for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me."

Therefore we proclaim the mystery of faith:

Celebrant and People:

Christ has died.

Christ is risen.

Christ will come again.

We celebrate the memorial of our redemption, O Father, in this sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving. Recalling his death, resurrection, and ascension, we offer you these gifts. Sanctify them by your Holy Spirit to be for your people the Body and Blood of your Son, the holy food and drink of new and unending life in him. Sanctify us also that we may faithfully receive this holy Sacrament, and serve you in unity, constancy, and peace; and at the last day bring us with all your saints into the joy of your eternal kingdom.

All this we ask through your Son Jesus Christ: By him, and with him, and in him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit all honor and glory is yours, Almighty Father, now and for ever. **AMEN.**

And now, as our Savior Christ has taught us, we are bold to say,

The Lord's Prayer

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, for ever and ever. Amen.

The Fraction Anthem

Hymnal S-156

Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us
Therefore let us keep the feast.

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.

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.

Communion Hymn

This is the hour of banquet and of song

Hymn 316

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

Earth and All Stars

Hymn 412

Dismissal

Please join us for the Parish Picnic on the Front Lawn

THE EPISCOPAL CHURCH OF SAINT JAMES

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(973) 744-0270

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

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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

- * A warm welcome to visitors and newcomers.
Please make yourself known to the clergy and sign the guest book to stay in touch.
- * Church Office Hours: We are open from 10am–3pm Monday–Friday
- * **St. James Players present “Antigone”:** Join us for this year’s performance on September 15, 16, 22, 23 at 7pm and September 17 and 24th at 3pm in the church. Admission is free of charge but donations are welcome. See bulletin insert for more information.
- * **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 put in the Little Pantry itself or brought into the tower and put on the shelves. See the insert in the bulletin today.
- * **Walk to Defeat ALS** - Help find improved treatments and a cure for ALS by donating to the foundation, offering prayers for those with ALS and their families, or joining the walk on Sept 30 along the promenade in Long Branch. You can join Joan and Jim Griffin's team using this link <http://secure.als-ny.org/goto/TheGriffinsoftheLair>.
- * **Steinway Piano Restoration:** Our Steinway grand piano, which has served the parish for many years, is on its last legs. We have sent it out for a full restoration because it is a fine and valuable instrument. We are asking the congregation to help with restoration costs by writing a check payable to St. James Church with "piano" in the memo line or donating electronically with Zelle (email address odell.bettylou@gmail.com), and by attending musical fundraisers in the months ahead.
- * **Confirmation Class** - Our first confirmation class meets Monday, Sept 18 from 5 to 6:30 p.m. in the church kitchen. Dinner provided.
- * **Fisher Kids** - Youth Group for Children in grades 3-6 meets Monday, Sept. 25 from 5 to 6:30 p.m. in the church kitchen. Join us for a project, games, and dinner. Please RSVP to Rev. Audrey (ahasselbrook@gmail.com)
- * **First Communion Instruction:** Communion Instruction is available to children in the second grade and older on Sunday mornings from 9:30 to 10 a.m. in the Godly Play classroom (across from the church library). Class dates are 10/15, 10/22, 10/29, 11/5 (make up). Communion Sunday will be celebrated 11/19 during the 10:15 a.m. service. We are meeting between the services so the clergy can be present to the congregation during coffee hour. Contact Rev. Audrey to register (ahasselbrook@gmail.com).

Servers Today: Ushers (8:15am): Alex Langbein
(10:15am): Charlotte Judd, Sam Givens, Dennis Johnston

Lectors (8:15am) - Sean Price & Alex Langbein
(10:15am) - Elle Moser & Dennis Johnston

Acolytes: Oliver Wagner, Wren Delp, Eddie Tobin

HISPANIC HERITAGE MONTH

During the month of September we recognize the contributions and influence of Hispanic Americans to the history, culture, and achievements in our prayers. Heritage Month offerings, including the following, can be found on the Montclair Public Library.

La Placita: Latine Music & Poetry Showcase - Thursday, September 21, 6:30 p.m., Main Library (Plaza)

A Window to Andean Traditions: Panpipe Workshop -Wednesday, September 27, 5:30 p.m., Main Library

For Youth and Teens

Masks of the Americas Workshop (ages 6+) -Saturday, Sept. 16, 12 p.m. or 1:30 p.m., Main Library; Saturday, Oct. 7, 3 p.m., Bellevue Ave. Branch

Folk Music of Colombia (all ages) -Saturday, September 16, 4:30 p.m., Main Library (Plaza)

Decima Poetry Workshop (ages 8+) -Wednesday, Sept. 20, 4 p.m., Main Library

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 Rite 13-ers
- 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.

St. James Little Pantry

Shopping Lists

To help us maintain this vital Ministry, please consider adding some/all of these items to your next food shopping trip. Donations can be brought to the church and left on the racks in the tower. Take one list with you, and pass along the other one to a friend to share the opportunity for more people to help. THANK YOU!!!

Your shopping list. Clip and take with you!

- | | |
|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Canned Tuna or Chicken | <input type="checkbox"/> Canned Stew |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Mac & Cheese dinner | <input type="checkbox"/> Instant Oatmeal cups or packets |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Pasta Sauce (Jar or Can) | <input type="checkbox"/> Rice |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Hearty Canned Soup | <input type="checkbox"/> Beans (canned or dry) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Canned Vegetables | <input type="checkbox"/> Canned fruit |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Jar of Peanut Butter | <input type="checkbox"/> Shelf stable milk (Parmalat) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Dry Pasta | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Breakfast Cereal (full size box) | |

-----Clip the list below and give to a friend!-----

Thank you for supporting the St. James Little Food Pantry. To help us maintain this vital Ministry, please consider adding some/all of these items to your next food shopping trip. Donations can be given to the friend that provided this list to you, or brought to the church. THANK YOU!!!

Your shopping list. Clip and take with you!

- | | |
|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Canned Tuna or Chicken | <input type="checkbox"/> Canned Stew |
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