

ST. JAMES'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH

The Ninth Sunday after Pentecost

July 30, 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 Ninth Sunday after Pentecost, Morning Prayer, Rite II

Music Leader	Margot Chamberlain
Officiant & Preacher	Tamasin Milner-Wohlers
Readers	Donna Thompson, Mary Buchinger
Usher	Nancy McArdle
Welcomer	Nancy McArdle
Videographer	Michael Anthony

Prelude

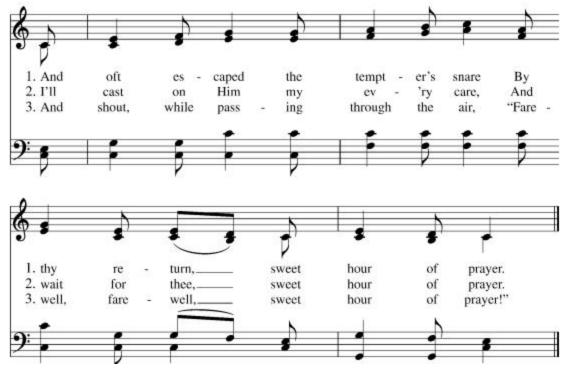
Words of Welcome

Opening Hymn: Sweet Hour of Prayer

LEVAS 178



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Words: William Walford Music: William Bradbury

Opening Sentences

Officiant We give you thanks, O God, we give you thanks, calling upon your Name and declaring all your wonderful deeds.

Confession of Sin

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

- PeopleGod 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.
- *Officiant* Almighty God have mercy on us, forgive us all our sins through the grace of Jesus Christ, strengthen us in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep us in eternal life. **Amen**.

The Invitatory and Psalter

Opening Versicle

OfficiantLord, open our lips.PeopleAnd our mouths shall proclaim your praise.AllPraise to the holy and undivided Trinity, one God: as it was in the
beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen. Alleluia.

Invitatory Psalm: Psalm 95:1-7 (Venite)



WORDS: Carl P. Daw, Jr. MUSIC: Patrick Michaels, © 2020. All rights reserved.

Psalm 105:1-11, 45b

Donna Thompson

- Give thanks to the LORD and call upon his Name; * make known his deeds among the peoples.
- Sing to him, sing praises to him, * and speak of all his marvelous works.
- Glory in his holy Name; * let the hearts of those who seek the LORD rejoice.
- Search for the LORD and his strength; * continually seek his face.
- Remember the marvels he has done, * his wonders and the judgments of his mouth,
- O offspring of Abraham his servant, * O children of Jacob his chosen.
- He is the LORD our God; * his judgments prevail in all the world.
- He has always been mindful of his covenant, * the promise he made for a thousand generations:
- The covenant he made with Abraham, * the oath that he swore to Isaac,
- Which he established as a statute for Jacob, * an everlasting covenant for Israel,
- Saying, "To you will I give the land of Canaan * to be your allotted inheritance." Hallelujah!

The First Reading: Genesis 29:15-28

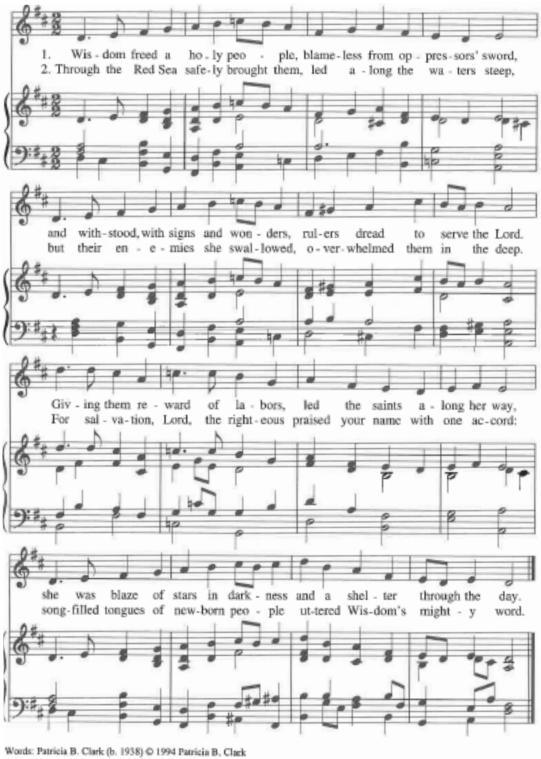
A reading from the Book of Genesis.

