



**ST. JAMES'S  
EPISCOPAL CHURCH**

**The Eighteenth Sunday after Pentecost:  
The Season of Creation - "Bless"**

**Feast of Saint Francis**

**October 1, 2023  
10:30 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!*

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**10:30 am** St. Francis Day, Holy Eucharist, Rite II

<i>Acolytes</i>	Marian King, Jonte Folkes
<i>Cantor</i>	Margot Chamberlain
<i>Eucharistic Ministers</i>	Tamasin Milner-Wohlers, JT Kittredge
<i>Minister of Music</i>	Patrick Michaels
<i>Preacher</i>	The Rev. Matthew Stewart
<i>Presider</i>	The Rev. Michele Torres
<i>Readers</i>	Thomas DeFreitas, Mary Buchinger
<i>Usher</i>	Alan Aukeman
<i>Videographer</i>	Steve Clark
<i>Welcomer</i>	Sylvia Weston

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## **The Word of God**

**Prelude**

**Words of Welcome**

**Tolling of the Bell**

# Opening Hymn: All creatures of our God and King

*Unison*

1 All crea - tures of our God and King, lift up your  
 2 Great rush - ing winds and breez - es soft, you clouds that  
 3 Swift flow - ing wa - ter, pure and clear, make mu - sic  
 4 Earth ev - er fer - tile, day by day un - fold your

*Harmony*

voic - es, let us sing: al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!  
 ride the heavens a - loft, O sing now, al - le - lu - ia!  
 for your Lord to hear, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!  
 bless - ings on our way, O sing now, al - le - lu - ia!

*Unison*

Bright burn - ing sun and gold - en beams, pale  
 Fair ris - ing morn, with praise re - joice; stars  
 Fire, so in - tense and fierce - ly bright, you  
 All flowers and fruit that in you grow, God's

*Harmony*

sil - ver moon that gent - ly gleams, al - le -  
 night - ly shin - ing, find a voice, al - le -  
 give to us both warmth and light, al - le -  
 glo - ry let them al - so show: al - le -

lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia,

*Unison*

al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!

- 5 All you with mercy in your heart,  
 forgiving others, take your part,  
 alleluia, alleluia!  
 All you that pain and sorrow bear,  
 sing praise and cast on God your care:  
 alleluia, alleluia, alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!
- 6 And even you, most gentle death,  
 waiting to hush our final breath,  
 O sing now, alleluia!  
 You lead back home the child of God,  
 for Christ our Lord that way has trod:  
 alleluia, alleluia, alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!
- 7 Let all things their creator bless,  
 and worship God in humbleness,  
 alleluia, alleluia!  
 Praise God the Father, praise the Son,  
 and praise the Spirit, Three-in-One:  
 alleluia, alleluia, alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

*Text: Francis of Assisi Music: Geistliche Kirchengesänge, 1623 Oxford Press.*

## Opening Acclamation

*Presider* This is the day the Creator has made.  
*People* Let us rejoice and be glad in it.

