

# Welcome to St James Episcopal Church...

## *We're glad that you chose to worship with us today!*

COVID guidelines-- out of love for others we'll continue to err on the side of caution.

- Please wear masks for all indoor church activities, including worship. **Masks are required when in the building for all over age 2** (or those with health restrictions). You may remove your mask briefly while receiving Communion. Clergy and Readers may remove masks when speaking.
- Please greet each other and share your love through verbal or other contact-less expressions.
- Please use the handicap-accessible restroom outside the sanctuary.
- Communion is provided for those who would like to consume bread and/or wine as directed. You may participate in spiritual communion if you prefer to not receive either physical element. (*This is sacramentally appropriate any time receiving bread and/or wine is not a possibility for any reason. The bread and wine are the outward and visible signs of the inward and spiritual grace in the communion sacrament*)

This Worship service will be live-streamed. If you have privacy concerns for yourself or your child(ren), please sit in the back left of the Sanctuary (the area closest to the Chapel). Nobody will be identifiably visible during Communion. Our videos may be viewed online live or any time: [go.mysjec.com/youtube](https://go.mysjec.com/youtube)



## 10AM Worship with Communion – January 9, 2022

### The Baptism of Our Lord

Sharing  
God's Love  
Through  
Action

**ST JAMES**  
EPISCOPAL CHURCH, MANITOWOC

An inviting safe community for all

#### Today's Worship leadership includes...

<i>Ministers</i>	Members of the Congregation
<i>Eucharistic Minister</i>	Mary Green
<i>Readers</i>	1-Eleanor Agnew 2-Richard Hall 3-Chris Eggert-Rosenthal
<i>Rector (Pastor)</i>	The Rev'd Diane M Murray (Ammia Diane)
<i>Worship Coordinator</i>	Tony Karl
<i>Pianist</i>	Barb Cook

**We are an inclusive community of faith that welcomes and celebrates diversity in age, race, nation of origin, citizenship status, gender identity, sexual orientation, social status, political view, background, ability level, marital status, and anything else that makes us unique. Whatever your reason for coming, we are glad you are here!**

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 St James Episcopal Church, 434 North 8th Street, Manitowoc, WI 54220  
 mysjec.com — info@mysjec.com — Church Office: 920.684.8256  
 Amma Diane: 920.860.5152 (*cell/text*) — dianemarie.murray@gmail.com  
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If you would like to know more about the life, mission, or ministries of St James Episcopal Church, please talk to any member of our Vestry (church council):

*Rector (Pastor):* The Rev'd Diane M Murray      *Wardens:* Chris Dee Eggert-Rosenthal & Mary Green  
*Vestrypersons:* Nick Doszkewycz, Richard Hall, & Kim Kaufmann  
*Clerk:* Tony Karl      *Treasurer:* Linda Molitor  
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**All the words you will need are in this bulletin:** Text that the people say is prefaced with "People" or "All" and is in a **bold font**. All song lyrics are also in this bulletin.

**Wi-Fi access:** Look for our networks beginning with **CBCI-77B0** and enter password **build7443guitar**; we encourage you to share pictures and posts on social media.

**Worship/Liturgy Sources:** Our worship is based on the *Book of Common Prayer* (BCP--the red hardcover book in the pew rack), the *Book of Occasional Services*, the *Enriching Our Worship series*—the primary liturgical resources authorized by General Convention of The Episcopal Church—supplemented by occasional other resources. You may find additional prayers in the BCP on pages 832-834 helpful for personal devotion before, during, and after worship (especially prayers 64-69 and 57-61). If you'd like a BCP for your own use at home, the church can provide one for you—please talk to Amma Diane.

**Children:** Children of all ages are welcome in worship! Activity bags are available in the back of the church. A changing station is available in the restroom in the atrium just outside the sanctuary.

**Hearing Loop:** Our Hearing Loop system enables people with hearing loss to better hear sounds through our sound system. If you can set your hearing aid to a T or M/T setting, audio from our sound system will be received directly by your device (70% of aids have this feature). If your aid does not have this option, or you do not wear a hearing aid, there are a few portable headsets available in the back of the church.



**Please share your prayer requests with us:** All are invited to share their prayer requests so that the entire congregation may join in lifting up your needs and thanksgivings. Please add requests to the Prayers of the People clipboard (you can simply use first names on requests... God knows our needs). If you'd like a prayer lifted up for multiple weeks, please fill out a prayer request slip found at the back of the church.

**We worship with our bodies:** You'll notice that some of us may sit, stand, and kneel at various points in the service. Some of us may make the sign of the cross or bow now and then. Some may clap, raise their hands, or tap their feet. All of these movements are traditions from various parts of our Christian heritage—none are required, none are frowned upon. All are welcome to express whatever movements they might find meaningful in worship. Some instructions are printed throughout this bulletin—you may also observe what others do. None of these movements are a requirement: if you prefer not to use them, don't worry about it—God doesn't.

**Restrooms/Layout/Accessibility:** A handicapped-accessible restroom is located in the atrium just outside the sanctuary (next to the elevator.) Another restroom is located on the lower level. The atrium gives access to the lower level and upper level by stairs or elevator. The worship space and chapel are located on the upper level. The offices, fellowship hall, library, and classrooms are located on the lower level and marked by signs.

## Welcome!

*All who are able, please stand.*

### ♪ **Songs of Thankfulness and Praise** [Hymnal #135]

Songs of thankfulness and praise, Jesus, Lord, to thee we raise,  
manifested by the star to the sages from afar;  
branch of royal David's stem in thy birth at Bethlehem;  
anthems be to thee addressed, God in man made manifest.

