



**ST. JAMES'S
EPISCOPAL CHURCH**

The Third Sunday in Lent

March 3, 2024

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,
persons with or without disabilities, 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!*

10:30 am The Third Sunday in Lent, Holy Eucharist

<i>Acolytes</i>	Marian King, Jonte Folkes
<i>Eucharistic Ministers</i>	Alvin Lindo, Laverne Agard-Lynch
<i>Minister of Music</i>	Patrick Michaels
<i>Preacher and Presider</i>	The Rev. Matthew Stewart
<i>Readers</i>	Thomas DeFreitas, Dana Evelyn
<i>Ushers</i>	Alan Aukeman
<i>Videographer</i>	Steve Clark
<i>Welcomer</i>	Sylvia Weston

A Penitential Order

Words of Welcome

Tolling of the Bell

The image shows a musical score for a hymn. It consists of two systems of music. Each system has a vocal line (treble clef) and a piano accompaniment line (bass clef). The lyrics are printed below the vocal line. The first system contains five lines of lyrics, and the second system contains five lines of lyrics. The music is in a common time signature and features a simple, hymn-like melody.

1 For - ty days and for - ty nights thou wast fast - ing in the wild;
 2 Should not we thy sor - row share and from world - ly joys ab - stain,
 3 Then if Sa - tan on us press, Je - sus, Sa - vior, hear our call!
 4 So shall we have peace di - vine: ho - lier glad - ness ours shall be;
 5 Keep, O keep us, Sa - vior dear, ev - er con - stant by thy side;

1 for - ty days and for - ty nights tempt - ed, and yet un - de - filed.
 2 fast - ing with un - ceas - ing prayer, strong with thee to suf - fer pain?
 3 Vic - tor in the wil - der - ness, grant we may not faint nor fall!
 4 round us, too, shall an - gels shine, such as min - is - tered to thee.
 5 that with thee we may ap - pear at the e - ter - nal Eas - ter - tide.

Words: George Hunt Smyttan (1822-1870), alt.
 Music: *Aus der Tiefe rufe ich*, melody att. Martin Herbst (1654-1681), alt.;
 harm. William Henry Monk (1823-1889)

Opening Words

Presider Bless the Lord who forgives all our sins.

People God's mercy endures forever.

Confession of Sin

Presider Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

Silence is kept for a time and the community kneels as they are able.

All then say

Merciful God, we confess to you our pain:

The pain we have inflicted on others and ourselves,

The pain that keeps us paralyzed by day and awake at night,

The pain of strangers across the world whose lives we cannot touch,

the pain of systems unyielding and untouchable,

and the pain of the earth you have given unto our care.
 We invite you into our pain
 We invite you to heal us, and forgive us,
 To undo what is crushing and wrong,
 To bring peace and even joy.
 Hear now our confession, offered to you in hope. Amen.

The Presider then says

Fear not, friends: God, who is full of grace and abounding in steadfast love, meets us in our sin and transforms us for God's glory and the healing of God's world. In the name of God: Creator, Christ, Holy Spirit, your sins are forgiven, be now at peace. **Amen.**

Song of Praise: Tryin' to get home

SJS 147

Leader *Response*

1. Lord, I'm bear - in' heav-y bur - dens, Try-in' to get home;
 2. Lord, I'm climb-in' high moun-tains, Try-in' to get home;
 3. Lord, I'm stand-in' hard tri - als, Try-in' to get home;

Leader *Response*

Lord, I'm bear - in' heav-y bur - dens, Try-in' to get home;
 Lord, I'm climb - in' high moun-tains, Try-in' to get home;
 Lord, I'm stand - in' hard tri - als, Try-in' to get home;

Lord, I'm bear - in' heav-y bur - dens, Lord, I'm bear - in' heav-y
 Lord, I'm climb - in' high moun-tains, Lord, I'm climb - in' high
 Lord, I'm stand - in' hard tri - als, Lord, I'm stand - in' hard

Leader *Response*

bur - dens, Lord, I'm bear - in' heav-y bur - dens, Try-in'to get home.
 moun-tains, Lord, I'm climb - in' high moun-tains, Try-in'to get home.
 tri - als, Lord, I'm stand - in' hard tri - als, Try-in'to get home.

Harm. by J. Jefferson Cleveland (1937-) and Verolga Nix (1933-) ©1979 Abingdon, OneLicense.net License #A-700155

The Word of God

The Collect of the Day

Presider May God be with you.

People And also be with you.

