

THE EPISCOPAL CHURCH OF SAINT JAMES

September 24, 2023

The Seventeenth Sunday after Pentecost

Service of Holy Eucharist, Rite II

The Word of God

Organ Voluntary

Fugue in d-minor, BWV 538b

Johann Sebastian Bach

Played by Sean Price, organ

(1685-1750)

Please stand

Processional Hymn

Glorious things of thee are spoken

Hymn 523

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:

Grant us, Lord, not to be anxious about earthly things, but to love things heavenly; and even now, while we are placed among things that are passing away, to hold fast to those that shall endure; 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 16:2-15

A reading from the Book of Exodus

The whole congregation of the Israelites complained against Moses and Aaron in the wilderness. The Israelites said to them, "If only we had died by the hand of the Lord in the land of Egypt, when we sat by the fleshpots and ate our fill of bread; for you have brought us out into this wilderness to kill this whole assembly with hunger." Then the Lord said to Moses, "I am going to rain bread from heaven for you, and each day the people shall go out and gather enough for that day. In that way I will test them, whether they will follow my instruction or not. On the sixth day, when they prepare what they bring in, it will be twice as much as they gather on other days." So Moses and Aaron said to all the Israelites, "In the evening you shall know that it was the Lord who brought you out of the land of Egypt, and in the morning you shall see the glory of the Lord, because he has heard your complaining against the Lord. For what are we, that you complain against us?" And Moses said, "When the Lord gives you meat to eat in the evening and your fill of bread in the morning, because the Lord has heard the complaining that you utter against him—what are we? Your complaining is not against us but against the Lord." Then Moses said to Aaron, "Say to the whole congregation of the Israelites, 'Draw near to the Lord, for he has heard your complaining.'" And as Aaron spoke to the whole congregation of the Israelites, they looked toward the wilderness, and the glory of the Lord appeared in the cloud. The Lord spoke to Moses and said, "I have heard the complaining of the Israelites; say to them, 'At twilight you shall eat meat, and in the morning you shall have your fill of bread; then you shall know that I am the Lord your God.'" In the evening quails came up and covered the camp; and in the morning there was a layer of dew around the camp. When the layer of dew lifted, there on the surface of the wilderness was a fine flaky substance, as fine as frost on the ground. When the Israelites saw it, they said to one another, "What is it?" For they did not know what it was. Moses said to them, "It is the bread that the Lord has given you to eat."

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

The Psalm (*Read responsively by whole verse*)

Psalm 145:1-8

1 I will exalt you, O God my King, * and bless your Name for ever and ever.

2 Every day will I bless you * and praise your Name for ever and ever.

3 Great is the LORD and greatly to be praised; * there is no end to his greatness.

4 One generation shall praise your works to another * and shall declare your power.

5 I will ponder the glorious splendor of your majesty * and all your marvelous works.

6 They shall speak of the might of your wondrous acts, * and I will tell of your greatness.

7 They shall publish the remembrance of your great goodness; * they shall sing of your righteous deeds.

8 The LORD is gracious and full of compassion, * slow to anger and of great kindness.

The Epistle

Jonah 3:10-4:11

A reading from the Prophet Jonah

When God saw what the people of Nineveh did, how they turned from their evil ways, God changed his mind about the calamity that he had said he would bring upon them; and he did not do it. But this was very displeasing to Jonah, and he became angry. He prayed to the Lord and said, "O Lord! Is not this what I said while I was still in my own country? That is why I fled to Tarshish at the beginning; for I knew that you are a gracious God and merciful, slow to anger, and abounding in steadfast love, and ready to relent from punishing. And now, O Lord, please take my life from me, for it is better for me to die than to live." And the Lord said, "Is it right for you to be angry?" Then Jonah went out of the city and sat down east of the city, and made a booth for himself there. He sat under it in the shade, waiting to see what would become of the city. The Lord God appointed a bush, and made it come up over Jonah, to give shade over his head, to save him from his discomfort; so Jonah was very happy about the bush. But when dawn came up the next day, God appointed a worm that attacked the bush, so that it withered. When the sun rose, God prepared a sultry east wind, and the sun beat down on the head of Jonah so that he was faint and asked that he might die. He said, "It is better for me to die than to live." But God said to Jonah, "Is it right for you to be angry about the bush?" And he said, "Yes, angry enough to die." Then the Lord said, "You are concerned about the bush, for which you did not labor and which you did not grow; it came into being in a night and perished in a night. And should I not be concerned about Nineveh, that great city, in which there are more than a hundred and twenty thousand persons who do not know their right hand from their left, and also many animals?"

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

Please Stand

Sequence Hymn

Shepherd of souls, refresh and bless

Hymn 343

The Holy Gospel

Matthew 20:1-16

The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew

Glory to you, Lord Christ.

