



**ST. JAMES'S
EPISCOPAL CHURCH**

The Seventh Sunday after Pentecost

**July 16, 2023
9:30 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!*

9:30 am The Seventh Sunday after Pentecost, Holy Eucharist, Rite II

<i>Eucharistic Ministers</i>	Laverne Agard-Lynch, Marion King
<i>Lead Musician</i>	Margot Chamberlain
<i>Minister of Music</i>	Patrick Michaels
<i>Preacher & Presider</i>	The Rev. Matthew Stewart
<i>Readers</i>	Alfred Ironside, Linda Luikel
<i>Ushers</i>	Nancy McArdle
<i>Videographer</i>	Michael Anthony
<i>Welcomer</i>	Nancy McArdle

The Word of God

Words of Welcome

Opening Hymn: Love Astounding

VF 143

1 Love a - stound-ing, Love con - found-ing lim-its fear - ful minds im - pose.
 2 Love re - ceiv - ing, Love be - liev - ing, we re - joice with thanks and song,

Love re - new-ing, Love pur - su - ing ev - ery heart un - til it knows
 faith re - gain-ing, hope pro - claim-ing; Love has taught us, we be - long

Love's trans-form-ing, heal-ing good-ness, Love's a - bid - ing, gen-tle grace,
 safe with - in Love's tend-er keep-ing, safe from fear's per - sis - tent call.

F(C) Dm(Am) Bb(F) F(C) Am(Em) Dm(Am) Bb(F) C(G) F(C)

Love's en - dur - ance, Love's as - sur - ance, Love's con - sol - ing, strong em-brace.
 Love de - fend-ing, Love un - end - ing, Love of God en - fold - ing all.

Words: Jeannette M. Lindholm ©1999 Music: Holy Manna, from Southern Harmony

Opening Acclamation

Presider Blessed be the one, holy, and living God.

People Glory to God, forever and ever. Amen.

Collect for Purity

All then pray

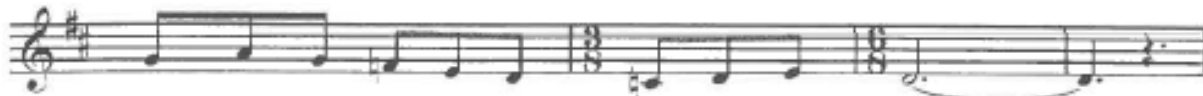
Almighty God, to you all hearts are open, all desires known, and from you no secrets are hid: Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you and worthily magnify your holy Name; through Christ our Lord. **Amen.**



1 Here in this place, — new light is stream - ing, now is the dark - ness
 2 We are the young, our lives are a mys - t'ry, we are the old, who
 3 Here we will take the wine and the wa - ter, here we will take the



1 van - ished a - way. See, in this space, our fears and our dream - ings,
 2 yearn for your face. We have been sung through - out all of his - t'ry,
 3 bread of new birth. Here you shall call your sons and your daugh - ters,



1 brought here to you in the light of this day. _____
 2 called to be light to the whole hu - man race. _____
 3 call us a - new to be salt for the earth. _____



1 Gath - er us in, the lost and for - sak - en, Gath - er us in, the
 2 Gath - er us in, the rich and the haugh - ty, Gath - er us in, the
 3 Give us to drink the wine of com - pas - sion, Give us to eat the



1 blind and the lame; Call to us now, and we shall a - wak - en,
 2 proud and the strong; Give us a heart so meek and so low - ly,
 3 bread that is you; Nour - ish us well, and teach us to fash - ion



1 we shall a - rise at the sound of our name. _____
 2 give us the cour - age to en - ter the song. _____
 3 lives that are ho - ly and hearts that are true. _____

The Collect of the Day

Presider May God be with you.

People And also be with you.

Presider Let us pray.

O Lord, mercifully receive the prayers of your people who call upon you, and grant that they may know and understand what things they ought to do, and also may have grace and power faithfully to accomplish them; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

The First Reading: Genesis 25:19-34

Alfred Ironside

A reading from the Book of Genesis.

