

St. James' Episcopal Church  
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*St. James' Episcopal Church welcomes you to our service of worship.  
If you are searching for a spiritual home, we invite you to become  
part of our community of faith and love.*

*The mission of St. James' Church derives from the nature of the church.  
It exists for the good of all people, to spread the word of God's Salvation  
and to bring people to know Jesus Christ.*



**THE FIRST SUNDAY AFTER THE EPIPHANY:  
THE BAPTISM OF OUR LORD  
HOLY EUCHARIST  
8 JANUARY 2023 9:30 AM**

*Let us acknowledge with respect and reverence the Unkechaug People, who have stewarded this land throughout the generations, while not forgetting the colonization of this land.*

## The Liturgy of the Word

Blessed be God Father, Son and Holy Spirit.

**And blessed by God's Kingdom, now and forever. Amen.**

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**

Gloria

**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

The Lord be with you. **And also with you.** 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.**

The First Lesson

**Isaiah 42:1-9**

*A Reading from the prophet Isaiah.*

Here is my servant, whom I uphold, my chosen, in whom my soul delights; I have put my spirit upon him; he will bring forth justice to the nations. He will not cry or lift up his voice, or make it heard in the street; a bruised reed he will not break, and a dimly burning wick he will not quench; he will faithfully bring forth justice. He will not grow faint or be crushed until he has established justice in the earth; and the coastlands wait for his teaching. Thus says God, the Lord, who created the heavens and stretched them

out, who spread out the earth and what comes from it, who gives breath to the people upon it and spirit to those who walk in it: I am the Lord, I have called you in righteousness, I have taken you by the hand and kept you; I have given you as a covenant to the people, a light to the nations, to open the eyes that are blind, to bring out the prisoners from the dungeon, from the prison those who sit in darkness. I am the Lord, that is my name; my glory I give to no other, nor my praise to idols. See, the former things have come to pass, and new things I now declare; before they spring forth, I tell you of them. *The Word of the Lord. Thanks be to God.*

### Psalm 29

<sup>1</sup> Ascribe to the Lord, you gods, \*

**ascribe to the Lord glory and strength.**

<sup>2</sup> Ascribe to the Lord the glory due his Name; \*

**worship the Lord in the beauty of holiness.**

<sup>3</sup> The voice of the Lord is upon the waters; the God of glory thunders; \*

**the Lord is upon the mighty waters.**

<sup>4</sup> The voice of the Lord is a powerful voice; \*

**the voice of the Lord is a voice of splendor.**

<sup>5</sup> The voice of the Lord breaks the cedar trees; \*

**the Lord breaks the cedars of Lebanon;**

<sup>6</sup> He makes Lebanon skip like a calf, \*

**and Mount Hermon like a young wild ox.**

<sup>7</sup> 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.**

<sup>8</sup> The voice of the Lord makes the oak trees writhe \*

**and strips the forests bare.**

<sup>9</sup> And in the temple of the Lord \*

**all are crying, "Glory!"**

<sup>10</sup> The Lord sits enthroned above the flood; \*

**the Lord sits enthroned as King for evermore.**

<sup>11</sup> The Lord shall give strength to his people; \*

**the Lord shall give his people the blessing of peace.**

*A Reading from Acts of the Apostles*

Peter began to speak to them: “I truly understand that God shows no partiality, but in every nation anyone who fears him and does what is right is acceptable to him. You know the message he sent to the people of Israel, preaching peace by Jesus Christ—he is Lord of all. That message spread throughout Judea, beginning in Galilee after the baptism that John announced: how God anointed Jesus of Nazareth with the Holy Spirit and with power; how he went about doing good and healing all who were oppressed by the devil, for God was with him. We are witnesses to all that he did both in Judea and in Jerusalem. They put him to death by hanging him on a tree; but God raised him on the third day and allowed him to appear, not to all the people but to us who were chosen by God as witnesses, and who ate and drank with him after he rose from the dead. He commanded us to preach to the people and to testify that he is the one ordained by God as judge of the living and the dead. All the prophets testify about him that everyone who believes in him receives forgiveness of sins through his name.” *The Word of the Lord. Thanks be to God.*

## The Gospel

Matthew 3:13-17

*The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ According to Matthew.**Glory to you, Lord Christ*