Presider Let us pray.

O God, whose glory it is always to have mercy: Be gracious to all who have gone astray from your ways, and bring them again with penitent hearts and steadfast faith to embrace and hold fast the unchangeable truth of your Word, Jesus Christ your Son; who with you and the Holy Spirit lives and reigns, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

A reading from the Book of Exodus.

Then God spoke all these words:

I am the LORD your God, who brought you out of the land of Egypt, out of the house of slavery; you shall have no other gods before me.

You shall not make for yourself an idol, whether in the form of anything that is in heaven above, or that is on the earth beneath, or that is in the water under the earth. You shall not bow down to them or worship them; for I the LORD your God am a jealous God, punishing children for the iniquity of parents, to the third and the fourth generation of those who reject me, but showing steadfast love to the thousandth generation of those who love me and keep my commandments.

You shall not make wrongful use of the name of the LORD your God, for the LORD will not acquit anyone who misuses his name.

Remember the sabbath day, and keep it holy. For six days you shall labour and do all your work. But the seventh day is a sabbath to the LORD your God; you shall not do any work—you, your son or your daughter, your male or female slave, your livestock, or the alien resident in your towns. For in six days the LORD made heaven and earth, the sea, and all that is in them, but rested the seventh day; therefore the LORD blessed the sabbath day and consecrated it.

Honor your father and your mother, so that your days may be long in the land that the LORD your God is giving you.

You shall not murder.

You shall not commit adultery.

You shall not steal.

You shall not bear false witness against your neighbor.

You shall not covet your neighbor's house; you shall not covet your neighbor's wife, or male or female slave, or ox, or donkey, or anything that belongs to your neighbor.

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

People Thanks be to God.

Sweet-er far_ than hon - ey the judg-ments of the LORD, they are

Sweet- er by far are the judg-ments, sweet-er than

5 sweet - er far than hon - ey in the comb.

5 hon- ey, sweet-er than hon- ey in the comb.

The law of the Lord is perfect
and revives the soul; *
the testimony of the Lord is sure
and gives wisdom to the innocent. *Refrain*

The statutes of the Lord are just
and rejoice the heart; *
the commandment of the Lord is clear
and gives light to the eyes. *Refrain*

The fear of the Lord is clean
and endures for ever; *
the judgments of the Lord are true and righteous altogether. *Refrain*

Let the words of my mouth and the meditation of my
heart be acceptable in your sight, O Lord. *Refrain*

A reading from Paul's First Letter to the Corinthians.

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

“I will destroy the wisdom of the wise,
and the discernment of the discerning I will thwart.”

Where is the one who is wise? Where is the scribe? Where is the debater of this age? Has not God made foolish the wisdom of the world? For since, in the wisdom of God, the world did not know God through wisdom, God decided, through the foolishness of our proclamation, to save those who believe. For Jews demand signs and Greeks desire wisdom, but we proclaim Christ crucified, a stumbling block to Jews and foolishness to Gentiles, but to those who are the called, both Jews and Greeks, Christ the power of God and the wisdom of God. For God's foolishness is wiser than human wisdom, and God's weakness is stronger than human wisdom, and God's weakness is stronger than human strength.

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

People Thanks be to God.

Gospel Acclamation: Open My Eyes

The musical notation consists of four staves of music in G major (one sharp) and 3/4 time. Each staff begins with a treble clef and a key signature of one sharp (F#). The lyrics are written below the notes, with hyphens indicating where a note spans across a syllable. The lyrics are: "O - pen my eyes that I may see," "O - pen my ears that I may hear," "O - pen my mind that I may know," and "O - pen my heart that I may live." The first staff ends with a fermata over the final note. The second staff begins with a triplet of three eighth notes. The third staff begins with a half note followed by a quarter note. The fourth staff ends with a double bar line.

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The Holy Gospel: John 2:13-22

Presider The Holy Gospel of our Savior Jesus Christ according to John.

People Glory to you, O Christ.

The Passover of the Jews was near, and Jesus went up to Jerusalem. In the temple he found people selling cattle, sheep, and doves, and the money changers seated at their tables. Making a whip of cords, he drove all of them out of the temple, both the sheep and the cattle. He also poured out the coins of the money changers and overturned their tables. He told those who were selling the doves, "Take these things out of here! Stop making my Father's house a marketplace!" His disciples remembered that it was written, "Zeal for your house will consume me." The Jews then said to him, "What sign can you show us for doing this?" Jesus answered them, "Destroy this temple, and in three days I will raise it up." The Jews then said, "This temple has been under construction for forty-six years, and will you raise it up in three days?" But he was speaking of the temple of his body. After he was raised from the dead, his disciples remembered that he had said this; and they believed the scripture and the word that Jesus had spoken.

