



**First Sunday after the Epiphany:  
The Baptism of Our Lord Jesus Christ  
January 11, 2026, 10:00 AM  
Join the Path Forward**

*Our Mission as St. James Episcopal Church; 1750 – Today*

*We are a welcoming community that invites all to share God's light and beauty through music, liturgy and action; to seek the sacred and to walk in love with all creation.*



**Service Participants**

CELEBRANT:	Rev. Judy Ferguson
ORGANIST and CHOIR DIRECTOR:	Michael Mulder
LAY READER:	Josh Leicht
LECTOR:	Jeanne Farewell
PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE:	Roe Intrieri
USHER:	Chris Megerdichian
COFFEE HOUR HOST:	Carolynn Young

**St. James Episcopal Church**

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**Services live streamed at <https://www.facebook.com/stjamesnorthsalemny/videos>**

**Sr. Steward:** Janet Keyes (845) 269-0289    **Jr. Steward:** Josh Leicht (914) 669-6743  
**Vestry:** Margaret Eaton   Robert Herzberg   Michael Mulder   Susan Romanski  
Tom Stratman   Carolynn Young

**Music Director:** Michael Mulder (914) 485-1128  
**Pledge Recorders:** Kristin Delli Carpini (845) 669-6146   Josh Leicht (914) 669-6743  
**Treasurer:** Kipp Good (646) 641-9286

# HOLY EUCHARIST: Rite II

## WORD OF GOD

Prelude

Adagio by W.A. Mozart

Michael Mulder

Opening Hymn

Songs of Thankfulness and Praise

Hymnal # 135

Opening Sentences

Celebrant: Blessed be God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

People: **And blessed be God's kingdom, now and for ever. Amen.**

Collect for Purity

Celebrant and People: **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

Hymnal S-280

1. Glo - ry to God in the high - est, and  
peace to his peo - ple on earth. 2. Lord God, heaven - ly  
King, al - mighty God and Fa - ther, we wor - ship you, we  
give you thanks, we praise you for your glo - ry. 3. Lord Je - sus  
Christ, on - ly Son of the Fa - ther, Lord God, Lamb of God, 4. you  
take a - way the sin of the world: have mer - cy  
on us; 5. you are seat - ed at the right hand of the Fa - ther: re -

ceive our prayer. 6. For you a - lone are the Ho - ly One,  
 you a - lone are the Lord, 7. you a - lone are the Most  
 High, Je - sus Christ, with the Ho - ly Spi - rit, in the  
 glo - ry of God the Fa - ther. A - men.

Music: Robert Powell (b. 1932), rev. Setting: Copyright © Church Publishing Inc.

### Salutation and Collect of the Day

Celebrant: The Lord be with you.

**People: And also with you.**

Celebrant: 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.

**People: Amen.**

### Old Testament Reading

### A Reading from the Book of Isaiah [42:1-9]

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.

Lector: The Word of the Lord.

**People: Thanks be to God.**

- 1 Ascribe to the Lord, you gods, \*  
**ascribe to the Lord glory and strength.**
- 2 Ascribe to the Lord the glory due his Name; \*  
**worship the Lord in the beauty of holiness.**
- 3 The voice of the Lord is upon the waters; the God of glory thunders; \*  
**the Lord is upon the mighty waters.**
- 4 The voice of the Lord is a powerful voice; \*  
**the voice of the Lord is a voice of splendor.**
- 5 The voice of the Lord breaks the cedar trees; \*  
**the Lord breaks the cedars of Lebanon;**
- 6 He makes Lebanon skip like a calf, \*  
**and Mount Hermon like a young wild ox.**
- 7 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.**
- 8 The voice of the Lord makes the oak trees writhe \*  
**and strips the forests bare.**
- 9 And in the temple of the Lord \*  
**all are crying, "Glory!"**
- 10 The Lord sits enthroned above the flood; \*  
**the Lord sits enthroned as King for evermore.**
- 11 The Lord shall give strength to his people; \*  
**the Lord shall give his people the blessing of peace.**

**New Testament Reading****A Reading from the Acts of the Apostles [10:34-43]**

Peter began to speak to them [Cornelius the Centurion, his family and household]: "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."

