

St. James Episcopal Church  
Morning Prayer, Rite II

Second Sunday of Christmas

January 3, 2021

*Thank you for joining us as we celebrate and worship God this fine morning. Feel free to speak the “people” part of the service along with those present at the church. Otherwise, simply participate with us as you would if you were sitting in the pew: join with the rest of the congregation, spread out though close in prayer, as we turn our hearts to God.*

**Opening Sentences**

BCP p 75

*The Officiant celebrant begins*

Behold, I bring you good news of a great joy which will come to all the people; for to you is born this day in the city of David, a Savior, who is Christ the Lord.     *Luke 2:10, 11*

**Confession of Sin**

BCP p 79

*The Officiant continues*

Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

*Silence is kept. The Officiant and People together:*

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.

*The Priest pronounces the absolution:*

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.

**People            Amen.**

**The Invitatory**

BCP p 80

*All stand*

Officiant        Lord, open our lips.

**People            And our mouth shall proclaim your praise.**

*Officiant and People*

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit: as  
it was in the beginning, is now, and will be for ever. Amen. Alleluia.

*All now join in saying:*

**Jubilate**     *Psalm 100*

BCP p 82

Be joyful in the Lord, all you lands; \*  
serve the Lord with gladness  
and come before his presence with a song.

Know this: The Lord himself is God; \*  
he himself has made us, and we are his;  
we are his people and the sheep of his pasture.

Enter his gates with thanksgiving;  
go into his courts with praise; \*  
give thanks to him and call upon his Name.

For the Lord is good;  
his mercy is everlasting; \*  
and his faithfulness endures from age to age.

**Psalm 84**     *Quam dilecta!*

BCP p 707

1 How dear to me is your dwelling, O Lord of hosts! \*  
My soul has a desire and longing for the courts of the Lord;  
my heart and my flesh rejoice in the living God.

2 The sparrow has found her a house  
and the swallow a nest where she may lay her young; \*  
by the side of your altars, O Lord of hosts,  
my King and my God.

3 Happy are they who dwell in your house! \*  
they will always be praising you.

4 Happy are the people whose strength is in you! \*  
whose hearts are set on the pilgrims' way.

5 Those who go through the desolate valley will find it a place of springs,  
\*  
for the early rains have covered it with pools of water.

6 They will climb from height to height, \*  
and the God of gods will reveal himself in Zion.

7 Lord God of hosts, hear my prayer; \*  
hearken, O God of Jacob.

8 Behold our defender, O God; \*  
and look upon the face of your Anointed.

[9 For one day in your courts is better than a thousand in my own room,  
\*  
and to stand at the threshold of the house of my God  
than to dwell in the tents of the wicked.

10 For the Lord God is both sun and shield; \*  
he will give grace and glory;

11 No good thing will the Lord withhold \*  
from those who walk with integrity.

12 O Lord of hosts, \*  
happy are they who put their trust in you!]

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit: \*  
as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be for ever. Amen.

## The Lessons

Reader: A reading from Ephesians 1:3-6,15-19a

Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us in Christ with every spiritual blessing in the heavenly places, just as he chose us in Christ before the foundation of the world to be holy and blameless before him in love. He destined us for adoption as his children through Jesus Christ, according to the good pleasure of his will, to the praise of his glorious grace that he freely bestowed on us in the Beloved.

I have heard of your faith in the Lord Jesus and your love toward all the saints, and for this reason I do not cease to give thanks for you as I remember you in my prayers. I pray that the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory, may give you a spirit of wisdom and revelation as you come to know him, so that, with the eyes of your heart enlightened, you may know what is the hope to which he has called you, what are the riches of his glorious inheritance among the saints, and what is the immeasurable greatness of his power for us who believe.

Reader            The Word of the Lord.

People            **Thanks be to God!**

**Canticle 20    Glory to God**    *Gloria in excelsis*

BCP p 94

Glory to God in the highest,  
and peace to his people on earth.

Lord God, heavenly King,  
almighty God and Father,

we worship you, we give you thanks,  
we praise you for your glory.

Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father,  
Lord God, Lamb of God,  
you take away the sin of the world:  
have mercy on us;  
you are seated at the right hand of the Father:  
receive our prayer.

