



Fifth Sunday after the Epiphany:
February 8, 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:	Philip Anderson
LECTOR:	Josh Leicht
PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE:	Dawn Irizarry
USHER:	Suzanne Volpe
COFFEE HOUR HOST:	Philip Anderson

St. James Episcopal Church

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

Sr. Warden: Tom Stratman (203) 483-3405 **Jr. Warden:** Michael Mulder (212) 243-0615
Vestry: Philip Anderson Margaret Eaton Robert Herzberg Jeremy Rhizor
Jen Upchurch Carolyn Young

Music Director: Michael Mulder (914) 485-1128
Pledge Recorders: Dawn Irizarry (914) 617-8241 Josh Leicht (914) 669-6743
Treasurer: Kipp Good (646) 641-9286

HOLY EUCHARIST: Rite II

WORD OF GOD

Prelude All Creatures of our God and King arr. Howard Helvey Michael Mulder

Introit Hallelujah! By W.A. Mozart The St. James Choir

Opening Hymn All Creatures of our God and King Hymnal # 400

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: Set us free, O God, from the bondage of our sins, and give us the liberty of that abundant life which you have made known to us in your Son our Savior Jesus Christ; who lives and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.

People: Amen.

Old Testament Reading

A Reading from the Book of Isaiah [58:1-12]

Shout out, do not hold back! Lift up your voice like a trumpet! Announce to my people their rebellion, to the house of Jacob their sins. Yet day after day they seek me and delight to know my ways, as if they were a nation that practiced righteousness and did not forsake the ordinance of their God; they ask of me righteous judgments, they delight to draw near to God. "Why do we fast, but you do not see? Why humble ourselves, but you do not notice?" Look, you serve your own interest on your fast day, and oppress all your workers. Look, you fast only to quarrel and to fight and to strike with a wicked fist. Such fasting as you do today will not make your voice heard on high. Is such the fast that I choose, a day to humble oneself? Is it to bow down the head like a bulrush, and to lie in sackcloth and ashes? Will you call this a fast, a day acceptable to the Lord? Is not this the fast that I choose: to loose the bonds of injustice, to undo the thongs of the yoke, to let the oppressed go free, and to break every yoke? Is it not to share your bread with the hungry, and bring the homeless poor into your house; when you see the naked, to cover them, and not to hide yourself from your own kin? Then your light shall break forth like the dawn, and your healing shall spring up quickly; your vindicator shall go before you, the glory of the Lord shall be your rear guard. Then you shall call, and the Lord will answer; you shall cry for help, and he will say, Here I am. If you remove the yoke from among you, the pointing of the finger, the speaking of evil, if you offer your food to the hungry and satisfy the needs of the afflicted, then your light shall rise in the darkness and your gloom be like the noonday. The Lord will guide you continually, and satisfy your needs in parched places, and make your bones strong; and you shall be like a watered garden, like a spring of water, whose waters never fail. Your ancient ruins shall be rebuilt; you shall raise up the foundations of many generations; you shall be called the repairer of the breach, the restorer of streets to live in.

Lector: The Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

- 1 Hallelujah! Happy are they who fear the Lord *
and have great delight in his commandments!
- 2 Their descendants will be mighty in the land; *
the generation of the upright will be blessed.
- 3 Wealth and riches will be in their house, *
and their righteousness will last for ever.
- 4 Light shines in the darkness for the upright; *
the righteous are merciful and full of compassion.
- 5 It is good for them to be generous in lending *
and to manage their affairs with justice.
- 6 For they will never be shaken; *
the righteous will be kept in everlasting remembrance.
- 7 They will not be afraid of any evil rumors; *
their heart is right; they put their trust in the Lord.
- 8 Their heart is established and will not shrink, *
until they see their desire upon their enemies.
- 9 They have given freely to the poor, *
and their righteousness stands fast for ever; they will hold up their head with honor.
- 10 The wicked will see it and be angry; they will gnash their teeth and pine away; *
the desires of the wicked will perish.

