

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: Just as I am Hymnal 693  
Post Communion Prayer BCP 339  
The Blessing  
Recessional: O bless the Lord, my soul (vs 4-5) Hymnal 411  
The Dismissal

Music with permission CCLI # 1152334

*Worship & Ministry Leaders*

	Today	Next Week
Usher/Greeter	Susan & John Joseph	Kitty & Steve Lobban
Lay Reader	Bonnie Magno	Betsy Birchenough
Intercessor	Scott Cudney	Kit Huggard

*Seek Christ. Live Christ. Share Christ.*

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# The Fourth Sunday of Lent

March 30, 2025, 9:00 am

*Holy Eucharist, Rite I*

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.

**THE WORD OF GOD**

Processional: O bless the Lord, my soul (vs 1-3) Hymnal 411  
Opening Sentence BCP 323  
The Kyrie (spoken) BCP 324  
The Collect

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

**First Reading: Joshua 5:9-12**

The Lord said to Joshua, 'Today I have rolled away from you the disgrace of Egypt.' And so that place is called Gilgal to this day. While the Israelites were encamped in Gilgal they kept the passover in the evening on the fourteenth day of the month in the plains of Jericho. On the day after the passover, on that very day, they ate the produce of the land, unleavened cakes and parched grain. The manna ceased on the day they ate the produce of the land, and the Israelites no longer had manna; they ate the crops of the land of Canaan that year.

**Psalms 32 BCP 624**

- 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 Reading: 2 Corinthians 5:16-21**

We regard no one from a human point of view; even though we once knew Christ from a human point of view, we know him no longer in that way. So if anyone is in Christ, there is a new creation: everything old has passed away; see, everything has become new! All this is from God, who reconciled us to himself through Christ, and has given us the ministry of reconciliation; that is, in Christ God was reconciling the world to himself, not counting their trespasses against them, and entrusting the message of reconciliation to us. So we are ambassadors for Christ, since God is making his appeal through us; we entreat you on behalf of Christ, be reconciled to God. For our sake he made him to be sin who knew no sin, so that in him we might become the righteousness of God.

**Gradual Hymn: My God, accept my heart**

**Hymnal 697**

**The Holy Gospel: Luke 15:1-3, 11-32**

Now all the tax-collectors and sinners were coming near to listen to him. And the Pharisees and the scribes were grumbling and saying, 'This fellow welcomes sinners and eats with them.' So he told them this parable: Then Jesus said, 'There was a man who had two sons. The younger of them said to his father, "Father, give me the share of the property that will belong to me." So he divided his property between them. A few days later the younger son gathered all he had and travelled to a distant country, and there he squandered his property in dissolute living. When he had spent everything, a severe famine took place throughout that country, and he began to be in

need. So he went and hired himself out to one of the citizens of that country, who sent him to his fields to feed the pigs. He would gladly have filled himself with the pods that the pigs were eating; and no one gave him anything. But when he came to himself he said, "How many of my father's hired hands have bread enough and to spare, but here I am dying of hunger! I will get up and go to my father, and I will say to him, 'Father, I have sinned against heaven and before you; I am no longer worthy to be called your son; treat me like one of your hired hands.'" So he set off and went to his father. But while he was still far off, his father saw him and was filled with compassion; he ran and put his arms around him and kissed him. Then the son said to him, "Father, I have sinned against heaven and before you; I am no longer worthy to be called your son." But the father said to his slaves, "Quickly, bring out a robe - the best one - and put it on him; put a ring on his finger and sandals on his feet. And get the fatted calf and kill it, and let us eat and celebrate; for this son of mine was dead and is alive again; he was lost and is found!" And they began to celebrate. 'Now his elder son was in the field; and when he came and approached the house, he heard music and dancing. He called one of the slaves and asked what was going on. He replied, "Your brother has come, and your father has killed the fatted calf, because he has got him back safe and sound." Then he became angry and refused to go in. His father came out and began to plead with him. But he answered his father, "Listen! For all these years I have been working like a slave for you, and I have never disobeyed your command; yet you have never given me even a young goat so that I might celebrate with my friends. But when this son of yours came back, who has devoured your property with prostitutes, you killed the fatted calf for him!" Then the father said to him, "Son, you are always with me, and all that is mine is yours. But we had to celebrate and rejoice, because this brother of yours was dead and has come to life; he was lost and has been found." '

**The Sermon**

- The Nicene Creed
- Prayers of the People, Form II
- The Confession of Sin
- The Peace

**The Rev. Laura Miller**

- BCP 326
- BCP 385
- BCP 331
- BCP 332

**THE HOLY COMMUNION**

**Offertory: There's a wideness in God's mercy**

- The Great Thanksgiving, Eucharistic Prayer I
- The Sanctus
- The Lord's Prayer

**Hymnal 470**

- BCP 333
- (spoken) BCP 334
- BCP 336

## *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.

## *To keep in your prayers*

We pray for the peace of Jerusalem, especially Christ Church ministering there. We pray for the Church in Japan, and the Dioceses of El Camino Real, CA and Florida. In our Diocese we pray for St. Boniface's in Guilderland and for the Welcome Home Initiative Women's Retreat.

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 Nina, Apryl, Janice, Duane, Bill, Sally, Al, Joe, 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.

### *Holy Week at St. James'*

*April 13, Palm Sunday, service begins in Tuttle Hall with palm procession*

*April 17, Maundy Thursday, Agape meal at 5:30 followed by service at 6 and the stripping of the altar.*

*April 18, Good Friday, Noon: Community Stations of the Cross, begins at Sacred Heart. 5 PM, Good Friday service at St. James'*

*April 19, Holy Saturday, 9 am service followed by decorating the church for Easter.*

*April 20, Easter Sunday, 9 am service followed by an Easter Egg hunt.*

## *Read, Mark, and Inwardly Digest*

### *This week at St. James'*

**Today:** Please join us for coffee hour after the service.

**Mtr. Laura** will be at Christ the King Center for the Welcome Home Initiative Women's Retreat Monday - Wednesday this week.

**Mtr. Laura, Barbara, and Michele** will be at Christ the King Center for a small parish study Friday and Saturday.

**Bible Study** - We are doing a 4-part video study and discussion on *The Case for Easter: Evidence for the Resurrection of Jesus*, by Lee Strobel. We join together for a simple meal then view the study. Tuesday evenings at 5:30, April 1 & 8.

**Stations of the Cross & fellowship** - Wednesdays at noon during Lent. Bring a bag lunch, we will eat together then we will walk the Way of the Cross in the church.

**Paper products needed:** Dessert sized and small dinner plates, and napkins.

### *Weekly at St. James'*

**AA meets on Saturday evenings at 6:30 pm, and AA board meets the 2<sup>nd</sup> 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...*

**Community Dinner** - Wednesday, April 9<sup>th</sup> at Sacred Heart, 5 pm. Host is *Spargel on 9*.

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

**May 4:** Parish Picnic at noon at the rectory.

**May 17, Saturday** - Community Block Party. We will have a bake sale and hospitality inside. Quilt raffle begins. Volunteers needed!

**May 18, Sunday, 10 AM** Community service followed by All You Can Eat Pancake Breakfast at Caldwell. Tickets \$10.00