## Collect for Purity

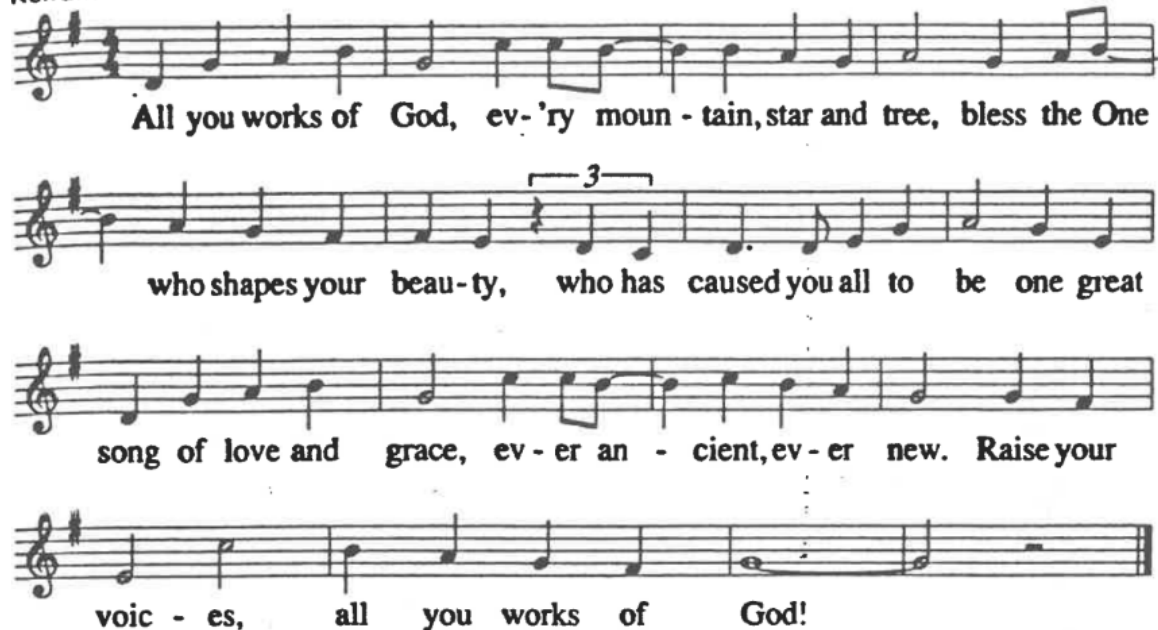
*All then pray*

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: All You Works of God


SJS 107.st. 1,4,5,6

### Refrain



All you works of God, ev-'ry moun-tain, star and tree, bless the One  
who shapes your beau-ty, who has caused you all to be one great  
song of love and grace, ev-er an-cient, ev-er new. Raise your  
voic-es, all you works of God!

### Verses



*Soloist:* 1. Sun and moon: Stars of heav-en:  
*All:* 2. Winds of God: Cold and win-ter:  
*Soloist:* 3. Night and day: Light and dark-ness:  
4. All the earth: Bless your Mak-er! Hills and moun-tains:  
5. Wells and springs: Seas and riv-ers:  
6. Fly-ing birds: Beasts and cat-tle:  
7. All who live: Men and wom-en:

*All:* *Soloist:*

Show - ers and dew:  
 Snow - storms and ice:  
 Light - nings and clouds:  
 Chant your praise! Green things that grow:  
 Whales in the deep:  
 Chil - dren at play:  
 Ser - vants of God:

*All:* *D.C.*

Raise up your joy - ful song.

Marty Haugen (b. 1950) ©1989 GIA Publications, Inc. All rights reserved. OneLicense.net License #A-700155

## The Collect of the Day

*Presider* The Creator be with you.

*People* And also be with you.

*Presider* Let us pray.

O God, you show your glory throughout your Creation, calling it very good: Grant us the fullness of your blessing, that we, stewarding your garden, may become partakers in your joy, through Jesus Christ the Wisdom of Creation, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, now and for ever. **Amen.**

## The First Reading: Exodus 17:1-7

Thomas DeFreitas

A reading from the Book of Exodus.

From the wilderness of Sin the whole congregation of the Israelites journeyed by stages, as the LORD commanded. They camped at Rephidim, but there was no water for the people to drink. The people quarreled with Moses, and said, "Give us water to drink." Moses said to them, "Why do you quarrel with me? Why do you test the LORD?" But the people thirsted there for water; and the people complained against Moses and said, "Why did you bring us out of Egypt, to kill us and our children and livestock with thirst?" So Moses cried out to the LORD, "What shall I do with this people? They are almost ready to stone me." The LORD said to Moses, "Go on ahead of the people, and take some of the elders of Israel with you; take in your hand the staff with which you struck the Nile, and go. I will be standing there in front of you on the

rock at Horeb. Strike the rock, and water will come out of it, so that the people may drink." Moses did so, in the sight of the elders of Israel. He called the place Massah and Meribah, because the Israelites quarreled and tested the LORD, saying, "Is the LORD among us or not?"

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

*People* Thanks be to God.

**Psalm 78:1-3, 5-7**

*(All together)*

Margot Chamberlain

$\text{♩} = 108$

WE WILL RE - COUNT TO GEN - ER - A - TIONS \_ TO COME \_ THE PRAISE - WOR - THY DEEDS AND THE

4

POW - ER OF THE LORD, AND THE WON - DER - FUL WORKS HE HAS DONE.

7

11

1 Hear my teaching, O my **people**;<sup>\*</sup>  
incline your ears to the *words of my mouth*.

2 I will open my mouth in a **parable**;<sup>\*</sup>  
I will declare the mysteries of ancient **times**.

REFRAIN

3 That which we have heard and known,  
and what our forefathers have **told us**,<sup>\*</sup>  
we will not hide from their **children**.

