

**First Sunday of Lent
Holy Eucharist Rite II
February 22, 2026 – 10:30 a.m.**

St. James' Episcopal Church, Potomac, Maryland

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Welcome and Prelude

Processional Hymn (*stand*) “A mighty fortress is our God”
Hymns led by Dylan Nohilly

Hymn 688

Opening Sentences (*stand*)

Celebrant Bless the Lord who forgives all our sins.
People **God’s mercy endures for ever.**

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.**

The Kyrie (*stand*)

Franz Schubert

Lord, have mer - cy. Lord, have mer - cy.
Christ, have mer - cy. Christ, have mer - cy.
Lord, have mer - cy. Lord, have mer - cy. Lord, have
mer - cy, have mer - cy.

Collect of the Day *(stand)*

Celebrant The Lord be with you.
People **And also with you.**

Let us pray together.

All **Almighty God, whose blessed Son was led by the Spirit to be tempted by Satan: Come quickly to help us who are assaulted by many temptations; and, as you know the weaknesses of each of us, let each one find you mighty to save; through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen.**

First Lesson *(sit)*

Genesis 2:15-17; 3:1-7

Sampson Annan

The LORD God took the man and put him in the garden of Eden to till it and keep it. And the Lord God commanded the man, "You may freely eat of every tree of the garden; but of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil you shall not eat, for in the day that you eat of it you shall die."

Now the serpent was more crafty than any other wild animal that the LORD God had made. He said to the woman, "Did God say, 'You shall not eat from any tree in the garden'?" The woman said to the serpent, "We may eat of the fruit of the trees in the garden; but God said, 'You shall not eat of the fruit of the tree that is in the middle of the garden, nor shall you touch it, or you shall die.'" But the serpent said to the woman, "You will not die; for God knows that when you eat of it your eyes will be opened, and you will be like God, knowing good and evil."

So when the woman saw that the tree was good for food, and that it was a delight to the eyes, and that the tree was to be desired to make one wise, she took of its fruit and ate; and she also gave some to her husband, who was with her, and he ate. Then the eyes of both were opened, and they knew that they were naked; and they sewed fig leaves together and made loincloths for themselves.

Reader The Word of the Lord.
People **Thanks be to God.**

Psalm

Psalm 32

Sampson Annan

*The leader may ask all to read in unison,
or responsively by verse or breaking at the asterisk.*

- 1 Happy are they whose transgressions are forgiven, *
and whose sin is put away!
- 2 Happy are they to whom the LORD imputes no guilt, *
and in whose spirit there is no guile!

- 3 While I held my tongue, my bones withered away, *
because of my groaning all day long.
- 4 For your hand was heavy upon me day and night; *
my moisture was dried up as in the heat of summer.
- 5 Then I acknowledged my sin to you, *
and did not conceal my guilt.
- 6 I said, "I will confess my transgressions to the LORD." *
Then you forgave me the guilt of my sin.
- 7 Therefore all the faithful will make their prayers to you
in time of trouble; *
when the great waters overflow, they shall not reach them.
- 8 You are my hiding-place; you preserve me from trouble; *
you surround me with shouts of deliverance.
- 9 "I will instruct you and teach you in the way that you should go; *
I will guide you with my eye.
- 10 Do not be like horse or mule, which have no understanding; *
who must be fitted with bit and bridle,
or else they will not stay near you."
- 11 Great are the tribulations of the wicked; *
but mercy embraces those who trust in the LORD.
- 12 Be glad, you righteous, and rejoice in the LORD; *
shout for joy, all who are true of heart.

Second Lesson (*sit*)

Romans 5:12-19

Kate Fox

As sin came into the world through one man, and death came through sin, and so death spread to all because all have sinned—sin was indeed in the world before the law, but sin is not reckoned when there is no law. Yet death exercised dominion from Adam to Moses, even over those whose sins were not like the transgression of Adam, who is a type of the one who was to come.

