

*The Holy Friendship*  
*of*  
*St. James Episcopal Church*  
95 Route 2A, Preston, CT 06365



*Grace Episcopal Church*  
4 Chapel Hill Road, Yantic, CT 06389



**The Third Sunday after the Epiphany**

January 23, 2022 at 9:00 am

The Reverend Diana Rogers  
Musicians  
Mike LaFleur, Guitar & Peter Leibert, Concertina

Join us for in-person worship at St. James,  
View the livestream of Sunday's Worship service on Facebook at St. James Episcopal Preston,  
or on Zoom

**The Word of God**

## Welcome

### Processional Hymn #450 All Hail the Power of Jesus' Name

Celebrant: Blessed be God; Father, Son, and Holy Spirit

**People: And blessed be his kingdom, now and for ever. Amen**

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.**

## The Gloria

**Glory to god in the highest,  
and peace to his people on earth.**

**Lord God, heavenly King,  
almighty God and Father,  
we worship you, we give you thanks,  
we praise you for your glory.**

**Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father,  
Lord God, Lamb of God,  
you take away the sin of the world:**

**have mercy on us;  
you are seated at the right hand  
of the Father:  
receive our prayer.**

**For you alone are the Holy One,  
you alone are the Lord,  
you alone are the Most High,  
Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit,  
in the glory of God the Father, Amen.**

Celebrant: The Lord be with you.

**People: And also with you.**

Celebrant: Let us pray.

## Collect of the Day

Give us grace, O Lord, to answer readily the call of our Savior Jesus Christ and proclaim to all people the Good News of his salvation, that we and the whole world may perceive the glory of his marvelous works; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

## The Lessons

### **Nehemiah 8:1-3, 5-6, 8-10**

All the people of Israel gathered together into the square before the Water Gate. They told the scribe Ezra to bring the book of the law of Moses, which the LORD had given to Israel. Accordingly, the priest Ezra brought the law before the assembly, both men and women and all who could hear with understanding. This was on the first day of the seventh month. He read from it facing the square before the Water Gate from early morning until midday, in the presence of the men and the women and those who could understand; and the ears of all the people were attentive to the book of the law. And Ezra opened the book in the sight of all the people, for he was standing above all the people; and when he opened it, all the people stood up. Then Ezra blessed the LORD, the great God, and all the people answered, "Amen, Amen," lifting up their hands. Then they bowed their heads and worshiped the LORD with their faces to the ground. So they read from the book, from the law of God, with interpretation. They gave the sense, so that the people understood the reading. And Nehemiah, who was the governor, and Ezra the priest and scribe, and the Levites who taught the people said to all the people, "This day

is holy to the LORD your God; do not mourn or weep." For all the people wept when they heard the words of the law. Then he said to them, "Go your way, eat the fat and drink sweet wine and send portions of them to those for whom nothing is prepared, for this day is holy to our LORD; and do not be grieved, for the joy of the LORD is your strength."

The Word of the Lord.

**People: Thanks be to God.**

### Psalm 19

- 1 The heavens declare the glory of God, \*  
and the firmament shows his handiwork.
- 2 One day tells its tale to another, \*  
and one night imparts knowledge to another.**
- 3 Although they have no words or language, \*  
and their voices are not heard,
- 4 Their sound has gone out into all lands, \*  
and their message to the ends of the world.**
- 5 In the deep has he set a pavilion for the sun; \*  
it comes forth like a bridegroom out of his chamber;  
it rejoices like a champion to run its course.
- 6 It goes forth from the uttermost edge of the heavens  
and runs about to the end of it again; \*  
nothing is hidden from its burning heat.**
- 7 The law of the LORD is perfect  
and revives the soul; \*  
the testimony of the LORD is sure  
and gives wisdom to the innocent.
- 8 The statutes of the LORD are just  
and rejoice the heart; \*  
the commandment of the LORD is clear  
and gives light to the eyes.**
- 9 The fear of the LORD is clean  
and endures for ever; \*  
the judgments of the LORD are true  
and righteous altogether.
- 10 More to be desired are they than gold,  
more than much fine gold, \*  
sweeter far than honey,  
than honey in the comb.**
- 11 By them also is your servant enlightened, \*  
and in keeping them there is great reward.
- 12 Who can tell how often he offends? \*  
cleanse me from my secret faults.**
- 13 Above all, keep your servant from presumptuous sins;  
let them not get dominion over me; \*  
then shall I be whole and sound,  
and innocent of a great offense.