Manifest at Jordan's stream, Prophet, Priest and King supreme;  
and at Cana, wedding guest, in thy Godhead manifest;  
manifest in power divine, changing water into wine;  
anthems be to thee addressed, God in man made manifest.

Manifest on mountain height, shining in resplendent light,  
where disciples filled with awe thy transfigured glory saw.  
When from there thou ledest them steadfast to Jerusalem,  
cross and Easter Day attest God in man made manifest.

Words: Christopher Wordsworth, 1862. Music: *SALZBURG*, Jakob Hintze, 1678.

*Celebrant* God's voice speaks to our chaos, echoing in our empty hearts:

*People* **gathering us together to remember our baptism.**

*Celebrant* God's voice flows like the living waters of grace:

*People* **our new name, 'Beloved', resounding in our souls.**

*Celebrant* God's voice stirs the waters of baptismal hope:

*People* **calling us to be bearers of peace to a world of broken hopes.**

*Celebrant* God be with you.

*People* **And also with you.**

*Celebrant* Let us pray. Father in heaven, who at the baptism of Jesus in the River Jordan proclaimed him your beloved Son and anointed him with the Holy Spirit: Grant that all who are baptized into his Name may keep the covenant they have made, and boldly confess him as Lord and Savior; who with you and the Holy Spirit lives and reigns, one God, in glory everlasting.

*People* **AMEN!**

### ♪ **Gloria, Gloria** *May be sung as a round* [Renew #64]

**Gloria, gloria, in excelsis Deo! Gloria, gloria, alleluia, alleluia!**

Words: Trad, adapt Taizé Community Music: Jacques Berthier ©1979 Les Presses de Taizé/GIA Publ. All rights reserved.

*Please be seated.*

## **First Lesson**

*Reader 1* A reading of Isaiah chapter 43, verses 1 through 7.

Thus says the Lord, he who created you, O Jacob, he who formed you, O Israel: Do not fear, for I have redeemed you; I have called you by name, you are mine. When you pass through the waters, I will be with you; and through the rivers, they shall not overwhelm you; when you walk through fire you shall not be burned, and the flame shall not consume you. For I am the Lord your God, the Holy One of Israel, your Savior. I give Egypt as your ransom, Ethiopia and Seba in exchange for you. Because you are precious in my sight, and honored, and I love you, I give people in return for you, nations in exchange for your life. Do not fear, for I am with you; I will bring your offspring from the east, and from the west I will gather you; I will say to the north, "Give them up," and to the south, "Do not withhold; bring my sons from far away and my daughters from the end of the earth—everyone who is called by my name, whom I created for my glory, whom I formed and made."

*Reader 1* Hear what the Spirit is saying to God's people.

*People* Thanks be to God.

## **Unison Reading**

*Reader 1* Let us read in unison Psalm 29.

*All* Ascribe to the LORD, you gods, ascribe to the LORD glory and strength. Ascribe to the LORD the glory that is due; worship the LORD in the beauty of holiness. The voice of the LORD is upon the waters; the God of glory thunders; the LORD is upon the mighty waters. The voice of the LORD is a powerful voice; the voice of the LORD is a voice of splendor. The voice of the LORD breaks the cedar trees; the LORD breaks the cedars of Lebanon; The voice of the Lord makes Lebanon skip like a calf, and Mount Hermon like a young wild ox. The voice of the LORD splits the flames of fire; the voice of the LORD shakes the wilderness; the LORD shakes the wilderness of Kadesh. The voice of the LORD makes the oak trees

writhe and strips the forests bare. And in the temple of the LORD all are crying, "Glory!" The LORD sits enthroned above the flood; the LORD sits enthroned as King for evermore. The LORD shall give strength to Israel; the LORD shall give Israel the blessing of peace.

## **New Testament**

*Reader 2* A reading of Acts chapter 8, verses 14 through 17.

When the apostles at Jerusalem heard that Samaria had accepted the word of God, they sent Peter and John to them. The two went down and prayed for them that they might receive the Holy Spirit (for as yet the Spirit had not come upon any of them; they had only been baptized in the name of the Lord Jesus). Then Peter and John laid their hands on them, and they received the Holy Spirit.

*Reader 2* Hear what the Spirit is saying to God's people.

*People* **Thanks be to God.**

*All who are able, please stand.*

## **Gospel**

Luke 3. 15-17, 21-22

*Celebrant* The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Luke.

*People* **Glory to you, Lord Christ.**

*Celebrant* As the people were filled with expectation, and all were questioning in their hearts concerning John, whether he might be the Messiah, John answered all of them by saying, "I baptize you with water; but one who is more powerful than I is coming; I am not worthy to untie the thong of his sandals. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire. His winnowing fork is in his hand, to clear his threshing floor and to gather the wheat into his granary; but the chaff he will burn with unquenchable fire."

Now when all the people were baptized, and when Jesus also had been baptized and was praying, the heaven was opened, and the Holy Spirit descended upon him in bodily form like a dove. And a voice came from heaven, "You are my Son, the Beloved; with you I am well pleased."

*Celebrant* The Gospel of the Lord.

*People* Praise to you, Lord Christ.

*Please be seated.*

**Sermon** *Amma Diane*

*All who are able, please stand.*

## **Renewal of Our Baptismal Covenant**

*Celebrant* Through the Paschal mystery, dear friends, we are buried with Christ by Baptism into his death, and raised with him to newness of life. I call upon you, therefore, to renew the solemn promises and vows of Holy Baptism, by which we once renounced Satan and all his works, and promised to serve God faithfully in his holy universal church. Do you reaffirm your renunciation of evil and renew your commitment to Jesus Christ?

*All* I do.

*Celebrant* Do you believe in God the Father?

*All* I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.

*Celebrant* Do you believe in God the Son?