But the free gift is not like the trespass. For if the many died through the one man's trespass, much more surely have the grace of God and the free gift in the grace of the one man, Jesus Christ, abounded for the many. And the free gift is not like the effect of the one man's sin. For the judgment following one trespass brought condemnation, but the free gift following many trespasses brings justification. If, because of the one man's trespass, death exercised dominion through that one, much more surely will those who receive the abundance of grace and the free gift of righteousness exercise dominion in life through the one man, Jesus Christ.

Therefore just as one man's trespass led to condemnation for all, so one man's act of righteousness leads to justification and life for all. For just as by the one man's disobedience the many were made sinners, so by the one man's obedience the many will be made righteous.

Reader The Word of the Lord.
People **Thanks be to God.**

Sequence Hymn (*stand*) "Lord, who throughout these forty days" Hymn 142
vss. 1-3 before Gospel, vss. 4-5 after

The Holy Gospel (*stand*) Matthew 4:1-11

Celebrant The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew.
People **Glory to you, Lord Christ.**

Jesus was led up by the Spirit into the wilderness to be tempted by the devil. He fasted forty days and forty nights, and afterwards he was famished. The tempter came and said to him, "If you are the Son of God, command these stones to become loaves of bread." But he answered, "It is written, 'One does not live by bread alone, but by every word that comes from the mouth of God.'"

Then the devil took him to the holy city and placed him on the pinnacle of the temple, saying to him, "If you are the Son of God, throw yourself down; for it is written, 'He will command his angels concerning you,' and 'On their hands they will bear you up, so that you will not dash your foot against a stone.'" Jesus said to him, "Again it is written, 'Do not put the Lord your God to the test.'"

Again, the devil took him to a very high mountain and showed him all the kingdoms of the world and their splendor; and he said to him, "All these I will give you, if you will fall down and worship me." Jesus said to him, "Away with you, Satan! for it is written, 'Worship the Lord your God, and serve only him.'" Then the devil left him, and suddenly angels came and waited on him.

Celebrant The Gospel of the Lord.
People **Praise to you, Lord Christ.**

Sermon (*sit*) The Rev. James S. Isaacs

The Nicene Creed (*stand*) *BCP p. 358*

**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: by the power of the Holy Spirit he became incarnate from the Virgin Mary, and was made man.

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 and the Son. With the Father and the Son he is worshiped and glorified. He 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 (*stand*)

Yemi Agboola

Adapted from Praying the Scriptures

Leader

We do not live by bread alone, but by every word that comes from the mouth of God. Let us pray to the source of our sustenance, saying, "God, our hiding place, preserve us from trouble."

Great God, you have called your people to worship and serve you alone. Instill in us such a singleness of heart that we might perfectly trust you to meet our needs. We pray for Sean, our Presiding Bishop; Mariann, our Bishop; Eugene, our Assistant Bishop; Meredith, James, and Catherine, our priests; for this gathering; and for all lay ministers.

Silence

People

God, our hiding place,
Preserve us from trouble.

We pray for our parish ministries; for St. James' Children's School, the Bishop Walker School, and our partner church and school in Haiti, Bon Samaritain Parish, L'Acul.

Silence

God, our hiding place,
Preserve us from trouble.

Great God, we live among many temptations. Free the people of this nation, and this world, from all sinful desires that draw us from the love of God.

Silence

Almighty God,
Show us your glory.

Great Creator, you have surrounded us with blessings. Help us to be good stewards of the earth.

Silence

God, our hiding place,
Preserve us from trouble.

Leader Be with the sick and suffering, Great Healer. Be for them a safe place; preserve them from trouble; surround them with shouts of deliverance. We pray for people living with mental illness and those who love them, for all on our parish prayer list, and for those we now lift in prayer, silently or aloud.

We pause so the people may add their own petitions.

People God, our hiding place,
Preserve us from trouble.

Through the righteousness of Jesus our Christ, give new and abundant life to all. Justify the dying and the dead. Keep them in your strong hands for ever.

Silence

God, our hiding place,
Preserve us from trouble.

