



Photo by Alison Hartwell

Twelfth Sunday after Pentecost

Proper 15

August 16, 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
HOMILIST:	Katherine Daniels
LAY READER:	Philip Anderson
LECTOR:	Roe Intrieri
PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE:	Dawn Irizarry
USHER:	Dawn Irizarry

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Sr. Warden: Tom Stratman (203) 482-3405 **Jr. Warden:** Michael Mulder (212) 243-0615
Vestry: Philip Anderson Margaret Eaton Robert Herzberg Jeremy Zhang-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

Opening Hymn My hope is built on nothing less/On Christ the Solid Rock **LEVAS II # 99**

Opening Sentence

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

People: **And blessed be his kingdom, now and for ever. Amen.**

Trisagion *Holy God* 3x

Hymnal S-102

Ho - ly God, Ho - ly and Might - y,

Ho - ly Im - mor - tal One, Have mer - cy up - on us.

Music: Ver. *Hymnal* 1982, after Alexander Archangelsky (1846-1924). 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. Almighty God, you have given your only Son to be for us a sacrifice for sin, and also an example of godly life: Give us grace to receive thankfully the fruits of his redeeming work, and to follow daily in the blessed steps of his most holy life; through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.

People: **Amen.**

Old Testament Reading

A Reading from the Book of Genesis [45:1-15]

Joseph could no longer control himself before all those who stood by him, and he cried out, "Send everyone away from me." So no one stayed with him when Joseph made himself known to his brothers. And he wept so loudly that the Egyptians heard it, and the household of Pharaoh heard it. Joseph said to his brothers, "I am Joseph. Is my father still alive?" But his brothers could not answer him, so dismayed were they at his presence. Then Joseph said to

his brothers, "Come closer to me." And they came closer. He said, "I am your brother, Joseph, whom you sold into Egypt. And now do not be distressed, or angry with yourselves, because you sold me here; for God sent me before you to preserve life. For the famine has been in the land these two years; and there are five more years in which there will be neither plowing nor harvest. God sent me before you to preserve for you a remnant on earth, and to keep alive for you many survivors. So it was not you who sent me here, but God; he has made me a father to Pharaoh, and lord of all his house and ruler over all the land of Egypt. Hurry and go up to my father and say to him, 'Thus says your son Joseph, God has made me lord of all Egypt; come down to me, do not delay. You shall settle in the land of Goshen, and you shall be near me, you and your children and your children's children, as well as your flocks, your herds, and all that you have. I will provide for you there—since there are five more years of famine to come—so that you and your household, and all that you have, will not come to poverty.' And now your eyes and the eyes of my brother Benjamin see that it is my own mouth that speaks to you. You must tell my father how greatly I am honored in Egypt, and all that you have seen. Hurry and bring my father down here." Then he fell upon his brother Benjamin's neck and wept, while Benjamin wept upon his neck. And he kissed all his brothers and wept upon them; and after that his brothers talked with him.

Lector: The Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

Psalms 133 *Ecce, quam bonum!*

Psalms for All People V1.2

1 Oh, how good and pleasant it is, *

when kindred live together in unity!

2 It is like fine oil upon the head *

that runs down upon the beard,

3 Upon the beard of Aaron, *

and runs down upon the collar of Aaron's robe.

4 It is like the dew of Hermon *

that falls upon the hills of Zion.

5 For there the Lord has ordained the blessing: *

life for evermore.

New Testament Reading A Reading from the Letter of Paul to the Romans [11:1-2a, 29-32]

I ask, then, has God rejected his people? By no means! I myself am an Israelite, a descendant of Abraham, a member of the tribe of Benjamin. God has not rejected his people whom he foreknew. For the gifts and the calling of God are irrevocable. Just as you were once disobedient to God but have now received mercy because of their disobedience, so they have now been disobedient in order that, by the mercy shown to you, they too may now receive mercy. For God has imprisoned all in disobedience so that he may be merciful to all.

Lay Reader: The Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

Sequence Hymn

We are climbing Jacob's ladder

LEVAS II # 220

Celebrant: The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew [15: 10-28]

People: Glory to you, Lord Christ.

