

ST. JAMES EPISCOPAL CHURCH



February 16, 2025
Morning Prayer
Sixth Sunday after Epiphany

Welcome! If you are visiting, we offer you a special welcome. If you are with us on Zoom and would like more information about our parish, please send the Zoom Usber a chat message, or email office@stjamesvt.org with your name, where you're from, and your email address. On Zoom, please keep microphones muted for most of the service. If you are reading a lesson or adding a prayer request aloud during the time of prayers, please unmute yourself, then mute yourself again. In person, sitting distances may be observed and masks may be worn. Please be mindful of the comfort of others.

Prelude: "I Need Thee Every Hour"

- Robert Lowry

Opening Hymn: If thou but trust in God to guide thee

Hymnal 635

All stand as able

Unison or harmony

1 If thou but trust in God to guide thee, and hope in him through
 2 Sing, pray, and keep his ways un-serv-ing; so do thine own part

all thy ways, he'll give thee strength what-e'er be-tide thee,
 faith-ful-ly, and trust his word, though un-de-serv-ing;

and bear thee through the e-vil days. Who trusts in God's un-
 thou yet shalt find it true for thee; God nev-er yet for-

chang-ing love builds on a rock that nought can move.
 sook in need the soul that trust-ed him in-deed.

Words: Georg Neumark (1621-1681); tr. Catherine Winkworth (1829-1878), alt. Music: *Wer nur den lieben Gott*, Georg Neumark (1621-1681).

Confession

The Deacon or Officiant says

Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

Silence is observed

Officiant and People

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.

Officiant

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

Opening Versicle

All Praise to the holy and undivided Trinity, one God:
As it was in the beginning, is now, and will be for ever. Amen.

The Invitatory and Psalter

Venite *Psalm 95: 1-7*

The St. Helena Breviary

Said in unison with the Officiant leading

Officiant The Holy One is in our midst:
People O come let us worship.

Come, let us sing to the Holy One; *
let us shout for joy to the Rock of our salvation.
Let us come before God's presence with thanksgiving, *
and raise a loud shout with psalms.
For you, O God, are a great God; *
you are great above all gods.
In your hand are the caverns of the earth, *
and the heights of the hills are yours also.
The sea is yours, for you made it, *
and your hands have molded the dry land.
Come, let us bow down and bend the knee, *
and kneel before God, our Maker,
For you are our God,
and we are the people of your pasture and the sheep of your hand. *
Oh, that today we would hearken to your voice!

The Psalm Appointed

All may sit.

Psalm 1

The St. Helena Psalter

Read in a manner chosen by the Officiant: direct recitation (unison), antiphonally (side to side), or responsive recitation (leader and people) alternating either by verse or at the asterisk.

- 1 Happy are they who have not walked in the counsel of the wicked, *
nor lingered in the way of sinners,
nor sat in the seats of the scornful!
- 2 Their delight is in the law of the Holy One, *
and they meditate on that law day and night.
- 3 They are like trees planted by streams of water,
bearing fruit in due season, with leaves that do not wither; *
everything they do shall prosper.
- 4 It is not so with the wicked; *
they are like chaff which the wind blows away.
- 5 Therefore the wicked shall not stand upright when judgment comes, *
nor the sinner in the council of the righteous;
- 6 For the Holy One knows the way of the righteous, *
but the way of the wicked is doomed.

All

Glory to God, Source of all being, Incarnate Word, and Holy Spirit, *
as it was in the beginning, is now and will be forever. Amen.

The Lessons

First Reading: Jeremiah 17:5-10

Lector A reading from the Book of the prophet Jeremiah.

Thus says the Lord:

Cursed are those who trust in mere mortals
and make mere flesh their strength,
whose hearts turn away from the Lord.

They shall be like a shrub in the desert,
and shall not see when relief comes.

They shall live in the parched places of the wilderness,
in an uninhabited salt land.

Blessed are those who trust in the Lord,
whose trust is the Lord.

They shall be like a tree planted by water,
sending out its roots by the stream.

It shall not fear when heat comes,
and its leaves shall stay green;

in the year of drought it is not anxious,
and it does not cease to bear fruit.

The heart is devious above all else;
it is perverse--
who can understand it?

I the Lord test the mind
and search the heart,

to give to all according to their ways,
according to the fruit of their doings.

Lector Hear what the Spirit is saying to God's people.

People Thanks be to God.

A period of silence is kept.

Canticle: The First Song of Isaiah *Isaiah 12:2-6*

The St. Helena Breviary

The Canticle is said in unison

Surely God is my salvation; *

I will trust and will not be afraid,
For God is my strength and my might *

and will be my Savior.
Therefore you shall draw water with rejoicing
the springs of salvation, *
and on that day you shall say,
Give thanks and call upon God's name;
Make known God's deeds among the peoples; *
proclaim that God's name is exalted;
Sing praises to the Most High who has done great things; *
let this be known in all the world.
Shout aloud and sing for joy, O inhabitants of Zion, *
for great in your midst is the Holy One of Israel.
Glory to God, Source of all being, Incarnate Word, and Holy Spirit, *
as it was in the beginning, is now and will be forever. Amen.

