



**ST. JAMES'S
EPISCOPAL CHURCH**

**The Seventeenth Sunday after Pentecost:
The Season of Creation - "Advocate"**

**September 24, 2023
10:30 am**

Welcome to St. James's!

*We're glad that you have joined us today to enjoy the blessings of worship
and to participate with us in God's mission in the world of justice and love.*

*However you come to this place,
exhausted or energized by life, comfortable with church or not,
gay or straight, trans, nonbinary, cisfemale or cismale;
of color or white, neurodivergent or neurotypical,
differently-abled or able-bodied, younger or older!*

*Whoever you are,
know the people of St. James's strive to love and welcome you as God does,
unconditionally and completely just as you are!*

10:30 am The Seventeenth Sunday after Pentecost, Holy Eucharist, Rite II

<i>Acolytes</i>	Marian King, Jonte Folkes, Sage Binzen, Xenia Binzen, Sofia Ironside
<i>Eucharistic Ministers</i>	Mabel Moore-Pollard, Marian King
<i>Minister of Music</i>	Patrick Michaels
<i>Preacher</i>	Malcolm David Bliss
<i>Presider</i>	The Rev. Matthew Stewart
<i>Readers</i>	Donna Thompson, Michael Anthony
<i>Usher</i>	Mark Agard
<i>Videographer</i>	Alice Killian
<i>Youth Videographer</i>	Colin Mazzotta
<i>Welcomer</i>	JT Kittredge

The Word of God

Prelude

Words of Welcome

Tolling of the Bell

Opening Hymn: An Earth Alive



While Earth re - volves in giv-ing and re - ceiv-ing, each life a-part, and each a part of all,



bestow-ing breath and tak-ing back a-gain - we sense our start, yet what will be our end?



1. As if con-sump-tion nev - er has a lim - it, as if we are the on - ly ones that
2. As if we own the pres - ent and the fu - ture, as if our chil - dren need not live and
3. As if our wait - ing death can be a - void-ed, as if all things were sep - arate and dis-



count, as if our nar - row life is all that mat - ters, we live with-out a con-cept of e-nough.
thrive, as if the Earth could nev-er be ex-haust-ed, we live with-out a con-cept of e-nough.
creeet, as if our time will nev-er have an end - ing, we live with-out a con-cept of e-nough.

Text and Music: Patrick Michaels, © 2020.

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Opening Acclamation

Presider This is the day the Creator has made.

People Let us rejoice and be glad in it.

Collect for Purity

All then pray

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.**

Song of Praise: Praise to God

MHSO 132

1 Praise to God, praise to God, for the green - ness
 2 Thanks to God, thanks to God, for the gift of
 3 Sing to God, sing to God, for the grace of

of the trees, for the beau - ty of the flow'rs,
 friends in Christ, for the church, our house of faith,
 Je - sus Christ, for the love of par - ent God,

for the blue - ness of the sky, for the great - ness of the sea.
 for the gift of won - drous love, for the gift of end - less grace.
 for the com - fort and the strength of the Spir - it, ho - ly God.

Praise to God, praise to God, now and for - ev - er - more.
 Thanks to God, thanks to God, now and for - ev - er - more.
 Sing to God, sing to God, now and for - ev - er - more.

Chord markings: (Dm) Em, (Am) Bm, (Em) F#m

Words: Nobuaki Hanoaka. Tr @1983 Abingdon Press All rights reserved
 Music: Sakura, Traditional Japanese, harm. Jonathan McNair @1993 Pilgrim Press. All rights reserved. Used by permission.

The Collect of the Day

Presider The Creator be with you.

People And also be with you.

Presider Let us pray.

Grant us, Lord, your vision of a renewed earth in which heaven comes to rest; and even now, when we too often despair of healing and wholeness, to hold fast to your promise and commit again to hope; through Jesus Christ the Wisdom of Creation, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, now and for ever. **Amen.**

The First Reading: Exodus 16:2-15

Donna Thompson

A reading from the Book of Exodus.

The whole congregation of the Israelites complained against Moses and Aaron in the wilderness. The Israelites said to them, "If only we had died by the hand of the LORD in the land of Egypt, when we sat by the fleshpots and ate our fill of bread; for you have brought us out into this wilderness to kill this whole assembly with hunger."