New Testament Reading A Reading from the First Letter of Paul to the Corinthians [2:1-16]

When I came to you, brothers and sisters, I did not come proclaiming the mystery of God to you in lofty words or wisdom. For I decided to know nothing among you except Jesus Christ, and him crucified. And I came to you in weakness and in fear and in much trembling. My speech and my proclamation were not with plausible words of wisdom, but with a demonstration of the Spirit and of power, so that your faith might rest not on human wisdom but on the power of God. Yet among the mature we do speak wisdom, though it is not a wisdom of this age or of the rulers of this age, who are doomed to perish. But we speak God's wisdom, secret and hidden, which God decreed before the ages for our glory. None of the rulers of this age understood this; for if they had, they would not have crucified the Lord of glory. But, as it is written, "What no eye has seen, nor ear heard, nor the human heart conceived, what God has prepared for those who love him"—these things God has revealed to us through the Spirit; for the Spirit searches everything, even the depths of God. For what human being knows what is truly human except the human spirit that is within? So also no one comprehends what is truly God's except the Spirit of God. Now we have received not the spirit of the world, but the Spirit that is from God, so that we may understand the gifts bestowed on us by God. And we speak of these things in words not taught by human wisdom but taught by the Spirit, interpreting spiritual things to those who are spiritual. Those who are unspiritual do not receive the gifts of God's Spirit, for they are foolishness to them, and they are unable to understand them because they are spiritually discerned. Those who are spiritual discern all things, and they are themselves subject to no one else's scrutiny. "For who has known the mind of the Lord so as to instruct him?" But we have the mind of Christ.

Lay Reader: The Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

Sequence Hymn Thy strong word did cleave the darkness Hymnal # 381

Celebrant: The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew [5:13-20]

People: Glory to you, Lord Christ.

Jesus said, "You are the salt of the earth; but if salt has lost its taste, how can its saltiness be restored?"

It is no longer good for anything, but is thrown out and trampled under foot. You are the light of the world. A city built on a hill cannot be hid. No one after lighting a lamp puts it under the bushel basket, but on the lampstand, and it gives light to all in the house. In the same way, let your light shine before others, so that they may see your good works and give glory to your Father in heaven. Do not think that I have come to abolish the law or the prophets; I have come not to abolish but to fulfill. For truly I tell you, until heaven and earth pass away, not one letter, not one stroke of a letter, will pass from the law until all is accomplished. Therefore, whoever breaks one of the least of these commandments, and teaches others to do the same, will be called least in the kingdom of heaven; but whoever does them and teaches them will be called great in the kingdom of heaven. For I tell you, unless your righteousness exceeds that of the scribes and Pharisees, you will never enter the kingdom of heaven."

Celebrant: The Gospel of the Lord.

People: Praise to you, Lord Christ.

Sermon

Rev. Judy Ferguson

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.

Prayers of the People

Form VI

BCP 392

Reader: In peace, we pray to you, Lord God. For all people in their daily life and work;

People: For our families, friends, and neighbors, and for those who are alone.

Reader: For this community, the nation, and the world;

People: For all who work for justice, freedom, and peace.

Reader: For the just and proper use of your creation;

People: For the victims of hunger, fear, injustice, and oppression.

Reader: For all who are in danger, sorrow, or any kind of trouble;

People: For those who minister to the sick, the friendless, and the needy.

Reader: For the peace and unity of the Church of God;

People: For all who proclaim the Gospel, and all who seek the Truth.

Reader: For Sean our Presiding Bishop; Matthew and Allen our Bishops; and for all bishops and other ministers;

People: For all who serve God in his Church.

Reader: For the special needs and concerns of this congregation. Comfort and heal all those who suffer in body, mind, or spirit; give them courage and hope in their troubles, and bring them the joy of your salvation, especially **Bennett, Jean H., Sheryl and family, Ginny and Maar family, Dylan and Ann Marie, Jeffrey, Michelle B., Maureen, Rob K., Nina T., Janet, Annie, Mackenzie, Bill, Jennifer C., Christine, Marissa, Bro, Kathleen, Randy S., Bill F., Matthew, Bob, John G., Stephanie B., Erin, 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.**

[People may add their own petitions]

Reader: Hear us, Lord;

People: For your mercy is great.

Reader: We thank you, Lord, for all the blessings of this life.

[People may add their own thanksgivings]

Reader: We will exalt you, O God our King;

People: And praise your Name for ever and ever.

Reader: We pray for all who have died, especially Bakhita (Josephine Margaret Bakhita), *Monastic* (1947); The Consecration of Barbara Clementine Harris, *First Woman Bishop in the Anglican Communion* (1989); Theodora, *Empress* (c. 867); Absalom Jones, *Priest* (1818); and Cyril and Methodius, *Missionaries* (869 and 885); that they may have a place in your eternal kingdom.

