

THE FOURTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

YEAR A ✦ JUNE 21, 2026

VOLUNTARY

Creator Spirit, by Whose Aid

Henry Carey, arr. Callahan

THE ENTRANCE HYMN

“Praise to the living God!”

Hymnal 372

COLLECT, PROPER 7

BCP 178

O Lord, we beseech thee, make us to have a perpetual fear and love of thy holy Name, for thou never failest to help and govern those whom thou hast set upon the sure foundation of thy loving-kindness; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who liveth and reigneth with thee and the Holy Ghost, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

COLLECT, PROPER 7

BCP 230

O Lord, make us have perpetual love and reverence for your holy Name, for you never fail to help and govern those whom you have set upon the sure foundation of your loving-kindness; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

THE FIRST LESSON

Jeremiah 20:7-13

O Lord, you have enticed me, and I was enticed; you have overpowered me, and you have prevailed. I have become a laughingstock all day long; everyone mocks me. For whenever I speak, I must cry out, I must shout, "Violence and destruction!" For the word of the Lord has become for me a reproach and derision all day long. If I say, "I will not mention him, or speak any more in his name," then within me there is something like a burning fire shut up in my bones; I am weary with holding it in, and I cannot. For I hear many whispering: "Terror is all around! Denounce him! Let us denounce him!" All my close friends are watching for me to stumble. "Perhaps he can be enticed, and we can prevail against him, and take our revenge on him." But the Lord is with me like a dread warrior; therefore my persecutors will stumble, and they will not prevail. They will be greatly shamed, for they will not succeed. Their eternal dishonor will never be forgotten. O Lord of hosts, you test the righteous, you see the heart and the mind; let me see your retribution upon them, for to you I have committed my cause. Sing to the Lord; praise the Lord! For he has delivered the life of the needy from the hands of evildoers.

THE PSALM

69:8-20

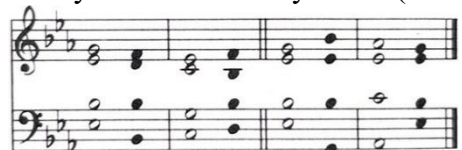
music by Robert Kennedy Knox (b. 1945)

8 Surely, for your sake have I suffered re-/ proach, *
and shame has covered my / face.

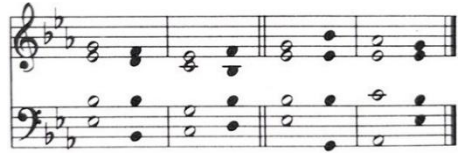
9 I have become a stranger to my own / kindred, *
an alien to my mother's / children.

10 Zeal for your house has eaten me / up; *

the scorn of those who scorn you has fallen up-/ on me.



- 11 I humbled myself with / fasting, *
but that was turned to my re-/ proach.
- 12 I put on sack-cloth / also, *
and became a byword a-/ mong them.
- 13 Those who sit at the gate murmur a-/ gainst me, *
and the drunkards make songs a-/ bout me.
- 14 But as for me, this is my prayer to / you, *
at the time you have set, O / Lord:
- 15 “In your great mercy, O / God, *
answer me with your unfailing / help.
- 16 Save me from the mire; do not let me / sink; *
let me be rescued from those who hate me
and out of the deep / waters.
- 17 Let not the torrent of waters wash over me,
neither let the deep swallow me / up; *
do not let the Pit shut its mouth up-/ on me.
- 18 Answer me, O Lord, for your love is / kind; *
in your great compassion, / turn to me.”
- 19 Hide not your face from your / servant; *
be swift and answer me, for I am in dis-/ tress.



2nd half of chant

- 20 Draw near to me and re-/ deem me; *
because of my enemies de-/ liver me.”

THE SECOND LESSON

Romans 6:1b-11

Should we continue in sin in order that grace may abound? By no means! How can we who died to sin go on living in it? Do you not know that all of us who have been baptized into Christ Jesus were baptized into his death? Therefore we have been buried with him by baptism into death, so that, just as Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father, so we too might walk in newness of life. For if we have been united with him in a death like his, we will certainly be united with him in a resurrection like his. We know that our old self was crucified with him so that the body of sin might be destroyed, and we might no longer be enslaved to sin. For whoever has died is freed from sin. But if we have died with Christ, we believe that we will also live with him. We know that Christ, being raised from the dead, will never die again; death no longer has dominion over him. The death he died, he died to sin, once for all; but the life he lives, he lives to God. So you also must consider yourselves dead to sin and alive to God in Christ Jesus.