For you alone are the Holy One,  
you alone are the Lord,  
you alone are the Most High,  
Jesus Christ,  
with the Holy Spirit,  
in the glory of God the Father. Amen.

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit: \*  
as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be for ever. Amen.

## **The Gospel:**

*Then, all standing, the Priest reads the Gospel, first saying*

The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ  
according to St. Matthew (Matthew 2:1-12)

*People* Glory to you, Lord Christ.

In the time of King Herod, after Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judea, wise men from the East came to Jerusalem, asking, "Where is the child who has been born king of the Jews? For we observed his star at its rising,



*Officiant and People together, all standing*

I believe in God, the Father almighty,  
creator of heaven and earth;

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.

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.

## **The Prayers**

BCP p 97

*The People stand or kneel*

**Officiant**      **The Lord be with you.**

People            And also with you.

**Officiant**      **Let us pray.**

*Officiant and People*

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.

## The Suffrages

BCP p 97

V. Show us your mercy, O Lord;  
R. And grant us your salvation.  
V. Clothe your ministers with righteousness;  
R. Let your people sing with joy.  
V. Give peace, O Lord, in all the world;  
R. For only in you can we live in safety.  
V. Lord, keep this nation under your care;  
R. And guide us in the way of justice and truth.  
V. Let your way be known upon earth;  
R. Your saving health among all nations.  
V. Let not the needy, O Lord, be forgotten;  
R. Nor the hope of the poor be taken away.  
V. Create in us clean hearts, O God;  
R. And sustain us with your Holy Spirit.

## The Collects

BCP p 98

### *The Collect of the Day*

O God, who wonderfully created, and yet more wonderfully restored, the dignity of human nature: Grant that we may share the divine life of him who humbled himself to share our humanity, your Son Jesus Christ; who lives and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. *Amen.*

### *A Collect for Grace*

Lord God, almighty and everlasting Father, you have brought us in safety to this new day: Preserve us with your mighty power, that we may not fall into sin, nor be overcome by adversity; and in all we do, direct us to the fulfilling of your purpose; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

Almighty and everlasting God, by whose Spirit the whole body of your faithful people is governed and sanctified: Receive our supplications and prayers which we offer before you for all members of your holy Church, that in their vocation and ministry they may truly and devoutly serve you; through our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. *Amen.*

### *Birthday Blessing* (Sawyer Baumer - Jan 4)

O God, our times are in your hand: Look with favor, we pray, on your servant *N.* as *he* begins another year. Grant that *he* may grow in wisdom and grace, and strengthen *his* trust in your goodness all the days of *his* life; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

### **The General Thanksgiving**

BCP p 101

*Officiant and People*

Almighty God, Father of all mercies,  
we your unworthy servants give you humble thanks  
for all your goodness and loving-kindness  
to us and to all whom you have made.  
We bless you for our creation, preservation,  
and all the blessings of this life;  
but above all for your immeasurable love  
in the redemption of the world by our Lord Jesus Christ;  
for the means of grace, and for the hope of glory.  
And, we pray, give us such an awareness of your mercies,  
that with truly thankful hearts we may show forth your praise,  
not only with our lips, but in our lives,  
by giving up our selves to your service,  
and by walking before you  
in holiness and righteousness all our days;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord,  
to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit,  
be honor and glory throughout all ages. Amen.

Officiant        Let us bless the Lord.

People         **Thanks be to God!**

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God, and  
the fellowship of the Holy Spirit, be with us all evermore.

*Amen. 2 Corinthians 13:14*

# **St. James Episcopal Church**

<i>Presiding Bishop</i>	<i>The Very Rt. Rev. Michael Curry</i>
<i>Diocesan Bishop</i>	<i>The Rt. Rev. Michael Hanley</i>
<i>Bishop-Elect</i>	<i>The Rev. Dr. Diana Akiyama</i>
<i>Vicar</i>	<i>The Rev. Timothy Hannon</i>

## **Today's worship leaders**

<i>Officiant</i>	<i>The Rev. Timothy Hannon</i>
<i>Lector</i>	<i>Bill Henry</i>
<i>Altar Guild</i>	<i>Loralee Henry</i>

*Today's liturgy is from the Book of Common Prayer.  
Music licensing is under OneLicense.*

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