[People may add their own remembrances]

Reader: Lord, let your loving-kindness be upon them;

People: Who put their trust in you.

Leader and People:

Lighten our darkness, we beseech thee, O Lord;

and by your great mercy defend us

from all perils and dangers of this day and night;

for the love of thy only Son, our Savior, Jesus Christ. Amen.

[The Gelasian Sacramentary (fifth century)]

Celebrant and People:

O God, you divide the day from night; separate our deeds from the darkness of sin, that we may continually live in your light, and reflect in all our deeds your eternal beauty. Amen.

[The Leonine Sacramentary (seventh century)]

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.

HOLY COMMUNION

Offertory Sentence

Celebrant: Ascribe to the Lord the honor due his Name; bring offerings and come into his courts. [*Psalm 96:8*]

Offertory

A Gaelic Blessing by John Rutter

The St. James Choir

Great Thanksgiving

Eucharistic Prayer C

BCP 369

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.

God of all power, Ruler of the Universe, you are worthy of glory and praise.

Glory to you for ever and ever.

At your command all things came to be: the vast expanse of interstellar space, galaxies, suns, the planets in their courses, and this fragile earth, our island home.

By your will they were created and have their being.

From the primal elements you brought forth the human race, and blessed us with memory, reason, and skill. You made us the rulers of creation. But we turned against you, and betrayed your trust; and we turned against one another.

Have mercy, Lord, for we are sinners in your sight.

Again and again, you called us to return. Through prophets and sages you revealed your righteous Law. And in the fullness of time you sent your only Son, born of a woman, to fulfill your

Law, to open for us the way of freedom and peace.

By his blood, he reconciled us.

By his wounds, we are healed.

And therefore we praise you, joining with the heavenly chorus, with prophets, apostles, and martyrs, and with all those in every generation who have looked to you in hope, to proclaim with them your glory, in their unending hymn:

Sanctus *Holy, holy, holy*

LEVAS II # 255

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.

And so, Father, we who have been redeemed by him, and made a new people by water and the Spirit, now bring before you these gifts. Sanctify them by your Holy Spirit to be the Body and Blood of Jesus Christ our Lord.

On the night he was betrayed he took bread, said the blessing, broke the bread, and gave it

to his friends, 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, gave thanks, 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."

Remembering now his work of redemption, and offering to you this sacrifice of thanksgiving,

**We celebrate his death and resurrection,
as we await the day of his coming.**

Lord God of our Fathers and Mothers: God of Abraham & Sarah, Isaac & Rebekah, and Jacob & Leah and Rachel; God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ: Open our eyes to see your hand at work in the world about us. Deliver us from the presumption of coming to this Table for solace only, and not for strength; for pardon only, and not for renewal. Let the grace of this Holy Communion make us one body, one spirit in Christ, that we may worthily serve the world in his name.

Risen Lord, be known to us in the breaking of the Bread.

Accept these prayers and praises, Father, through Jesus Christ our great High Priest, to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit, your Church gives honor, glory, and worship, from generation to generation. **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

Out in the highways and byways of life

LEVAS #158

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.**

Blessing

May the Lord be a bright flame before you, be a guiding star above you, be a smooth path below you, be a kindly shepherd behind you, today and for evermore. **Amen.**

Closing Hymn

Alleluia! Sing to Jesus!

Hymnal # 460

Dismissal

Celebrant: Let us bless the Lord! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

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

Postlude

Postlude by J.S. Bach

Michael Mulder



Absalom Jones, Priest (1818): Jones was born a slave, but later bought his freedom. He and other black parishioners left St. George's Methodist Episcopal Church after being told they could only worship in an upstairs gallery. Jones became the priest at St. Thomas African Episcopal Church which was admitted into the Episcopal Church in 1794. He became known as "the Black Bishop of the Episcopal Church." He was an earnest preacher, and was particularly beloved for his mild manner and his devotion to pastoral visiting.

