

Worship & Ministry Leaders

	Today	Next Week
Usher/Greeter	Susan & John Joseph	The McGowan Family
Lay Reader	Mick McDonald	Betsy Birchenough
Intercessor	Kit Huggard	Bonnie Magno

Welcome to Worship

Welcome to our guests this morning! We are delighted you've joined us for worship in person or on FaceBook Live. Visiting? Please sign our guest book on the welcome table and join us for coffee after the service. If you join us on FaceBook, please like or share us that we might know that you have joined us for worship.

Prayer request cards are located in the bell tower window. Please fill out a card and place it in the offering plate or drop it off at the office. Names will stay on the prayer list for six weeks.

Daily devotional: For only \$1 you can begin each day with a short reading and meditation on the word of the Lord. Pick up a *Forward Day by Day* from the welcome table to use in your daily prayers.

Seek Christ. Live Christ. Share Christ.

St. James' Episcopal Church
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The Rev. Laura Miller, Parish Priest rector.stjameslg@gmail.com
The Rev. Barb Mitchell, Deacon deacon.stjameslg@gmail.com
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*The Presentation of our Lord at the Temple
and Candlemas Procession*

February 2, 2025, 9:00 am

Holy Eucharist, Rite II

*Welcome to worship at St. James' or on Facebook Live.
Please use this Service Leaflet along with your
Book of Common Prayer and Hymnal to join our hearts
and minds in thanks and praise to our Lord God.*

CANDLEMAS PROCESSION

Celebrant: Light and peace, in Jesus Christ our Lord.
People: Thanks be to God.

The candles are lit during the Cantic:

A Light to enlighten the nations,
and the glory of your people Israel.

**A Light to enlighten the nations,
and the glory of your people Israel.**

Lord you now have set your servant free
to go in peace as you have promised.

**A Light to enlighten the nations,
and the glory of your people Israel.**

For these eyes of mine have seen the Savior,
whom you have prepared for all the world to see.

**A Light to enlighten the nations,
and the glory of your people Israel.**

Celebrant: Let us pray:

God our Father, source of all light, today you revealed to the aged Simeon your light which enlightens the nations. Fill our hearts with the light of faith, that we who bear these candles may walk in the path of goodness, and come to the light that shines for ever, your Son Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Celebrant: Let us go forth in Peace.

People: In the name of Christ. **Amen.**

Process to your seats with your candles during the hymn

I want to walk as a child of the light

Hymnal 490

I want to walk as a child of the light.
I want to follow Jesus.
God set the stars to give light to the world.
The star of my life is Jesus.

Refrain: In Him there is no darkness at all.
The night and the day are both alike.
The Lamb is the light of the city of God.
Shine in my heart, Lord Jesus.

I want to see the brightness of God.
I want to look at Jesus.
Clear sun of righteousness, shine on my path,
and show me the way to the Father. *Refrain*

I'm looking for the coming of Christ.
I want to be with Jesus.
Shen we have run with patience the race,
we shall know the joy of Jesus. *Refrain*

Celebrant: Let us pray.
O God, you have made this day holy by the presentation of your Son in the Temple, and by the purification of the Blessed Virgin Mary: Mercifully grant that we, who delight in her humble readiness to be the birth-giver of the Only-begotten, may rejoice for ever in our adoption as his sisters and brothers; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **AMEN.**

Celebrant: We have waited on your loving kindness, O Lord, in the midst of your temple.

The Gloria

S280, BCP 356

Collect:

Almighty and everlasting God, we humbly pray that, as your only-begotten Son was this day presented in the temple, so we may be presented to you with pure and clean hearts by Jesus Christ our Lord; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. AMEN.

Extinguish your candles.