*All* I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord. He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit and born of the Virgin Mary. He 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, and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again to judge the living and the dead.

*Celebrant* Do you believe in God the Holy Spirit?

*All* 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.

*Celebrant* Will you continue in the apostles' teaching and fellowship, in the breaking of bread, and in the prayers?

*All* I will, with God's help.

*Celebrant* Will you persevere in resisting evil, and, whenever you fall into sin, repent and return to the Lord?

*All* **I will, with God's help.**

*Celebrant* Will you proclaim by word and example the Good News of God in Christ?

*All* **I will, with God's help.**

*Celebrant* Will you seek and serve Christ in all persons, loving your neighbor as yourself?

*All* **I will, with God's help.**

*Celebrant* Will you strive for justice and peace among all people, and respect the dignity of every human being?

*All* **I will, with God's help.**

*Celebrant* May Almighty God, the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has given us a new birth by water and the Holy Spirit, and bestowed upon us the forgiveness of sins, keep us in eternal life by his grace, in Christ Jesus our Lord.

*All* **AMEN!**

*Celebrant* We thank you, Almighty God, for the gift of water. Over it the Holy Spirit moved in the beginning of creation. Through it you led the children of Israel out of their bondage in Egypt into the land of promise. In it your Son Jesus received the baptism of John and was anointed by the Holy Spirit as the Messiah, the Christ to lead us, through his death and resurrection, from the bondage of sin into everlasting life.

We thank you, Father, for the water of Baptism. In it we are buried with Christ in his death. By it we share in his resurrection. Through it we are reborn by the Holy Spirit. Therefore in joyful obedience to your Son, we bring into his fellowship those who come to him in faith, baptizing them in the Name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

Now sanctify this water, we pray you, by the power of your Holy Spirit, that those who here are cleansed from sin and born again may continue for ever in the risen life of Jesus Christ our Savior. To him, to you, and to the Holy Spirit, be all honor and glory, now and for ever.

*All* **AMEN!**

## Prayers of the People

*adapted from prayers by Joe Milner, St Francis Xavier College Church, St Louis*

*Reader 3* Sisters and brothers, our baptismal vows call us to compassion and mercy on behalf of those in need. We offer our prayers for the church and the world. We pray for your Church, O God:

*People* **that we may understand more deeply our humanity and proclaim the dignity of each person that was revealed by Christ becoming human.**

*Reader 3* We pray for the human family:

*People* **that we may recognize as sisters and brothers all who seek to serve God, and that we may renounce all forms of discrimination and prejudice.**

*Reader 3* We pray for the renewal of the gift of the Holy Spirit:

*People* **that God will stir up the Spirit within us and make us bold in our faith and dynamic in announcing the Good News.**

*Reader 3* We pray for a deepening of prayer in our lives:

*People* **that, like Jesus, we may grow in our relationship with God through prayer and listening.**

*Reader 3* We pray for courage:

*People* **that we may be strengthened to bear the challenges that come to us as followers of Jesus and proclaim by our lives the faithfulness of God.**

*Reader 3* We pray for all who have been baptized in our communities, particularly those during the last year:

*People* **that they may faithfully fulfill their baptismal promises and live as disciples of Jesus.**

*Reader 3* We pray for all who have responded to God's call to ministry:

*People* **that God will strengthen their service, renew their dedication and bless their work.**

*Reader 3* We pray for the healing of human blindness to God's impartial love:

*People* **for reconciliation amongst all who call themselves Christians, and for the gifts of unity and peace in the Church.**

*Reader 3* We pray for students and faculty as they begin a new semester:

*People* **that they may grow in wisdom, knowledge, and grace in their pursuit of truth.**

*Reader 3* We pray for consolation and support for all who are homebound, detained, imprisoned, or living in refugee camps:

*People* **that they may know the strengthening and renewing power of the Spirit and the care of the Christian community.**

*Reader 3* We pray for all who are in need of a shepherd's care, for those who are ill, those who are grieving, and those who are lacking the physical and financial resources they need:

*People* **that God's love will comfort them, and that the hearts of many will reach out to them.**

*Reader 3* We pray for faithful stewardship:

*People* **that we may wisely put to use all the gifts and talents which God has given us and help bring forth God's reign in our households and communities.**

*Reader 3* We pray for all who suffer from the weather:

*People* **that they may find the shelter and assistance they need.**

*Reader 3* We pray for all who have inadequate healthcare:

*People* **that the Holy Spirit will guide leaders in government and business toward holy ways to expand healthcare coverage and to protect the gift of health and life.**

*Reader 3* We pray for victims of abuse or prejudice of any kind:

*People* **that they may hear God's affirmation that they are beloved and experience healing for their bodies, minds, and spirits.**

*Reader 3* For the special needs and concerns of this congregation, including those on our prayer lists and those we remember now silently or aloud... *The people offer additional prayers at this time.*

...We pray with confidence in your grace, O God.

*People* **Jesus, God with us, hear our prayer.**

*Reader 3* Lord God, you revealed your Son in the waters of the Jordan and anointed him with the power of the Holy Spirit to proclaim good news to all people. Sanctify us by the same Spirit, that we may proclaim the healing power of the gospel by acts of love in your name.

*All* **AMEN!**

*Reader 3* We pray to you also for the forgiveness of our sins.

*You may remain standing or kneel for the confession prayer.*

*All* 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 the grace of Jesus Christ, strengthen you in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep you in eternal life.

*People* **AMEN!**

*Please be seated. Those with birthdays or anniversaries, please stand at this time. If you would like a prayer for healing, travel, or any other needs, please let Amma Diane know.*

*Celebrant* Let us join in prayer for all those who have celebrated or will be celebrating their birthdays.