Lili'uokalani, Queen of Hawai'i (1917) was a persistent advocate for justice and nonviolence. She recognized the "Beloved Community" in her own day and refused to sanction the use of force or to encourage her people to respond violently when faced by heavily armed forces from the United States Navy, acting in support of a band of insurrectionists (largely from the United States and Europe) as her government was illegally overthrown on January 17, 1893. In doing so, she prevented the undue bloodshed of her people against overwhelming force. Appealing to President Grover Cleveland, she surrendered her throne to the American government and pleaded with her subjects to respect her decision. As a result, she was forcefully removed from her throne and subsequently imprisoned for her witness in opposition to American imperialism. Her model of grace left a powerful symbol of God's love that continues to be at the center of the Native Hawaiian community and thus a gift to the entire Church. Queen Lili'uokalani was also a respected musician and composer. Among her most well-known compositions is the Queen's Prayer, *Ke Aloha o Ka Haku*, sung most Sundays at parishes in Hawai'i. It is based upon her reading of the only two books allowed to her during her imprisonment, the Holy Bible and the Book of Common Prayer. As a neighbor to St. Andrew's Cathedral, she received refuge during the counterrevolution with the Anglican Sisters at St. Andrew's Priory School for Girls. Together with the Bishop, the Right Reverend Alfred Willis, they would minister and visit her during her imprisonment and these deeds of charity would influence Her Majesty to become a member of our Church. The lyrics reflect her faith in the face of adversity: Your truth, so perfect. I live in sorrow, imprisoned. You are my light, your glory, my support. Behold not with malevolence, the sins of man, but forgive, and forgive. And so, O Lord, beneath your wings, be our peace, forever more. Queen Lili'uokalani died on November 11, 1917, and is buried at the Mauna 'Ala Royal Mausoleum in Honolulu, Hawai'i. The traditional date of this commemoration is November 11, the date of Queen Lili'uokalani's death and may be so observed. Because that day is both the commemoration of Veteran's Day in the United States and the commemoration of Martin of

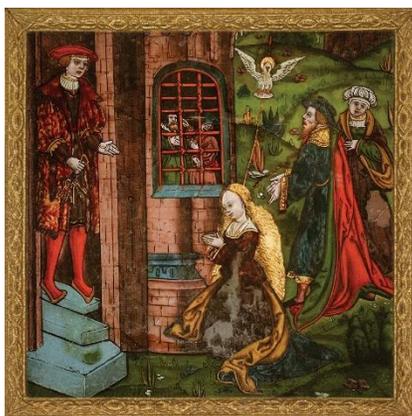
Tours in the churchwide calendar, the date recommended here, January 29, is the date of Lili'uokalani's coronation as Queen of the Hawaiian Kingdom. [Lesser Feasts and Fasts 2024]

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, Sue, Ewa, Jeannie and Margaret, Ross, Abu, Carmine S., Liv C., Katie



- February 14: Teodosia: An Alt-Valentine Oratorio** at 4 pm in the Village Hall
February 15: Last Sunday after the Epiphany; **Holy Eucharist service at 10 am**
February 17: Pancake Supper from 6 - 7:30 in the Village Hall
February 18: Ash Wednesday; Holy Eucharist service at 12 Noon
February 22: First Sunday in Lent; Holy Eucharist service at 10 am
March 1: Second Sunday in Lent; Holy Eucharist service at 10 am
March 8: Third Sunday in Lent; Holy Eucharist service at 10 am
March 15: Fourth Sunday in Lent; Holy Eucharist service at 10 am
March 22: Fifth Sunday in Lent; Holy Eucharist service at 10 am
March 29: Palm Sunday; Holy Eucharist service at 10 am



Teodosia: An Alt-Valentine Oratorio
Presented by Village Hall Concerts, Academy of Sacred Drama

Saturday, February 14, 4 PM
Tickets: \$15-\$60 at villagehall.live

Join us Valentine's weekend for an outrageous alternative to the romance story: a fearless saint who spurns suitors, turns down marriage, and embraces martyrdom instead of a wedding veil.

Whether you're coupled up or flying solo, come enjoy an afternoon where being true to oneself is the first step to the ultimate relationship.

Donations received will help feed our Neighbors.

We are also collecting food donations, please bring canned or packaged food for the **Brewster Food Pantry**.

FAT TUESDAY

**FEBRUARY 17TH
6:00-7:30PM**



FAT TUESDAY PANCAKE SUPPER

**COME FOR PANCAKES, SCRAMBLED EGGS, BACON,
FRUIT SALAD, COFFEE, AND COMMUNITY!**

St. James
Episcopal
Church
North Salem,
New York

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Help feed our Neighbors

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