5 He gave his decrees to Jacob  
and established a law for **Israel,\***  
which he commanded them to teach their **children;** REFRAIN

6 That the generations to come might know,  
and the children yet **unborn;\***  
that they in their turn might tell it to their *children;*

7 So that they might put their trust in **God,\***  
and not forget the deeds of God,  
but keep his **commandments.** REFRAIN

## The Second Reading

Thomas DeFreitas

*A Reading attributed to Meister Eckhart (1260-1328)*

Apprehend God in all things, for God is in all things.

Every single creature is full of God, and is a book about God.

Every creature is a word of God.

If I spent enough time with the tiniest creature— even a caterpillar—

I would never have to prepare a sermon, so full of God is every creature.

*Reader* Here ends the reading.

## Gospel Acclamation: Hallelujah, Amen

Scriptural Patrick Michaels

Hal - le - lu - jah, A - men! Hal - le - lu - jah, A - men!

The image shows a musical score for a two-part setting of 'Hallelujah, Amen'. The top part is labeled 'Scriptural' and the bottom part is labeled 'Patrick Michaels'. Both parts are in G major (one sharp) and common time (C). The 'Scriptural' part is written on a treble clef staff and consists of two phrases of 'Hal - le - lu - jah, A - men!' with a repeat sign. The 'Patrick Michaels' part is written on a bass clef staff and provides a harmonic accompaniment for the vocal line.



Hal - le - lu - jah, A - men! A - men, A - men!

Hal - le - lu - jah, A - men! Hal - le - lu - jah, A - men!

Hal - le - lu - jah, A - men! A - men, A - men!

WL800055

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 Music © 2015 by Wayne Leupold Editions, Inc.

## The Holy Gospel: Matthew 21:23-32

*Presider* The Holy Gospel of our Savior Jesus Christ according to Matthew.  
*People* Glory to you, O Christ.

When Jesus entered the temple, the chief priests and the elders of the people came to him as he was teaching, and said, "By what authority are you doing these things, and who gave you this authority?" Jesus said to them, "I will also ask you one question; if you tell me the answer, then I will also tell you by what authority I do these things. Did the baptism of John come from heaven, or was it of human origin?" And they argued with one another, "If we say, 'From heaven,' he will say to us, 'Why then did you not believe him?' But if we say, 'Of human origin,' we are afraid of the crowd; for all regard John as a prophet." So they answered Jesus, "We do not know." And he said to them, "Neither will I tell you by what authority I am doing these things. "What do you think? A man had two sons; he went to the first and said, 'Son,

go and work in the vineyard today.’ He answered, ‘I will not’; but later he changed his mind and went. The father went to the second and said the same; and he answered, ‘I go, sir’; but he did not go. Which of the two did the will of his father?” They said, “The first.” Jesus said to them, “Truly I tell you, the tax collectors and the prostitutes are going into the kingdom of God ahead of you. For John came to you in the way of righteousness and you did not believe him, but the tax collectors and the prostitutes believed him; and even after you saw it, you did not change your minds and believe him.

*Presider*     The Gospel of the Lord.

*People*       Praise to you, O Christ.

## **Sermon**

The Rev. Matthew Stewart

## **Affirmation of Faith**

We believe in God, who creates all things,  
who embraces all things, who celebrates all things,  
who is present in every part of the fabric of creation.

We believe in God as the source of all life,  
who baptizes this planet with living water.

We believe in Jesus Christ, the suffering one, the poor one,  
the malnourished one, the climate refugee,  
who loves and cares for this world  
and who suffers with it.

And we believe in Jesus Christ, the seed of life,  
who came to reconcile and renew this world  
and everything in it.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the breath of God,  
who moves with God  
and who moves among and with us today.

We believe in everlasting life in God.

And we believe in the hope that one day  
God will put an end to death and all that destroys.

## Prayers of the People

Mary Buchinger

Let us pray for the Church and for all the world.

Grant, Almighty God, that all who confess your Name may be united in your truth, live together in your love, and reveal your glory in the world.

*Silence*

Lord, in your mercy

**Hear our prayer.**

Guide the people of this land, and of all the nations, in the ways of justice and peace; that we may honor one another and serve the common good.

*Silence*

Lord, in your mercy

**Hear our prayer.**

Give us all a reverence for the earth as your own creation, that we may use its resources rightly in the service of others and to your honor and glory.