*All* O God, our times are in your hand: Look with favor, we pray, on your servants as they begin another year. Grant that they may grow in wisdom and grace, and strengthen their trust in your goodness all the days of their life; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **AMEN!**

*Celebrant* Let us join in prayer for all those who have celebrated or will be celebrating their anniversaries.

*All* O God, you teach us through the example of Jesus that love is the fulfilment of the Law; help those couples celebrating anniversaries to persevere in love, to grow in mutual understanding, and to deepen their trust in each other; that in wisdom, patience and courage, their life together may be a source of happiness to all with whom they share it. **AMEN!**

*Celebrant* To all of you celebrating milestones: May the blessing of God Almighty, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, be upon you to guide and protect you and all those you love, today and always!

*All* **AMEN!**

## **Passing the Peace**

*Celebrant* The peace of Christ be always with you.

*People* **And also with you.**

*We share God's love with others from a distance with verbal greetings, waving, peace sign, etc.*

## Offering Our Gifts

*Celebrant* Gifts and offerings may be mailed to the church, dropped off in the church mail slot, or sent through your bank. There are also online giving options on our web site at [mySJEC.com/donate](http://mySJEC.com/donate). We are grateful for your continued financial support of our ministry and mission.

*Celebrant* Inspire us to always share your love through action, O God:

*People* **Strengthen us to always be an inviting safe community for all.**

*All who are able, please stand.*

### ♪ **Down By the Jordan**

Down by the Jordan, a prophet named John was baptizing,  
Preaching a message the people found bold and surprising:  
"God will forgive! Show that you'll change how you live!  
Surely God's new day is rising!"

There by the river, the crowd came with great expectation:  
"Are you God's Chosen One, sent here to rescue our nation?"  
"No!" John replied. "He who is mightier than I  
Judges and offers salvation."

Jesus, you went to be baptized along with the others,  
Taking your place among sinners, God's lost sons and daughters.  
Then with great love, God's Spirit came as a dove!  
Your work began in those waters.

Here in the Church, we are baptized and filled with God's Spirit.  
Freed and forgiven, we're welcomed with joy! Can you hear it?  
This is God's sign! This is how God says, "You're mine!"  
Let's take the good news and share it!

Words: based on Luke 1 & Mark 1, ©2000 Carolyn Winfrey Gillette. All rights reserved. Music: *LOBE DEN HERREN*, 1665.

## Invitation to Communion

*from the Iona Community, Scotland*

*Celebrant* The table of bread and wine is now to be made ready. It is the table of company with Jesus, and all who love him. It is the table of sharing with the poor of the world, with whom Jesus identified himself. It is the table of communion with the earth, in which Christ became incarnate. So come to this table, you who have much faith and you who would like to have more; you who have been here often and you who have not been for a long time; you who have tried to follow Jesus, and you who have failed; come.

## Great Thanksgiving

*Celebrant* People of the living water, the Lord is here!

*People* **God's Spirit is with us.**

*Celebrant* Beloved of the Lord, lift your hearts to God.

*People* **We lift our grace-washed hearts to the One who pours hope into us.**

*Celebrant* Children of the Spirit, offer your thanksgiving and praises to God.

*People* **We sing "Glory" to God who baptizes us with water and the Spirit.**

*Celebrant* With the waters of baptism reminding us of your love for us, we lift our praises to you. Before you breathed the Word which tamed chaos, you named us your children, heirs of all the goodness you desired for us. You sang to us in Eden's fields, inviting us to glorify you forever. Yet, we walked into the shadows of the world, leaving the songs behind. You persisted in your hopes for us, knowing that where no life is anticipated, no hope is expected, no future is seen--there you gather us up to carry us into your kingdom. So, with those who ran to the river's side, and those who immersed themselves in grace, with our beloved sisters and brothers in every time and place, we sing of your love:

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly, reign - ing God of  
 pow'r and might, heav'n and earth are full of your glo - ry,  
 all cre - a - tion seeks your light! Bles-sed is the one who  
 comes in your name. Bles-sed be the Lord most high!

Setting: PICARDY, French carol; arr Kimberly Bracken Long.

*Celebrant* 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."

Great is the mystery of faith:

Christ has died, Christ is ri - sen,

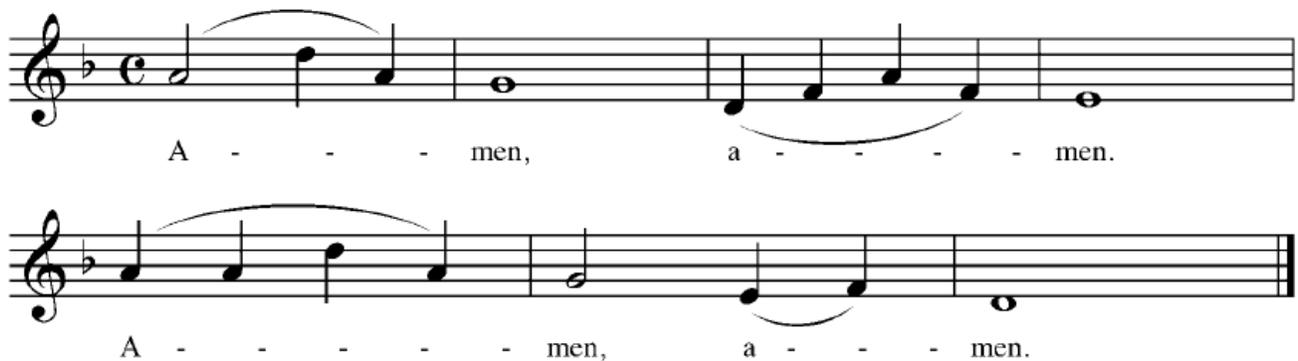
Christ the Lord will come a - - gain.