Then the LORD said to Moses, "I am going to rain bread from heaven for you, and each day the people shall go out and gather enough for that day. In that way I will test them, whether they will follow my instruction or not. On the sixth day, when they prepare what they bring in, it will be twice as much as they gather on other days." So Moses and Aaron said to all the Israelites, "In the evening you shall know that it was the LORD who brought you out of the land of Egypt, and in the morning you shall see the glory of the LORD, because he has heard your complaining against the LORD. For what are we, that you complain against us?" And Moses said, "When the LORD gives you meat to eat in the evening and your fill of bread in the morning, because the LORD has heard the complaining that you utter against him—what are we? Your complaining is not against us but against the LORD."

Then Moses said to Aaron, "Say to the whole congregation of the Israelites, 'Draw near to the LORD, for he has heard your complaining.'" And as Aaron spoke to the whole congregation of the Israelites, they looked toward the wilderness, and the glory of the LORD appeared in the cloud. The LORD spoke to Moses and said, "I have heard the complaining of the Israelites; say to

them, 'At twilight you shall eat meat, and in the morning you shall have your fill of bread; then you shall know that I am the LORD your God.'"

In the evening quails came up and covered the camp; and in the morning there was a layer of dew around the camp. When the layer of dew lifted, there on the surface of the wilderness was a fine flaky substance, as fine as frost on the ground. When the Israelites saw it, they said to one another, "What is it?" For they did not know what it was. Moses said to them, "It is the bread that the LORD has given you to eat."

Reader Hear what the Spirit is saying to God's people.
People Thanks be to God.

Psalm 105

(All together)

Margot Chamberlain

4 GIVE THANKS TO THE LORD AND CALL U-PON HIS NAME; MAKE KNOWN HIS DEEDS A-MONG THE
PEO - PLES. SING TO HIM, SING PRAIS-ES TO HIM, AND
7 SPEAK OF ALL HIS MAR-VE-LOUS WORKS, AND SPEAK OF ALL HIS MAR-VE-LOUS WORKS.

- 3 Glory in his holy Name;*
let the hearts of those who seek the Lord rejoice.
- 4 Search for the Lord and his strength;*
continually seek his face.
- 5 Remember the marvels he has done,*
his wonders and the judgments of his mouth,
- 6 O offspring of Abraham his servant,*
O children of Jacob his chosen.

REFRAIN

37 He led out his people with silver and gold;*
in all their tribes there was not one that stumbled.

39 He spread out a cloud for a covering*
and a fire to give light in the night season.

40 They asked, and quails appeared,*
and he satisfied them with bread from heaven.

41 He opened the rock, and water flowed,*
so the river ran in the dry places.

REFRAIN

42 For God remembered his holy word*
and Abraham his servant.

43 So he led forth his people with gladness,*
his chosen with shouts of joy.

44 He gave his people the lands of the nations,*
and they took the fruit of others' toil,

45 That they might keep his statutes*
and observe his laws. Hallelujah!

REFRAIN

The Second Reading

Donna Thompson

A Reading from "Our Relationship with Creation," Br. Keith Nelson, SSJE

When we violate, abuse, exploit, or even simply ignore non-human creatures, we are rejecting a core dimension of our humanity and of God's calling for us. We are crucifying the earth. We are interrupting, speaking over, or bickering with God's gentle language of love, in which each creature is like a syllable of the living Word. Each creature is an instance of Divine Gift, God's gift to Godself, the love language of the Trinity. We believe God became a Creature in Jesus Christ and redeemed Creation from the inside out so that we creatures can participate directly in this infinite pattern of God's giving-and-receiving.

Reader Here ends the reading.

Gospel Acclamation: Hallelujah, Amen

Scriptural

Patrick Michaels

Hal - le - lu - jah, A - men! Hal - le - lu - jah, A - men!

The first system of music consists of two staves. The upper staff is in treble clef with a key signature of one sharp (F#) and a common time signature (C). It features a melody of eighth and quarter notes. The lower staff is in bass clef with the same key signature and time signature, providing a harmonic accompaniment of eighth and quarter notes. The lyrics 'Hal - le - lu - jah, A - men!' are written below the upper staff, with the first phrase aligned with the first measure and the second phrase with the second measure.

Hal - le - lu - jah, A - men! A - men, A - men!