Lay Reader: The Word of the Lord.

**People: Thanks be to God.**

*Please stand.*

**Sequence Hymn**

O love, how deep, how broad, how high

**Hymnal # 448**

Celebrant: The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew [3:13-17]

**People: 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."

Celebrant: The Gospel of the Lord.

**People: Praise to you, Lord Christ.**

## **Sermon**

**Rev. Judy Ferguson**

### **Reaffirmation of the Six Baptismal Vows**

Celebrant: Do you renounce Satan and all the spiritual forces of wickedness that rebel against God?

**People: I renounce them.**

Celebrant: Do you renounce the evil powers of this world which corrupt and destroy the creatures of God?

**People: I renounce them.**

Celebrant: Do you renounce all sinful desires that draw you from the love of God?

**People: I renounce them.**

Celebrant: Do you turn to Jesus Christ and accept him as your Savior?

**People: I do.**

Celebrant: Do you put your whole trust in his grace and love?

**People: I do.**

Celebrant: Do you promise to follow and obey him as your Lord?

**People: I do.**

### **Profession of Faith (South Indian), *said together, standing***

**We believe in God, who creates all things,  
who embraces all things, who celebrates all things,  
who is present in every part of the fabric of creation.**

**We believe in God as the source of all life,  
who baptizes this planet with living water.**

**We believe in Jesus Christ, the suffering one, the poor one,  
the malnourished one, the climate refugee,  
who loves and cares for this world  
and who suffers with it.**

**And we believe in Jesus Christ, the seed of life,  
who came to reconcile and renew this world  
and everything in it.**

**We believe in the Holy Spirit, the breath of God,  
who moves with God  
and who moves among and with us today.**

**We believe in everlasting life in God.**

**And we believe in the hope that one day  
God will put an end to death and all destructive forces.**

### **Reaffirmation of the Five Baptismal Challenges**

Celebrant: Will you continue in the apostles' teaching and fellowship, in the breaking of

bread, and in the prayers?

**People: I will, with God's help.**

Celebrant: Will you persevere in resisting evil, and, whenever you fall into sin, repent and return to the Lord?

**People: I will, with God's help.**

Celebrant: Will you proclaim by word and example the Good News of God in Christ?

**People: I will, with God's help.**

Celebrant: Will you seek and serve Christ in all persons, loving your neighbor as yourself?

**People: I will, with God's help.**

Celebrant: Will you strive for justice and peace among all people, and respect the dignity of every human being?

**People: I will, with God's help.**

### **Prayers of the People**

### **Form V**

**BCP 389**

Leader: In peace, let us pray to the Lord, saying, "Lord, have mercy." For the holy Church of God, that it may be filled with truth and love, and be found without fault at the day of your coming, we pray to you, O Lord.

**People: Lord, have mercy.**

Leader: For Sean our Presiding Bishop; Matthew our Diocesan Bishop; Allen our Suffragan Bishop; and for all bishops; for Judy our Priest-in-residence; and other ministers; and for all the holy people of God, we pray to you, O Lord.

**People: Lord, have mercy.**

Leader: For all who respect and are in awe of God and believe in you, Lord Christ, that our divisions may cease, and that all may be one as you and the Father are one, we pray to you, O Lord.

**People: Lord, have mercy.**

Leader: For the mission of the Church, that in faithful witness it may preach the Gospel to the ends of the earth, we pray to you, O Lord.

**People: Lord, have mercy.**

Leader: For the peace of the world, that a spirit of respect and forbearance may grow among nations and peoples, we pray to you, O Lord.

**People: Lord, have mercy.**

Leader: For those in positions of public trust that they may serve justice, and promote the dignity and freedom of every person, we pray to you, O Lord.