Presider The Gospel of the Lord.

People Praise to you, O Christ.

Sermon

The Rev. Matthew Stewart

*For if we genuinely love Him,
we wake up inside Christ's body
where all our body, all over,
every most hidden part of it,
is realized in joy as Him,
and He makes us, utterly, real,
and everything that is hurt, everything
that seemed to us dark, harsh, shameful,
maimed, ugly, irreparably
damaged, is in Him transformed
and recognized as whole, as lovely,
and radiant in His light
he awakens as the Beloved
in every last part of our body.*

- Symeon the New Theologian (10th cent.)

Nicene Creed

We believe in one God,
the Father, the Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth,
of all that is, seen and unseen.

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ,
the only Son of God,
eternally begotten of the Father,
God from God, Light from Light,
true God from true God,
begotten, not made,
of one Being with the Father.
Through him all things were made.

For us and for our salvation
he came down from heaven:
was incarnate of the Holy Spirit
and the Virgin Mary,
and became truly human.

For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate;
he suffered death and was buried.
On the third day he rose again
in accordance with the Scriptures;
he ascended into heaven
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.

He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead,
and his kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father,
who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified.
who has spoken through the Prophets.

We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church.

We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.

We look for the resurrection of the dead,
and the life of the world to come. Amen.

Prayers of the People

Dana Evelyn

In peace, we pray to you, O God.

Silence

For all people in their daily life and work;

For our families, friends, and neighbors, and for those who are alone.

For this community, the nation, and the world;

For all who work for justice, freedom, and peace.

For the just and proper use of your creation;

For the victims of hunger, fear, injustice, and oppression.

For all who are in danger, sorrow, or any kind of trouble;

For those who minister to the sick, the friendless, and the needy.

For the peace and unity of the Church of God;

For all who proclaim the Gospel, and all who seek the Truth.

For Michael, our Presiding Bishop; for Alan and Carol, our Bishops;
and for all bishops and other ministers;

For all who serve God in the Church.

For the special needs and concerns of this congregation.

The People may add their own petitions.

Hear us, Lord;

For your mercy is great.

We thank you, God, for all the blessings of this life.

The People may add their own thanksgivings.

We will exalt you, O God;

And praise your Name for ever and ever.

We pray for all who have died, that they may have a place in
your eternal kingdom.

Silence

The People may add their own petitions

Lord, let your loving-kindness be upon them;

Who put their trust in you.

The Presider then says

Empowering God, those things that your servants have now prayed for, give us all grace and power to work for, and in the purpose of your love answer our prayers and fulfill our hopes. **Amen.**

The Peace

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

The Presider says

I appeal to you, friends, by the mercies of God, to present yourselves as a living sacrifice, holy and acceptable to God, which is your spiritual worship.

Offertory Anthem: All of My Sins

The Adult Choir

African-American Spiritual
arr.

Presentation Hymn: Holy Spirit, Come

WLP 813

Ho - ly Spi - rit, come, _____ Ho - ly Spi - rit,
come, _____ make our hearts your home. _____

Words and Music: Traditional Ojibway lullaby from *Chippewa Music* by Frances Densmore (1867-1957)
Each alternative text is sung independently and repeated numerous times.

The Great Thanksgiving
Enriching our Worship: Eucharistic Prayer 2

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 our thanks and praise.

The Presider says

We praise you and we bless you, holy and gracious God, source of life abundant. From before time you made ready the creation. Your Spirit moved over the deep and brought all things into being: sun, moon, and stars; earth, winds, and waters; and every living thing. You made us in your image, and taught us to walk in your ways. But we rebelled against you, and wandered far away; and yet, as a mother cares for her children, you would not forget us. Time and again you called us to live in the fullness of your love. And so this day we join with Saints and Angels in the chorus of praise that rings through eternity, lifting our voices to magnify you as we sing:

Sanctus

S 130

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of power and

might, Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord,

God of power and might, hea - ven and earth are

full, full of your glo - ry. Ho -

san - na in the high - est. Ho - san - na

in the high - est. Bless - ed is he who comes

in the name of the Lord. Ho - san - na

in the high - est. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

The Presider continues

Glory and honor and praise to you, holy and living God. To deliver us from the power of sin and death and to reveal the riches of your grace, you looked with favor upon Mary, your willing servant, that she might conceive and bear a son, Jesus, your holy child. Living among us, Jesus loved us. He broke bread with outcasts and sinners, healed the sick, and proclaimed good news to the poor. He yearned to draw all the world to himself yet we were heedless of his call to walk in love. Then, the time came for him to complete upon the cross the sacrifice of his life, and to be glorified by you.