These are the descendants of Isaac, Abraham's son: Abraham was the father of Isaac, and Isaac was forty years old when he married Rebekah, daughter of Bethuel the Aramean of Paddan-aram, sister of Laban the Aramean. Isaac prayed to the LORD for his wife, because she was barren; and the LORD granted his prayer, and his wife Rebekah conceived. The children struggled together within her; and she said, "If it is to be this way, why do I live?" So she went to inquire of the LORD. And the LORD said to her,

"Two nations are in your womb,
and two peoples born of you shall be divided;
the one shall be stronger than the other,
the elder shall serve the younger."

When her time to give birth was at hand, there were twins in her womb. The first came out red, all his body like a hairy mantle; so they named him Esau. Afterward his brother came out, with his hand gripping Esau's heel; so he was named Jacob. Isaac was sixty years old when she bore them.

When the boys grew up, Esau was a skillful hunter, a man of the field, while Jacob was a quiet man, living in tents. Isaac loved Esau, because he was fond of game; but Rebekah loved Jacob.

Once when Jacob was cooking a stew, Esau came in from the field, and he was famished. Esau said to Jacob, "Let me eat some of that red stuff, for I am famished!" (Therefore he was called Edom.) Jacob said, "First sell me your birthright." Esau said, "I am about to die; of what use is a birthright to me?" Jacob said, "Swear to me first." So he swore to him, and sold his birthright to

Jacob. Then Jacob gave Esau bread and lentil stew, and he ate and drank, and rose and went his way. Thus Esau despised his birthright.

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

Psalm 119:105-112

Your word is a lantern to my feet *
and a light upon my path.

I have sworn and am determined *
to keep your righteous judgments.

I am deeply troubled; *
preserve my life, O LORD, according to your word.

Accept, O LORD, the willing tribute of my lips, *
and teach me your judgments.

My life is always in my hand, *
yet I do not forget your law.

The wicked have set a trap for me, *
but I have not strayed from your commandments.

Your decrees are my inheritance for ever; *
truly, they are the joy of my heart.

I have applied my heart to fulfill your statutes *
for ever and to the end.

A reading from the Book of Romans.

There is no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus. For the law of the Spirit of life in Christ Jesus has set you free from the law of sin and of death. For God has done what the law, weakened by the flesh, could not do: by sending his own Son in the likeness of sinful flesh, and to deal with sin, he condemned sin in the flesh, so that the just requirement of the law might be fulfilled in us, who walk not according to the flesh but according to the Spirit. For those who live according to the flesh set their minds on the things of the flesh, but those who live according to the Spirit set their minds on the things of the Spirit. To set the mind on the flesh is death, but to set the mind on the Spirit is life and peace. For this reason the mind that is set on the flesh is hostile to God; it does not submit to God's law-- indeed it cannot, and those who are in the flesh cannot please God. But you are not in the flesh; you are in the Spirit, since the Spirit of God dwells in you. Anyone who does not have the Spirit of Christ does not belong to him. But if Christ is in you, though the body is dead because of sin, the Spirit is life because of righteousness. If the Spirit of him who raised Jesus from the dead dwells in you, he who raised Christ from the dead will give life to your mortal bodies also through his Spirit that dwells in you.

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

People Thanks be to God.

Gospel Acclamation: Zimbabwe Alleluia

A - le - lu - ia - A - le - lu - ia A - le - lu - ia - A - le - lu - ia.

A - le - lu - ia A le lu ia A - le - lu - ia A - le - lu - ia.

A - le - lu - ia A - le - lu - ia A - le - lu - ia A - le - lu - ia

A - le - lu - ia A - le - lu - ia A - le - lu - ia A - le - lu - ia.

The Holy Gospel: Matthew 13:1-9, 18-23

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

People Glory to you, O Christ.

Jesus went out of the house and sat beside the sea. Such great crowds gathered around him that he got into a boat and sat there, while the whole crowd stood on the beach. And he told them many things in parables, saying: "Listen! A sower went out to sow. And as he sowed, some seeds fell on the path, and the birds came and ate them up. Other seeds fell on rocky ground, where they did not have much soil, and they sprang up quickly, since they had no depth of soil. But when the sun rose, they were scorched; and since they had no root, they withered away. Other seeds fell among thorns, and the thorns grew up and choked them. Other seeds fell on good soil and brought forth grain, some a hundredfold, some sixty, some thirty. Let anyone with ears listen!"