**People: Lord, have mercy.**

Leader: For the poor, the persecuted, the sick, and all who suffer; for refugees, prisoners, and all who are in danger; that they may be relieved and protected, we pray to you, O Lord.

**People: Lord, have mercy.**

Leader: For this congregation for those who are present, and for those who are absent, that we may be delivered from hardness of heart, and show forth your glory in all that we do, we pray to you, O Lord.

**People: Lord, have mercy.**

Leader: For our enemies and those who wish us harm; and for all whom we have injured or offended, we pray to you, O Lord.

**People: Lord, have mercy.**

Leader: For all who have commended themselves to our prayers, especially **Bennett, Jean H., Sheryl and family, Ginny and Maar family, Dylan and Ann Marie, Jeffrey, Michelle B., Maureen, Rob K., Anne H., Nina T., Judy and Family, Janet, Katie, Annie, Mackenzie, Bill, Jennifer C., Christine, Marissa, Bro, Kathleen, Randy S., Mike and Tanya, Chris K., Billie, those who have lost their jobs; those who have been taken and put into detention centers, especially Ben and Ali;** and watch over those who care for them; that they may be delivered from their distress. We pray for guidance for the **resolution of conflicts around the world, all those who suffer injustice and violence in the US and abroad, mitigation of the effects of climate change, those who suffer from mental illness, and our Community Ministries. May those who govern, especially Donald our President, do so for the good of their people and with the respect and gentleness you show to those who are most weak and vulnerable.**

*Silence*

Leader: For all who have died in the communion of your Church, and those whose faith is known to you alone, that, with all the saints, they may have rest in that place where there is no pain or grief, but life eternal, we pray to you, O Lord.

**People: Lord, have mercy.**

Leader: Rejoicing in the fellowship of the ever-blessed Virgin Mary; blessed Joseph; Aelred of Rievaulx, *Monastic and Theologian* (1167); Hilary of Poitiers, *Bishop* (367); Richard Meux Benson, *Priest and Vowed Religious* (1915); Charles Gore, *Bishop and Vowed Religious*, (1932); Antony of Egypt, *Monastic* (356); and all the saints, let us commend ourselves, and one another, and all our life to Christ our God.

**People: To you, O Lord our God.**

Leader: O Lord our God, accept the fervent prayers of your people; in the multitude of your mercies, look with compassion upon us and all who turn to you for help; for you are gracious, O lover of souls, and to you we give glory, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, now and for ever.

**Amen.**

**Confession and Absolution**

**BCP 360**

Celebrant: 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 Peace** *All stand.*

Celebrant: The peace of the Lord be always with you.

**People:** **And also with you.**

**Announcements:** The honor of your presence is requested to attend the **St. James Annual Meeting** on Sunday, January 25, directly after the 10:00 AM service. After a fabulous and short coffee hour, the meeting will start promptly at 11:15 AM. All parishioners, including our 8:30 Black Coffee and Prayer participants, are encouraged to attend the meeting where the past year in review will be given, the 2026 budget presented and a new vestry voted in for the new year. To be eligible to vote, a parishioner needs to be 18 years of age, donates money through plate or pledge to the parish and attends St. James on a regular basis. Those running on the 2026 vestry slate are: Tom Stratman (2-year term) for Senior Steward; Philip Anderson, Jeremy Rhizor and Jen Upchurch will serve for a 3-year term; and Mike Mulder will continue on the Vestry for a 2-year term, but as Junior Steward.

## HOLY COMMUNION

### Offertory Sentence

Celebrant: O Lord our God, you are worthy to receive glory and honor and power; because you have created all things, and by your will they were created and have their being.

[Revelation 4:11]

**Offertory** Shall we gather at the River by Robert Lowry

**The St. James Choir**

**Great Thanksgiving Eucharistic Prayer B**

**BCP 361**

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.**

Celebrant: It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere 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 forever sing this hymn to proclaim the glory of your Name:

**Sanctus** *Holy, holy, holy*

**LEVAS II # 255**



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly

ho - ly Lord God of hosts.