Second Reading: 1 Corinthians 15:12-20

Lector A reading from the first Letter of Paul to the Corinthians.

Now if Christ is proclaimed as raised from the dead, how can some of you say there is no resurrection of the dead? If there is no resurrection of the dead, then Christ has not been raised; and if Christ has not been raised, then our proclamation has been in vain and your faith has been in vain. We are even found to be misrepresenting God, because we testified of God that he raised Christ--whom he did not raise if it is true that the dead are not raised. For if the dead are not raised, then Christ has not been raised. If Christ has not been raised, your faith is futile and you are still in your sins. Then those also who have died in Christ have perished. If for this life only we have hoped in Christ, we are of all people most to be pitied.

But in fact Christ has been raised from the dead, the first fruits of those who have died.

Lector Hear what the Spirit is saying to God's people.

People Thanks be to God.

Gospel: Luke 6:17-26

For Morning Prayer, please remain seated for the Gospel lesson

Deacon or Lector A reading from the Gospel according to Luke.

Jesus came down with the twelve apostles and stood on a level place, with a great crowd of his disciples and a great multitude of people from all Judea, Jerusalem, and the coast of Tyre and Sidon. They had come to hear him and to be healed of their diseases; and those who were troubled with unclean spirits were cured. And all in the crowd were trying to touch him, for power came out from him and healed all of them.

Then he looked up at his disciples and said:

“Blessed are you who are poor,
for yours is the kingdom of God.

“Blessed are you who are hungry now,
for you will be filled.

“Blessed are you who weep now,
for you will laugh.

“Blessed are you when people hate you, and when they exclude you, revile you, and defame you on account of the Son of Man. Rejoice in that day and leap for joy, for surely your reward is great in heaven; for that is what their ancestors did to the prophets.”

"But woe to you who are rich,
for you have received your consolation.

"Woe to you who are full now,
for you will be hungry.

"Woe to you who are laughing now,
for you will mourn and weep.

"Woe to you when all speak well of you, for that is what their ancestors did to the false prophets."

Deacon or Lector Hear what the Spirit is saying to God's people.
People Thanks be to God.

Sermon

Kathy Rouleau

Affirmation of Faith (*A form for trial use from the St. Helena Breviary*)

All standing as able, the creed is said in unison

I believe in God, the Almighty,
creator of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only-begotten One,
Who was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit,
and born of the Virgin Mary;

Who suffered under Pontius Pilate.
was crucified, died and was buried;

Who descended to the dead.

On the third day the Christ arose;
ascended into heaven,

and is seated at the right hand of the Creator.

Christ will come again to judge the living and the dead.

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. Amen.

The Prayers

Officiant God be with you.

People And also with you.

Officiant Let us pray.

People and Officiant

Our Father in heaven,
hallowed be your Name,
your kingdom come,
your will be done,
on earth as in heaven.

Give us today our daily bread.

Forgive us our sins
as we forgive those who sin against us.

Save us from the time of trial,
and deliver us from evil.

For the kingdom, the power,
and the glory are yours,
now and forever. Amen.

Suffrages

BCP 97

The Suffrages are said responsively.

V. Show us your mercy, O Lord;

R. And grant us your salvation.

V. Clothe your ministers with righteousness;

R. Let your people sing with joy.

V. Give peace, O Lord, in all the world;

R. For only in you can we live in safety.

V. Lord, keep this nation under your care;

R. And guide us in the way of justice and truth.

V. Let your way be known upon earth;

R. Your saving health among all nations.

V. Let not the needy, O Lord, be forgotten;

R. Nor the hope of the poor be taken away.

V. Create in us clean hearts, O God;

R. And sustain us with your Holy Spirit.

The Collect of the Day

All are invited to say the collect together

O God, the strength of all who put their trust in you: Mercifully accept our prayers; and because in our weakness we can do nothing good without you, give us the help of your grace, that in keeping your commandments, we may please you both in will and deed; through Jesus Christ our Savior, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen.

A Collect for Sundays

O God, you make us glad with the weekly remembrance of the glorious resurrection of our Savior: Give us this day such blessing through our worship of you, that the week to come may be spent in your favor; through our Redeemer, Jesus Christ. *Amen.*

A Collect for Grace

Lord God, almighty and everlasting Father, you have brought us in safety to this new day: Preserve us with your mighty power, that we may not fall into sin, nor be overcome by adversity; and in all we do, direct us to the fulfilling of your purpose; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen*

Intercessions and Thanksgivings

The Intercessor offers prayers for those on our prayer lists. All may sit.

