



**ST. JAMES'S
EPISCOPAL CHURCH**

The Fourth Sunday in Lent

**March 10, 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 Fourth Sunday in Lent, Holy Eucharist

<i>Acolytes</i>	Jonte Folkes, Emery Mazzotta, Ivy Saltzman, Patrick Wilmer, Johnny Torres
<i>Cantor</i>	Micah Drayton
<i>Eucharistic Ministers</i>	Marian King, Lauren Rigsby
<i>Minister of Music</i>	Patrick Michaels
<i>Preacher and Presider</i>	The Rev. Matthew Stewart
<i>Readers</i>	Isaac Sackton, Mary Buchinger
<i>Ushers</i>	Nancy McArdle, Meg and Ren Aukeman
<i>Videographer</i>	Dave Musser
<i>Welcomer</i>	Katherine Gilliland

A Penitential Order

Words of Welcome

Tolling of the Bell

1 The Lord will come and not be slow, his foot - steps can - not err;
 2 Truth from the earth, like to a flower, shall bud and blos - som show;
 3 Rise, God, judge thou the earth in might, this wick - ed earth re - dress;
 4 The na - tions all whom thou hast made shall come, and all shall frame
 5 For great thou art, and won - ders great by thy strong hand are done:

1 be - fore him right - eous - ness shall go, his roy - al har - bin - ger.
 2 and jus - tice, from her heaven - ly bower, look down on us be - low.
 3 for thou art he who shalt by right the na - tions all pos - sess.
 4 to bow them low be - fore thee, Lord, and glo - ri - fy thy Name.
 5 thou in thy ev - er - last - ing seat re - main - est God a - lone.

Words: John Milton (1608-1674), alt.
 Music: York, melody from *The CL Psalmes of David*, 1615; adapt. *The Whole Booke of Psalmes*, 1621;
 harm. John Milton, Sr. (1563?-1647)

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: Sometimes I feel

SJS 35

1. Some-times I feel like a moan - in' dove, —
2. Some-times I feel like a moth - er - less child, —
3. Some-times I feel like I got - ta no home, —
4. Some-times I feel like a ea - gle in de air, —

1. Some-times I feel like a moan - in', a
2. Some-times I feel like a moth - er - less, a
3. Some-times I feel like I got - ta no, I
4. Some-times I feel like a ea - gle in, a

— some - times I feel like a
— some - times I feel like a
— some - times I feel like I
— some - times I feel like a

moan - in' dove, some - times I feel like a
moth - er - less child, some - times I feel like a
got - ta no home, some - times I feel like I
ea - gle in de air, some - times I feel like a

moan - in' dove, — some - times I —
 moth - er - less child, — some - times I —
 got - ta no home, — some - times I —
 ea - gle in de air, — some - times I —

moan - in', a moan - in' dove, some - times I
 moth - er - less, a moth - er - less child, some - times I
 got - ta no, I got - ta no home, some - times I
 ea - gle in, a ea - gle in de air, some - times I

feel like — a — moan - in' dove, —
 feel like — a — moth - er - less child, —
 feel like — I — got - ta no home, —
 feel like — a — ea - gle in de air, —

feel like a moan - in', a moan - in' dove,
 feel like a moth - er - less, a moth - er - less child,
 feel like I got - ta no, I got - ta no home,
 feel like a ea - gle in, a ea - gle in de air,

wring my hands_ and cry, — cry, — cry, —

wring my hands and cry, some-time cry, some-time cry, some time
 , cry. —

wring my hands_ and cry, — cry, cry. —

cry, — wring my hands and cry, cry.

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.

Gracious Father, whose blessed Son Jesus Christ came down from heaven to be the true bread which gives life to the world: Evermore give us this bread, that he may live in us, and we in him; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

The First Reading: Numbers 21:4-9

Isaac Sackton

A reading from the Book of Numbers.

From Mount Hor the Israelites set out by the way to the Red Sea, to go around the land of Edom; but the people became impatient on the way. The people spoke against God and against Moses, "Why have you brought us up out of Egypt to die in the wilderness? For there is no food and no water, and we detest this miserable food." Then the LORD sent poisonous serpents among the people, and they bit the people, so that many Israelites died. The people came to Moses and said, "We have sinned by speaking against the LORD and against you; pray to the LORD to take away the serpents from us." So Moses prayed for the people. And the LORD said to Moses, "Make a poisonous serpent, and set it on a pole; and everyone who is bitten shall look at it and live." So Moses made a serpent of bronze, and put it upon a pole; and whenever a serpent bit someone, that person would look at the serpent of bronze and live.

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

People Thanks be to God.



Give thanks to the Lord, for he is good, and his mercy endures forever.

² Let all those whom the Lord has redeemed proclaim *
that he redeemed them from the hand of the foe.

³ He gathered them out of the lands; *
from the east and from the west,
from the north and from the south.

REFRAIN

¹⁷ Some were fools and took to rebellious ways; *
they were afflicted because of their sins.

¹⁸ They abhorred all manner of food *
and drew near to death's door.

REFRAIN

¹⁹ Then they cried to the Lord in their trouble, *
and he delivered them from their distress.

²⁰ He sent forth his word and healed them *
and saved them from the grave.

REFRAIN

²¹ Let them give thanks to the Lord for his mercy *
and the wonders he does for his children.

²² Let them offer a sacrifice of thanksgiving *
and tell of his acts with shouts of joy.