Heav - en and earth are filled with your glo -

ry. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

Bless - ed is He who comes in the name

of the Lord, of the Lord.

Ho - san - na in the high -

est, ho - san - na in the high - est

Celebrant: 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 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!**

As 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.**

### **Breaking of the Bread**

Celebrant: Alleluia. Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us;

**People: Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia.**

Celebrant: The Gifts of God for the People of God.

### **Communion Music**

Deck thyself, my soul, with gladness

**Hymnal # 339**

### **Postcommunion Prayer**

**BCP 365**

Celebrant: Let us pray.

**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.**

### **Epiphany Blessing**

May Christ, the Son of God, be manifest in you, that your lives may be a light to the world; and the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be among you, and remain with you always. **Amen.**

### **Closing Hymn**

God the Omnipotent! King who ordainest

**Hymnal # 569**

### **Dismissal**

Celebrant: Go in peace to love and serve the Lord! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

**People: Thanks be to God! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!**

### **Postlude**

Fugue by J.S. Bach

**Michael Mulder**



**Antony of Egypt:** In the third century, many Christians turned away from the corrupt and decadent society of the time and went to live in deserts or on mountains, in solitude, fasting, and prayer. Antony of Egypt is traditionally regarded as the founder of Christian monasticism, because of his role as an inspirational teacher and guide. When his parents died, he cared for a sizable estate. At church he heard the reading about the rich young man whom Christ directed to sell all that he had and give to the poor. Antony at once gave his land to the villagers and sold most of his goods, giving the proceeds to the poor. After meditating on Christ's exhortation, "Do not be anxious about tomorrow," he sold what remained of his possessions. He heard a call to undertake a monastic vocation in the solitude of the desert, where he spent his days praying, reading, and doing manual labor. Moving to the mountains across the Nile from his village, Antony dwelt alone for twenty years. In 305, he left his cave and founded an early form of monastic communal life—a collection of cells inhabited by ascetics living under his guidance. Athanasius said of Antony: "He was like a physician given by God to Egypt. For who met him grieving and did not go away rejoicing? Who came full of anger and was not turned to kindness? . . . What monk who had grown slack was not strengthened by coming to him? Who came troubled by doubts and failed to gain peace of mind?" Antony died in 356.

## **Continuing Prayer List**

*Sara, Pam P., Biran S., Kate C., Kristin and Gizzi Family, Robert and family, Morgan, Susan and Dan S., St. Luke's Haiti, Lee, Barry, Ben, Will and family, John R., Rebecca, Teddy and Jeff, Vince, Ann B., Joyce and Douglas K., Betsy, Mike Marshall and family, John W. and Susan, Thomas, Jeanette, Dean W., Rachel D., Matilda, Walter and family, Eileen, Sister CG, Jackie A., Abdul and Mohammed, Joanne and Marie, Mazza family, Robert, Celia, Felix, Sue, Ewa, Jeannie and Margaret, Ross, Abu, Carmine S., Liv C.*



## Upcoming Services & Events

- January 18:** *Second Sunday after the Epiphany;* **Holy Eucharist service at 10 am**  
**January 25:** *Third Sunday after the Epiphany;* **Holy Eucharist service at 10 am;**  
**Annual Meeting following the service**  
**February 1:** *Fourth Sunday after the Epiphany;* **Holy Eucharist service at 10 am**  
**February 8:** *Fifth Sunday after the Epiphany;* **Holy Eucharist service at 10 am**  
**February 15:** *Last Sunday after the Epiphany;* **Holy Eucharist service at 10 am**  
**February 18:** *Ash Wednesday;* **Holy Eucharist service at 12 Noon**  
**February 22:** *First Sunday in Lent;* **Holy Eucharist service at 10 am**



### **Socks, Underwear and gently used Coats are wanted for donation**

Place in the bin at the entrance to the St. James Village Hall. Donations will be distributed locally. Or go to [stjamesns.com](http://stjamesns.com) to donate to purchase new socks and underwear