*Silence*

Lord, in your mercy

**Hear our prayer.**

Bless all whose lives are closely linked with ours, and grant that we may serve Christ in them, and love one another as Christ loves us.

*Silence*

Lord, in your mercy

**Hear our prayer.**

Comfort and heal all those who suffer in body, mind, or spirit; give them courage and hope in their troubles, and bring them the joy of your salvation.

We pray especially for John Butler, Vida Carrington, Douglas Huber, for Curtis Fisher and his upcoming back surgery, and for the family of Jaden McDaniels who died in a motorcycle accident, for Nora, Anne Shumway's grand-niece, who is struggling with mental illness.

You are now invited to share the prayers on your heart, aloud or in silence.

*A moment for intercessory prayer is now observed.*

Lord, in your mercy  
**Hear our prayer.**

We commend to your mercy all who have died, that your will for them may be fulfilled; and we pray that we may share with all your saints in your eternal kingdom.

*The community is invited to offer their prayers, aloud or in silence, at this time.*

Lord, in your mercy  
**Hear our prayer.**

*The Presider then says*

Great Spirit God, we give you thanks for another day on this earth. We give you thanks for this day to enjoy the compassionate goodness of you, our Creator. We acknowledge with one mind our respect and gratefulness to all the sacred cycle of life. Bind us together in the circle of compassion to embrace all living creatures and one another. **Amen.**

## **Confession of Sin**

*Presider* Let us confess our sin against God and God's creation.

*People* We confess our lack of gratitude  
for the beauty and bounty of your creation:  
teach us to see that your earth sustains us and all that lives.

We confess that we have misused your earth:  
grant us amendment of life.

We confess that we have been intemperate in our appetites:  
strengthen us in self-control.

We confess that we have taken the abundance of your world for granted: make us urgent now for its protection. **Amen.**

*Presider* God of compassion, heal our relationship with all creation. Forgive us for our mistreatment and neglect of the world you have made. We are truly sorry and we humbly repent for the harm we have done and for what we have failed to do. Fill us with your Spirit, that we may care for one another and for all creatures, according to your will and in the fullness of your love; through Jesus Christ our Redeemer. **Amen.**

## The Peace

*Presider* The God of heaven has made a home on earth.

*People* Christ dwells among us and is one with us.

*Presider* The peace of God be always with you.

*People* And also with you.

## 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.

## The Holy Communion

### Offertory Sentence

*Presider* Let us gather our gifts together and offer them to God  
in gratitude and praise.

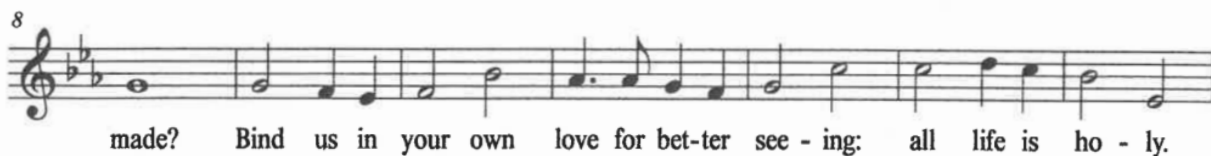
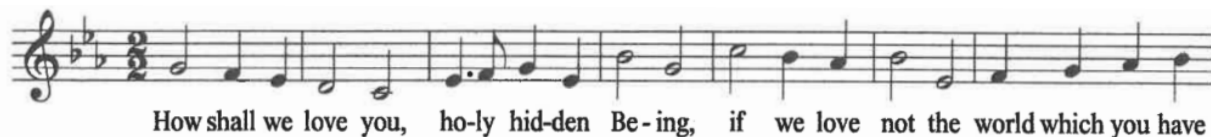
*At this time our gifts and offerings will be collected.*

**Offertory Anthem:** Long Before the Night

Carolyn McDade

*The Adult Choir*

**Presentation Hymn:** How shall we love thee



Words: Laurence Housman (1865-1959) Music: Langham, Geoffrey Turton Shaw (1879-1943)

**The Great Thanksgiving**  
*Eucharistic Prayer for Creation*  
 (Rev. Nina Pooley)

*Presider* The Lord be with you.  
*People* And also with you.  
*Presider* Lift up your hearts.  
*People* We lift them to the Lord.  
*Presider* Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.  
*People* It is right to give God thanks and praise.