During the hymn, children three years old to fifth grade are invited to follow the banner-bearer to Children's Church. They will return at the Peace.

THE GOSPEL

Matthew 10:24-39

Jesus said to the twelve disciples, “A disciple is not above the teacher, nor a slave above the master; it is enough for the disciple to be like the teacher, and the slave like the master. If they have called the master of the house Beelzebul, how much more will they malign those of his household! “So have no fear of them; for nothing is covered up that will not be uncovered, and nothing secret that will not become known. What I say to you in the dark, tell in the light; and what you hear whispered, proclaim from the housetops. Do not fear those who kill the body but cannot kill the soul; rather fear him who can destroy both soul and body in hell. Are not two sparrows sold for a penny? Yet not one of them will fall to the ground apart from your Father. And even the hairs of your head are all counted. So do not be afraid; you are of more value than many sparrows. “Everyone therefore who acknowledges me before others, I also will acknowledge before my Father in heaven; but whoever denies me before others, I also will deny before my Father in heaven. “Do not think that I have come to bring peace to the earth; I have not come to bring peace, but a sword. For I have come to set a man against his father, and a daughter against her mother, and a daughter-in-law against her mother-in-law; and one’s foes will be members of one’s own household. Whoever loves father or mother more than me is not worthy of me; and whoever loves son or daughter more than me is not worthy of me; and whoever does not take up the cross and follow me is not worthy of me. Those who find their life will lose it, and those who lose their life for my sake will find it.”

THE SERMON

The Rev. Clare Nesmith

OFFERTORY

Preludio XV (from “The Well-tempered Clavier”)

J.S. Bach (BWV 884)

PRESENTATION HYMN

Hymnal 400, v. 7

worship booklet p. 8

After the Invitation, all baptized persons may come forward to receive Holy Communion. If you are not baptized or do not wish to receive Communion, you may come forward and cross your arms over your chest to receive a blessing instead. For gluten-free wafers, ask at the rail.

MUSIC DURING COMMUNION

Hymn	“They cast their nets in Galilee”	Hymnal 661
Hymn	“Like the murmur of the dove’s song”	Hymnal 513
Hymn	“Lord, we have come at your own invitation”	Hymnal 348

THE BLESSING

worship booklet p. 13

CLOSING HYMN

“I love thy kingdom, Lord”

Hymnal 524

DISMISSAL

worship booklet p. 13



ANNOUNCEMENTS

- Today, the flowers on the altar are given to the glory of God by **Gail Watson** in loving memory of **Tom Watson** and in thanksgiving for all God's blessings. Dedicate flowers at the registry in the Narthex. An usher can help you with the process.
- **Vestry Person of the Day (VPOD)** is Winifred Nweke. Winifred will be available after both services to discuss or answer any questions about our common life at St. James.
- Today we celebrate **Holy Eucharist at Sterling Estates 3PM**. All are invited.
- June 24 Wed **Evening Prayer** for the Nativity of John the Baptist, 6:30PM.
- June 28 Sun Vocalist **Timothy Harper** in recital in the sanctuary 4:00PM with **Jakari Rush**, accompanist. No charge; donations appreciated.
- June 29 Mon **Evening Prayer** for the feast of Sts. Peter and Paul. 6:30PM
- July 1 Wed **Game Night 6:00PM**. Pot luck dinner & games for all ages. Complime follows in the sanctuary at 7:30PM.
- July 4 **Reserve parking for \$25** in our Polk St lot to benefit our youth program. See Natalie or Meg at the Parish Hall, or email children@stjamesmarietta.com by June 30th.

Online Giving for St. James
*This QR code takes you
 to our online giving page at
 www.stjamesmarietta.com.*



Notice of live-streaming broadcast: Our worship services are live-streamed and posted to social media. If you have concerns about being on camera, please ask one of the ushers to show you seating with limited exposure.

St. James Episcopal Church 161 Church St., Marietta GA 30060 The Reverend Mariclaire Partee Carlsen, Rector <i>emergency phone or text:</i> <i>for an appointment, sign up online</i> Dr. Bryan Black, Director of Music Natalie Fowler, Children's Ministry Coordinator Scott Smoot, Communications Coordinator Office hours Monday – Thursday, 9am-1pm	www.stjamesmarietta.com 770-428-5841 rector@stjamesmarietta.com 678-369-1775 https://calendly.com/rector-stjamesmarietta music@stjamesmarietta.com children@stjamesmarietta.com communications@stjamesmarietta.com
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