



THE THIRD SUNDAY AFTER THE EPIPHANY

January 26th, 2025

9:00 a.m.

St. James' Episcopal Church

WELCOME

A Warm Welcome to All! We at St. James' are especially delighted and blessed to welcome all to this beloved church today. Assisted Listening Devices are available for the hearing impaired; please ask an usher for a device. Restrooms are located along the hallway that is through the exit at the front left corner of the sanctuary. Visitors in need of a pastoral call or interested in learning more about our parish are invited to fill out a Welcome Card located in each pew, drop it with an usher, and you will receive a follow-up call. Please note that all are most welcome to receive Communion in our church. Our worship uses three books located in your pews: the blue *Hymnal*, the red & black *Lift Every Voice* hymnal (LEVAS) and the red *Book of Common Prayer* (BCP).

The Holy Eucharist: Rite II

Book of Common Prayer, p. 355

Please hold silence during the Prelude as we gather to worship.

Prelude Prelude in D Minor BWV935 by J. S. Bach

Welcome and Announcements

All stand as able.

Opening Hymn Hail to the Lord's Anointed Blue Hymnal #616

Opening Acclamation

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

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 Blue Hymnal S-278

The Collect of the Day

Celebrant The Lord be with you.
People **And also with you.**
Celebrant Let us pray.

Give us grace, O Lord, to answer readily the call of our Savior Jesus Christ and proclaim to all people the Good News of his salvation, that we and the whole world may perceive

the glory of his marvelous works; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

Please be seated for the lessons.

The Lessons

A reading from the Book of Nehemiah

8:1-3, 5-6, 8-10

All the people of Israel gathered together into the square before the Water Gate. They told the scribe Ezra to bring the book of the law of Moses, which the Lord had given to Israel. Accordingly, the priest Ezra brought the law before the assembly, both men and women and all who could hear with understanding. This was on the first day of the seventh month. He read from it facing the square before the Water Gate from early morning until midday, in the presence of the men and the women and those who could understand; and the ears of all the people were attentive to the book of the law. And Ezra opened the book in the sight of all the people, for he was standing above all the people; and when he opened it, all the people stood up. Then Ezra blessed the Lord, the great God, and all the people answered, "Amen, Amen," lifting up their hands. Then they bowed their heads and worshiped the Lord with their faces to the ground. So they read from the book, from the law of God, with interpretation. They gave the sense, so that the people understood the reading.

And Nehemiah, who was the governor, and Ezra the priest and scribe, and the Levites who taught the people said to all the people, "This day is holy to the Lord your God; do not mourn or weep." For all the people wept when they heard the words of the law. Then he said to them, "Go your way, eat the fat and drink sweet wine and send portions of them to those for whom nothing is prepared, for this day is holy to our Lord; and do not be grieved, for the joy of the Lord is your strength."

Reader The Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

Psalm 19

Read responsively, changing at the*. Lector begins with 1st verse and congregation follows.

The heavens declare the glory of God, *

and the firmament shows his handiwork.

One day tells its tale to another, *

and one night imparts knowledge to another.

Although they have no words or language, *

and their voices are not heard,

Their sound has gone out into all lands, *

and their message to the ends of the world.

In the deep has he set a pavilion for the sun; *

it comes forth like a bridegroom out of his chamber;

it rejoices like a champion to run its course. It goes forth from the uttermost edge of the heavens and runs about to the end of it again; *

nothing is hidden from its burning heat.

The law of the Lord is perfect and revives the soul; *

the testimony of the Lord is sure and gives wisdom to the innocent.

The statutes of the Lord are just and rejoice the heart; *

the commandment of the Lord is clear and gives light to the eyes.

The fear of the Lord is clean and endures for ever; *

the judgments of the Lord are true and righteous altogether.

More to be desired are they than gold, more than much fine gold, *

sweeter far than honey, than honey in the comb.

By them also is your servant enlightened, *

and in keeping them there is great reward.

Who can tell how often he offends? *

cleanse me from my secret faults.

Above all, keep your servant from presumptuous sins; let them not get dominion over me; *

then shall I be whole and sound, and innocent of a great offense.

14 Let the words of my mouth and the meditation of my heart be acceptable in your sight *

O Lord, my strength and my redeemer.