First Reading: Malachi 3:1-4

See, I am sending my messenger to prepare the way before me, and the Lord whom you seek will suddenly come to his temple. The messenger of the covenant in whom you delight - indeed, he is coming, says the Lord of hosts. But who can endure the day of his coming, and who can stand when he appears? For he is like a refiner's fire and like fullers' soap; he will sit as a refiner and purifier of silver, and he will purify the descendants of Levi and refine them like gold and silver, until they present offerings to the Lord in righteousness. Then the offering of Judah and Jerusalem will be pleasing to the Lord as in the days of old and as in former years.

Psalm 84: 1-6

BCP 707

- 1 How dear to me is your dwelling, O LORD of hosts! *
My soul has a desire and longing for the courts of
the LORD; my heart and my flesh rejoice in the living God.
- 2 The sparrow has found her a house
and the swallow a nest where she may lay her young; *
by the side of your altars, O LORD of hosts,
my King and my God.
- 3 Happy are they who dwell in your house! *
they will always be praising you.
- 4 Happy are the people whose strength is in you! *
whose hearts are set on the pilgrims' way.
- 5 Those who go through the desolate valley will find
it a place of springs, *
for the early rains have covered it with pools of water.
- 6 They will climb from height to height, *
and the God of gods will reveal himself in Zion.

Second Reading: Hebrews 2:14-18

Since the children share flesh and blood, he himself likewise shared the same things, so that through death he might destroy the one who has the power of death, that is, the devil, and free those who all their lives were held in slavery by the fear of death. For it is clear that he did not come to help angels, but the descendants of Abraham. Therefore he had to become like his brothers and sisters in every respect, so that he might be a merciful and faithful high priest in the service of God, to make a sacrifice of atonement for the sins of the people. Because he himself was tested by what he suffered, he is able to help those who are being tested.

Gradual Hymn: Brightest and best (vs 1-2)**Hymnal 117****The Holy Gospel: Luke 2:22-40**

When the time came for their purification according to the law of Moses, they brought him up to Jerusalem to present him to the Lord (as it is written in the law of the Lord, ‘Every firstborn male shall be designated as holy to the Lord’), and they offered a sacrifice according to what is stated in the law of the Lord, ‘a pair of turtle-doves or two young pigeons.’ Now there was a man in Jerusalem whose name was Simeon; this man was righteous and devout, looking forward to the consolation of Israel, and the Holy Spirit rested on him. It had been revealed to him by the Holy Spirit that he would not see death before he had seen the Lord’s Messiah. Guided by the Spirit, Simeon came into the temple; and when the parents brought in the child Jesus, to do for him what was customary under the law, Simeon took him in his arms and praised God, saying, ‘Master, now you are dismissing your servant in peace, according to your word; for my eyes have seen your salvation, which you have prepared in the presence of all peoples, a light for revelation to the Gentiles and for glory to your people Israel.’ And the child’s father and mother were amazed at what was being said about him. Then Simeon blessed them and said to his mother Mary, ‘This child is destined for the falling and the rising of many in Israel, and to be a sign that will be opposed so that the inner thoughts of many will be revealed - and a sword will pierce your own soul too.’ There was also a prophet, Anna the daughter of Phanuel, of the tribe of Asher. She was of a great age, having lived with her husband for seven years after her marriage, then as a widow to the age of eighty-four. She never left the temple but worshipped there with fasting and prayer night and day. At that moment she came, and began to praise God and to speak about the child to all who were looking for the redemption of Jerusalem. When they had finished everything required by the law of the Lord, they returned to Galilee, to their own town of Nazareth. The child grew and became strong, filled with wisdom; and the favor of God was upon him.