We remember and pray for St. James' Church, Arlington; the Rev. Jeremy Means-Koss, and their constellation partner, St. Peter's Church, Bennington in our Diocesan Cycle of Prayer; and for The Church of Bangladesh in our Anglican Cycle of Prayer. We give thanks and pray for Mary Carlson who is celebrating a birthday this week.

I invite your prayers of thanksgiving.

The Intercessor will invite prayers to be offered aloud by guiding first, the in-person group and after that, the online worshippers.

We pray for those who are sick or have asked for our prayers, especially Grace; Kristen; Marie; Foster Borch; Dave Leahy; Dave; David; Laurie Rheume; Pat Anderson; Lesley; Neil Eklund; Becca and Eloise Dourmashkin; Steve; Connie; and Barbara Gay.

I invite your prayers of intercession.

The Intercessor will invite prayers to be offered aloud by guiding first, the in-person group and after that, the online worshippers.

We pray for those who have died and those who mourn.

I invite your prayers for those who have died.

The Intercessor will invite prayers to be offered aloud by guiding first, the in-person group and after that, the online worshippers.

The Intercessor offers a Prayer for Justice:

Creator of the Universe, source of all goodness and love, we ask wisdom, help, and guidance as we work to counter the many instances of injustice and racism in our world. Help us to value differences in culture, religious beliefs, and physical appearance, and celebrate the God-made wonder of every human being. Help us to be vigilant, working against racial and social injustice in our own hearts and in the world around us, that we may live into our baptismal covenant to “strive for justice and peace among all people, and respect the dignity of every human being. Amen.

The Officiant concludes with the following Collect.

A Collect of Dedication

Beloved God: As we offer ourselves to you this day, guide and stir us with your Holy Spirit, that we may become one body, one spirit in Jesus Christ our Savior. *Amen.*

The people’s offerings are gathered and brought to the altar by the ushers to be offered to God. All stand as able.

Office/Offertory Hymn: You shall cross the barren desert

WLP 811

Verse 1

1. You shall cross the bar-ren des-ert, but you shall not die of thirst. You shall wan-der far in safe-ty though you do not know the way. You shall speak your words in for-eign lands and all will un-der-stand. You shall see the face of God and live.

The musical score is written for a single voice in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. It consists of five staves of music. The lyrics are written below the notes. The first staff begins with a rest for one measure, followed by the lyrics '1. You shall cross the bar-ren des-ert, but you'. The second staff continues with 'shall not die of thirst. You shall wan-der far in'. The third staff continues with 'safe-ty though you do not know the way. You shall'. The fourth staff continues with 'speak your words in for-eign lands and all will un-der-stand.'. The fifth staff concludes with 'You shall see the face of God and live.' followed by a long horizontal line indicating a continuation of the melody.

Refrain

Be not a - fraid. I go be - fore you al - ways.

Come, fol - low me, and I will give you

Verse 2

rest. 2. If you

pass through rag - ing wa - ters in the sea, you shall not

drown, If you walk a - mid the burn - ing flames, you shall not be

harmed. If you stand be - fore the pow'r of hell and

death is at your side, know that I am with you through it

To refrain Verse 3

all. *To refrain* 3. Bless - ed are your poor, for the

king - dom shall be theirs. Blest are you that

weep and mourn, for one day you shall laugh. And if

wick - ed men in - sult and hate you all be - cause of me,

bless - ed, bless - ed are you!

Final Refrain

Be not a - fraid. I go be - fore you al - ways.

Come, fol - low me, and I will give you



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A Prayer of St. Chrysostom

The Officiant and People say together

Almighty God, you have given us grace at this time with one accord to make our common supplication to you; and you have promised through your well-beloved Son that when two or three are gathered together in his Name you will be in the midst of them: Fulfill now, O Lord, our desires and petitions as may be best for us; granting us in this world knowledge of your truth, and in the age to come life everlasting. Amen.

Community Announcements

Dismissal

Deacon or Officiant Let us bless the Lord.
People *Thanks be to God.*

Concluding Sentence

The Officiant says

Glory to God whose power, working in us, can do infinitely more than we can ask or imagine:
Glory to God from generation to generation in the Church, and in Christ Jesus for ever and ever.
Amen. *-Ephesians 3:20,21*

All stand as able.

1 Im - mor - tal, in - vis - i - ble, God on - ly wise,
 2 Un - rest - ing, un - hast - ing, and si - lent as light,
 3 To all life thou giv - est, to both great and small;
 4 Thou reign - est in glo - ry, thou rul - est in light,

in light in - ac - ces - si - ble hid from our eyes,
 nor want - ing, nor wast - ing, thou rul - est in might;
 in all life thou liv - est, the true life of all;
 thine an - gels a - dore thee, all veil - ing their sight;

most bless - ed, most glo - rious, the An - cient of Days,
 thy jus - tice like moun - tains high soar - ing a - bove
 we blos - som and flour - ish, like leaves on the tree,
 all laud we would ren - der: O help us to see

al - might - y, vic - tor - ious, thy great Name we praise.
 thy clouds, which are foun - tains of good - ness and love.
 then with - er and per - ish; but nought chan - geth thee.
 'tis on - ly the splen - dor of light hid - eth thee.