Reader The Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

A reading from the first letter of St. Paul to the Corinthians

12:12-31a

Just as the body is one and has many members, and all the members of the body, though many, are one body, so it is with Christ. For in the one Spirit we were all baptized into one body--Jews or Greeks, slaves or free--and we were all made to drink of one Spirit. Indeed, the body does not consist of one member but of many. If the foot would say, "Because I am not a hand, I do not belong to the body," that would not make it any less a part of the body. And if the ear would say, "Because I am not an eye, I do not belong to the body," that would not make it any less a part of the body. If the whole body were an eye, where would the hearing be? If the whole body were hearing, where would the sense of smell be? But as it is, God arranged the members in the body, each one of them, as he chose. If all were a single member, where would the body be? As it is, there are many members, yet one body. The eye cannot say to the hand, "I have no need of you," nor again the head to the feet, "I have no need of you." On the contrary, the members of the body that seem to be weaker are indispensable, and those members of the body that we think less honorable we clothe with greater honor, and our less respectable members are treated with greater respect; whereas our more respectable members do not need this. But God has so arranged the body, giving the greater honor to the inferior member, that there may be no dissension within the body, but the members may have the same care for one another. If one member suffers, all suffer together with it; if one member is honored, all rejoice together with it.

Now you are the body of Christ and individually members of it. And God has appointed in the church first apostles, second prophets, third teachers; then deeds of power, then gifts of healing, forms of assistance, forms of leadership, various kinds of tongues. Are all apostles? Are all prophets? Are all teachers? Do all work miracles? Do all possess gifts of healing? Do all speak in tongues? Do all interpret? But strive for the greater gifts.

Reader The Word of the Lord.
People **Thanks be to God.**

All stand as able
Sequence Hymn Open Your Ears, O Faithful People Blue Hymnal #536

A reading from the Gospel according to Luke

4:14-21

Celebrant The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to St. Luke
People **Glory to you, Lord Christ.**

Jesus, filled with the power of the Spirit, returned to Galilee, and a report about him spread through all the surrounding country. He began to teach in their synagogues and was praised by everyone.

When he came to Nazareth, where he had been brought up, he went to the synagogue on the sabbath day, as was his custom. He stood up to read, and the scroll of the prophet Isaiah was given to him. He unrolled the scroll and found the place where it was written: "The Spirit of the Lord is upon me, because he has anointed me to bring good news to the poor. He has sent me to proclaim release to the captives and recovery of sight to the blind, to let the oppressed go free, to proclaim the year of the Lord's favor."

And he rolled up the scroll, gave it back to the attendant, and sat down. The eyes of all in the synagogue were fixed on him. Then he began to say to them, "Today this scripture has been fulfilled in your hearing."

Celebrant The Gospel of the Lord.
People **Praise to you, Lord Christ.**

The Sermon

The Rev. Gina Gore

A period of silence is kept.

All stand as able.

The Nicene Creed

**We believe in one God,
the Father, the Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth,
of all that is, seen and unseen.
We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ,
the only Son of God,
eternally begotten of the Father,**

**God from God, Light from Light,
true God from true God,
begotten, not made,
of one Being with the Father.
Through him all things were made.**

**For us and for our salvation
he came down from heaven:
by the power of the Holy Spirit
he became incarnate from the Virgin Mary,
and was made man.**

**For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate;
he suffered death and was buried.**

**On the third day he rose again
in accordance with the Scriptures;
he ascended into heaven**

and is seated at the right hand of the Father.

**He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead,
and his kingdom will have no end.**

**We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son.**

With the Father and the Son he is worshiped and glorified.

He has spoken through the Prophets.

We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church.

We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.

**We look for the resurrection of the dead,
and the life of the world to come. Amen.**

Prayers of the People

Form III

Book of Common Prayer, p.387

The Leader and People pray responsively

Father, we pray for your holy Catholic Church;
That we all may be one.

Grant that every member of the Church may truly and humbly serve you;
That your Name may be glorified by all people.

We pray for all bishops, priests, and deacons;
That they may be faithful ministers of your Word and Sacraments.

We pray for all who govern and hold authority in the nations of the world;
That there may be justice and peace on the earth.