REFRAIN

The Second Reading: Ephesians 2:1-10

Isaac Sackton

A reading from Paul's Letter to the Ephesians.

You were dead through the trespasses and sins in which you once lived, following the course of this world, following the ruler of the power of the air, the spirit that is now at work among those who are disobedient. All of us once lived among them in the passions of our flesh, following the desires of flesh and senses, and we were by nature children of wrath, like everyone else. But God, who is rich in mercy, out of the great love with which he loved us even when we were dead through our trespasses, made us alive together with Christ-- by grace you have been saved-- and raised us up with him and

seated us with him in the heavenly places in Christ Jesus, so that in the ages to come he might show the immeasurable riches of his grace in kindness toward us in Christ Jesus. For by grace you have been saved through faith, and this is not your own doing; it is the gift of God-- not the result of works, so that no one may boast. For we are what he has made us, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand to be our way of life.

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

People Thanks be to God.

Gospel Acclamation: Open My Eyes



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The Holy Gospel: John 3:14-21 (*The Message translation*)

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

People Glory to you, O Christ.

Jesus said, "In the same way that Moses lifted the serpent in the desert so people could have something to see and then believe, it is necessary for the Son of Man to be lifted up—and everyone who looks up to him, trusting and expectant, will gain a real life, eternal life.

"This is how much God loved the world: He gave his Son, his one and only Son. And this is why: so that no one need be destroyed; by believing in him, anyone

can have a whole and lasting life. God didn't go to all the trouble of sending his Son merely to point an accusing finger, telling the world how bad it was. He came to help, to put the world right again. Anyone who trusts in him is acquitted; anyone who refuses to trust him has long since been under the death sentence without knowing it. And why? Because of that person's failure to believe in the one-of-a-kind Son of God when introduced to him.

"This is the crisis we're in: God-light streamed into the world, but men and women everywhere ran for the darkness. They went for the darkness because they were not really interested in pleasing God. Everyone who makes a practice of doing evil, addicted to denial and illusion, hates God-light and won't come near it, fearing a painful exposure. But anyone working and living in truth and reality welcomes God-light so the work can be seen for the God-work it is."

Presider The Gospel of the Lord.

People Praise to you, O Christ.

Sermon

The Rev. Matthew Stewart

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

Mary Buchinger

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: The Lord Bless You and Keep You

Peter Lutkin

The Adult Choir

Presentation Hymn: Holy Spirit, Come

WLP 813

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

The image shows two staves of musical notation in G major (one sharp) and 2/4 time. The first staff contains the melody for the first line of lyrics, and the second staff contains the melody for the second line. The lyrics are written below the notes, with dashed lines indicating where the notes are held or where there are rests.

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: O God, Give Us Power
The Greenleaf Choir

South African Song

Communion Hymn: My life flows on in endless song

SJS 70

♩ = 80

The musical score is written for a choir in 3/4 time with a key signature of one flat (Bb). It consists of four systems of music, each with a vocal line and a piano accompaniment line. The tempo is marked as quarter note = 80. The lyrics are as follows:

1. My life flows on in end - less song a -
2. What though the tem - pest 'round me roars, I
3. When ty - rants trem - ble as they hear the

bove earth's la - men - ta - tion. I hear the real though
know the truth, it liv - eth. What though the dark - ness
bells of free - dom ring - ing, when friends re - joice both

far - off hymn that hails a new cre - a - tion. Through
'round me close, songs in the night it giv - eth. No
far and near, how can I keep from sing - ing! To

all the tu - mult and the strife I hear the mu - sic
storm can shake my in - most calm while to that rock I'm
pris - on cell and dun - geon vile our thoughts to them are

ring - ing. It sounds an ech - o
 cling - ing. Since love pre - vails in
 wing - ing; when friends by shame are

in my soul. How can I keep from sing - ing!
 heav'n and earth, how can I keep from sing - ing!
 un - de - filed, how can I keep from sing - ing!

Words: Early Quaker song. Music: American gospel tune.

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.

Voice

To those ac - cus - tomed to suc - cess the his strug - gles
 So Je - sus' pas - sion for vi - o - lence in - deed; the poor, the love - grind For
 The God's love for all is risen in - deed; the poor shall

2 of the poor may seem a sign of their own care - less ness, a mark of
 them, his power to heal: were there more than no lead - ers would en - dure - a - gainst their
 be - a liv - ing sign of God's good news - the small - est seed - they thought their in -

4 in strength - ca his - pa fate - ci - ty; and Night - show time - ing
 use of a force spread - was sealed. Ar - rest we - ar - ed -
 5 to a spread - ing vine. May rest we who

6 them rest mocked, a - bun vi - - dant life to the let fear God's
 fol - a low Je - sus' o - doned, killed, way, his take heart - ple of
 Bb Am and

7 love death stunned for squads them come be to known might be - seem came like
 with the and the poor - join a - lyzed hands - yet to just strug - when
 Gm Dm gle,

8 plant him - ing the seeds con - of se - strife, when seeds liv - of
 hopes suf - fer, dreams work were and quence stilled, God's liv pas - ing
 Bb Dm;FM,st.4 till love - sion a -

mee - ness and should be sown.
 poor the poor what lov - ing all.
 for chievs and would rise!
 what hope de - mands.

Words and music: Patrick Michaels, ©1995 All rights reserved. Used with permission.

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

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or follow the QR code here:*



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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.