

The Feast of Saint James

Holy Eucharist Rite II

July 26, 2026 – 10:30 a.m.

St. James' Episcopal Church, Potomac, Maryland

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Today's music is provided by brass ensemble: Aaron Klaus and Louis Levine on trumpets, and Doug Elliott and Derek Crosier on trombones. Thank you, Music Fund donors!

Flowers on the altar today are given by the Rev. Catherine Manhardt to the Glory of God and with thanksgiving for our St. James' community and for the fourth anniversary of her ordination to the priesthood.

Welcome

Prelude

"Gaudent in coelis"

Tomás Luis de Victoria

Aaron Klaus, Louis Levine, trumpets; Doug Elliott, Derek Crosier, trombones

Processional Hymn (stand)

"Rise up, ye saints of God"

Words: William Pierson Merrill
(1867-1954)

Music: William H. Walter
(1825-1893)

1. Rise up, ye saints of God! Have done_ with less - er things,
2. Rise up, ye saints of God! The king - dom tar - ries long.
3. Rise up, ye saints of God! The church for you doth wait,
4. Lift high the cross of Christ! Tread where_ his feet have trod.

Give heart and_ soul and mind and strength to serve the King of kings.
Bring in the_ day of broth - er - hood and end_ the night of wrong.
her strength un - e - qual to her task; rise up, and make her great!
and quick - ened_ by the Spi - rit's power, rise up, ye saints of God!

Festal Song

Opening Sentences

Celebrant Blessed be the one holy and living God.
People **Glory to God for ever and 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.**

Song of Praise (*stand*) "Holy God, we praise thy name" Hymn 366

Collect of the Day (*stand*)

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

Let us pray together.

All **O gracious God, we remember before you today your servant and apostle James, first among the Twelve to suffer martyrdom for the Name of Jesus Christ; and we pray that you will pour out upon the leaders of your Church that spirit of self-denying service by which alone they may have true authority among your people; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen.**

The Liturgy of the Word

The First Lesson (*sit*) Jeremiah 45:1-5 Sandy Soundararajan

The word that the prophet Jeremiah spoke to Baruch son of Neriah, when he wrote these words in a scroll at the dictation of Jeremiah, in the fourth year of King Jehoiakim son of Josiah of Judah: Thus says the Lord, the God of Israel, to you, O Baruch: You said, "Woe is me! The Lord has added sorrow to my pain; I am weary with my groaning, and I find no rest." Thus you shall say to him, "Thus says the Lord: I am going to break down what I have built, and pluck up what I have planted—that is, the whole land. And you, do you seek great things for yourself? Do not seek them; for I am going to bring disaster upon all flesh, says the Lord; but I will give you your life as a prize of war in every place to which you may go."

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

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

- 1 O LORD my God, I take refuge in you; *
save and deliver me from all who pursue me;
- 2 Lest like a lion they tear me in pieces *
and snatch me away with none to deliver me.
- 3 O LORD my God, if I have done these things: *
if there is any wickedness in my hands,
- 4 If I have repaid my friend with evil, *
or plundered him who without cause is my enemy;
- 5 Then let my enemy pursue and overtake me, *
trample my life into the ground, and lay my honor in the dust.
- 6 Stand up, O LORD, in your wrath; *
rise up against the fury of my enemies.
- 7 Awake, O my God, decree justice; *
let the assembly of the peoples gather round you.
- 8 Be seated on your lofty throne, O Most High; *
O LORD, judge the nations.
- 9 Give judgment for me according to my righteousness, O LORD, *
and according to my innocence, O Most High.
- 10 Let the malice of the wicked come to an end, but establish the righteous; *
for you test the mind and heart, O righteous God.

The Second Lesson *(sit)*

Acts 11:27-12:3

Nathan Meselebe

At that time prophets came down from Jerusalem to Antioch. One of them named Agabus stood up and predicted by the Spirit that there would be a severe famine over all the world; and this took place during the reign of Claudius. The disciples determined that according to their ability, each would send relief to the believers living in Judea; this they did, sending it to the elders by Barnabas and Saul. About that time King Herod laid violent hands upon some who belonged to the church. He had James, the brother of John, killed with the sword. After he saw that it pleased the Jews, he proceeded to arrest Peter also. (This was during the festival of Unleavened Bread.)