Words: Walter Chalmers Smith (1824-1908), alt. Music: *St. Denio*, Welsh hymn, from *Caniadau y Cyssegr*, 1839; adapt. John Roberts (1822-1877); harm. *The English Hymnal*, 1906, alt.

Postlude: "I bowed on my knees and cried holy"

- Dudley Cantwell

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*Please join us for coffee and refreshments in the Parish Hall.
And please join us for a brief Compline service with music online Thursday evenings at 7:00 p.m.*



Officiant: Brian Garland
Preacher: Kathy Rouleau
Deacon: The Rev. Dave Ganter
Lector: Nancy Roff
Intercessor: Jenny Ogelby
Musician(s): Nancy Roff
In-Person Ushers: Ernie Rheume, Jenny Ogelby
Minister of Technology: Cathy Clark
Digital Usher: Heather Winship

The Sixth Sunday after the Epiphany – Year C

Welcome to St. James Episcopal Church. Today we have another aspect of Jesus' manifestation (epiphany) as Son of God: his teaching. As in Matthew's Sermon on the Mount, Luke's "sermon on the plain" begins with beatitudes. Some scholars believe that Luke's simpler, more direct version is closer to the original. Luke's version follows the beatitudes with woes for those who live differently. The issue is whether one's trust is in God—which it must be for those who are poor, hungry, weeping, and persecuted—or in oneself as is too often the case of the rich, full, laughing, and spoken well of. In the first reading, God curses those who trust in mere mortals and blesses those who trust in God. As we near the end of 1 Corinthians Paul continues to sum up his message. The resurrection of Jesus is central to everything. Our faith, our good deeds, and our hope of eternal life—all is futile if God did not raise Jesus from the dead. If all we expect of God is for our present lives, then we are to be pitied. But—says Paul, who himself met the risen Christ on the road to Damascus— Christ has been raised from the dead and our resurrection follows from his. We gather week by week because we know that without God and without the death and resurrection of Jesus, we are nothing. With God, we are blessed and whether our poverty is in material things or in spirit, our hunger is for food and for righteousness, God meets our needs in word and sacrament. As people baptized into Jesus' resurrection, we draw life and strength to persevere from God.

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IN OUR PRAYERS

Diocesan and Anglican Cycle of Prayer: In our Diocesan Cycle of Prayer, we pray for St. James' Church, Arlington; the Rev. Jeremy Means-Koss, and their constellation partner, St. Peter's Church, Bennington and in our Anglican Cycle of Prayer, we pray for The Church of Bangladesh.

We pray for those who are sick, recovering from injuries, lonely or grieving during the holiday season, and others who have asked for our prayers: especially Grace; Kristen; Marie; Foster Borch; Dave Leahy; Dave; David; Laurie Rheaume; Pat Anderson; Lesley; Neil Eklund; Becca and Eloise Dourmashkin; Steve; Connie; and Barbara Gay.

We pray for those who have died and those who mourn.

Birthday: Mary Carlson, February 16

Shrove Tuesday Pancake Dinner

Come join us in the Parish Hall at 5:30 PM on Tuesday, March 4th for our traditional pancake and sausage dinner. This is an event for all ages - there is singing and decorating the Alleluia sign. We'll then put away Alleluia for Lent. Check "The Weekly" article for information on the history of Shrove Tuesday and why we eat pancakes. If you'd like to help with setup, cooking, or clean up please contact Brian Garland (bjarland@gmail.com or 735-3353).

For more details or a more complete calendar, please see the Weekly or visit our website: www.stjamesvt.org.



ST. JAMES EPISCOPAL CHURCH

Bishop of Vermont: The Right Rev. Dr. Shannon MacVean-Brown

Rector: The Rev. Kim Hardy

Deacon: The Rev. Dn. David Ganter

Vestry:

Senior Warden, Brian Garland

Junior Warden, Ron Belair

Linda Chiasson

Susan Ficklin

Kathy Laidman

Sandy Redmond

Neal Robinson

Parish Treasurer: Susan Ficklin

Assistant Treasurers: Janice Rheume and Jenny Ogelby

Pledge Treasurer: Jeanne Pizii

Minister of Music: Carol Reichard

Parish Administrator: SarahJean Bos

Bulletin: Heather Winship

Constellation Partner: Calvary Episcopal Church, Underhill, VT

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Rector contact: ammakim@stjamesvt.org