On the night before he died for us, Jesus was at table with his friends. He took bread, gave thanks to you, broke it, and gave it to them, and said: "Take, eat: This is my Body, which is given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me."

As supper was ending, Jesus took the cup of wine. Again, he gave thanks to you, gave it to them, and said: "Drink this, all of you: This is my Blood of the new Covenant, which is poured out for you and for all for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me."

Now gathered at your table, O God of all creation, and remembering Christ, crucified and risen, who was and is and is to come, we offer to you our gifts of bread and wine, and ourselves, a living sacrifice. Pour out your Spirit upon these gifts that they may be the Body and Blood of Christ. Breathe your Spirit over the whole earth and make us your new creation, the Body of Christ given for the world you have made.

In the fullness of time bring us, with Saint James and all your saints, from every tribe and language and people and nation, to feast at the banquet prepared from the foundation of the world. 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.

And now, as our Savior Christ has taught us, we are bold to say:

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, forever and ever. Amen.

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

Fraction Anthem: All who hunger

WLP 761, st.2



2. All who hun - ger, nev - er stran - gers, seek - er, be a



wel - come guest. Come from rest - less - ness and roam - ing.



Here, in joy we keep the feast. We that once were



lost and scat - tered in com - mun - ion's love have stood.



Taste and see the grace e - ter - nal.



Taste and see that God is good.

Words: Sylvia G. Dunstan (1955-1993) ©1991 GIA Publications, Inc. Music: Holy Manna, from Southern Harmony, 1835

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 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: There Is a Banquet
The Greenleaf Choir

Music: Puerto Rican
Text: Willard Jabusch

Communion Hymn: Hold on

SJS 125

1. Got my hand on the freedom plow
Wouldn't take nothing for my journey now...

Keep your hand on the plow, hold on
Hold on, hold on,
Keep your hand on the plow, hold on.

2. Now the seeds we choose to sow
Are the ones most sure to grow... *(Refrain)*
3. When that rain starts to fall
Keep on standing straight and tall... *(Refrain)*
4. When you're feeling tired inside
Remember we're here by your side... *(Refrain)*
5. The only chain that we can stand
Is the chain of hand in hand... *(Refrain)*

Words: Carolyn McDade. Music: African-American Spiritual. ©Carolyn McDade. All rights reserved. Used by permission.

Post Communion Prayer

Presider Let us pray.

People Faithful, generous, abiding God, we give you thanks for the bread of heaven and the cup of salvation. May the taste of this meal so linger that we will be strengthened in our Lenten journey. Give us courage to hear and live what may seem hard so that we can find deeper relationship in you and serve your vision of a redeemed world. Amen.

Blessing

Presider

May the cross be the sign in which we begin again
to untie the cords of violence, the misery of exclusion,
and to proclaim God's unconditional love;
and the blessing of the one God:
who is beyond us, and among us, and within us,
be with you, now and always. Amen.

Closing Hymn: What wondrous love is this

H 439

Unison



1 What won - drous love is this, O my soul, O my soul! What
2 To God and to the Lamb, I will sing, I will sing, to
3 And when from death I'm free, I'll sing on, I'll sing on, and

won - drous love is this, O my soul! What won - drous love is this that
God and to the Lamb, I will sing. To God and to the Lamb who
when from death I'm free, I'll sing on. And when from death I'm free I'll

caused the Lord of bliss to lay a - side his crown for my
is the great I AM, while mil - lions join the theme, I will
sing and joy - ful be, and through e - ter - ni - ty I'll sing

soul, for my soul, to lay a - side his crown for my soul.
sing, I will sing, while mil - lions join the theme I will sing.
on, I'll sing on, and through e - ter - ni - ty I'll sing on.

Words: American folk hymn, ca. 1835

Music: *Wondrous Love*, from *The Southern Harmony*, 1835

Dismissal

Presider Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

People Thanks be to God.

Postlude

*Saint James's Episcopal Church
1991 Massachusetts Avenue Cambridge, MA 02140
Website: www.stjamescambridge.org
Office Email: 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*

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



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.