Jesus came from Galilee to John at the Jordan, to be baptized by him. John would have prevented him, saying, “I need to be baptized by you, and do you come to me?” But Jesus answered him, “Let it be so now; for it is proper for us in this way to fulfill all righteousness.” Then he consented. And when Jesus had been baptized, just as he came up from the water, suddenly the heavens were opened to him and he saw the Spirit of God descending like a dove and alighting on him. And a voice from heaven said, “This is my Son, the Beloved, with whom I am well pleased.” *The Gospel of our Lord. Praise to you, Lord Christ.*

## Homily

## The Renewal of Baptismal Vows

Dear People of God: In Holy Baptism we follow the pattern of our Lord Jesus Christ. As he came up from the water he was anointed by the Spirit of God and designated as God’s

Son. So we also are anointed by that same Spirit; we are reborn and adopted as children with whom God is well pleased. Let us now renew our own baptismal covenant.

Do you reaffirm your renunciation of evil and renew your commitment to Jesus Christ?  
**I do.**

Do you believe in God the Father? **I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.**

Do you believe in Jesus Christ, the Son of God? **I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord. He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit and born of the Virgin Mary. He suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried. He descended to the dead. On the third day he rose again. He ascended into heaven, and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again to judge the living and the dead.**

Do you believe in God the Holy Spirit? **I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting.**

Will you continue in the apostles' teaching and fellowship, in the breaking of bread, and in the prayers? **I will, with God's help.**

Will you persevere in resisting evil, and, whenever you fall into sin, repent and return to the Lord? **I will, with God's help.**

Will you proclaim by word and example the Good News of God in Christ? **I will, with God's help.**

Will you seek and serve Christ in all persons, loving your neighbor as yourself? **I will, with God's help.**

Will you strive for justice and peace among all people, and respect the dignity of every human being? **I will, with God's help.**

May Almighty God, the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has given us a new birth by water and the Holy Spirit, and bestowed upon us the forgiveness of sins, keep us in eternal life by his grace, in Christ Jesus our Lord. **Amen.**

## Thanksgiving over the Water

The Lord be with you. **And also with you.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**It is right to give him thanks and praise.**

We thank you, Almighty God, for the gift of water. Over it the Holy Spirit moved in the beginning of creation. Through it you led the children of Israel out of their bondage in Egypt into the land of promise. In it your Son Jesus received the baptism of John and was anointed by the Holy Spirit as the Messiah, the Christ, to lead us, through his death and resurrection, from the bondage of sin into everlasting life. We thank you, Father, for the water of Baptism. In it we are buried with Christ in his death. By it we share in his resurrection. Through it we are reborn by the Holy Spirit. Therefore in joyful obedience to your Son, we come to you in faith, having been baptized in the Name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. Now sanctify this water, we pray you, by the power of your Holy Spirit, that it may be to us a dew of remembrance of our baptisms so that we who have been cleansed from sin and born again may continue for ever in the risen life of Jesus Christ our Savior. To him, to you, and to the Holy Spirit, be all honor and glory, now and for ever. **Amen.**

### **Prayers of the People**

*Presider:* As we celebrate the baptism of Christ, let us offer prayers to God who washes us in the blood of the Lamb.

*Intercesso(s):*

By the baptism of the Son of God in the river Jordan. **Lord, have mercy.**

For Michael our Presiding Bishop, Lawrence, GERALYN, Daniel, and William our bishops and the presbyters, for the deacons and all who minister in Christ, and for all the holy people of God. **Lord, have mercy.**

For mercy, peace, and justice throughout the world. **Lord, have mercy.**

For all those in danger and need: the sick and the suffering, the hungry and the oppressed, and those in prison. **Lord, have mercy.**

For the dying and the dead. **Lord, have mercy.**

For our deliverance from all affliction, strife, and need. **Lord, have mercy.**

Remembering the blessed Virgin Mary, blessed John the Baptist, blessed James and all the saints, let us offer ourselves and one another to the living God through Christ. **To you, O Lord.**

*Presider:* Holy One of Israel, who breathed across the waters of creation, accept the prayers we offer on this joyful feast, lead us by your Spirit through water and blood, and quench our thirst at the table of your Son; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.** The peace of the Lord be always with you. **And also with you.**

### **The Liturgy of the Table**

#### Eucharistic Prayer B

The Lord be with you. **And also with you.**

Lift up your hearts. **We lift them to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**It is right to give him thanks and praise.**

It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and every- where to give thanks to you, Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth. Because in the mystery of the Word made flesh, you have caused a new light to shine in our hearts, to give the knowledge of your glory in the face of your Son Jesus Christ our Lord.