"Hear then the parable of the sower. When anyone hears the word of the kingdom and does not understand it, the evil one comes and snatches away what is sown in the heart; this is what was sown on the path. As for what was sown on rocky ground, this is the one who hears the word and immediately receives it with joy; yet such a person has no root, but endures only for a while, and when trouble or persecution arises on account of the word, that person immediately falls away. As for what was sown among thorns, this is the one who hears the word, but the cares of the world and the lure of wealth choke the word, and it yields nothing. But as for what was sown on good soil, this is the one who hears the word and understands it, who indeed bears fruit and yields, in one case a hundredfold, in another sixty, and in another thirty."

Presider The Gospel of the Lord.

People Praise to you, O Christ.

Sermon

The Rev. Matthew Stewart

Affirmation of Faith



We be - lieve__ in God al - might - y, Au - thor of all things that be.
We be - lieve__ that Je - sus suf - fered, scourged and scorned and cru - ci - fied;
We be - lieve__ in God's own Spir - it, bond - ing all the saints_ with - in



Mak - er of__ the earth and heav - ens, Keep - er of the sky__ and sea.
tak - en from the cross, was bur - ied, True Life there had tru - ly died.
one church cath - o - lic, one church ho - ly, where for - give - ness frees__ from sin;



We be - lieve__ in God's Son, Je - sus, now for us__ both Lord__ and Christ,
We be - lieve__ that on the third_ day Christ was raised up from__ the grave,
in the bod - y's res - ur - rec - tion, for the break - ing of__ death's chain



of__ the Spir - it and of Mar - y born to bring a - bun - dant life.___
then_ as - cend - ed to__ God's right__ hand. He will come to judge and save.___
gives the life__ that's ev - er - last - ing. This the faith_ that we have claimed._

W 768 - Words: Sylvia G. Dunstan (1955-1993), alt. Music: *Hyfrydol*, Rowland Hugh Prichard (1811-1887) arr. © Dent Davidson,

Prayers of the People

Linda Luikel

Intercessor On this day, I invite your prayer for that community of faith both here and abroad.

People Breathe on us, Breath of God. Breath of God, breathe on us.

Intercessor I invite your intercessions for this nation, all the nations, and the whole earth. May your Spirit, the Spirit of peace, justice, and hope, inspire us with the conviction to work towards the end of all hatred and violence.

People Breathe on us, Breath of God. Breath of God, breathe on us.

Intercessor I invite your intercessions for all who suffer in body, mind or spirit.

People Breathe on us, Breath of God. Breath of God, breathe on us.

(You are invited at this time to pray for those in need of healing.)

Intercessor In this burgeoning summer season, I invite your thanksgivings.

People Breathe on us, Breath of God. Breath of God, breathe on us.

(You are invited at this time to offer your prayers of gratitude.)

Intercessor Rejoicing in the fellowship of Mary, James, and all the saints, let us commend ourselves and one another and all our life to Christ our God.

People Breathe on us, Breath of God. Breath of God, breathe on us.

The Presider then says

O God of Love, accept the fervent prayers of your people; in the multitude of your mercies, look with compassion upon us and all who turn to you for help; for you are gracious, O lover of souls, and to you we give glory, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

Confession of Sin

Presider Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

People God of all mercy, we confess that we have sinned against you, opposing your will in our lives. We have denied your goodness in each other, in ourselves, and in the world you have created. We repent of the evil that enslaves us, the evil we have done, and the evil done on our behalf. Forgive, restore, and strengthen us through our Savior Jesus Christ, that we may abide in your love and serve only your will. Amen.

Presider Almighty God have mercy on you, forgive you all our sin through the grace of Jesus Christ, strengthen you in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep you in eternal life. **Amen.**

