

St. James Episcopal Church

Taos, New Mexico

Sharing ourselves and our faith with others.



Morning Prayer

The Second Sunday after Christmas Day

January 3, 2021

ORDER OF WORSHIP

The Book of Common Prayer

THE PRELUDE

Noel
Mary Gates - Organ

Leon Roques

THE OPENING SENTENCE

p. 75

Behold, the dwelling of God is with mankind. He will dwell with them, and they shall be his people, and God himself will be with them, and be their God.

THE CONFESSION OF SIN

p. 79

Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

**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.**

THE ABSOLUTION

p. 80

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

THE INVITATORY AND PSALTER

p. 80

Lord, open our lips.

And our mouth shall proclaim your praise.

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit: as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be for ever. Amen. Alleluia.

Alleluia. To us a child is born: O come, let us adore him.

VENITE *Read responsively by whole verse.*

p. 82

Come, let us sing to the Lord;
let us shout for joy to the Rock of our salvation.

**Let us come before his presence with thanksgiving
and raise a loud shout to him with psalms.**

For the Lord is a great God,
and a great King above all gods.

**In his hand are the caverns of the earth,
and the heights of the hills are his also.**

The sea is his, for he made it,
and his hands have molded the dry land.

**Come, let us bow down, and bend the knee,
and kneel before the Lord our Maker.**

For he is our God,
and we are the people of his pasture and the sheep of his hand.

Oh, that today you would hearken to his voice!

PSALM 84: 1-8

p. 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.**

7 Lord God of hosts, hear my prayer;
hearken, O God of Jacob.

**8 Behold our defender, O God;
and look upon the face of your Anointed.**

**Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit:
as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be for ever. Amen.**

THE FIRST LESSON

Ephesians 1:3-6,15-19a

Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us in Christ with every spiritual blessing in the heavenly places, just as he chose us in Christ before the foundation of the world to be holy and blameless before him in love. He destined us for adoption as his children through Jesus Christ, according to the good pleasure of his will, to the praise of his glorious grace that he freely bestowed on us in the Beloved.

I have heard of your faith in the Lord Jesus and your love toward all the saints, and for this reason I do not cease to give thanks for you as I remember you in my prayers. I pray that the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory, may give you a spirit of wisdom and revelation as you come to know him, so that, with the eyes of your heart enlightened, you may know what is the hope to which he has called you, what are the riches of his glorious inheritance among the saints, and what is the immeasurable greatness of his power for us who believe.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

CANTICLE 10

THE SECOND SONG OF ISAIAH

p. 86

Seek the Lord while he wills to be found;
call upon him when he draws near.

**Let the wicked forsake their ways
and the evil ones their thoughts;**

And let them turn to the Lord, and he will have compassion,
and to our God, for he will richly pardon.

**For my thoughts are not your thoughts,
nor your ways my ways, says the Lord.**

For as the heavens are higher than the earth,
so are my ways higher than your ways, and my thoughts than your thoughts.

**For as rain and snow fall from the heavens
and return not again, but water the earth,**

Bringing forth life and giving growth,
seed for sowing and bread for eating,

**So is my word that goes forth from my mouth;
it will not return to me empty;**

But it will accomplish that which I have purposed,
and prosper in that for which I sent it.

**Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit:
as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be for ever. Amen.**

A READING FROM THE GOSPEL ACCORDING TO MATTHEW

2:13-15,19-23

After the wise men had left, an angel of the Lord appeared to Joseph in a dream and said, "Get up, take the child and his mother, and flee to Egypt, and remain there until I tell you; for Herod is about to search for the child, to destroy him." Then Joseph got up, took the child and his mother by night, and went to Egypt, and remained there until the death of Herod. This was to fulfill what had been spoken by the Lord through the prophet, "Out of Egypt I have called my son."

When Herod died, an angel of the Lord suddenly appeared in a dream to Joseph in Egypt and said, "Get up, take the child and his mother, and go to the land of Israel, for those who were seeking the child's life are dead." Then Joseph got up, took the child and his mother, and went to the land of Israel. But when he heard that Archelaus was ruling over Judea in place of his father Herod, he was afraid to go there. And after being warned in a dream, he went away to the district of Galilee. There he made his home in a town called Nazareth, so that what had been spoken through the prophets might be fulfilled, "He will be called a Nazorean."

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

CANTICLE 15

THE SONG OF MARY

p. 91

My soul proclaims the greatness of the Lord, my spirit rejoices in God my Savior;
for he has looked with favor on his lowly servant.

**From this day all generations will call me blessed:
the Almighty has done great things for me, and holy is his Name.**

He has mercy on those who fear him
in every generation.

