

ST. JAMES' EPISCOPAL CHURCH

Third Sunday after the Epiphany

January 25, 2026

9:30 AM



***Welcome!** Everything you need to participate in today's service can be found in this bulletin. Please add your voice to the hymns we sing and the prayers we say together. Congregational responses are in bold print. As you are able, please stand where indicated with an asterisk.*

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WELCOME

PRELUDE

All stand, as able.

Contemplation

Julius Andre

OPENING HYMN *

The people who in the darkness walked

Hymn 126

Words: John Morison (1749-1798), alt.; para. of Isaiah 9:2-7. Music: Dundee, melody *The CI. Psalms of Davis*, 1615; harm. Thomas Ravenscroft (1592-1635?), alt.

OPENING ACCLAMATION *

Celebrant The Lord is near to all who call on him,
People To all who call on him in truth.

THE COLLECT

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

I will kindle my fire

VF 27

O Ho - ly one, kin - dle thou here in my heart, a flame of pure love to my
 neigh - bor, to my foe, to my friend, to my kin - dred all, to the
 brave, to the knave, to the thrall. O child of the love-li-est Ma - ry, from the
 low - li-est thing, to the Ho - ly Name, the be - lov - ed of all.

THE COLLECT OF THE DAY *

Celebrant The Lord be with you,
People **And also with you.**

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.**

All are seated for the lessons.

THE FIRST LESSON

Isaiah 9:1-4

Reader A reading from the Prophet Isaiah.

There will be no gloom for those who were in anguish. In the former time he brought into contempt the land of Zebulun and the land of Naphtali, but in the latter time he will make glorious the way of the sea, the land beyond the Jordan, Galilee of the nations.

The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light; those who lived in a land of deep darkness-- on them light has shined. You have multiplied the nation, you have increased its joy; they rejoice before you as with joy at the harvest, as people exult when dividing plunder. For the yoke of their burden, and the bar across their shoulders, the rod of their oppressor, you have broken as on the day of Midian.

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

Psalm 27:1, 5-13

Reader Let us read Psalm 27 responsively by half verse.

- 1 The Lord is my light and my salvation; whom then shall I fear? *
the Lord is the strength of my life; of whom then shall I be afraid?
- 5 One thing have I asked of the Lord; one thing I seek; *
that I may dwell in the house of the Lord all the days of my life;
- 6 To behold the fair beauty of the Lord *
and to seek him in his temple.

7 For in the day of trouble he shall keep me safe in his shelter; *
he shall hide me in the secrecy of his dwelling and set me high upon a rock.

8 Even now he lifts up my head *
above my enemies round about me.

9 Therefore I will offer in his dwelling an oblation with sounds of great gladness; *
I will sing and make music to the Lord.

10 Hearken to my voice, O Lord, when I call; *
have mercy on me and answer me.

11 You speak in my heart and say, "Seek my face." *
Your face, Lord, will I seek.

12 Hide not your face from me, *
nor turn away your servant in displeasure.

13 You have been my helper; cast me not away; *
do not forsake me, O God of my salvation.

THE SECOND LESSON

1 Corinthians 1:10-18

Reader A reading from the first Letter of Paul to the Corinthians.

Now I appeal to you, brothers and sisters, by the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, that all of you be in agreement and that there be no divisions among you, but that you be united in the same mind and the same purpose. For it has been reported to me by Chloe’s people that there are quarrels among you, my brothers and sisters. What I mean is that each of you says, “I belong to Paul,” or “I belong to Apollos,” or “I belong to Cephas,” or “I belong to Christ.” Has Christ been divided? Was Paul crucified for you? Or were you baptized in the name of Paul? I thank God that I baptized none of you except Crispus and Gaius, so that no one can say that you were baptized in my name. (I did baptize also the household of Stephanas; beyond that, I do not know whether I baptized anyone else.) For Christ did not send me to baptize but to proclaim the gospel, and not with eloquent wisdom, so that the cross of Christ might not be emptied of its power.

For the message about the cross is foolishness to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God.

Reader The Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

All stand, as able.