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.**

**Hosanna in the highest.**

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

**Hosanna in the highest.**

We give thanks to you, O God, for the goodness and love which you have made known to us in creation; in the calling of Israel to be your people; in your Word spoken through the prophets; and above all in the Word made flesh, Jesus, your Son. For in these last days you sent him to be incarnate from the Virgin Mary, to be the Savior and Redeemer

of the world. In him, you have delivered us from evil, and made us worthy to stand before you. In him, you have brought us out of error into truth, out of sin into righteousness, out of death into life.

On the night before he died for us, 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, according to his command, O Father, **We remember his death, We proclaim his resurrection, We await his coming in glory;**

And we offer our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving to you, O Lord of all; presenting to you, from your creation, this bread and this wine. We pray you, gracious God, to send your Holy Spirit upon these gifts that they may be the Sacrament of the Body of Christ and his Blood of the new Covenant. Unite us to your Son in his sacrifice, that we may be acceptable through him, being sanctified by the Holy Spirit. In the fullness of time, put all things in subjection under your Christ, and bring us to that heavenly country where, with the Virgin Mary, blessed James and all your saints, we may enter the everlasting heritage of your sons and daughters; through Jesus Christ our Lord, the firstborn of all creation, the head of the Church, and the author of our salvation.

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, **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.**

Fraction Anthem

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

Post Communion Prayer *(Please Stand)*

**God of abundance, you have fed us with the bread of life and cup of salvation; you have united us with Christ and one another; and you have made us one with all your people in heaven and on earth. Now send us forth in the power of your Spirit, that we may proclaim your redeeming love to the world and continue for ever in the risen life of Christ our Savior. Amen.**

The Blessing

The blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be upon you and remain with you for ever. **Amen.**

Announcements

Dismissal

Let us go forth in the name of Christ. **Thanks be to God.**

Announcements

Welcome to our service. We are happy you could join us, either in person or via technological means. May you find this worship to be bread on your spiritual journey. To join us as we worship via Zoom. Call in to 646 558.8656 Meeting ID: 317 854 854 Password: 187300.

Please join us for fellowship in the Parish Hall after service. We are in need of hosts for fellowship Hour. A sign up sheet may be found in the Parish Hall and the weekly e-news letter Good News from St. James.

Have you filled out your intention card? We invite you to give thanks to God for the blessings in your life and help support our mission and ministry by making a financial commitment through your intention card. Help us in ministering to the community by giving of your time, talent and treasure.

For a Birthday

**O God, our times are in your hand: Look with favor, we pray, on your servant *N.* as *she* begins another year. Grant that *she* may grow in wisdom and grace, and strengthen *her* trust in your goodness all the days of *her* life; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

For Travelers

**O God, our heavenly Father, whose glory fills the whole creation, and whose presence we find wherever we go: Preserve those who travel in particular \_\_\_\_\_; surround them with your loving care; protect them from every danger; and bring them in safety to their journey's end; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

For an Anniversary

**O God, you have so consecrated the covenant of marriage that in it is represented the spiritual unity between Christ and his Church: Send therefore your blessing upon these your servants, that they may so love, honor, and cherish each other in faithfulness and patience, in wisdom and true godliness, that their home may be a haven of blessing and peace; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen.**



The Most Rev'd Michael Curry, Presiding Bishop and Primate  
The Right Rev'd Lawrence Provenzano, Bishop of Long Island  
The Right Rev'd Geralyn Wolf, Assistant Bishop  
The Right Rev'd Daniel Allotey, Assisting Bishop  
The Right Rev'd William Franklin, Assisting Bishop  
The Rev'd Hickman Alexandre, Vicar  
Faith Donohue, Parish Administrator

Bishop's Committee

Dawn Herrmann -23 & Sharon Smith -24; Wardens

Doreen Vaz, Treasurer

Ted Anderson -24, Kamala Browne -25, Judy McCadden-23

Tracy Rentz McLeod -24, John Ryley -23