*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 to 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.



*Celebrant* As our Savior Christ has taught us, we now pray,  
*All* Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your Name, your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us. Save us from the time of trial, and deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours, now and for ever. AMEN!

## Breaking Bread

*Celebrant* Alleluia! Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us;  
*All* Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia!

## ♪ We Will Take What You Offer

John L. Bell © 1998, WGRG, Iona Community. All rights reserved.

The image shows three staves of musical notation for the hymn "We Will Take What You Offer". The music is in treble clef, 2/4 time, with a key signature of one flat (B-flat). The melody consists of quarter notes and eighth notes. The lyrics are written below the notes, with hyphens indicating the duration of each syllable.

We will take what you of - fer, we will live by your word; we will love one an -  
 - oth - er and be fed by you Lord. We will take what you of - fer, we will  
 live by your word; we will love one an - oth - er and be fed by you Lord.

*Celebrant* The Gifts of God for the People of God. Take them in remembrance that Christ died for you, and feed on him in your hearts by faith, with thanksgiving.

*At this time, the Celebrant will extend the invitation to communion to all present and give instructions as needed. Visitors are welcome to receive communion or a blessing.*

*All who are able, please stand.*

*Celebrant* Let us pray.

*All* **Mysterious God, we thank you for feeding us with yourself, and for making yourself known to us in the holy child, Jesus the Christ. Let us carry within our hearts your Holy Spirit—that same Spirit which was in Jesus—so that we may help bring your Light, Peace, and Love to all the earth. We pray in the Name of Jesus, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, now and for ever. AMEN!**

## **Blessing**

*Celebrant* May Almighty God, who led the Wise Men by the shining of a star to find the Christ, the Light from Light, lead you also in your pilgrimage to find the Lord.

*People* **Alleluia! AMEN!**

*Celebrant* May God, who sent the Holy Spirit to rest upon the Only-begotten at his baptism in the Jordan River, pour out that Spirit on you who have come to the waters of new birth.

*People* **Alleluia! AMEN!**

*Celebrant* May God, by the power that turned water into wine at the wedding feast at Cana, transform your lives and make glad your hearts.

*People* **Alleluia! AMEN!**

*Celebrant* And the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be among you, and remain with you always.

*People* **Alleluia! AMEN!**

## **♪ John Was Preaching in the Desert**

John was preaching in the desert, calling people to repent.

When they heard his word of judgment, many wondered what it meant.

John said, "Someone who is greater comes with fire and Spirit, too.

See! I baptize you with water; he will make your whole life new."

Jesus went down to the Jordan — to be baptized on that day.

All at once, the heavens opened as he paused to humbly pray.

Then a voice came down from heaven — with the Spirit, like a dove.

At those waters, God affirmed him — God's beloved, sent to love. *(continued)*

On this day when we remember how our Savior was baptized,  
 God, we pause and pray and wonder at the ways you change our lives.  
 As your Son went through the waters, We rejoice! We're baptized, too.  
 We are called your sons and daughters; may we go out serving you.!

Words: based on scripture, ©2019 Carolyn Winfrey Gillette. All rights reserved. Music: *NETTLETON*, 1813.

## Blessing Our Doors

*Amma Diane will explain the process, followed by all saying this prayer*

*All* Good and gracious God, we ask your blessing on our doorways.  
 May all the people who walk through our doors search for Jesus  
 with the faithfulness of the astronomers from the east. When we  
 come in these doors to be with family, friends, and visitors, show us  
 that Jesus is here among us. When we go out of these doors, help  
 us to bring Jesus with us in our hearts, in our words, and in the  
 things we do for others. In the world outside these doors, let us see  
 Jesus in every person we meet. Help us to live this year in the  
 counter-cultural world that Jesus taught us. AMEN!!

## Sending

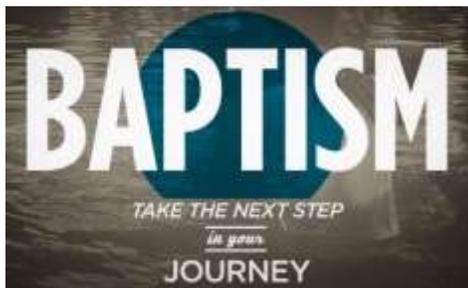
*Celebrant* Go forth bearing the Light of Christ to the world! Alleluia, alleluia!  
*People* Thanks be to God! Alleluia, alleluia!

*Thank you for your support! Gifts may be mailed to the church or sent through your bank.*

*There are also online giving options on our web site at [mySJEC.com/donate](http://mySJEC.com/donate).*

*January's special offering supports Painting Pathways Clubhouse—please label accordingly.*

Thank you for celebrating with us today! Please join us after worship  
 in the lower level Fellowship Hall for casual conversations and sharing  
 (due to COVID we are currently not having food/drink).



*If you would like more information about  
 baptism or joining the church, please talk  
 to Amma Diane after worship or any time!*



**ST JAMES**  
EPISCOPAL CHURCH, MANITOWOC

An inviting safe community for all

## St James Weekly for the week of January 9, 2022

**St James Episcopal Church**  
434 N 8th St, Manitowoc, WI 54220  
920-684-8256 (church office)  
info@mysjec.com  
mysjec.com  
facebook.com/sjecmanitowoc

**The Rev Diane M Murray, Rector**  
920-860-5152 (cell phone)  
920-894-5245 (daytime phone)  
dianemarie.murray@gmail.com  
*Please contact Amma Diane with  
any pastoral care or other needs.*

### Recurring Schedule

#### Discussion Sundays at 8:30AM (in-person/Zoom)

January 9 through March 13 we'll be discussing the book *The Church Cracked Open: Disruption, Decline, and New Hope for Beloved Community*. The author is Stephanie Spellers, Presiding Bishop Michael Curry's Canon for Evangelism, Reconciliation, and Creation—helping Episcopalians to share the good news and cross boundaries as part of the Jesus Movement. These discussions will help us continue on the conversations we've already been having on *Becoming Beloved Community* for all. Books are available online, or you may contact Amma Diane for a copy.