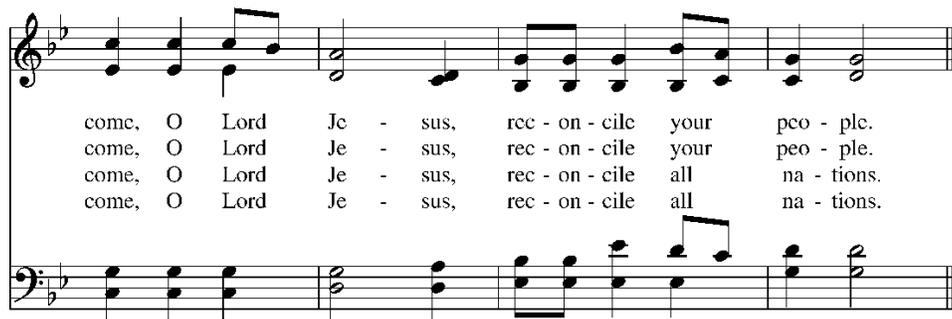
SEQUENCE HYMN *

Come now, O Prince of Peace

WLP 795

Sing 1 & 2 before Gospel, 3 & 4 after Gospel

1. Come now, O Prince of Peace, make us one bod - y.
 2. Come now, O God of love, make us one bod - y.
 3. Come now and set us free, O God, our Sav - ior,
 4. Come, Hope of U - ni - ty, make us one bod - y.



come, O Lord Je - sus, rec - on - cile your peo - ple.
 come, O Lord Je - sus, rec - on - cile your peo - ple.
 come, O Lord Je - sus, rec - on - cile all na - tions.
 come, O Lord Je - sus, rec - on - cile all na - tions.

Words: Geonyong Lee; para. Marion Pope, alt. Music: *O-so-so*, Geonyong Lee.

THE GOSPEL*

Matthew 4:12-23

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

When Jesus heard that John had been arrested, he withdrew to Galilee. He left Nazareth and made his home in Capernaum by the sea, in the territory of Zebulun and Naphtali, so that what had been spoken through the prophet Isaiah might be fulfilled:

“Land of Zebulun, land of Naphtali,
 on the road by the sea, across the Jordan, Galilee of the Gentiles—
 the people who sat in darkness have seen a great light,
 and for those who sat in the region and shadow of death
 light has dawned.”

From that time Jesus began to proclaim, “Repent, for the kingdom of heaven has come near.”

As he walked by the Sea of Galilee, he saw two brothers, Simon, who is called Peter, and Andrew his brother, casting a net into the sea—for they were fishermen. And he said to them, “Follow me, and I will make you fish for people.” Immediately they left their nets and followed him. As he went from there, he saw two other brothers, James son of Zebedee and his brother John, in the boat with their father Zebedee, mending their nets, and he called them. Immediately they left the boat and their father, and followed him.

Jesus went throughout Galilee, teaching in their synagogues and proclaiming the good news of the kingdom and curing every disease and every sickness among the people.

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

THE SERMON

The Rev Stacy Salles

After a period of silence, all stand or kneel, 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 of 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 worshipped 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.**

THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE *

Intercessor: In Christ God's Word has become flesh dwelling among us, full of grace and truth.
Let us pray to the true light which enlightens the world saying: What has come into
being in Christ was life, and the life was the light of all people.

Clothe your Church with the garments of salvation and cover her with robes of righteousness,
O Gracious One, that we may be your witnesses to testify to the light. We keep in our prayers our
Bishop, Bonnie Perry, our Presiding Bishop, Sean M. Rowe, Donald Kreiss, the Southeastern
Bishop of the ELCA, and Pope Leo and Bartholomew I, Patriarch of the Orthodox Church. What
has come into being in Christ was life, **and the life was the light of all people.**

Inspire the leaders of our nation and all in authority in the ways of grace and truth, that we may no longer be a people enslaved under the law but may know ourselves to be heirs, adopted as God's children. What has come into being in Christ was life, **and the life was the light of all people.**

Be our light in the darkness for all the world, that the fullness of your heart may be made known for the healing of the earth. What has come into being in Christ was life, **and the life was the light of all people.**

Live among us, O Word made flesh, and reconcile this community to your light. What has come into being in Christ was life, **and the life was the light of all people.**

May your people be a crown of beauty and a royal diadem in your hand as we pray in faith for those who are in sickness, need, or any other adversity. What has come into being in Christ was life, **and the life was the light of all people.**

Receive those who have died as heirs of eternal life. What has come into being in Christ was life, **and the life was the light of all people.**

We especially keep in our prayers _____.

The People may share their own intercessions and thanksgivings, either silently or aloud.

Celebrant Lord, hear the prayers of your people; and what we have asked faithfully, grant that we may obtain effectually, to the glory of your Name; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

CONFESSION OF SIN *

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.

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 *

Celebrant The peace of the Lord be always with you.

People **And also with you.**

All are seated.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

THE OFFERTORY SENTENCE

Ephesians 5:2

All stand or kneel, as able.