*Reader
People*

The Word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

Sequence Hymn (*stand*)

"By all your saints still striving"

vss. 1-2 before Gospel, vs. 3 after

1. By all your saints still_ striv - ing, for all your saints at rest,
2. O Lord, for James, we_ praise you, who fell to Her - od's sword.
3. Then let us praise the_ Fa - ther and wor - ship God the Son
your ho - ly Name, O_ Je - sus for ev - er - more be blessed.
He drank the cup of_ suff - 'ring and thus ful - filled your word.
and sing to God the_ Spi - rit, e - ter - nal_ Three in One,
You rose, our King vic - to - rious, that they might wear the crown
Lord, curb our vain im - pa - tience for glo - ry and for fame,
till all the ran-somed num - ber who stand be - fore the throne
and ev - er shine in_ splen - dor re - flect - ed_ from_ your throne.
e - quip us for such_ suff - 'rings as glo - ri - fy - your Name.
a - scribe all power and_ glo - ry and praise to_ God_ a - lone.

The Holy Gospel (*stand*)

Matthew 20:20-28

Gospeller
People

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

The mother of the sons of Zebedee came to Jesus with her sons, and kneeling before him, she asked a favor of him. And he said to her, "What do you want?" She said to him, "Declare that these two sons of mine will sit, one at your right hand and one at your left, in your kingdom." But Jesus answered, "You do not know what you are asking. Are you able to drink the cup that I am about to drink?" They said to him, "We are able." He said to them, "You will indeed drink my cup, but to sit at my right hand and at my left, this is not mine to grant, but it is for those for whom it has been prepared by my Father."

When the ten heard it, they were angry with the two brothers. But Jesus called them to him and said, "You know that the rulers of the Gentiles lord it over them, and their great ones are tyrants over them. It will not be so among you; but whoever wishes to be great among you must be your servant, and whoever wishes to be first among you must be your slave; just as the Son of Man came not to be served but to serve, and to give his life a ransom for many."

Gospeller
People

The Gospel of the Lord.
Praise to you, Lord Christ.

Nicene Creed *(stand)*

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)*

Jennifer Nordin

Adapted from Form I, BCP p. 383

Leader With all our heart and with all our mind, let us pray to the Lord, saying,
“Lord, have mercy.”

For the peace of the world, for the welfare of the holy Church of God, and for the unity of all peoples, let us pray to the Lord.

People **Lord, have mercy.**

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 who minister in God’s Church, let us pray to the Lord;
Lord, have mercy.

For our President, for the leaders of the nations, and for all in authority, let us pray to the Lord.
Lord, have mercy.

For this community and our parish ministries, including our adult faith formation programs, St. James’ Children’s School, the Bishop Walker School, and our partner church and school in Haiti, Bon Samaritain Parish, L’Acul, let us pray to the Lord.
Lord, have mercy.

Leader For the good earth which God has given us, and for the wisdom and will to conserve it, let us pray to the Lord.

People **Lord, have mercy.**

For the aged and infirm, the widowed and orphans, the sick and the suffering, the poor and the oppressed, the unemployed and the destitute, prisoners and captives, and for all who remember and care for them. We pray for people living with mental illness and those who love them; we pray for all on our parish prayer list, and those we now lift in prayer, silently or aloud.

We pause so the people may add their own petitions.

Let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

That we may end our lives in faith and hope, without suffering or reproach, and for all the departed, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

In the communion of the saints, let us commend ourselves, and one another, and all our life, to Christ our God.

To you, O Lord our God.

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)*

Officiant 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 Music *(sit)*

“O quam gloriosum”

Tomás Luis de Victoria

Aaron Klaus, Louis Levine, trumpets; Doug Elliott, Derek Crosier, trombones

Presentation Hymn *(stand)*

Hymn 380, vs. 3

**Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;
praise God, all creatures here below;
praise God above ye heavenly host:
praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.**

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 God 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. For you are the source of light and life; you made us in your image, and called us to new life in Jesus Christ our Lord.

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, Richard Proulx

Ho-ly, ho-ly, ho-ly Lord, God of pow-er and might,
heaven and earth are full of your glo-ry. Ho-san-na in the high-est. Ho-
san-na in the high-est. Blessed 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:

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

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.

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. **AMEN.**

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.**

Breaking of the Bread

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

Celebrant Alleluia. Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us;
People **Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia.**

The Gifts of God for the People of God. Take them in remembrance that Christ died for you, and feed on him in your hearts by faith, with thanksgiving.

Invitation to Holy Communion

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)* "I come with joy to meet my Lord"

Hymn 304

Post Communion Prayer *(stand)*

Celebrant Let us pray together.