The Peace

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

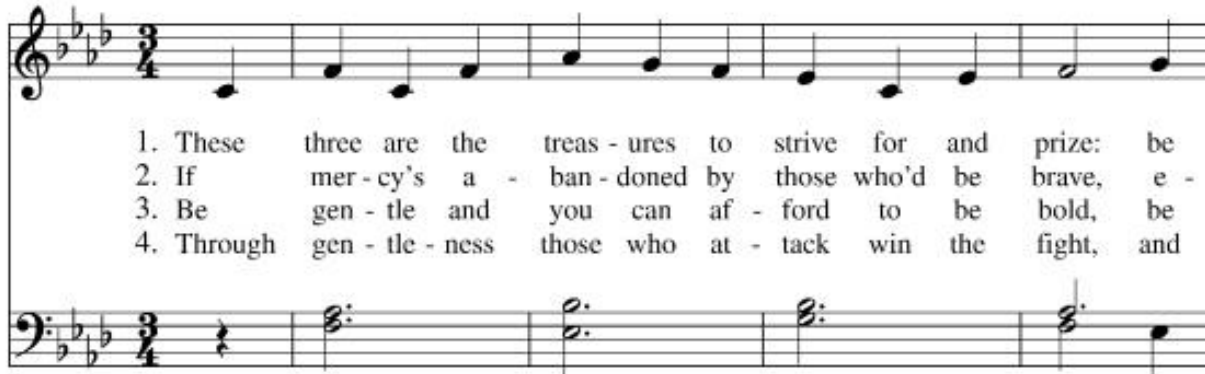
Offertory Sentence

Presider Walk in love, as Christ loved us and gave himself for us,
an offering and sacrifice to God.

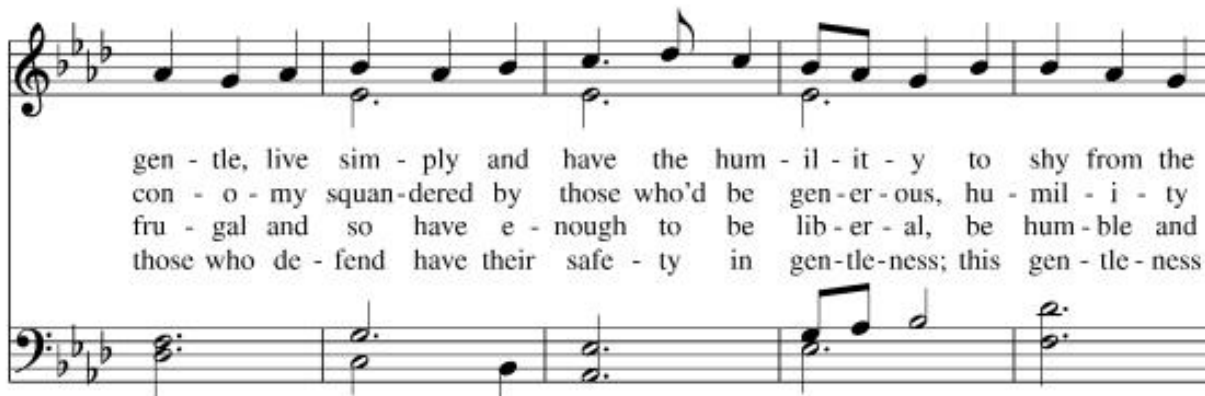
At this time our gifts and offerings will be collected.

Offertory Hymn: These Three Are the Treasures

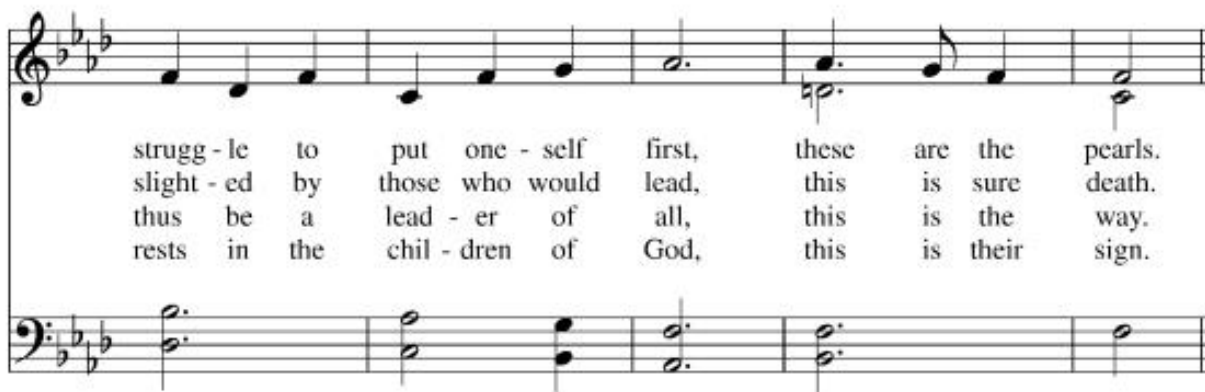
WLP 803



1. These three are the treasures to strive for and prize: be
2. If mer-cy's a-ban-doned by those who'd be brave, e-
3. Be gen-tle and you can af-ford to be bold, be
4. Through gen-tle-ness those who at-tack win the fight, and