Jesus called the crowd to him and said to them, "Listen and understand: it is not what goes into the mouth that defiles a person, but it is what comes out of the mouth that defiles." Then the disciples approached and said to him, "Do you know that the Pharisees took offense when they heard what you said?" He answered, "Every plant that my heavenly Father has not planted will be uprooted. Let them alone; they are blind guides of the blind. And if one blind person guides another, both will fall into a pit." But Peter said to him, "Explain this parable to us." Then he said, "Are you also still without understanding? Do you not see that whatever goes into the mouth enters the stomach, and goes out into the sewer? But what comes out of the mouth proceeds from the heart, and this is what defiles. For out of the heart come evil intentions, murder, adultery, fornication, theft, false witness, slander. These are what defile a person, but to eat with unwashed hands does not defile." Jesus left that place and went away to the district of Tyre and Sidon. Just then a Canaanite woman from that region came out and started shouting, "Have mercy on me, Lord, Son of David; my daughter is tormented by a demon." But he did not answer her at all. And his disciples came and urged him, saying, "Send her away, for she keeps shouting after us." He answered, "I was sent only to the lost sheep of the house of Israel." But she came and knelt before him, saying, "Lord, help me." He answered, "It is not fair to take the children's food and throw it to the dogs." She said, "Yes, Lord, yet even the dogs eat the crumbs that fall from their masters' table." Then Jesus answered her, "Woman, great is your faith! Let it be done for you as you wish." And her daughter was healed instantly.

Celebrant: The Gospel of the Lord.

People: Praise to you, Lord Christ.

Homily

Mrs. Katherine Daniels

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:

People: Bennett, Ginny and Maar family, Dylan and Ann Marie, Rob K., Nina T., Mackenzie, Marissa, Randy S., Fawn, Michael W., John C., Alan, Mike T., Mary Pat, Janet, Kathy, Bro, Jean, Rich Sr., Jeffrey W., Susan, Paula, Chris, Mary Ellen, Sarah, Lisa R., Lorraine, Chris T., Venezuelan people, Haitians and Syrians effected by TPS, those who have lost their jobs; those who have been taken and put into detention centers, especially Ben;

Reader: and watch over those who care for them; that they may be delivered from their distress. We pray for guidance for the:

People: 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 Bernard of Clairvaux, Monastic and Theologian (1153); 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.

Reader: Heavenly Father, you have promised to hear what we ask in the Name of your Son: Accept and fulfill our petitions, we pray, not as we ask in our ignorance, nor as we deserve in our sinfulness, but as you know and love us in your Son Jesus Christ our Lord.

People: 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

HOLY COMMUNION

Offertory Sentence

Celebrant: Offer to God a sacrifice of thanksgiving, and make good your vows to the Most High. [*Psalm 50:14*]

Offertory Hymn I am weak but thou art strong/Just a Closer Walk with Thee **LEVAS II # 72**

Great Thanksgiving Eucharistic Prayer A

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.

Lay Leader: It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth. For by water and the Holy Spirit you have made us a new people in Jesus Christ our Lord, to show forth your glory in all the world. 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 # 254

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow-er and
might, Heav - en and earth are full of your glo - ry Ho-san - na
in the high-est. Bless-ed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.
Ho-san - na in the high-est.

Celebrant: 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.

Lay Leader: He stretched out his arms upon the cross, and offered himself, in obedience to your will, a perfect sacrifice for the whole world.

Celebrant: 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."

Lay Leader: 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."

Celebrant: Therefore we proclaim the mystery of faith:

Christ has died.

Christ is risen.

Christ will come again.

Lay Leader: We celebrate the memorial of our redemption, O Father, in his sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving. Recalling his death, resurrection, and ascension, we offer you these gifts.

Celebrant: 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.

Lay Leader: 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!

Celebrant: 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.**

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

I'm just a poor wayfaring stranger

LEVAS II # 19

Postcommunion Prayer

**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.**

Blessing

Celebrant: May God the Father, who by Baptism adopts us as his children, grant us grace.

People: Amen.