*The Presider says*

It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, God Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth. Because in the mystery of Christ's incarnation you have gathered into one things earthly and heavenly, calling your people to be ministers of reconciliation and to proclaim the Good News to all creation. 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:

**Sanctus**

WLP 785

San - to, san - to, san - to, mi cor - a - zon te a - do - ra! Mi  
 Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly, my heart, my heart a - dores you! My

cor - a - zon te sa - be de - cir: san - to - e - res Se - ñor.  
 heart is glad to say the words: you are ho - ly, Lord.

Words: Variation on a liturgical traditional text Music: Composer unknown. Arr. ©1990 Iona Community, admin. by GIA Publications. One License #A-700155

*Presider*

In the night that Jesus was betrayed, he took bread, and gave thanks to God. He broke the bread, gave it to his friends and said: "Take and eat, for this is my body, given for you. Do this in remembrance of me."

He took the wine, and gave thanks to God, Creator. He gave it to his friends saying: "This is my blood of the new covenant, shed for you and for all creation for the forgiveness of sins. Every time you drink of the wine, do this in remembrance of me."

So we proclaim the mystery of faith:

**Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.**

Merciful God, we come to this table seeking reconciliation: with you, with one another, and with all creation. Through these mysteries reconcile us to our world and empower us to restore your Creation and fulfill your will. Send your life-giving Spirit upon us, and upon this bread and wine. Stir in us the creative and redeem the destructive. Heal your stricken world, that the soil, the skies, and the seas may be filled with your life anew. Fill every heart with the sure and certain hope that we shall enter into the fullness of your joy, when your whole Creation is justified by faith and sanctified by love, and you are all in all.

Through Christ and with Christ and in Christ, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, to you be honor, glory, and praise, for ever and ever. **AMEN.**

As our Savior Christ has taught us, we now sing:

**Lord's Prayer** (Zambian)

SJS 1

*(Soloists sing the words in italics. The congregation joins in unitalicized language.)*

*Hear our plea, dear Father we pray;  
shower upon us your heav'nly grace  
that we may be your people*

Glorifying you.

Lord, our Father, in heaven abiding,  
may your name always be hallowed by us.  
Your will is righteous and ever consistent,  
in heaven and also on earth.

Give us this day what we really have need of.  
 Please forgive us the sins we've committed.  
 Help us forgive all the sins of our neighbor  
 as you have forgiven us ours.

Far from temptation we ask you to lead us.  
 Save us also from all that is evil.  
 Yours is the kingdom, the power, the glory  
 at this time and world without end.

*Yours is glory excelling.* Now and forever.  
*Yours is glory excelling.* Now and forever.  
*Yours is glory excelling.* Now and forever.  
 Forever and ever. Amen.

*Yours is glory excelling.* Now and forever.  
*Yours is glory excelling.* Now and forever.  
*Yours is glory excelling.* Now and forever.  
 Forever and ever. Amen.

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**The Breaking of the Bread** (Silence is kept)

**Fraction Anthem: Many and great** (Vs. 2 only)

H 385

1 Man - y and great, O God, are thy works, mak - er of  
 2 Grant un - to us com - mun - ion with thee, thou star - a -

earth and sky; thy hands have set the hea - vens with stars;  
 bid - ing one; come un - to us and dwell with us;

thy fin - gers spread the moun - tains and plains. Lo, at thy  
 with thee are found the gifts of life. Bless us with

word the wa - ters were formed; deep seas o - bey thy voice.  
 life that has no end, e - ter - nal life with thee.

Words: Joseph R. Renville ca. 1835; tr. Philip Frazier (1892-1964) alt.  
 Music: Dakota Indian Chant Dakota Indian Chant [Lacquiparte]. Native American melody



## The Invitation

*Presider* The Gifts of God for the People of God.