The Sermon**The Rev. Laura Miller**

The Nicene Creed

BCP 358

Prayers of the People, Form VI

BCP 392

The Confession of Sin

BCP 393

The Peace

BCP 360

THE HOLY COMMUNION**Offertory: Sing of Mary, pure and lowly****Hymnal 277**

The Great Thanksgiving, Eucharistic Prayer B

BCP 367

The Sanctus

S125, BCP 368

The Lord’s Prayer

BCP 364

The Breaking of the Bread

*All baptized persons are welcome
to receive communion at God’s holy table.*

Prayer of Spiritual Communion

In union, dear Lord, with the faithful at every altar of your Church where your Blessed Body and Blood are being offered to the Father, I desire to offer you praise and thanksgiving. I believe that you are truly present in the Holy Sacrament. And since I cannot now receive you sacramentally, I pray you to come spiritually into my heart. I unite myself to you, and embrace you with all the affection of my soul. Let me never be separated from you. Let me live and die in your love.

Come Lord Jesus, dwell in your servant in the fullness of your strength, in the perfection of your ways, and in the holiness of your spirit, and rule over every hostile power in the might of your Spirit, and to the glory of your Father.

May the Body and Blood of our Lord Jesus Christ preserve my body and soul into everlasting life. Amen

Post Communion Hymn: Let all mortal flesh**Hymnal 324**

Post Communion Prayer

BCP 365

Blessing of the home candles and the prayer shawls & blankets.

The Blessing

Recessional: How lovely is your dwelling place**Hymnal 517**

The Dismissal

*The altar flowers are given to the Glory of God in loving memory of her
parents, Jimmy & Pearl Mitchell, by Barbara A. Mitchell*

Music with permission CCLI # 1152334

To keep in your prayers

We pray for the peace of Jerusalem, especially Christ Church ministering there. We pray for the Church in Canada, and the Dioceses of California and Central Florida. In our Diocese we pray for St. Luke's in Cambridge, and Good Shepherd in Canajoharie.

We pray for protection and keeping for Douglas, Jody, Lindsey, and all our men and women who have served or are now serving in our Armed Forces, here and abroad.

We pray for comfort, strength, and healing for all who are in sickness, trouble or need, especially Duane, Heidi, Mikela, Sharon, Bill, Sally, Jack, Al, Joe, Judy, Jamie, Denise, Rebecca, Bonnie, Susi, Dori, Jackie, Vicki, Marion, Pam, Holly, for all those affected by violence, wars, and natural disasters, for all those still struggling from the effects of COVID and those known only to God.

We pray for wisdom and discernment for our Vestry: Barbara, Bonnie, Kitty, Michele, Mick, Scott, Betsy and Elaine.

We give thanks for Andrew deLagarde, who celebrates a birthday this week.

Read, Mark, and Inwardly Digest

This week at St. James'

Today: Join us for coffee hour after the service.

Annual Meeting, Next Sunday, February 9th following the service. Festive brunch will be served.

Looking for a way to help? Join a committee on fundraising and event planning. See Mtr. Laura.

Sock Drive: The Daughters of the King are collecting new socks to donate to Open Door Ministries and North Country Ministry. New adult sized socks are needed. There is a box for the collection in the Parish Hall.

Open flower dates: 2/23, 6/8, 8/28, 10/4, 11/2,16,23,&30, 12/14.

Weekly at St. James'

AA meets on Saturday evenings at 6:30 pm, and AA board meets the 2nd Wednesday of every month at 7:00 pm in the parish Hall.

Monday & Tuesday: Living Resources uses Tuttle Hall during the day.

Tuesdays: Knit Wits meets in the Parish Hall from 4:00-5:30 pm. Join us to knit or crochet for social concerns.

Saturdays: Grace Communion International holds services in our Parish Hall from 10:00 am to 1:00 pm.

Coming soon...

After Care program begins Wednesday February 12 in the Parish Hall. Open to all students in grades K-6.

Bible Study - We will do a 4-part video study and discussion on *The Case for Easter: Evidence for the Resurrection of Jesus*, by Lee Strobel. Stay tuned for dates and times!

Community Dinner - Next dinner on February 12th at Sacred Heart, 5 pm. Host to be announced.

May 3, Saturday, Installation of Mtr. Laura. Bishop Jeremiah presiding. Details to follow.