To participate from any phone, dial 1-312-626-6799  
When prompted for Meeting ID, enter 580 876 932 #  
When prompted for Participant ID, press #  
When prompted for Password, enter 0 # [number zero]  
By computer or other device: [go.mysjec.com/biblestudy](http://go.mysjec.com/biblestudy)

#### Worship—Sundays at 10AM (in-person/online)

Attend in-person at 10AM, or participate LIVE at 10AM or view at any time after on YouTube (*video links are also shared on Facebook*):

[go.mysjec.com/youtube](http://go.mysjec.com/youtube)    [go.mysjec.com/facebook](http://go.mysjec.com/facebook)  
1/9: Baptism of Our Lord  
1/16: MLK Observance  
1/23: Third Sunday after the Epiphany

#### Fellowship—Sundays at 11:15AM (in-person)

Join us for a weekly time of conversation after worship in our lower level Fellowship Hall. Due to COVID, we are not having food/drink at this time.

#### Mid-Week Worship—Wednesdays at 4PM (Zoom)

To participate from any phone, dial 1-312-626-6799  
When prompted for Meeting ID, enter 670 567 006 #  
When prompted for Participant ID, press #  
When prompted for Password, enter 0 # [number zero]  
By computer or other device: [go.mysjec.com/wednesday](http://go.mysjec.com/wednesday)

#### Morning Prayer—Fridays at 7:00AM (Zoom)

To participate from any phone, dial 1-312-626-6799  
When prompted for Meeting ID, enter 831 5230 0483 #  
When prompted for Participant ID, press #  
When prompted for Password, enter 0 # [number zero]  
By computer or other device: [go.mysjec.com/friday](http://go.mysjec.com/friday)

**COVID precaution: Masks and distancing are currently required for all present for all St James Episcopal Church indoor group activities. Thanks!**

#### UPDATED! MLK event 1/16 at 5PM

September through December, we've participated in Manitowoc's MLK Freedom School in honor of The Rev Dr Martin Luther King Jr and Mrs Coretta Scott King and their civil and human rights legacy. Events detailed the central focuses of the their lives and how their contributions inspire poor and working people today to build a better world. Our events honoring and learning from MLK's legacy continue in January:

#### **PLANS HAVE BEEN MODIFIED DUE TO COVID SURGE**

**Sunday January 16, 2022**—at 5PM the community will gather in the Farmers Market Parking Lot to hear the official MLK proclamation read by Mayor Justin Nickels, and remarks by others. We will then move to the 8th Street bridge with electric candles for a solemn vigil as we listen to the "I Have a Dream Speech". We should be done by 6PM.

Please contact Matt Sauer ([matt@mcmunited.com](mailto:matt@mcmunited.com) or 920-860-6880) with any questions.

#### St James Book Group meets 1/26 at 7PM (Zoom)

The St James Book Group will meet via Zoom throughout the winter months. Our next meeting will take place on Wednesday, January 26 at 7PM.

We're reading and discussing the book *Circe* by Madeline Miller. Books are available through the library, most book stores, and through online retailers, and Kindle and audiobooks are available.

As always, even if you have not read the book you are welcome to join in the discussion. If you have technical difficulties contact Amma Diane Murray 920-860-5152.

To participate from any phone, dial 1-312-626-6799  
When prompted for Meeting ID, enter 873 5481 2492 #  
When prompted for Participant ID, press #  
When prompted for Password, enter 0 # [number zero]  
By computer or other device: [go.mysjec.com/bookgroup](http://go.mysjec.com/bookgroup)

## 2022 Pledges and Capital Campaign

The deliveries we made to every household the week of Dec 12 included a variety of items, including our stewardship letter/report, 2022 pledge cards, and 2022 capital campaign cards. The report includes a celebration of all the ways we've nourished our St James Tree of Life and grown together through 2021. Copies of these materials are on the info table in the back of the church. We invite you to continue to support our shared mission and ministry by making your financial commitment for 2022, as you are able. Our estimated expenses for 2022 are \$119,234. (See the back page of the stewardship report for a breakdown of our estimated expenses.)

**Please return your pledge card as soon as possible.**

## **NEW!** Vestry Meeting 1/17 at 5:30PM

The Vestry will hold a regular business meeting using Zoom video conferencing on Monday 1/17 starting at 5:30PM. Guests from the congregation are welcome to attend. The Vestry asks that all guests also have their video cameras active throughout the meeting. Use the following link to connect to the meeting:

**[go.mysjec.com/vestry](https://go.mysjec.com/vestry)**

Agenda topics will include:

- ◆ Sharing/Opening prayer
- ◆ Study/Reflection
- ◆ Updates from Diocese & Ecumenical group
- ◆ Treasurer transition update
- ◆ COVID status update
- ◆ Annual meeting planning
- ◆ Approve minutes & Receive financial reports
- ◆ Closing prayer

If you have any questions, please contact Amma Diane.

**If you have any questions, ideas, or concerns, please talk to any of the Vestry:** Amma Diane (*Rector*); Chris Dee Eggert-Rosenthal & Mary Green (*Wardens*), Nick Doszkeewycz, Rich Hall, & Kim Kaufmann (*Vestrypersons*), Tony Karl (*Clerk*); and Linda Molitor (*Treasurer*).