## Administration of Communion

*The people are invited to come forward to receive communion when directed by an usher.*

*Those that wish a contactless blessing or  
a gluten-free, allergen-free wafer are welcome to ask for that.*

*All are welcome and encouraged to receive Communion from God's table.*

**Communion Anthem:** Let All the World in Every Corner Sing Erik Routley  
*The Greenleaf Choir*

## Communion Hymn: In Sacred Manner

1. In sa - - - cred man - ner may we walk  
2. In sa - - - cred man - ner may we see  
3. In sa - - - cred man - ner may we touch  
4. In sa - - - cred man - ner may we hear  
5. In sa - - - cred man - ner may we live

3. 2.  
Up - on the fair and lov - ing earth,  
The lu - - - mi - nous and lov - ing stars,  
The sus - - - pi - rant and lov - ing green,  
The pound - ing waves, the sear - ing fire,  
A - - mong the wise and lov - ing ones,

6. 3.  
In beau - ty move, in beau - ty love The  
With won - der and with awe be - hold Their  
Give hon - or and give grat - i - tude for  
The rush - ing wind, the sing - ing night, The  
Sit hum - bly, as at sag - es feet, By

9 4.  
liv - ing round that brought us birth, We stand  
ev - er - new cre - a - tive powers, The heav -  
shade, for bloom, for gift un - seen. The trees  
for - est hymn, the lov - ing choir. The morn -  
four - legged, finned and feath - ered ones. The an -

12 5.  
on ens shall ing i - -  
ho - ly us shall will  
show shout for shall will  
ground. God. joy. sing. teach.  
We The The The  
stand heav -  
trees morn -  
an -

15 6.  
on ens shall ing i - -  
ho - ly us shall will  
show shout for shall will  
ground. God. joy. sing. teach.  
We The The The  
stand heav -  
trees morn -  
an -

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Music: Patrick Michaels, © 2000. All rights reserved.

## Post Communion Prayer

*Presider* Let us pray.

*People* Holy One, you feed us with bread from heaven  
and the gifts of mother earth.

In this communion, you have drawn us into your embrace  
and you call us to friendship with one another.

You have given us the gift of reconciliation.

May we who have tasted that gift from you,  
offer ourselves in peace and humility to one another.

And may you always walk among us as friend. Amen.

## Blessing

*Presider*

May God who established the dance of creation,

Who marveled at the lilies of the field,

Who transforms chaos to order,

Lead us to transform our lives and the Church

To listen to the voice of all creatures

That reflect God's glory in creation.

and the blessing of God, Creator, Christ, and Holy Spirit,

be among you and remain with you always. **Amen.**

## Closing Hymn: All things bright and beautiful

H 405

*Descant*  
All things bright and beau - ti - ful, crea-tures great and small,

*Refrain*  
All things bright and beau - ti - ful, all crea-tures great and small,  
all things wise and won - der - ful, God made them all.  
all things wise and won - der - ful, the Lord God made them all.

1 Each lit - tle flower that o - pens, each lit - tle bird that sings,  
2 The pur - ple - head - ed moun-tain, the riv - er run - ning by,  
3 The cold wind in the win - ter, the pleas-ant sum - mer sun,  
4 He gave us eyes to see them, and lips that we might tell

*Repeat Refrain*  
he made their glow - ing col - ors, he made their ti - ny wings.  
the sun - set, and the morn - ing that bright - ens up the sky.  
the ripe fruits in the gar - den, he made them ev - ery one.  
how great is God Al - might - y, who has made all things well.

Words: Cecil Frances Alexander (1818-1895)

Music: *Royal Oak*, melody from *The Dancing Master*, 1686;

adapt. Martin Fallas Shaw (1875-1958); desc. Richard Proulx (b. 1937)

76. 76 with Refrain

## Dismissal

*Presider* Tend the earth, care for God's good Creation.

As you have received freely, so give freely.

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord. Alleluia! Alleluia!

*People* Thanks be to God! Alleluia! Alleluia!

*Following the Dismissal all those interested are invited to head out to the garden for the Blessing of the Animals.*

*Saint James's Episcopal Church*  
1991 Massachusetts Avenue Cambridge, MA 02140  
Website: [www.stjamescambridge.org](http://www.stjamescambridge.org)  
Office Email: [office@stjamescambridge.org](mailto:office@stjamescambridge.org)  
Emergency Pastoral Line: 857-600-1329

*Interested in speaking to a priest or asking for prayers?*  
Email Rev. Matt at [matt@stjamescambridge.org](mailto:matt@stjamescambridge.org)

*Want to donate to St. James's? Visit the website  
or follow the QR code here:*



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## **St. James's Episcopal Church Welcomes You!**

I am: \_\_\_\_\_ visiting just for today.      I wish: \_\_\_\_\_ to be on the church mailing list.  
         \_\_\_\_\_ seeking a new church home.      \_\_\_\_\_ 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.