Give us grace to do your will in all that we undertake;
That our works may find favor in your sight.

Have compassion on those who suffer from any grief or trouble;
That they may be delivered from their distress.

Give to the departed eternal rest.
Let light perpetual shine upon them.

We praise you for your saints who have entered into joy;
May we also come to share in your heavenly kingdom.

Let us pray for our own needs and those of others.

Silence

The Reader adds our Parish Intercessions.

The Celebrant adds a concluding Collect.

Confession of Sin

Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

Silence may be kept. The people may stand or kneel as able.

Celebrant 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.

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.**

All are seated.

A Ring Blessing and Renewal of Vows for Jana Draper and George Bogart

All stand as able.

The Peace

A Blessing of Rings and Marriage for Jana Draper and George Bogart

Celebrant The peace of the Lord be always with you.
People **And also with you.**

Please greet one another in the name of the Lord.

All are seated.

The Holy Communion

Offertory Sentence

Celebrant

Ascribe to the Lord the honor due his Name; bring offerings and come into his courts.

All are seated.

Offertory Anthem

Here I Am, Lord

by Daniel L. Schutte/ Choral Setting by Jack Schrader
Winter Choir

All stand or kneel as able.

Presentation Hymn

From All that Dwell Below the Skies

Blue Hymnal #380

The Great Thanksgiving

Eucharistic Prayer B, p. 367

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 God thanks and praise.**

It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you,
Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth.

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:

Sanctus

Blue Hymnal #S-128

**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,

Celebrant and People

**We remember his death,
We proclaim his resurrection,
We await his coming in glory;**

Celebrant

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 Saint 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,

Celebrant and People

The Lord's Prayer

**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.**

The Breaking of the Bread

The Celebrant breaks the consecrated Bread. A period of silence is kept.

Celebrant The Gifts of God for the People of God.

All are invited to come forward for Communion. To receive a priestly blessing instead, please come forward and cross your arms over your chest.

Communion Hymns

One Bread, One Body

LEVAS #151

Let Us Break Bread Together on Our Knee

LEVAS #152

Following communion

A Prayer for Spiritual Communion for those worshipping online

Celebrant Holy Jesus, Redeemer of the World, we believe that you are present in the Blessed Sacrament of this altar. Even while some of us are unable to receive you in the elements of bread and wine, we invite you, Jesus, to enter our hearts and be our companion along the way. Awaiting in hope, we know that you are present in every moment of our lives and will never leave us comfortless. For all good things come from you O Lord, and from that goodness, lead us to the love of others. For you live with the Father and the Holy Spirit now and forever. **Amen.**

[When the Sacrament is to be shared with homebound parishioners, the following form is used:]

Sending Forth of the Eucharistic Visitors

Celebrant In the name of this congregation, I send you forth bearing these holy gifts, that those to whom you go may share with us in the communion of Christ's body and blood.

People **We who are many are one body, because we all share one bread, one cup.**

All stand as able.

Celebrant Let us pray.

Postcommunion Prayer

Enriching Our Worship

Celebrant and People

Loving God, we give you thanks for restoring us in your image and nourishing us with spiritual food in the Sacrament of Christ's Body and Blood. Now send us forth a people, forgiven, healed, renewed; that we may proclaim your love to the world and continue in the risen life of Christ our Savior. Amen

The Blessing

Closing Hymn

Christ for the World We Sing!

Blue Hymnal #537

Dismissal

First time: Choir, Children, Clergy

Second time: Congregation, Choir, Children, Clergy

Go Now in Peace

These two measures may be played throughout by handbells or another instrument.

The musical score is written in 2/4 time on a single treble clef staff. It consists of three systems of music with lyrics underneath. Chord symbols (C and G) are placed above the notes. The first system has two measures of music with lyrics 'Go now in peace.' The second system has four measures with lyrics 'Go now in peace. May the love of God sur - round you'. The third system has six measures with lyrics 'ev - 'ry-where, ev - 'ry-where you may go.' The final measure of the third system is marked 'Last time' and has a repeat sign.

This may be sung at the conclusion of the service, in unison or as a three-voice round, with or without instruments.

Text and Music: Natalie Sleeth, 1930–1992; 1975, © 1976, Hinshaw Music, Inc.