**14 Let the words of my mouth and the meditation of my heart be acceptable in your sight, \*  
O LORD, my strength and my redeemer.**

**1 Corinthians 12:12-31a**

Just as the body is one and has many members, and all the members of the body, though many, are one body, so it is with Christ. For in the one Spirit we were all baptized into one body--Jews or Greeks, slaves or free--and we were all made to drink of one Spirit. Indeed, the body does not consist of one member but of many. If the foot would say, "Because I am not a hand, I do not belong to the body," that would not make it any less a part of the body. And if the ear would say, "Because I am not an eye, I do not belong to the body," that would not make it any less a part of the body. If the whole body were an eye, where would the hearing be? If the whole body were hearing, where would the sense of smell be? But as it is, God arranged the members in the body, each one of them, as he chose. If all were a single member, where would the body be? As it is, there are many members, yet one body. The eye cannot say to the hand, "I have no need of you," nor again the head to the feet, "I have no need of you." On the contrary, the members of the body that seem to be weaker are indispensable, and those members of the body that we think less honorable we clothe with greater honor, and our less respectable members are treated with greater respect; whereas our more respectable members do not need this. But God has so arranged the body, giving the greater honor to the inferior member, that there may be no dissension within the body, but the members may have the same care for one another. If one member suffers, all suffer together with it; if one member is honored, all rejoice together with it. Now you are the body of Christ and individually members of it. And God has appointed in the church first apostles, second prophets, third teachers; then deeds of power, then gifts of healing, forms of assistance, forms of leadership, various kinds of tongues. Are all apostles? Are all prophets? Are all teachers? Do all work miracles? Do all possess gifts of healing? Do all speak in tongues? Do all interpret? But strive for the greater gifts.

The Word of the Lord.

**People: Thanks be to God.**

**Sequence Hymn #691 My Faith Looks Up to Thee**

Celebrant: The Holy Gospel of our Savior Jesus Christ, according to Luke.

**People: Glory to you, Lord Christ.**

**Luke 4:14-21**

Jesus, filled with the power of the Spirit, returned to Galilee, and a report about him spread through all the surrounding country. He began to teach in their synagogues and was praised by everyone. When he came to Nazareth, where he had been brought up, he went to the synagogue on the sabbath day, as was his custom. He stood up to read, and the scroll of the prophet Isaiah was given to him. He unrolled the scroll and found the place where it was written:

"The Spirit of the Lord is upon me,  
because he has anointed me  
to bring good news to the poor.  
He has sent me to proclaim release to the captives  
and recovery of sight to the blind,  
to let the oppressed go free,  
to proclaim the year of the Lord's favor."

And he rolled up the scroll, gave it back to the attendant, and sat down. The eyes of all in the synagogue were fixed on him. Then he began to say to them, "Today this scripture has been fulfilled in your hearing."

The Gospel of the Lord

**People: Praise to you, Lord Christ.**

**The Homily**

The Rev. Diana Rogers

*~ a short silence will be kept ~*

### **The Nicene Creed**

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**

Celebrant: God of light and life may our prayers be lifted up to you in this time hope.

Lector: We pray for your church, for our diocese, bishops, clergy and all those who minister the gospel.  
**Lord, hear our prayers.**

Lector: God of wonder and mystery, we pray for all who are coming to faith, all who wonder about faith, and all who are struggling with faith.  
**Lord, hear our prayers.**

Lector: God of abundant love, be our source of joy in proclaiming your Good News to the world.  
People: Lord, hear our prayers.

Lector: God of winding ways and straight paths, we pray for all who are coming to faith, all who wonder about faith, and all who are struggling with faith.  
**Lord, hear our prayers.**

Lector: Light of all creation, we pray for those in need of food, shelter, clothing, and of God's healing touch, especially those for whom our prayers are especially desired --- (please names of those on your heart).

**Lord, hear our prayers.**

Lector: God of might, we pray for the world, especially where there are economic hardships, injustice, and suffering, far away or nearby... (petitions may be added)

**Lord, hear our prayers.**

Lector: God of steadfast care, fuel our passion to challenge injustice and violence and to pursue peace and reconciliation

**Lord, hear our prayers.**

Lector: God of grace, we pray for the land on which we stand, and the peoples, creatures, plant life and waters around us.

**Lord, hear our prayers.**

Celebrant: God of glorious light, your love inspires us to hope and to bring before you our needs. You illuminate the path we are to follow and open our hearts to dream dreams and see visions of your Kingdom. Kindle that light within us, that in our prayers and service we may know your transforming presence at work in the world around us. All this we ask through Jesus Christ, our Lord. **Amen.**

### **Confession of Sins**

Celebrant: Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

*~ silence may be kept ~*

### **Celebrant and People:**

**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.**

### **Absolution**

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 Peace**

Celebrant: The peace of the Lord be always with you.