The second system of music consists of two staves. The upper staff is in treble clef with a key signature of one sharp (F#) and a common time signature (C). It features a melody of eighth and quarter notes. The lower staff is in bass clef with the same key signature and time signature, providing a harmonic accompaniment of eighth and quarter notes. The lyrics 'Hal - le - lu - jah, A - men! A - men, A - men!' are written below the upper staff, with the first phrase aligned with the first measure and the second phrase with the second measure.

Hal - le - lu - jah, A - men! Hal - le - lu - jah, A - men!

The third system of music consists of two staves. The upper staff is in treble clef with a key signature of one sharp (F#) and a common time signature (C). It features a melody of eighth and quarter notes. The lower staff is in bass clef with the same key signature and time signature, providing a harmonic accompaniment of eighth and quarter notes. The lyrics 'Hal - le - lu - jah, A - men! Hal - le - lu - jah, A - men!' are written below the upper staff, with the first phrase aligned with the first measure and the second phrase with the second measure.

Hal - le - lu - jah, A - men! A - men, A - men!

The fourth system of music consists of two staves. The upper staff is in treble clef with a key signature of one sharp (F#) and a common time signature (C). It features a melody of eighth and quarter notes. The lower staff is in bass clef with the same key signature and time signature, providing a harmonic accompaniment of eighth and quarter notes. The lyrics 'Hal - le - lu - jah, A - men! A - men, A - men!' are written below the upper staff, with the first phrase aligned with the first measure and the second phrase with the second measure.

WL800055

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Music © 2015 by Wayne Leupold Editions, Inc.

The Holy Gospel: Matthew 20:1-16

Presider The Holy Gospel of our Savior Jesus Christ according to Matthew.

People Glory to you, O Christ.

Jesus said, "The kingdom of heaven is like a landowner who went out early in the morning to hire laborers for his vineyard. After agreeing with the laborers for the usual daily wage, he sent them into his vineyard. When he went out about nine o'clock, he saw others standing idle in the marketplace; and he said to them, 'You also go into the vineyard, and I will pay you whatever is right.' So they went. When he went out again about noon and about three o'clock, he did the same. And about five o'clock he went out and found others standing around; and he said to them, 'Why are you standing here idle all day?' They said to him, 'Because no one has hired us.' He said to them, 'You also go into the vineyard.' When evening came, the owner of the vineyard said to his manager, 'Call the laborers and give them their pay, beginning with the last and then going to the first.' When those hired about five o'clock came, each of them received the usual daily wage. Now when the first came, they thought they would receive more; but each of them also received the usual daily wage. And when they received it, they grumbled against the landowner, saying, 'These last worked only one hour, and you have made them equal to us who have borne the burden of the day and the scorching heat.' But he replied to one of them, 'Friend, I am doing you no wrong; did you not agree with me for the usual daily wage? Take what belongs to you and go; I choose to give to this last the same as I give to you. Am I not allowed to do what I choose with what belongs to me? Or are you envious because I am generous?' So the last will be first, and the first will be last."

Presider The Gospel of the Lord.

People Praise to you, O Christ.

Sermon

Malcolm David Bliss

Affirmation of Faith

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 that destroys.

Prayers of the People

Michael Anthony

Let us pray for the Church and for all the world.

Grant, Almighty God, that all who confess your Name may be united in your truth, live together in your love, and reveal your glory in the world.

Silence

Lord, in your mercy

Hear our prayer.

Guide the people of this land, and of all the nations, in the ways of justice and peace; that we may honor one another and serve the common good.

Silence

Lord, in your mercy

Hear our prayer.

Give us all a reverence for the earth as your own creation, that we may use its resources rightly in the service of others and to your honor and glory.

Silence

Lord, in your mercy

Hear our prayer.

Bless all whose lives are closely linked with ours, and grant that we may serve Christ in them, and love one another as Christ loves us.

Silence

Lord, in your mercy

Hear our prayer.

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.

We pray especially for John Butler, for Vida Carrington, for Curtis Fisher and his upcoming back surgery, and for the family of Jaden McDaniels who died in a motorcycle accident.

You are now invited to share the prayers on your heart, aloud or in silence.

A moment for intercessory prayer is now observed.

Lord, in your mercy

Hear our prayer.

We commend to your mercy all who have died, that your will for them may be fulfilled; and we pray that we may share with all your saints in your eternal kingdom.

The community is invited to offer their prayers, aloud or in silence, at this time.

Lord, in your mercy

Hear our prayer.