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Postlude

Postlude on Darwall's 148th

by Ernest A. Dicks

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If you are visiting us for the first time, WELCOME!
Please feel free to introduce yourself to us or fill out a welcome card in the pews.
We hope you will join us again soon.

Our Annual Meeting follows the 9:00 a.m. service in the Parish Hall.
Please join us!

ASSISTING IN WORSHIP

January 26th, 2025

9:00 AM

Celebrant and Preacher: The Rev. Gina Gore

Director of Music: Joanne F. Archibald

Winter Choir

Ushers: Jim Beschle, Frank Giarratana

Lectors: Jana Draper, Perry Downs

Intercessor: Jeanne Todaro

Altar Server: Linda Spaziani

Financial Stewards: Janet Brown, Lew Westfall

Flower Arranger: Ernie Harrington

Flower Deliverer: Lyn Meyers

Audio Tech: Russ Griemsmann

PARISH INTERCESSIONS

Let us pray for all who are ill, in danger, or in sorrow, especially Theo, Peter, Carole, Claire, Linda, Evan, Kim, Amy, Lois, Arthur, Kim, Ruth, Pat, Kate, David, Rayann, Ava, Bill, Donovan, Sophia, John, Leanne, and Virginia.

For all people affected by war and natural disasters, especially all in California.

For St. Gabriel's, East Berlin; St. Stephen's, East Haddam; All Saint's, East Harford

For Ministries to, with & for the deaf.

For The Episcopal/Anglican Province of Alexandria.

For the intentions on our prayer wall: For those who are afraid.

Pastoral Care Support

Prayer Chain

To add your name to the prayer chain, which is confidential to the team of people committed to praying over requests, please contact Kathy Sabbagh at 203-748-4042 or email kathysabba48@gmail.com.

Prayer List

To add your name to the weekly bulletin prayer list, please call or email the office at 203-748-3561, or welcome@saintjamesdanbury.org.

For pastoral support or a pastoral emergency, contact Rev. Gina Gore at 203-748-3561 x 14 to leave a confidential message or email ggore@saintjamesdanbury.org.

CALENDAR

Sunday, January 26th – ONE SERVICE

8:20 Choir Rehearsal in the Church

9:00 am Sunday Worship in the Church (Livestreamed)

11:15 Annual Meeting in the Parish Hall

Monday, January 27th

Office open 9:30-1:30

Tuesday, January 28th

Office open 9:30-1:30

Wednesday, January 29th

Office open, 9:30-1:30

10:00 am Staff Meeting in the Library

12:00 pm Holy Eucharist in the Chapel

7:15 pm SAA in the Library

Friday, January 31st

6:00-8:00 pm LGBT+ and Allies Group in the Library – All are invited!

Sunday, February 2nd

8:00 am Sunday Worship in the Chapel

9:30 am Choir Rehearsal in the Church

10:00 am Sunday Worship in the Church (Livestreamed)

11:30 am Bell Choir Rehearsal in the Sanctuary

NOTES

In Case of an Emergency:

If there is a pastoral emergency please reach out to our Priest-In-Charge, Rev. Gina at 203-748-3561 ex 14 (office)

Clergy, Wardens, & Staff

The Rev. Gina Gore, Priest-in-Charge
The Rev. Dr. Carole Johannsen, Affiliate Priest
The Rev. Dr. Michael Plekon, Affiliate Priest
Joanne F. Archibald, Director of Music
Ricky Lopez, Sexton
Amy Maloof, Parish Administrator

Lyn Meyers, Senior Warden
Russ Griemsmann, Junior Warden
Beth Cox, Treasurer

St. James' Episcopal Church

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(203) 748-3561
welcome@saintjamesdanbury.org
www.saintjamesdanbury.org

Fall Worship Schedule:

Sundays Holy Eucharist 8:00 am
(in the Chapel)
Holy Eucharist 10:00 am
(in the Church and Live-Streamed)
Wednesdays Holy Eucharist: 12pm
(in the Chapel)

Please note: Our main Church has an accessibility ramp. However, our smaller Chapel (used on Sunday mornings at 8:00 am and noon on Wednesdays), is not wheelchair accessible