EUCCHARISTIC PRAYER * *Enriching Our Worship*

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 thanks and praise.**

Because in the mystery of the Word made Flesh, you have caused a new light to shine in our hearts, to give the knowledge of your glory in the face of your Son Jesus Christ our Lord. Because in the mystery of the Word made Flesh, you have caused a new light to shine in our hearts, to give the knowledge of your glory in the face of your Son Jesus Christ our Lord.

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:

THE SANCTUS*

S 128

Ho - ly, ho - ly,
 ho - ly Lord, God of power and might,
 heaven 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.

Music: William Mathias (1934-1992). Copyright © 1976 Oxford University Press.

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,

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

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 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 now pray,

S149

Our Fa - ther in hea - ven, hal - lowed be your Name,
your king - dom come, your will be done, on earth as in
hea - ven. Give us to - day our dai - ly bread.
For - give us our sins as we for - give those who
sin a - gainst us. Save us from the time of trial,
and de - liv - er us from e - vil. For the king - dom, the pow - er,
and the glo - ry are yours, now and for ev - er. A - men.

THE BREAKING OF THE BREAD *

A period of silence is kept

Celebrant Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us.

People **Therefore let us keep the feast.**

Celebrant The Gifts of God for the People of God.

THE MINISTRATION OF COMMUNION

All baptized persons are welcome to receive Holy Communion in the Episcopal Church.

If you would like a blessing, place your arms across your chest as you approach the priest. You may receive both bread and wine or elect to receive the bread alone.

The Bread and the Cup are given to the people with these words:

The Body of Christ, the bread of heaven. **Amen.**

The Blood of Christ, the cup of salvation. **Amen.**

COMMUNION HYMN *I come with joy to meet my Lord* (v.1,2 & 5)

Hymn 304

Unison or harmony

1 I come with joy to meet my Lord, for -
 2 I come with Chris - tians far and near to
 3 As Christ breaks bread and bids us share, each
 4 And thus with joy we meet our Lord. His
 5 To - geth - er met, to - geth - er bound, we'll

1 giv - en, loved, and free, in awe and won - der
 2 find, as all are fed, the new com - mu - ni -
 3 proud di - vi - sion ends. That love that made us
 4 pres - ence, al - ways near, is in such friend - ship
 5 go our dif - ferent ways, and as his peo - ple

1 to re - call his life laid down for me.
 2 ty of love in Christ's com - mun - ion bread.
 3 makes us one, and stran - gers now are friends.
 4 bet - ter known: we see, and praise him here.
 5 in the world, we'll live and speak his praise.

Words: Brian A. Wren (b. 1936), alt. Copyright © 1971 by Hope Publishing Company Carol Stream, IL 60188. All Rights Reserved. Used by permission. Music: *Land of Rest*, American folk melody; adapt. and harm. Annabel Morris Buchanan (1889-1983).

POST-COMMUNION PRAYER *

All stand, as able.

Let us pray. **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.**

THE BLESSING *

Celebrant May the eternal Glory shine upon us. May the Son of Mary stay beside us. May the life-giving Spirit live within us, now and always. **Amen.**

CLOSING HYMN *

Thy strong word did cleave the darkness

Hymn 381



1 Thy strong word did cleave the dark - ness; at thy speak - ing
2 Lo, on those who dwelt in dark - ness, dark as night and
3 Thy strong word be - speaks us right - eous; bright with thine own
4 God the Fa - ther, Light - Cre - a - tor, to thee laud and



it was done; for cre - at - ed light we thank thee,
deep as death, broke the light of thy sal - va - tion,
ho - li - ness, glo - rious now, we press toward glo - ry,
hon - or be; to thee, Light of Light be - got - ten,



while thine or - dered sea - sons run: Al - le - lu - ia, al - le -
breathed thine own life - giv - ing breath: Al - le - lu - ia, al - le -
and our lives our hopes con - fess: Al - le - lu - ia, al - le -
praise be sung e - ter - nal - ly; Ho - ly Spi - rit, Light - Re -



lu - ial Praise to thee who light dost send! Al - le - lu - ia,
lu - ial Praise to thee who light dost send! Al - le - lu - ia,
lu - ial Praise to thee who light dost send! Al - le - lu - ia,
veal - er, glo - ry, glo - ry be to thee; mor - tals, an - gels,



al - le - lu - ial Al - le - lu - ia with - out end!
al - le - lu - ial Al - le - lu - ia with - out end!
al - le - lu - ial Al - le - lu - ia with - out end!
now and ev - er praise the Ho - ly Tri - ni - ty.

The Alleluias in stanzas 1-3 may be sung antiphonally.

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