gen-tle, live sim-ply and have the hum-il-it-y to shy from the
con-o-my squan-dered by those who'd be gen-er-ous, hu-mil-i-ty
fru-gal and so have e-nough to be lib-er-al, be hum-ble and
those who de-fend have their safe-ty in gen-tle-ness; this gen-tle-ness



strugg-le to put one-self first, these are the pearls.
slight-ed by those who would lead, this is sure death.
thus be a lead-er of all, this is the way.
rests in the chil-dren of God, this is their sign.

Text: Colin Hodgetts Music: Colin Hodgetts

Presentation Hymn: Hallelujah! We Sing Your Praises!

Sing in English, then Sotho, then English again

Refrain Hal - le - lu - jah! We sing your prais - es! All our
Ha - le - lu - ya! Pe - lo tsa ro - na, di tha -

hearts are filled with glad - ness! Hal - le - lu - jah! We sing your
bi - le ka - o - fe - la. Ha - le - lu - ya! Pe - lo tsa

Fine
prai - ses! All our hearts are filled with glad - ness!
ro - na, di tha - bi - le ka - o - fe - la.

The Great Thanksgiving *Eucharistic Prayer (Enriching our Worship 2)*

Presider God 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.

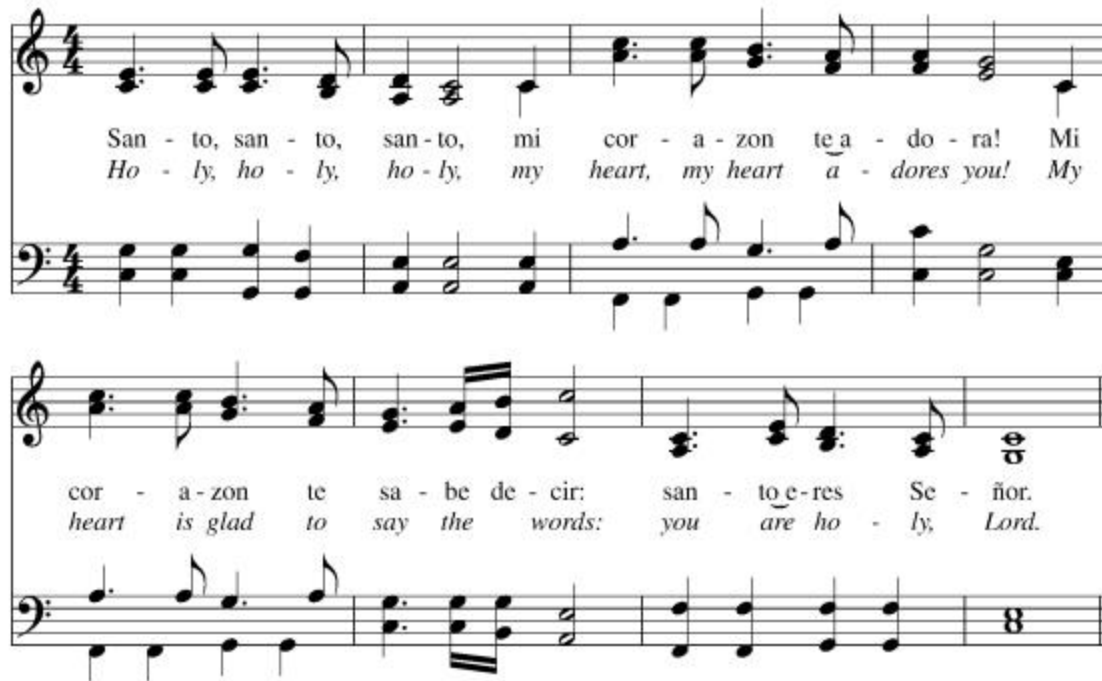
The Presider says

We praise you and we bless you, holy and gracious God,
source of life abundant. From before time you made ready the creation.
Your Spirit moved over the deep and brought all things into being:
sun, moon, and stars; earth, winds, and waters; and every living thing.