The Presider then says

Great Spirit God, we give you thanks for another day on this earth.

We give you thanks for this day to enjoy the compassionate goodness of you, our Creator. We acknowledge with one mind our respect and gratefulness to all the sacred cycle of life. Bind us together in the circle of compassion to embrace all living creatures and one another. **Amen.**

Confession of Sin

Presider Let us confess our sin against God and God's creation.

People We confess our lack of gratitude
for the beauty and bounty of your creation:
teach us to see that your earth sustains us and all that lives.

We confess that we have misused your earth:

grant us amendment of life.

We confess that we have been intemperate in our appetites:

strengthen us in self-control.

We confess that we have taken the abundance of your world for

granted: make us urgent now for its protection. Amen.

Presider God of compassion, heal our relationship with all creation. Forgive us for our mistreatment and neglect of the world you have made. We are truly sorry and we humbly repent for the harm we have done and for what we have failed to do. Fill us with your Spirit, that we may care for one another and for all creatures, according to your will and in the fullness of your love; through Jesus Christ our Redeemer. **Amen.**

The Peace

Presider The God of heaven has made a home on earth.

People Christ dwells among us and is one with us.

Presider The peace of God be always with you.

People And also with you.

Announcements & Celebrations

The people are now invited to come forward to share announcements, birthday and anniversary blessing requests, or prayer requests. The community's prayer is then gathered as they sing together:

May God bless you; May God keep you; May God's love be with you;

May God grant you peace and wisdom; May God ever be with you.

The Holy Communion

Offertory Sentence

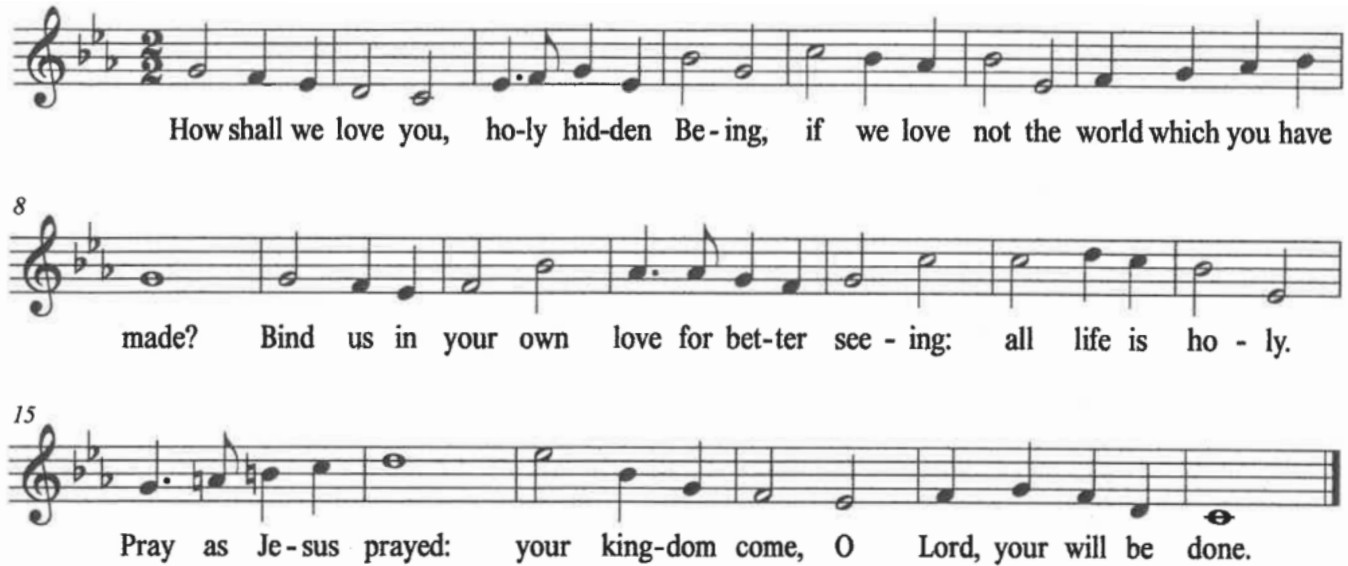
Presider Let us gather our gifts together and offer them to God in gratitude and praise.

At this time our gifts and offerings will be collected.