**People: And also with you.**

## † THE HOLY COMMUNION †

### **Offertory Hymn #416 For the Beauty of the Earth**

### **The Doxology**

**Praise God from whom all blessings flow,**

**Praise Him all creatures here below.**

**Praise Him above ye heavenly host.**

**Praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost. Amen**

## † THE GREAT THANKSGIVING †

### **Eucharistic Prayer B**

Celebrant: The Lord be with you.

People: **And also with you.**

Celebrant: Lift up your hearts.

People: **We lift them to the Lord.**

Celebrant: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People: **It is right to give him thanks and praise.**

Celebrant: It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth. Because in the mystery of the Word made flesh, you have caused a new light to shine in our hearts, to give the knowledge of your glory in the face of your Son 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.

**Celebrant and People:**

**Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,  
heaven and earth are full of your glory.**

**Hosanna in the highest.**

**Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.**

**Hosanna in the highest.**

Celebrant: We give thanks to you, O God, for the goodness and love which you have made known to us in creation; in the calling of Israel to be your people; in your Word spoken through the prophets; and above all in the Word made flesh, Jesus, your Son. For in these last days you sent him to be incarnate from the Virgin Mary, to be the Savior and Redeemer of the world. In him, you have delivered us from evil, and made us worthy to stand before you. In him, you have brought us out of error into truth, out of sin into righteousness, out of death into life.

On the night before he died for us, 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, according to his command, O Father,

Celebrant and People:

**We remember his death,**

**We proclaim his resurrection,**

**We await his coming in glory;**

Celebrant: And we offer our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving to you, O Lord of all; presenting to you, from your creation, this bread and this wine.

We pray you, gracious God, to send your Holy Spirit upon these gifts that they may be the Sacrament of the Body of Christ and his Blood of the new Covenant. Unite us to your Son in his sacrifice, that we may be acceptable through him, being sanctified by the Holy Spirit. In the fullness of time, put all things in subjection under your Christ, and bring us to that heavenly country where, with St. James all your saints, we may enter the everlasting heritage of your sons and daughters; through Jesus Christ our Lord, the firstborn of all creation, the head of the Church, and the author of our salvation.

By him, and with him, and in him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit all honor and glory is yours, Almighty Father, now and for ever. **Amen.**

And now, as our Savior Christ has taught us, we are bold to say,

### **The Lord's Prayer**

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 Breaking of the Bread**

Celebrant: Alleluia! Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us.

**People: Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia.**

Celebrant: The Gifts of God for the People of God.

*~silence~*

### **A Prayer for Spiritual Communion**

Celebrant: Let us pray.

**Celebrant and the people: God of love and grace, of justice and peace, we give you thanks that in the Holy Sacrament you assure us of your presence within us, within the body of Christ, and the faithful through all the generations. Grant that we who have witnessed anew these holy mysteries, though unable to receive the physical elements of the Sacrament, may be moved by your indwelling Spirit ever more fully to embody your holy and life-giving presence, reshaping in your likeness the world around us, until we are gathered at last into the fullness of your glorious and eternal presence; through Christ our Risen Lord. Amen.**

### **Communion Hymn #448 Oh Love How Deep**

### **A Post Communion Prayer**

Celebrant: Let us pray.

**Celebrant and People: Eternal God, heavenly Father, you have graciously accepted us as living members of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ, and you have fed us with spiritual food in the Sacrament of his Body and Blood. Send us now into the world in peace, and grant us strength and courage to love and serve you with gladness and singleness of heart; through Christ our Lord. Amen.**

### **Epiphany Blessing †**

May Christ, the son of God, be manifest in you, that your lives may be a light to the world; and the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be among you, and remain with you always. Amen.

### **Recessional Hymn #657 Love Divine**

### **The Dismissal**

### **Announcements**

*Announcements.*

**OWL Luncheon:** Due to the rise in Covid case in our region, the February OWL luncheon is cancelled. We hope that OWL will resume in March.

St. James will hold its **288<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting** on Sunday, January 30th beginning immediately after worship service. This meeting will be held in-person in the parish hall or for your convenience on Zoom. All are welcome.

**Scripture & Compline:** Thursdays, 7-8:30 on Zoom. Please contact the church office.

**Guided Healing Prayers:** Fridays, 8am on Zoom

Please continue to keep the **Preston Food Pantry** in mind. You may place your food items, cosmetics, toiletries, cleaning products, etc... in the blue box in the church lobby. We appreciate your kind consideration.

For worship cancellations due to inclement weather, please tune into WFSB Channel 3 or visit our website. You will also be notified through our Mailchimp emailing system if you have subscribed to our emails. If you need further instructions or have questions, please contact the church office via email at: [office@stjamespreston.org](mailto:office@stjamespreston.org)

*In case of a church emergency or have pastoral needs, please  
contact the church office.*