Laban said to Jacob, "Because you are my kinsman, should you therefore serve me for nothing? Tell me, what shall your wages be?" Now Laban had two daughters; the name of the elder was Leah, and the name of the younger was Rachel. Leah's eyes were lovely, and Rachel was graceful and beautiful. Jacob loved Rachel; so he said, "I will serve you seven years for your younger daughter Rachel." Laban said, "It is better that I give her to you than that I should give her to any other man; stay with me." So Jacob served seven years for Rachel, and they seemed to him but a few days because of the love he had for her.

Then Jacob said to Laban, "Give me my wife that I may go in to her, for my time is completed." So Laban gathered together all the people of the place, and made a feast. But in the evening he took his daughter Leah and brought her to Jacob; and he went in to her. (Laban gave his maid Zilpah to his daughter Leah to be her maid.) When morning came, it was Leah! And Jacob said to Laban, "What is this you have done to me? Did I not serve with you for Rachel? Why then have you deceived me?" Laban said, "This is not done in our country—giving the younger before the firstborn. Complete the week of this one, and we will give you the other also in return for serving me another seven years." Jacob did so, and completed her week; then Laban gave him his daughter Rachel as a wife.

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

Canticle: A Song of Wisdom



Music: Brewer, David Ashley White (b. 1944) © 1991 Selah Publishing Co., Inc. You must contact Selah Publishing Co., Inc. To reproduce the music.

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The Second Reading: Matthew 28:16-20

A reading from the Gospel of Matthew

Jesus put before the crowds another parable: "The kingdom of heaven is like a mustard seed that someone took and sowed in his field; it is the smallest of all the seeds, but when it has grown it is the greatest of shrubs and becomes a tree, so that the birds of the air come and make nests in its branches." He told them another parable: "The kingdom of heaven is like yeast that a woman took and mixed in with three measures of flour until all of it was leavened."

"The kingdom of heaven is like treasure hidden in a field, which someone found and hid; then in his joy he goes and sells all that he has and buys that field.

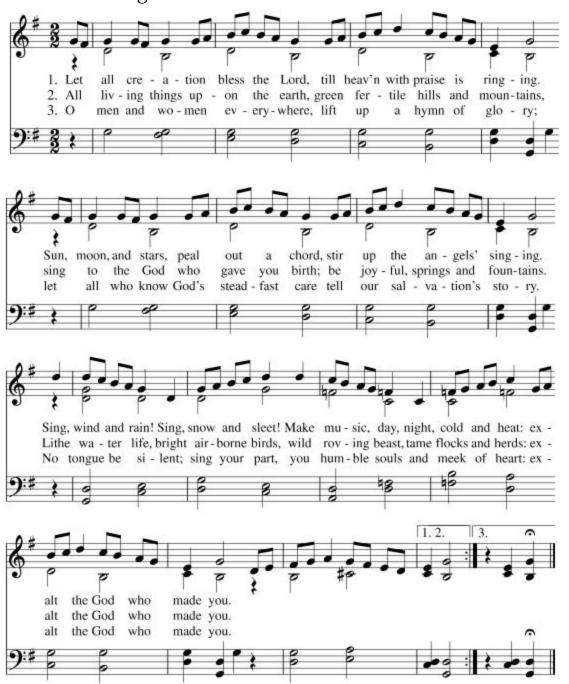
"Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a merchant in search of fine pearls; on finding one pearl of great value, he went and sold all that he had and bought it.

"Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a net that was thrown into the sea and caught fish of every kind; when it was full, they drew it ashore, sat down, and put the good into baskets but threw out the bad. So it will be at the end of the age. The angels will come out and separate the evil from the righteous and throw them into the furnace of fire, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.

"Have you understood all this?" They answered, "Yes." And he said to them, "Therefore every scribe who has been trained for the kingdom of heaven is like the master of a household who brings out of his treasure what is new and what is old."

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

Canticle: A Song of Creation



Words: Carl Daw Music: Whitehead, William Bradley Thomas Used by permission.

Sermon

Tamasin Milner-Wohlers

The Apostles' Creed

I believe in God, the Father almighty,

creator of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary,

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suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried; he descended to the dead.

On the third day he rose again; he ascended into heaven, he is seated at the right hand of the Father,

and he will come again to judge the living and the dead. I believe in the Holy Spirit,

the holy catholic Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

Offertory Sentence

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

Offertory Hymn: In all our living



⁽continued on next page)

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The Prayers

The Lord's Prayer

Officiant	Hear our cry, O God.
People	And listen to our prayer
Officiant	Let us pray.

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.

Suffrages

Officiant	Show us your mercy, O Lord;
People	And grant us your salvation.
Officiant	Clothe your ministers with righteousness;
People	Let your people sing with joy.
Officiant	Give peace, O Lord, in all the world;
People	For only in you can we live in safety.
Officiant	Keep this nation under you care;

People	And guide us in the way of justice and truth.
Officiant	Let your way be known upon earth;
People	Your saving health among all nations.
Officiant	Let not the needy, O Lord, be forgotten;
People	Nor the hope of the poor be taken away.
Officiant	Create in us clean hearts, O God;
People	And sustain us with your Holy Spirit.

The Collect of the Day

The Officiant says

O God, the protector of all who trust in you, without whom nothing is strong, nothing is holy: Increase and multiply upon us your mercy; that, with you as our ruler and guide, we may so pass through things temporal, that we lose not the things eternal; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

Collect for Social Justice

The Officiant says

Almighty God, who created us in your own image: Grant us grace fearlessly to contend against evil and to make no peace with oppression; and, that we may reverently use our freedom, help us to employ it in the maintenance of justice in our communities and among the nations, to the glory of your holy Name; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

Collect for Mission

The Officiant says

O gracious and loving God, you work everywhere reconciling, loving, and healing your people and your creation. In your Son and through the power of your Holy Spirit, you invite each of us to join you in your work. We, young and old, lay and ordained, ask you to form us more and more in your image and likeness, through our prayer and worship of you and through the study of your scripture, that our eyes will be fully opened to your mission in the world. Then, God, into our communities, our nation, and the world, send us to serve with Christ, taking risks to give life and hope to all people and all of your creation. We ask this in Jesus' name. **Amen.**

Prayer of St. Chrysostom

Almighty God, you have given us grace at this time with one accord to make our common supplication to you; and you have promised through your well-beloved Son that when two or three are gathered together in his Name you will be in the midst of them: Fulfill now, O Lord, our desires and petitions as may be best for us; granting us in this world knowledge of your truth, and in the age to come life everlasting. **Amen.**

Benediction

Officiant Let us bless the Lord. Alleluia. Alleluia.
People Thanks be to God. Alleluia. Alleluia.
Officiant Glory to God whose power, working in us, can do infinitely more than we can ask or imagine: Glory to God from generation to generation in the Church, and in Christ Jesus for ever and ever. Amen.

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.

Closing Hymn: O God, our help in ages past



our hope for years to come,

be thou our guide while life shall last, and our eternal home.

Words: Isaac Watts Music: St. Anne, mel. William Croft, harm. William Henry Monk

The Peace

OfficiantThe peace of God be always with you.PeopleAnd also with you.

The community is now invited to greet each other and depart when they so wish.

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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 <u>matt@stjamescambridge.org</u>

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. ______ 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.