Offertory Anthem: O Lord, How Great Are Thy Works
The Adult Choir

Alice Parker

Presentation Hymn: How shall we love thee



How shall we love you, ho-ly hid-den Be-ing, if we love not the world which you have
made? Bind us in your own love for bet-ter see - ing: all life is ho - ly.
Pray as Je - sus prayed: your king-dom come, O Lord, your will be done.

Words: Laurence Housman (1865-1959), alt.
Music: *Langham*, Geoffrey Turton Shaw (1879-1843)

The Great Thanksgiving
Eucharistic Prayer for Creation
(Rev. Nina Pooley)

Presider The Lord be with you.
People And also with you.
Presider Lift up your hearts.
People We lift them to the Lord.
Presider Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
People It is right to give God thanks and praise.

The Presider chants

It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, God Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth. Because in the mystery of Christ's incarnation you have gathered into one things earthly and heavenly, calling your people to be ministers of reconciliation and to proclaim the Good News to all creation. 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

WLP 785

San - to, san - to, san - to, mi cor - a - zon te a - do - ra! Mi
Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly, my heart, my heart a - dores you! My

cor - a - zon te sa - be de - cir: san - to e - res Se - ñor.
heart is glad to say the words: you are ho - ly, Lord.

Words: Variation on a traditional liturgical text Music: Composer unknown. Arr. ©1990 Iona Community, admin. by GIA Publications. One License #

Presider

In the night that Jesus was betrayed, he took bread, and gave thanks to God. He broke the bread, gave it to his friends and said: "Take and eat, for this is my body, given for you. Do this in remembrance of me."

He took the wine, and gave thanks to God, Creator. He gave it to his friends saying: "This is my blood of the new covenant, shed for you and for all creation for the forgiveness of sins. Every time you drink of the wine, do this in remembrance of me."

So we proclaim the mystery of faith:

Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.

Merciful God, we come to this table seeking reconciliation: with you, with one another, and with all creation. Through these mysteries reconcile us to our world and empower us to restore your Creation and fulfill your will. Send your life-giving Spirit upon us, and upon this bread and wine. Stir in us the creative and redeem the destructive. Heal your stricken world, that the soil, the skies, and the seas may be filled with your life anew. Fill every heart with the sure and certain hope that we shall enter into the fullness of your joy, when your whole Creation is justified by faith

and sanctified by love, and you are all in all.

The Presider then chants

Through Christ and with Christ and in Christ, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, to you be honor, glory, and praise, for ever and ever. **AMEN.**

As our Savior Christ has taught us, we now sing:

Lord's Prayer (Zambian)

SJS 1

(Soloists sing the words in italics. The congregation joins in unitalicized language.)

*Hear our plea, dear Father we pray;
shower upon us your heav'nly grace
that we may be your people*

Glorifying you.

Lord, our Father, in heaven abiding,
may your name always be hallowed by us.
Your will is righteous and ever consistent,
in heaven and also on earth.

Give us this day what we really have need of.
Please forgive us the sins we've committed.
Help us forgive all the sins of our neighbor
as you have forgiven us ours.

Far from temptation we ask you to lead us.
Save us also from all that is evil.
Yours is the kingdom, the power, the glory
at this time and world without end.

*Yours is glory excelling. Now and forever.
Yours is glory excelling. Now and forever.
Yours is glory excelling. Now and forever.
Forever and ever. Amen.*

*Yours is glory excelling. Now and forever.
Yours is glory excelling. Now and forever.
Yours is glory excelling. Now and forever.
Forever and ever. Amen.*

Words: Howard Olson ©Augsburg Publishing. Used by permission. OneLicense.net Lic # A-700155

The Breaking of the Bread (Silence is kept)
Fraction Anthem: Many and great (Vs. 2 only)

H 385



1 Man - y and great, O God, are thy works, mak - er of
2 Grant un - to us com - mun - ion with thee, thou star - a -

earth and sky; thy hands have set the hea - vens with stars;
bid - ing one; come un - to us and dwell with us;

thy fin - gers spread the moun - tains and plains. Lo, at thy
with thee are found the gifts of life. Bless us with

word the wa - ters were formed; deep seas o - bey thy voice.
life that has no end, e - ter - nal life with thee.

Words: Joseph R. Renville ca. 1835; tr. Philip Frazier (1892-1964) alt.

Music: Dakota Indian Chant Dakota Indian Chant [Lacquiparte]. Native American melody

The Invitation

Presider The Gifts of God for the People of God.