Celebrant O Lord, your mercy endures forever. Hear the prayers of your people. And grant us the strength and the courage to walk in your ways, all the days of our lives. In the name of Jesus, we pray. **Amen.**

Confession and Absolution *(kneel)*

BCP p. 360

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

All **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.**

Almighty God have mercy on us, forgive us all our sins through our Lord Jesus Christ, strengthen us in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep us in eternal life. **Amen.**

The Peace *(stand, remaining at your pew)*

Celebrant The Peace of the Lord be always with you.

People **And also with you.**

You are invited to share God's peace with those around you.

Announcements *(sit)*

The Holy Eucharist

Offertory Sentence *(sit)*

Ephesians 5:2



Celebrant Walk in love, as Christ loved us and gave himself for us, an offering and sacrifice to God.

Scan the code to give to St. James' online at stjamespotomac.org.

Offertory Anthem *(sit)* "Lord, Who Throughout These Forty Days" *St. James' Singers*

arr. By Mark Schweizer
acc. based on Fauré's Pavane

Presentation Hymn *(stand)* "All Things Are Thine"

All things are thine: no gifts_ have we, Lord of all gifts to of - fer thee;
And hence with grate - ful hearts to - day_ thine own be - fore_ thy feet_ we lay.

The Great Thanksgiving *(stand)*

Eucharistic Prayer A, BCP, pp. 361-363

Celebrant The Lord be with you.
People **And also with you.**

Lift up your hearts.
We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
It is right to give our thanks and praise.

It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Almighty God, Creator of heaven and earth through Jesus Christ our Lord; who was tempted in every way as we are, yet did not sin. By his grace we are able to triumph over every evil, and to live no longer for ourselves alone, but for him who died for us and rose again.

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:

All

Sanctus, Franz Schubert

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

heaven and earth are full, full of your glory. 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 people stand or kneel

Celebrant

Holy and gracious God: In your infinite love you made us for yourself; and, when we had fallen into sin and become subject to evil and death, you, in your mercy, sent Jesus Christ, your only and eternal Son, to share our human nature, to live and die as one of us, to reconcile us to you, the God and maker of all. Jesus stretched out his arms upon the cross, and offered himself in obedience to your will, a perfect sacrifice for the whole world.

On the night he was handed over to suffering and death, our Lord Jesus Christ took bread; and when he had given thanks to you, he broke it, and gave it to his disciples, and said, "Take, eat: This is my Body, which is given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me."

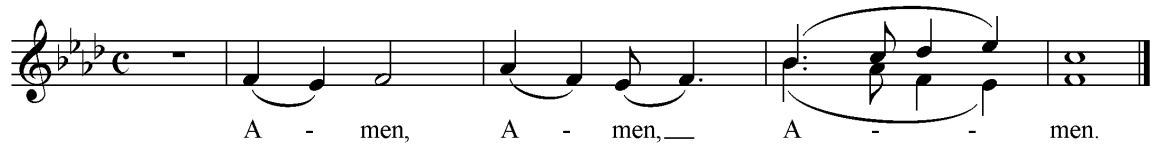
After supper he took the cup of wine; and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, and said, "Drink this, all of you: This is my Blood of the new Covenant, which is shed for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me."

Therefore we proclaim the mystery of faith:

Christ has died; Christ is ri - sen; Christ will come a - gain.

We celebrate the memorial of our redemption, Almighty God, in this sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving. Recalling Christ's death, resurrection, and ascension, we offer you these gifts. Sanctify them by your Holy Spirit to be for your people the Body and Blood of your Son, the holy food and drink of new and unending life in him. Sanctify us also that we may faithfully receive this holy Sacrament, and serve you in unity, constancy, and peace; and at the last day bring us with all your saints into the joy of your eternal kingdom.

Celebrant All this we ask through your Son Jesus Christ. By him, and with him, and in him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit all honor and glory is yours, Almighty God, now and for ever.



