



ST. JAMES

EPISCOPAL CHURCH

The Seventh Sunday after the Epiphany
HOLY EUCHARIST: RITE II

February 23, 2025
5:00P.M.

***Welcome!** Whether you are a first-time visitor, longtime member, or somewhere in-between, welcome to this place where together we sing, read, pray, listen, and break bread in thanksgiving and praise of the living God whose love brings new life for us and for the world. **About the service:** An Episcopal worship service may seem difficult to follow if it is unfamiliar to you; please participate as you are able and ask someone near you for assistance if you need it. We use this leaflet and the red Book of Common Prayer (BCP). **For more information:** Fill out a welcome card, located in the pew rack, and drop it in the offering plate or return it by mail. Call the Parish Office at 225-387-5141 with questions about baptisms, weddings, membership, or any other needs.*

THE WORD OF GOD

The people stand when the ministers of the service enter

Opening Acclamation

BCP 355

Gloria

BCP 356

The appointed Collect of the Day and Lessons are found on the next page.

The Sermon

The Rev. Christopher Duncan

The Nicene Creed

BCP 358

The Prayers of the People

see insert

The Confession & Absolution

BCP 360

The Peace

BCP 360

Welcome & Announcements

THE HOLY COMMUNION

Eucharistic Prayer C

BCP 369

The Lord's Prayer

BCP 364

The Breaking of the Bread

BCP 364

The Postcommunion Prayer

BCP 365

The Blessing & Dismissal

BCP 366

Collect of the Day

O Lord, you have taught us that without love whatever we do is worth nothing: Send your Holy Spirit and pour into our hearts your greatest gift, which is love, the true bond of peace and of all virtue, without which whoever lives is accounted dead before you. Grant this for the sake of your only Son Jesus Christ, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

Genesis 45:3-11, 15

A reading from the Book of Genesis.

Joseph said to his brothers, "I am Joseph. Is my father still alive?" But his brothers could not answer him, so dismayed were they at his presence. Then Joseph said to his brothers, "Come closer to me." And they came closer. He said, "I am your brother, Joseph, whom you sold into Egypt. And now do not be distressed, or angry with yourselves, because you sold me here; for God sent me before you to preserve life. For the famine has been in the land these two years; and there are five more years in which there will be neither plowing nor harvest. God sent me before you to preserve for you a remnant on earth, and to keep alive for you many survivors. So it was not you who sent me here, but God; he has made me a father to Pharaoh, and lord of all his house and ruler over all the land of Egypt. Hurry and go up to my father and say to him, 'Thus says your son Joseph, God has made me lord of all Egypt; come down to me, do not delay. You shall settle in the land of Goshen, and you shall be near me, you and your children and your children's children, as well as your flocks, your herds, and all that you have. I will provide for you there—since there are five more years of famine to come—so that you and your household, and all that you have, will not come to poverty.'" And he kissed all his brothers and wept upon them; and after that his brothers talked with him.

Lector The Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

Read responsively by half verse.

Psalm 37:1-12, 41-42

- ¹ Do not fret yourself because of evildoers; *
do not be jealous of those who do wrong.
- ² For they shall soon wither like the grass, *
and like the green grass fade away.
- ³ Put your trust in the Lord and do good; *
 dwell in the land and feed on its riches.
- ⁴ Take delight in the Lord, *
and he shall give you your heart's desire.
- ⁵ Commit your way to the Lord and put your trust in him, *
and he will bring it to pass.
- ⁶ He will make your righteousness as clear as the light *
and your just dealing as the noonday.

- 7 Be still before the Lord *
and wait patiently for him.
- 8 Do not fret yourself over the one who prospers, *
the one who succeeds in evil schemes.
- 9 Refrain from anger, leave rage alone; *
do not fret yourself; it leads only to evil.
- 10 For evildoers shall be cut off, *
but those who wait upon the Lord shall possess the land.
- 11 In a little while the wicked shall be no more; *
you shall search out their place, but they will not be there.
- 12 But the lowly shall possess the land; *
they will delight in abundance of peace.
- 41 But the deliverance of the righteous comes from the Lord; *
he is their stronghold in time of trouble.
- 42 The Lord will help them and rescue them; *
**he will rescue them from the wicked and deliver them,
because they seek refuge in him.**

1 Corinthians 15:35-38, 42-50

A reading from Paul's first letter to the Corinthians.