Jesus said, "The kingdom of heaven is like a landowner who went out early in the morning to hire laborers for his vineyard. After agreeing with the laborers for the usual daily wage, he sent them into his vineyard. When he went out about nine o'clock, he saw others standing idle in the marketplace; and he said to them, 'You also go into the vineyard, and I will pay you whatever is right.' So they went. When he went out again about noon and about three o'clock, he did the same. And about five o'clock he went out and found others standing around; and he said to them, 'Why are you standing here idle all day?' They said to him, 'Because no one has hired us.' He said to them, 'You also go into the vineyard.' When evening came, the owner of the vineyard said to his manager, 'Call the laborers and give them their pay, beginning with the last and then going to the first.' When those hired about five o'clock came, each of them received the usual daily wage. Now when the first came, they thought they would receive more; but each of them also received the usual daily wage. And when they received it, they grumbled against the landowner, saying, 'These last worked only one hour, and you have made them equal to us who have borne the burden of the day and the scorching heat.' But he replied to one of them, 'Friend, I am doing you no wrong; did you not agree with me for the usual daily wage? Take what belongs to you and go; I choose to give to this last the same as I give to you. Am I not allowed to do what I choose with what belongs to me? Or are you envious because I am generous?' So the last will be first, and the first will be last."

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 Libya, Morgan, Rilee, Margie, Peter, Jim, George, Doug, Helen, Rachelle
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.

Concluding Collect

The Confession and Absolution

Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

Most merciful God, we confess that we have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done, and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We are truly sorry and we humbly repent. For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ, have mercy on us and forgive us; that we may delight in your will, and walk in your ways, to the glory of your Name. Amen.

Celebrant: Almighty God have mercy on you, forgive you all your sins through our Lord Jesus Christ, strengthen you in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep you in eternal life. **Amen.**

The Sharing of the Peace

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

Announcements

The flowers this Sunday are given by Martha Boughner
to the glory of God and in loving memory of:

Pat and James Boughner

The Holy Communion

Offertory Anthem

Draw Us in the Spirit's Tether
Sung by the Saint James Choir

Harold W. Friedell
(1905-1958)

Doxology (*Please stand*)

Hymn 380, Vs. 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 A

Celebrant The Lord be with you
People **And also with you.**
Celebrant Lift up your hearts.
People **We lift them to the Lord.**
Celebrant Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
People **It is right to give him thanks and praise.**

It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth.

Therefore we praise you, joining our voices with Angels and Archangels and with all the company of heaven, who for ever sing this hymn to proclaim the glory of your Name:

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

O Food to pilgrims given

Hymn 309

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

Guide me, O thou great Jehovah

Hymn 690

Dismissal

Please join us for Coffee Hour in the Parish Hall

THE EPISCOPAL CHURCH OF SAINT JAMES

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[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 McMahan

Joanne Torrisi

Karen Mingo-Campbell

Romesh Sukhdeo

Michael Porcelli (Junior Warden)

Tara Lewis

Angela Bylancik

Richard Schmermund

Enver Acevedo

Angela Pagliaro

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.

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
- * **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.
- * **St. Francis Sunday October 1st:** Bring your pets to church for a special pet blessing.
- * **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.
- * **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)
- * **Out of the Darkness Walk:** September is National Suicide Prevention Month. Please consider being a part of our church's team in the American Foundation for Suicide Prevention's Out of the Darkness Walk in Verona on Sunday, October 29. The walk start time is 12:15 so you have plenty of time to get there after our church service.
- * **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): Lisa Wisniewski
(10:15am): Bill Mosezar, Mark DiLonno, Enver Acevedo
Lectors (8:15am) - Janet Hilton & Lisa Wisniewski
(10:15am) - Laurie Mac Neill Clancy & John Patierno
Acolytes: Kira Hirsch, Ian Samuels, Jake Parkerton

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.

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

Evening Showcase of Peruvian Music and Dance—Monday, October 9, 6:30 p.m., Main Library

Enjoy performances by award-winning recording artist Lula Valdivia and Rosa Carhallanqui, founder of Peruincafolk Company. Adult School event.

For Youth and Teens

Lotería! Bilingual Bingo (ages 5+) - Tuesday, Sept. 26, 4 p.m., Main Library
Join us for MPL's spin on the traditional Lotería game played in Mexico. Registration is not required, but recommended.

Cuentos andinos: Andean Tales (ages 3-7) - Wednesday, Sept. 27, 4 p.m., Main Library
Listen to books in Spanish and English set in the Andes Mountains, such as "Run, Little Chaski!" by Mariana Llanos. No registration.

Flamenco Para Los Niños (all ages) - Saturday, September 30, 4:30 p.m., Main Library
Nation presents flamenco, the riveting Spanish dance form with colorful costumes and rhythmic sounds. Registration not required, but recommended.

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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