Administration of Communion

The people are invited to come forward to receive communion when directed by an usher.

*Those that wish a contactless blessing or
a gluten-free, allergen-free wafer are welcome to ask for that.*

All are welcome and encouraged to receive Communion from God's table.

Communion Anthem: Changing World Andrés Ballesteros, St. James's Youth
The Greenleaf Choir

Communion Hymn: O beauty ever ancient

1 O beau - ty ev - er an - cient, O beau - ty ev - er new,
2 O beau - ty in cre - a - tion, in world of sound and sight,
3 O beau - ty that is move - ment in li - quid line of grace,
4 O beau - ty of the Spir - it where love is shin - ing through,

di - vine and Ho - ly Pres - ence, my be - ing sings to you,
O beau - ty in the si - lence, in dark - ness as in light,
O beau - ty that is still - ness in love - ly form or face,
O beau - ty ev - er an - cient, O beau - ty ev - er new,

in gra - ti - tude, in wor - ship my be - ing sings to you!
in gra - ti - tude, in wor - ship my be - ing sings to you!
in gra - ti - tude, in wor - ship my be - ing sings to you!
in gra - ti - tude, in wor - ship my be - ing sings to you!

The image shows a musical score for a communion hymn. It consists of three systems of music. Each system has a vocal line (treble clef) and a piano accompaniment (grand staff with treble and bass clefs). The key signature is one flat (B-flat), and the time signature is 4/4. The lyrics are printed below the vocal line of each system. The first system contains four lines of lyrics. The second system contains four lines of lyrics. The third system contains four lines of lyrics, each ending with an exclamation point. The piano accompaniment features chords and moving lines in both hands.

Text: Shirley Erena Murray, 2000. © 2000 Hope Publishing Co.
Music: Alfred V. Fedak, 2007. © 2009 Selah Publishing Co.

Post Communion Prayer

Presider Let us pray.

People Holy One, you feed us with bread from heaven
and the gifts of mother earth.
In this communion, you have drawn us into your embrace
and you call us to friendship with one another.
You have given us the gift of reconciliation.
May we who have tasted that gift from you,
offer ourselves in peace and humility to one another.
And may you always walk among us as friend. Amen.

Blessing

Presider

May God who established the dance of creation,
Who marveled at the lilies of the field,
Who transforms chaos to order,
Lead us to transform our lives and the Church
To listen to the voice of all creatures
That reflect God's glory in creation.
and the blessing of God, Creator, Christ, and Holy Spirit,
be among you and remain with you always. **Amen.**

Closing Hymn: Justice Round

SJS 17

The image shows a musical score for a hymn titled "Justice Round". It consists of five staves of music in G major (one sharp) and 2/4 time. The lyrics are: "All a - round me voic - es ring: 'Jus - tice!' is the song they sing! And with - in this song I'll sing my part; I will rise and speak what's in my heart! I will rise! I will rise!". The score includes five numbered boxes (1-5) indicating the start of each line of music. The first line starts with a treble clef, a key signature of one sharp (F#), and a 2/4 time signature. The music is written in a simple, accessible style with a mix of quarter and eighth notes.

All a - round me voic - es ring:
"Jus - tice!" is the song they sing! And with -
in this song I'll sing my part; I will
rise and speak what's in my heart! I will
rise! I will rise!

Words and Music: Thew Elliott ©1997. Used with permission.

Dismissal

Presider Tend the earth, care for God's good Creation.
As you have received freely, so give freely.
Go in peace to love and serve the Lord. Alleluia! Alleluia!

People Thanks be to God! Alleluia! Alleluia!

Postlude

*Saint James's Episcopal Church
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Website: www.stjamescambridge.org
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Emergency Pastoral Line: 857-600-1329*

*Interested in speaking to a priest or asking for prayers?
Email Rev. Matt at matt@stjamescambridge.org*

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or follow the QR code here:*



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I am: _____ visiting just for today. I wish: _____ to be on the church mailing list.
 _____ seeking a new church home. _____ to receive a call or email from St. James's.

Please circle items below you'd like information about:

Church School/Choir/Bible Study/Food Pantry

I'd like prayer for: _____

Name(s): _____

Address: _____

City: _____ Zip: _____

Phone: _____

Email address: _____

Please fill this form out and place it in the offering plate or the church office.