Celebrant: May God the Son, who sanctified a home at Nazareth, fill us with love.

People: Amen.

Celebrant: May God the Holy Spirit, who has made the Church one family, keep us
in peace.

People: Amen.

Closing Hymn

Come, we that love the Lord/We're Marching to Zion

LEVAS II # 12

Dismissal

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

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



Bernard of Clairvaux, Monastic and Theologian (1153) was the son of a knight and landowner who lived near Dijon, France. He was born in 1090 and given a secular education, but in 1113 he entered the Benedictine Abbey of Citeaux. His family was not pleased with his choice of a monastic life, but he nevertheless persuaded four of his brothers and about twenty-six of his friends to join him. After only three years, the abbot of Citeaux deployed Bernard and a small company of monks to establish a monastery at Clairvaux in 1115. The work at Clairvaux, and the extreme rigors of the Benedictine rule practiced by the Cistercian community, were taxing. Tasked with much, Bernard denied himself sleep to the detriment of his health that he might have time to write letters and sermons. He preached so persuasively that sixty new abbeys were founded, all affiliated with Clairvaux. Famed for the ardor with which he preached love for God without measure, he fulfilled his own definition of a holy man: "seen to be good and charitable, holding back nothing for himself, but using his every gift for the common good." By 1140, his writings had made him one of the most influential figures in Christendom. His guidance was sought by prelates and princes, drawing him into active participation in all manner of controversy involving the church, from settling disputes among secular rulers to sorting contentious theological debates. An ardent opponent of a growing movement of his time to reconcile inconsistencies of doctrine by reason, he felt that such an approach was a downgrading of the mysteries. This conflict took particular expression in his fierce opposition to the formidable theologian Abelard. Among Bernard's writings are treatises on humility and pride, on love, on the veneration of Mary, and a commentary on the Song of Songs. Among well-known hymns, he is credited with having written "O sacred head sore wounded" (The Hymnal 1982, #168; #169), "Jesus, the very thought of thee" (#642), and "O Jesus, joy of loving hearts" (#649; #650). He died on August 20, 1153.

Continuing Prayer List

Sara, Pam P., Kate C., Kristin and Gizzi Family, Robert and family, Morgan, Susan and Dan S., Lee, Barry, Ben, Will and family, John R., Rebecca, Teddy and Jeff, Ann B., Joyce and Douglas K., Betsy, John W. and Susan, Jeanette, Dean W., Walter and family, Eileen, Sister CG, Jackie A., Abdul and Mohammed, Joanne and Marie, Robert, Sue, Ross, Abu, Sheryl and family, Jeffrey, Kathleen, Biran, Annie, Bill, Claudia, Jeff

Upcoming Services & Events



- August 23: **Thirteenth Sunday after Pentecost; Proper 16:** Holy Eucharist service at 10 am
Sunday School at 9:50 am in Village Hall
- August 30: **Fourteenth Sunday after Pentecost; Proper 17:** Holy Eucharist service at 10 am
Sunday School at 9:50 am in Village Hall
- September 6: **Fifteenth Sunday after Pentecost; Proper 18:** Holy Eucharist service, 10 am
Sunday School at 9:50 am in Village Hall
- September 13: **Sixteenth Sunday after Pentecost; Proper 19:** Holy Eucharist service, 10 am
Sunday School at 9:50 am in Village Hall
- September 20: **Seventeenth Sunday after Pentecost; Proper 20:** Holy Eucharist service, 10 am
Sunday School at 9:50 am in Village Hall
- September 27: **Eighteenth Sunday after Pentecost; Proper 21:** Holy Eucharist service, 10 am
Sunday School at 9:50 am in Village Hall

The Installation of
The Rev. Canon Sam Louis Owen
*Canon for Westchester and Putnam Counties and
Canon for Global and Local Organizing*

Sunday, September 20, 4pm

*St. Thomas Episcopal Church
168 W Boston Post Rd.
Mamaroneck, NY 10543*

The Rev. John Zahl, Preacher
The Rt. Rev. Matthew Heyd, Celebrant

Clergy are invited to process
in Red Stoles

Reception to follow.