**He has shown the strength of his arm,
he has scattered the proud in their conceit.**

He has cast down the mighty from their thrones,
and has lifted up the lowly.

**He has filled the hungry with good things,
and the rich he has sent away empty.**

He has come to the help of his servant Israel,
for he has remembered his promise of mercy,

**The promise he made to our fathers,
to Abraham and his children for ever.**

**Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit:
as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be for ever. Amen.**

THE SERMON

The Very Reverend Mac Brown

THE APOSTLES' CREED

p. 96

**I believe in God, the Father almighty,
creator of heaven and earth;
I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.
He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit
and born of the Virgin Mary.
He suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died, and was buried.
He descended to the dead.
On the third day he rose again.
He ascended into heaven,
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.
He will come again to judge the living and the dead.
I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy catholic Church, the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting. Amen.**

THE PRAYERS

p. 97

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Let us pray.

**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 SUFFRAGES

p. 98

Save your people, Lord, and bless your inheritance;

Govern and uphold them, now and always.

Day by day we bless you;

We praise your name for ever.

Lord, keep us from all sin today;

Have mercy upon us, Lord, have mercy.

Lord, show us your love and mercy;

For we put our trust in you.

In you, Lord, is our hope;

And we shall never hope in vain.

THE COLLECT OF THE DAY

p. 214

O God, who wonderfully created, and yet more wonderfully restored, the dignity of human nature: Grant that we may share the divine life of him who humbled himself to share our humanity, your Son Jesus Christ; who lives and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

A COLLECT FOR SUNDAYS

p. 98

O God, you make us glad with the weekly remembrance of the glorious resurrection of your Son our Lord: Give us this day such blessing through our worship of you, that the week to come may be spent in your favor; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

A COLLECT FOR GRACE

p. 100

Lord God, almighty and everlasting Father, you have brought us in safety to this new day: Preserve us with your mighty power, that we may not fall into sin, nor be overcome by adversity; and in all we do, direct us to the fulfilling of your purpose; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

A PRAYER FOR MISSION

p. 100

O God, you have made of one blood all the peoples of the earth, and sent your blessed Son to preach peace to those who are far off and to those who are near: Grant that people everywhere may seek after you and find you; bring the nations into your fold; pour out your Spirit upon all flesh; and hasten the coming of your kingdom; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

THE INTERCESSIONS

Gracious God, we pray for our parish family. Have compassion on those who suffer from any grief or trouble especially those on our Parish Prayer List: Iris, Genie, Sandy, John, Rosemary, Marieke, Doug, Michael, Lorry, Martha, Kelly, Sue, Ben, Elaine, William. Steven, Sarah, Jan, Alisa, Wendy, the Buff family, Cynthia, Jack, Kevin. Joy, Mark, Tim. Jason, Lauren, Kayden, Melanie, Ann, Gayle.

Give to Joy Linkenhoger Veron and all the departed eternal rest.

Let light perpetual shine upon them.

Bless all those celebrating birthdays and anniversaries this week and last: Doug Leslie, Paul Richard, Erick Brunner, Monica Corral, Isabella Draper, Slade Barker, Bill & Lorry Waugh, Marcy & Slade Barker.

Please include your own prayers now, either silently or aloud.

THE GENERAL THANKSGIVING

p. 101

**Almighty God, Father of all mercies,
We your unworthy servants give you humble thanks for
all your goodness and loving-kindness to us and to all whom you have made.
We bless you for our creation, preservation,
and all the blessings of this life;
but above all for your immeasurable love in the redemption of the world by our
Lord Jesus Christ;
for the means of grace, and for the hope of glory.
And, we pray, give us such an awareness of your mercies,
that with truly thankful hearts we may show forth your praise,
not only with our lips, but in our lives,
by giving up our selves to your service,
and by walking before you in holiness and righteousness all our days;
through Jesus Christ our Lord,
to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit,
be honor and glory throughout all ages. Amen.**

A PRAYER OF ST. CHRYSOSTOM

p. 102

Almighty God, you have given us grace at this time with one accord to make our common supplication to you; and you have promised through your well-beloved Son that when two or three are gathered together in his Name you will be in the midst of them: Fulfill now, O Lord, our desires and petitions as may be best for us; granting us in this world knowledge of your truth, and in the age to come life everlasting. **Amen.**

Let us bless the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

THE ANNOUNCEMENTS

*To read all this week's announcements, please consult your St. James Email Newsletter.
If you do not receive it and wish to, please notify Gwen: office@stjamestaos.org*

THE CLOSING SENTENCE

p. 102

May the God of hope fill us with all joy and peace in believing through the power of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

THE POSTLUDE O Hail, This Brightest Day of Days J. S. Bach