## Scrip upcoming order deadlines 1/9 & 2/13

Scrip is a way for you to purchase store gift cards for your own use or to give as gifts. The card user gets full value for the amount and St James receives a percent (varies with retailer). The money we receives goes into our Outreach Fund. Contact Eleanor Agnew or Amma Diane if you need an order form or have any questions.

## Annual Meeting 1/30/22; nominations open

Our Annual Meeting will be held after 10AM Worship on Sunday, January 30, 2022. At this meeting we review and celebrate our progress, discuss goals, review our budget, and hold elections for Wardens, Vestrypersons, Trustees, and Convention delegates and alternates. A nomination form and report has been available since 12/12.

Nominations received so far include:

Senior Warden: Chris Eggert-Rosenthal (*for 2nd year*)

Junior Warden: Mary Green (*for 2nd year*)

## Save the Date: Eucharistic Festival 5/13-14

The Diocese of Fond du Lac's 2022 Eucharistic Festival will be held Friday, May 13 and Saturday, May 14, 2022.

Friday offers Evensong at the Cathedral of St Paul, Fond du Lac, and a banquet, with speaker, at the Hotel Retlaw in downtown Fond du Lac. Overnight accommodations are available at the Retlaw for those desiring to stay overnight.

Saturday includes the Celebration of the Holy Eucharist at the Cathedral at 11AM, Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament, the Bishop's Picnic, and Cathedral tours.

All are invited to attend any or all of the Festival activities. A link for reservations for the Friday Banquet will be available in February.

The Homilist and Banquet Speaker will be Dr Elizabeth (Liza) Anderson, a Resident Scholar at the Collegeville Institute, Collegeville, MN. A graduate of Swarthmore College with a Bachelor of Arts in religion and peace studies, she earned a master's degree from Trinity College Dublin in ecumenical studies, graduated from Harvard Divinity School, and completed her PhD in religious studies at Yale University. Liza's research



focuses primarily on the languages, literatures and histories of Middle Eastern Christianity and on Muslim-Christian dialogue. She has taught at seminaries in the United States, Ukraine, and Iraq, and has also studied Arabic and Islamic theology in Yemen, Morocco and Egypt. She has served the Episcopal Church in a variety of roles, including the Standing Commission on

Liturgy and Music, the General Board of Examining Chaplains, the Liberian Covenant Committee, and on the churchwide Executive Council. She is the Vice President of the North American Academy of Ecumenists and has been an active member of Religions for Peace USA, the North American Interfaith Network, and Christian Churches Together in the USA.

### Appreciation for Adopt-a-Family project

*Our Greetings and warm wishes to you from The Salvation Army of Manitowoc!*

*We pray that this note finds you and yours well as we near Christmas and the end of another year. As you all well know "it takes a village" to help make the Christmas season a bright and merry one for those in need in our community. You have helped make that happen. We could not possibly do all that we do without folks like you stepping up and stepping in. Many of you donated time as well as toys, talent as well as a financial gift. We cannot say thank you enough. On behalf of everyone here at The Salvation Army and every family who received help this Christmas season: THANK YOU!*

*We are grateful and humbled by your generosity. May God bless you this Christmas, may you find time to spend with family and friends, and may you enter the new year joyful and with hope.*

In Christ,

Lt. Jenny Moffitt

Corps Officer, Manitowoc Salvation Army

### Vestry Notes

- ◆ Thank you to everybody who helped decorate and un-decorate our church for the Christmas season, including those who brought nativity scenes to display. Everything was beautiful!
- ◆ We are grateful for all the reverse Advent calendar donations received. Peter's Pantry picked up all our non-perishable food and personal care items, which will be distributed to those in need.
- ◆ Thanks to Eleanor Agnew for decorating our entry area bulletin boards for the season.
- ◆ The plaster work and painting on our back Sanctuary wall has been completed. Work is underway in our Chapel. Thanks to Dave Haefke, Pat Hanson, Murray Sim, and Steve Thus!
- ◆ Thank you to everybody who donated cookies, treats, and containers for our Advent deliveries. Thanks also to those who helped prepare and deliver packages on 12/12.
- ◆ The 12/12 deliveries also contained a packet of updates and information from the Vestry, including:
  - ◆ Cover letter with a variety of updates
  - ◆ Stewardship report, 2022 pledge cards, and 2022 capital campaign cards
  - ◆ Nomination report and form in preparation for our Annual Meeting after 10AM Worship on Sunday, January 30, 2022.
  - ◆ Identifying our Gifts, Skills, & Passions form
  - ◆ Updated church Directory
  - ◆ Extras of these materials are available in the church or by contacting Amma Diane

**Healing/Comfort/Strength:** Brenden, Steve & Marybeth, Virginia, Carol, Elizabeth, Vanessa, Terry, Debbie, Bonnie, Don & Beth, Faith, Susie, Peggy, Chip, Steven, Len & Margaret, Ray, Mollie, Walter, Mary, Vicki, Charlie, Grace, Silas, Cathy, Don, Laurie, Chris & Nicole, Sharon and her family, Jenny, Jean, Ron B, Candace, Paul's family, Greg & Kim, Janet, Mel Ouradnik and family, Cindy Hronek & family, Due Deanna, Geno, Mitch, Marie.

**Guidance & Discernment:** Tim, Guy & Mary, Kurt, Ronald, Alison, Frankie, Brian & Lisa, Ginny & Karen, Annie & Tom, Mary, Sara, Ethan, Scott.