All **Almighty and everliving God, we thank you for feeding us with the spiritual food of the most precious Body and Blood of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ; and for assuring us in these holy mysteries that we are living members of the Body of your Son, and heirs of your eternal kingdom. And now Gracious God, send us out to do the work you have given us to do, to love and serve you as faithful witnesses of Christ our Lord. To him, to you, and to the Holy Spirit, be honor and glory, now and for ever. Amen.**

Blessing *(stand)*

Celebrant The peace of God, which passes all understanding, keep your hearts and minds in the knowledge and love of God, and of God's Son Jesus Christ our Lord; and the blessing of God Almighty be among you, and remain with you always. **Amen.**

Recessional Hymn *(stand)*

"For all the saints"

Hymn 287, vss. 1, 7, 8

Dismissal *(stand)*

Celebrant Let us go forth in the name of Christ. Alleluia, alleluia!
People **Thanks be to God. Alleluia! Alleluia!**

Postlude

“Emperor’s Fanfare”

Antonio Soler

Aaron Klaus, Louis Levine, trumpets; Doug Elliott, Derek Crosier, trombones

Feast of Saint James Parish Potluck Today!

All are invited for fellowship immediately following the service. **Newcomers, welcome!**
Please introduce yourself to the clergy and learn about the ways God is working at St. James’.

Ministry Minute: Adult Faith Formation

Adult Faith Formation at St. James’ takes many forms, from offerings including our “Exploring our Faith” Thursday morning study group (except during the summer), occasional monthly evening study and reflection series, quiet days during Advent and Holy Week, and parish retreats.

If you have ideas for a book study, a topic to explore, or ways you’d like to deepen your faith, please reach out to any of our clergy or to the parish office with your ideas. We are always looking for new ways to grow together.

This Summer you are invited to participate in the weekly reflections offered to adults and children alike through our Sunday VBS, BigHeart Farms. Watch for the insert in your bulletin (downloadable from our weekly parish email) with weekly reflections on God’s Fruit of the Spirit that is growing in all of us.

+ + +

Donations for Craft Basket Raffle Prize needed by July 27 **For Fundraiser Supporting our Newest Neighbors, August 22**

The New Neighbor Interfaith Alliance (NNIA) is hosting a volleyball tournament on August 22 as a fundraiser to support our immigrant and refugee neighbors. It will be a fun day of volleyball and great raffle prizes! Proceeds from raffle tickets will support NNIA families.

- **Tournament: Saturday, August 22, 9 a.m. - 4 p.m. Admission is free!**
- **Location:** Interdenominational Church of God, 19201 Woodfield Rd, Gaithersburg, MD
- **Event website:** ssl.charityweb.net/nnia-maryland/setthemup/.

St. James’ is Giving a Craft Basket raffle prize! Bring supplies to church by July 27.

We are putting together a craft basket to contribute to the raffle. We ask for your donations of art supply store gift cards, new craft kits, and good quality new art supplies. Bring your donations by Monday, July 27 to the labeled box in the church office or narthex.

About Today's Music

by Newton Lewis, St. James' Music Director

The text of "Rise up, ye saints of God!" was written by William Merrill while on a steamer in Lake Michigan. He was returning home to Chicago, where he served as a pastor at Sixth Presbyterian Church. He was reflecting on an article he had read by Gerald Lee called "The Church of the Strong Men."

The text, originally "Rise up, O men of God!" was published in 1911 in the Presbyterian periodical *Continent*. By 1916, the text and present tune appeared in the 1916 edition of the Episcopal *Hymnal*. It became popular not only in the United States but in Britain as well. The original third verse almost immediately created theological controversy: "Rise up, O men of God! The Church for you doth wait, her strength unequal to her task, Rise up and make her great." The Episcopalians omitted this verse from the 1916 hymnal.

In Wales, the text was rewritten to: "Her strength shall make your spirit strong / Her service make you great." Merrill shot back, "How can the Church be made great without the service of the men of God?" For reasons of inclusivity, the present hymnal changed the opening line from "men of God" to "saints of God," and made other changes as well.

The tune, FESTAL SONG was composed by William Walter and first appeared in an 1894 American hymnbook set to a text "Awake and sing the song." In 1912, the *Pilgrim Hymnal* used this tune for Merrill's text. The pairing was continued in subsequent Episcopal hymnals starting in 1916 and most other mainline denominational hymnals as well.

Worship Music Calendar



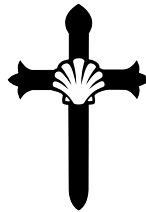
August 2 The return of Newtron, the Atomic Organist (on piano)!
Our Music Director, Newton Lewis, is back from vacation

August 9 John DeCesare on guitar

Want to sing or play an instrument at services? Contact Newton Lewis: 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.*

phone: 301-762-8040 ~ **email:** office@stjamespotomac.org ~ **web:** www.stjamespotomac.org

Parish Staff

Rector

The Rev. Meredith T. Heffner
rector@stjamespotomac.org

Associate Rector

The Rev. Catherine Manhardt
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Assistant Rector

The Rev. James S. Isaacs
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Director of Music Ministry

Newton E. Lewis
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Clergy and volunteers
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St. James' Children's School Director

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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 Kamya – 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