You made us in your image, and taught us to walk in your ways.
 But we rebelled against you, and wandered far away; and yet,
 as a mother cares for her children, you would not forget us.
 Time and again you called us to live in the fullness of your love.
 And so this day we join with Saints and Angels in the chorus of praise
 that rings through eternity, lifting our voices to magnify you as we sing:

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.

Presider

Glory and honor and praise to you, holy and living God. To deliver us from the power of sin and death and to reveal the riches of your grace, you looked with favor upon Mary, your willing servant, that she might conceive and bear a son, Jesus, your holy child. Living among us, Jesus loved us. He broke bread with outcasts and sinners, healed the sick, and proclaimed good news to the poor. He yearned to draw all the world to himself yet we were heedless of his call to walk in love. Then, the time came for him to complete upon the cross the sacrifice of his life, and to be glorified by you.

On the night before he died for us, Jesus was at table with his friends. He took bread, gave thanks to you, broke it, and gave it to them, and said: "Take, eat: This is my Body, which is given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me."

As supper was ending, Jesus took the cup of wine.
Again, he gave thanks to you, gave it to them, and said:
“Drink this, all of you: This is my Blood of the new Covenant,
which is poured out for you and for all for the forgiveness of sins.
Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me.”

Now gathered at your table, O God of all creation,
and remembering Christ, crucified and risen, who was and is and is to come,
we offer to you our gifts of bread and wine, and ourselves, a living sacrifice.

Pour out your Spirit upon these gifts
that they may be the Body and Blood of Christ.

Breathe your Spirit over the whole earth and make us your new creation,
the Body of Christ given for the world you have made.

In the fullness of time bring us, with Mary, James, and all your saints,
from every tribe and language and people and nation, to feast at the banquet
prepared from the foundation of the world.

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.**

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, forever and ever. Amen.

The Breaking of the Bread *(Silence is kept)*

Fraction Anthem

Presider We break this bread to share in the Body of Christ.

People We who are many are one body, for we all share in the one bread.

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 Hymn: I heard the voice of Jesus say

H 692

1 I heard the voice of Je - sus say, "Come un - to me and rest;
 2 I heard the voice of Je - sus say, "Be - hold, I free - ly give
 3 I heard the voice of Je - sus say, "I am this dark world's light;

and in your wea - ri - ness lay down your head up - on my breast."
 the liv - ing wa - ter; thirst - y one, stoop down and drink, and live."
 look un - to me, your morn shall rise, and all your day be bright."

I came to Je - sus as I was, so wea - ry, worn, and sad;
 I came to Je - sus, and I drank of that life - giv - ing stream;
 I looked to Je - sus, and I found in him my Star, my Sun;

I found in him a rest - ing place, and he has made me glad.
 my thirst was quenched, my soul re - vived, and now I live in him.
 and in that light of life I'll walk till pil - grim days are done.

Horatius Bonar (1808-1889), alt. Music: By permission of Oxford University Press.

Post Communion Prayer

Presider Let us pray.

People 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

Presider

The peace of God, which surpasses all understanding,
keep your hearts and minds in the knowledge and love of God,
and of God's Son Jesus Christ;
and the blessing of God, Creator, Christ, and Holy Spirit,
be among you and remain with you always. **Amen.**

Closing Hymn: Take My Life and Let It Be

H 707

1 Take my life, and let it be con - se - crat - ed, Lord, to thee;
2 Take my voice, and let me sing al - ways, on - ly, for my King;

take my mo - ments and my days, let them flow in cease - less praise.
take my in - tel - lect, and use ev - ery power as thou shalt choose.

Take my hands, and let them move at the im - pulse of thy love;
Take my will, and make it thine; it shall be no long - er mine.

take my heart, it is thine own; it shall be thy roy - al throne.
Take my - self, and I will be ev - er, on - ly, all for thee.

Francis Ridley Havargal (1836-1879), alt.

Dismissal

Presider Let us go forth into the world,
rejoicing in the power of the Spirit. Alleluia! Alleluia!

People Thanks be to God! Alleluia! Alleluia!

Postlude

*Saint James's Episcopal Church
1991 Massachusetts Avenue Cambridge, MA 02140
Website: www.stjamescambridge.org
Office Email: office@stjamescambridge.org
Emergency Pastoral Line: 857-600-1329*

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

*Want to donate to St. James's? Visit the website
or follow the QR code here:*



St. James's Episcopal Church Welcomes You!

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.