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

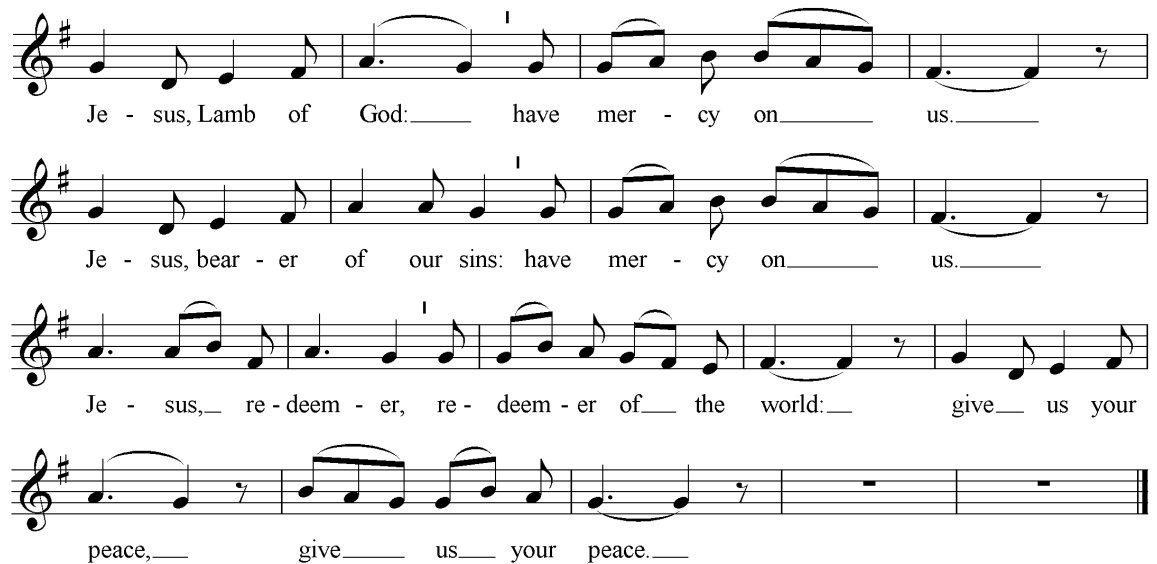
All **Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy Name,
thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our trespasses,
as we forgive those who trespass against us.
And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory,
for ever and ever. Amen.**

The Breaking of the Bread

The Celebrant breaks the consecrated Bread. A period of silence is kept.

Agnus Dei

Franz Schubert



All **We do not presume to come to this your table, merciful Lord, trusting in our own righteousness, but in your abundant and great mercies. We are not worthy so much as to gather up the crumbs under your table. But you are the same Lord, who always delights in showing mercy. Grant us, therefore, gracious Lord, so to partake of this sacrament of your son Jesus Christ, that we may walk in newness of life, and may evermore dwell in him, and he in us. Amen.**

Celebrant The Gifts of God for the People of God.

Invitation to Holy Communion *(sit)*

Please follow the ushers' guidance to receive Holy Eucharist at the altar.

All are welcome at the Lord's table. If you prefer to receive a blessing instead of the sacrament, you may cross your arms over your chest and the clergy will bless you. If you prefer not to receive wine, you may touch the base of the chalice as the words are spoken, or request grape juice from the server.

If you prefer intinction as we share the common cup, you are invited to hand your wafer to the Lay Eucharist Minister when they offer the wine, and they will dip it for you. Having only one person intinct keeps the cup more sanitary for all of us.

If you are uncomfortable partaking of wine or juice, you may abstain. To honor the Blood of Christ, you are welcome to touch the chalice as the wine is offered. Communion in one kind (bread only) is full communion.

Communion Hymn *(sit)*

"O Food to pilgrims given"

Hymn 309

Prayers of Comfort and Healing

You are invited to bring your concerns to the altar rail for prayer and the laying on of hands.

"O Lord hear my pray'r"

Jacques Berthier
based on Psalm 102

O Lord hear my pray'r, O Lord hear my pray'r. When I call, an - swer me. O
Lord hear my pray'r. O Lord hear my pray'r. Come and lis - ten to me. O

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Post Communion Prayer *(stand)*

Celebrant Let us pray together.