**Serving in the Military:** Jordan, Daniel, Ian, Logan, Keaton, Ashlee, Marshall, Jacob.

**Additional Prayers we offer include:** For Peace in our world... for the people of Afghanistan, Haiti, Ukraine, Israel, Gaza, Sudan, Madagascar and missionary families. In the Diocesan cycle of prayer, we pray for Daramombe Mission, Masvingo. In the Anglican cycle of prayer, we pray for Iglesia Anglicana de Chile. For the Dioceses of Fond du Lac, Eau Claire, and Milwaukee. For people living with mental illness. For Painting Pathways Clubhouse. Hope House families. The men of The Haven. We pray for those working in government in our cities, state, country, and the world. We pray for our neighborhood. For the people around the world affected by the coronavirus pandemic. Pray for an end to racism and social injustice in our country and around the world. Pray for people around the world dealing with severe weather and related damage, injury, and deaths. We pray for those in the world who do not have enough to eat, may we help to keep food available to all. For our continued safe in person worship, other ministries and groups.

**We offer thanks for:** Diane our Rector, Chris and Mary, our Wardens, our Vestry and other ministry leaders, staff, and every person in this congregation. Bishop Matt Gunter and his wife Leslie and family. Presiding Bishop Michael Curry and his wife, Sharon. Archbishop of Canterbury, Justin Welby. For our companion Diocese of Masvingo in Zimbabwe and their Bishop, The Rt Rev Godfrey and his wife Albertina.

**We Pray for the Departed:** Tom & Audrey, Audrey & Clayton, Pat, Myrna, Cindy, Joe, Paul, Clarence & Liese, Deena, Shirley Ouradnik, Sandra, Randy Hronek.

### Milestones

We pray for those celebrating milestones:

**Birthdays:** 1/2 Tammy McVeigh; 1/3 Kevin McVeigh; 1/11 Chris Eggert-Rosenthal; 1/15 Jane Robinson; 1/17 Liz Foster; 1/21 Dianne Wilson; 1/23 John Cook; 1/25 Skip Cole; 1/28 Sharon Laughrin.

**Anniversaries:** no January anniversaries we know of  
*If you would like your prayer requests to be included on our list, or to add a milestone, please contact Amma Diane Murray by phone (920-860-5152) or email (dianemarie.murray@gmail.com).*

## Dioceses of Fond du Lac, Eau Claire, and Milwaukee engage in trialogue planning

When the Diocese of Wisconsin was formed in 1847, Bishop Jackson Kemper lived out the missionary spirit of the Church. He did so while working in a field rife with possibility and being God's witness "in the wilderness."

There is a type of wilderness today, and not one of geography. The world has changed, but will the church in this place? Can we form ourselves to be relevant? Can we use the resources God has provided to support the work of the Episcopal Church through local congregations?

The three Episcopal dioceses determined to pursue reunion as one diocese in Wisconsin to come together with a blank slate to create a new culture. Leaders from the Milwaukee, Fond du Lac and Eau Claire met in December to continue talks about reunification – to dream about what God wants us to do and take the steps to do it. This second meeting looked at ways to best involve people in the trialogue so we can begin to crystallize a direction and some action.

Delegates from each diocesan convention had provided thoughts, comments, and responses to the idea of reunion. There were a lot of questions about things we don't yet know. Many comments reflected a general desire to move towards a combined diocese. The responses noted the potential of one diocese to equip churches to better share the Gospel.

But there is a lack of clarity evident as to what that means. The trialogue has just started, so this was to be expected. The need for information is great to generate specific ideas or proposals as well as to have more informed questions and discussion.

Reflecting on many responses, the leaders at this second meeting recognized the pursuit will not be easy and is to be undergirded by prayer. Seeking to come together and do things in a different way will be a challenge in a variety of ways.

The purpose of the trialogue is to enable members of the three Episcopal dioceses in Wisconsin to explore how reunification into one diocese can better equip us to be the church God is calling us to be in these times. Work is beginning to shape how we can get to know each other better. There will be opportunities to learn more about each diocese and its people. These will help in building relationships and informing the discussion. As with any

change, there will be more questions than answers to start.

The leaders, who were selected by each diocesan governing body, serve as the trialogue Steering Committee going forward. Its purpose is to take collaborative action to build connections and relationships exploring reunification.

The Steering Committee will establish task forces to examine various components of trialogue. These are: Prayer; Parish and Regional Engagement; Culture; Location, Place, and Staffing; Finances; Constitution and Canons; and Communication. Members of each diocese with experience, knowledge, or passion in each area are being called to participate. These task forces will establish ways to involve more voices as ideas and proposals are developed. This may involve in-person

connections as well as technological ones.

Communication will be essential. To involve over 10,000 persons is an immense task. An interactive website as centralized source of information is being designed. There will be ways to interact with others, provide answers to frequently asked questions, and share your thoughts and ideas with the task forces. Stay tuned to diocesan communication channels to learn ways to be a part to better equip us to be the church God is calling us to be in these times.

The trialogue Steering Committee members are

the Rev. Canon Kathleen Charles, Tim Donahue, the Rt. Rev. Matthew Gunter, the Rev. Canon Aaron Zook (Diocese of Eau Claire), the Rt. Rev. Matthew Gunter, Matthew Payne, Pat Pfeifer, the Rev. Canon Wilson Roane (Diocese of Fond du Lac), The Rev. Canon Scott Leannah, the Rt. Rev. Jeffrey Lee, the Rev. Jana Troutman-Miller, John Vogel (Diocese of Milwaukee).

### Thanks for your support!

We appreciate your continued financial support while we are being the church in these different ways. Checks can be mailed to or dropped off at the church. You can also set up payments through your bank or donate online at [mysjec.com/donate](https://mysjec.com/donate). Please contact Amma Diane if you need help connecting to assistance or resources. **Our special offering for the month of January goes to Painting Pathways Clubhouse—please label accordingly.**