Someone will ask, "How are the dead raised? With what kind of body do they come?" Fool! What you sow does not come to life unless it dies. And as for what you sow, you do not sow the body that is to be, but a bare seed, perhaps of wheat or of some other grain. But God gives it a body as he has chosen, and to each kind of seed its own body. So it is with the resurrection of the dead. What is sown is perishable, what is raised is imperishable. It is sown in dishonor, it is raised in glory. It is sown in weakness, it is raised in power. It is sown a physical body, it is raised a spiritual body. If there is a physical body, there is also a spiritual body. Thus it is written, "The first man, Adam, became a living being"; the last Adam became a life-giving spirit. But it is not the spiritual that is first, but the physical, and then the spiritual. The first man was from the earth, a man of dust; the second man is from heaven. As was the man of dust, so are those who are of the dust; and as is the man of heaven, so are those who are of heaven. Just as we have borne the image of the man of dust, we will also bear the image of the man of heaven. What I am saying, brothers and sisters, is this: flesh and blood cannot inherit the kingdom of God, nor does the perishable inherit the imperishable.

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

All stand.
Luke 6:27-38

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

Jesus said, "I say to you that listen, Love your enemies, do good to those who hate you, bless those who curse you, pray for those who abuse you. If anyone strikes you on the cheek, offer the other also; and from anyone who takes away your coat do not withhold even your shirt. Give to everyone who begs from you; and if anyone takes away your goods, do not ask for them again. Do to others as you would have them do to you. If you love those who love you, what credit is that to you? For even sinners love those who love them. If you do good to those who do good to you, what credit is that to you? For even sinners do the same. If you lend to those from whom you hope to receive, what credit is that to you? Even sinners lend to sinners, to receive as much again. But love your enemies, do good, and lend, expecting nothing in return. Your reward will be great, and you will be children of the Most High; for he is kind to the ungrateful and the wicked. Be merciful, just as your Father is merciful. Do not judge, and you will not be judged; do not condemn, and you will not be condemned. Forgive, and you will be forgiven; give, and it will be given to you. A good measure, pressed down, shaken together, running over, will be put into your lap; for the measure you give will be the measure you get back."

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

*Today's flowers are given to the greater glory of God and
in loving memory of Joe Dozier, Philip Wright, Warren Green, Kent Caldwell,
Tommy Frazier, Allen Paterson, John Compton, and John Ozier
by the current member of the Men's S.M.I.L.E. Bible Study.*



ST. JAMES
EPISCOPAL CHURCH
205 N. Fourth Street
Baton Rouge, Louisiana 70801
225-387-5141 | stjamesbr.org

The Prayers of the People – Form III

Leader Father, we pray for your holy Catholic Church;
People **That we all may be one.**

Leader Grant that every member of the Church may truly and humbly serve you;
People **That your Name may be glorified by all people.**

Leader We pray for all bishops, priests, and deacons; especially Sean, the Presiding Bishop; Shannon, our Bishop; Chris, Drew, Lynn, and Don, our priests; and Casey, our seminarian. In the Diocesan Cycle of Prayer, we pray for the clergy and people of St. Timothy's Church and Preschool, LaPlace and the Racial Healing Commission.

People **That they may be faithful ministers of your Word and Sacraments.**

Leader We pray for all who govern and hold authority in the nations of the world; especially Donald, our President; Jeff, our Governor; Sid, our Mayor; our family and friends serving in the military and law enforcement; that they may be led to wise decisions and right actions for the welfare and peace of the world.

People **That there may be justice and peace on the earth.**

Leader Give us grace to do your will in all that we undertake;
People **That our works may find favor in your sight.**

Leader Have compassion on those who suffer from any grief or trouble; especially Alice, Deborah, Pat, Amy, Priscilla, Martha, Laura, Missy, Julie, Chesnee, Edward, Avery, Adrienne, Sims, Terry, Betty, Madelyn, those on our prayer list, and all those who in this transitory life, are in trouble, sorrow, need, sickness, or any other adversity.

People **That they may be delivered from their distress.**

Leader We thank you, Lord, for all the blessings of this life. We also pray for expectant mothers, especially Carrie Grace, Jordan, and Caroline, that they may happily come to the time of birth, and serving you in all things may rejoice in your providence.

We will exalt you, O God our King.

People **And praise your name for ever and ever.**

Leader Give to the departed eternal rest, especially Taylor Melancon, Keisha Beasley, Harold Price, and Kamile Geist, that they may have a place in your eternal kingdom.

People **Let light perpetual shine upon them.**

Leader We praise you for your saints who have entered into joy;
People **May we also come to share in your heavenly kingdom.**

Leader Let us pray for our own needs and those of others.

*The People may add their own petitions.
The Celebrant adds a concluding Collect.*