All **Eternal God, you have graciously accepted us as living members of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ, and you have fed us with spiritual food in the Sacrament of his Body and Blood. Send us now into the world in peace, and grant us strength and courage to love and serve you with gladness and singleness of heart; through Christ our Lord. Amen.**

Blessing *(stand)*

Recessional Hymn *(stand)* "O love, how deep, how broad, how high" Hymn 448, vss. 1-3, 6

Dismissal *(stand)*

Celebrant Let us go forth in the name of Christ.

People **Thanks be to God.**

Postlude

All are invited for fellowship and refreshments in the parish hall immediately following the service.

Newcomers, welcome! Please introduce yourself to the clergy and learn how God is working at St. James'.

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Ministry Minute: Communion Prayers

The Prayer Ministry is a visible means of assisting spiritual growth and tending to spiritual needs. We offer prayer and laying on of hands at the altar rail following communion, usually on the last Sunday of the month. If you are in need of prayer on any Sunday, we invite you to visit with a member of the Prayer Ministry at the chapel kneeler during or after communion. You may request prayers for any specific concerns, or simply say you are in need of prayer and keep your needs private. The Prayer Team invites you to join us in this ministry. If you are interested, please contact the parish office or any of the clergy.

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About Today's Music

from Newton Lewis, St. James' Music Director

The text of "Lord, who throughout these forty days" was written by Claudia Frances Hernaman. She wrote it for teaching children about the Christian observance of Lent and it provides a comprehensive statement of the season's main theological points.

This hymn first appeared in *A Child's Book of Praise* (London, 1873) and soon entered the Episcopal Church's 1892 hymnal edition. The *Hymnal Companion* explains: "This text for the Lenten season takes the form of a prayer of petition. Stanzas 1-3 ask, 'As you did these things (fast, pray, contend with Satan, win the victory, hunger and thirst), we ask you to help us to do these (mourn our sins, stay close to you, struggle against sin, die to self and live by your word.)' Stanzas 3 & 4 ask for Christ's presence in life and death and lift up the vision of Easter joy."

The hymn tune dates back to the as early as 1563 in the metrical psalm days of the Anglican Church. The tune continued to be used in many different versions and with many different harmonizations up until the version that was included in the 1875 edition of *Hymns Ancient and Modern* (London). Since then, it has remained unaltered and is the same version we use in our hymnal today. The 1875 *HA&M* gave this tune the title of ST. FLAVIAN—why remains a mystery; St. Flavian of Antioch has no date in the Anglican calendar and is not the patron of any church in London.

Worship Music Calendar

Mar. 1 St. James' Ringers – "What Wondrous Love is This"

Mar. 8 St. James' Singers – "The Lord's My Shepherd"

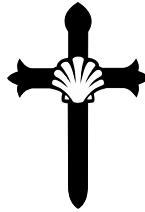
Mar. 15 Special Organ Music



Want to be a part of worship music? Contact Newton Lewis, Music Director: newton@stjamespotomac.org.



stjamespotomac.org



St. James' Episcopal Church

11815 Seven Locks Rd., Potomac, MD 20854

The Mission of St. James': To bring people together to be transformed by and to proclaim Christ's love through worship, spiritual formation, and service.

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Vestry 2026

Wardens

Dawn Iype, Senior Warden – SJCS
Adam Govia, Junior Warden – Facilities

Officers

Tracy Lively, Treasurer
Sheryl Cooper, Secretary

Members

Yemi Agboola – Racial Justice
DeAtley Barish – Mental Health
Barbara Kamyia – Fellowship
Amy Black Metcalf – Worship
Jennifer Nordin – Administration, Christian Formation
Kate McClure – Communications

Ann Venton – Finance
Walter Weaver – Mission & Outreach

Convention Representatives

Delegates: Laurence Canete, Sarah Hnatov
Alternates: Carolyn Ragland, Dan Zimmerman

St. James' has discerned a call to mental health ministries. If you are ever in crisis, a 24-hour response is offered at the Montgomery County Crisis Center: 240-777-4000. OR call the National Crisis Hotline: 988