



Ante-Communion

The Epiphany of our Lord

10:00 a.m. — January 10, 2021

Rite II

Welcome

We welcome everyone to digital St. James this morning. Whether you are joining us via Zoom, on our website or on Facebook, we are delighted that you are here with us.

The Service is outlined from the *Book of Common Prayer* (BCP). If you don't have a prayer book at home, you can find one here: <https://www.bcponline.org/>

Prelude

How Bright Appears the Morning Star

Johann Pachelbel (1653-1706)

Hymn 128

We three kings of Orient

Three Kings of Orient

We three kings of Orient are,
bearing gifts we traverse afar,
field and fountain,
moor and mountain,
following yonder star.

*Refrain: O star of wonder, star of night,
star with royal beauty bright;
westward leading,
still proceeding,
guide us to thy perfect light!*

Born a King on Bethlehem's plain,
gold I bring to crown him again,
King for ever,
ceasing never
over us all to reign. [Refrain]

Frankincense to offer have I:
incense owns a Deity nigh;
prayer and praising,
gladly raising,
worship him, God Most High. [Refrain]

Myrrh is mine; its bitter perfume
breathes a life of gathering gloom;
sorrowing, sighing,
bleeding, dying,
sealed in the stone-cold tomb. [Refrain]

Glorious now behold him arise,
King and God and Sacrifice;
heaven sings alleluia:
alleluia the earth replies. [Refrain]

The Opening Acclamation

Book of Common Prayer, p. 355

Presider Blessed be God: Creator, Christ, and Holy Spirit.
People And blessed be God's kingdom, now and for ever. Amen.

The Collect for Purity

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.**

Gloria in excelsis S-280

Robert Powell

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.

The Collect of the Day

BCP p. 214

Presider The Lord be with you.
People And also with you.
Presider Let us pray.

O God, by the leading of a star you manifested your only Son to the peoples of the earth: Lead us, who know you now by faith, to your presence, where we may see your glory face to face; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

The First Lesson

Isaiah 60:1-6

Arise, shine; for your light has come,
and the glory of the Lord has risen upon you.

For darkness shall cover the earth,
and thick darkness the peoples;

but the Lord will arise upon you,
and his glory will appear over you.

Nations shall come to your light,
and kings to the brightness of your dawn.

Lift up your eyes and look around;
they all gather together, they come to you;

your sons shall come from far away,
and your daughters shall be carried on their nurses' arms.

Then you shall see and be radiant;
your heart shall thrill and rejoice,

because the abundance of the sea shall be brought to you,
the wealth of the nations shall come to you.

A multitude of camels shall cover you,
the young camels of Midian and Ephah;
all those from Sheba shall come.

They shall bring gold and frankincense,
and shall proclaim the praise of the Lord.

Reader The Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

Psalm 72:1-7, 10-14

Please repeat the response [R] after the cantor and as indicated below:

Lord, ev - ery na - tion on earth will a - dore you.

1. O God, give your judgment to the king, to a king's son your justice,
that he may judge your people in justice and your poor in right judgment.
2. In his days justice shall flourish and peace till the moon fails.
He shall rule from sea to sea, from the Great River to earth's bounds. [R]
3. The kings of Tarshish and the seacoasts shall pay him tribute.
The kings of Sheba and Seba shall bring him gifts.
Before him all rulers shall fall prostrate, all nations shall serve him.
4. For he shall save the poor when they cry, and the needy who are helpless.
He will have pity on the weak and save the lives of the poor. [R]

Michel Guimont, Psalms for the Revised Common Lectionary, ©1998, 2002 by GIA Publications. All rights reserved. Used by permission under OneLicense A-702960.

The Second Lesson

Ephesians 3:1-12

This is the reason that I Paul am a prisoner for Christ Jesus for the sake of you Gentiles-- for surely you have already heard of the commission of God's grace that was given me for you, and how the mystery was made known to me by revelation, as I wrote above in a few words, a reading of which will enable you to perceive my understanding of the mystery of Christ. In former generations this mystery was not made known to humankind, as it has now been revealed to his holy apostles and prophets by the Spirit: that is, the Gentiles have become fellow heirs, members of the same body, and sharers in the promise in Christ Jesus through the gospel.

Of this gospel I have become a servant according to the gift of God's grace that was given me by the working of his power. Although I am the very least of all the saints, this grace was given to me to bring to the Gentiles the news of the boundless riches of Christ, and to make everyone see what is the plan of the mystery hidden for ages in God who created all things; so that through the church the wisdom of God in its rich variety might now be made known to the rulers and authorities in the heavenly places. This was in accordance with the eternal purpose that he has carried out in Christ Jesus our Lord, in whom we have access to God in boldness and confidence through faith in him.

Reader The Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

Hymn 126

The people who in darkness walked (1-3, 5)

Dundee

1 The peo - ple who in dark - ness walked have seen a glo - rious light;
2 To hail thy ris - ing, Sun of life, the ga - thering na - tions come,
3 To us the prom-ised Child is born, to us the Son is given;
4 His name shall be the Prince of Peace for ev - er - more a - dored,
5 His power in - creas - ing still shall spread, his reign no end shall know;

1 on them broke forth the heaven - ly dawn who dwelt in death and night.
2 joy - ous as when the reap - ers bear their har - vest trea - sures home.
3 him shall the tribes of earth o - bey, and all the hosts of heaven.
4 the Won - der - ful, the Coun - sel - lor, the might - y God and Lord.
5 jus - tice shall guard his throne a - bove, and peace a - bound be - low.

The Holy Gospel

Matthew 2:1-12

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

In the time of King Herod, after Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judea, wise men from the East came to Jerusalem, asking, "Where is the child who has been born king of the Jews? For we observed his star at its rising, and have come to pay him homage." When King Herod heard this, he was frightened, and all Jerusalem with him; and calling together all the chief priests and scribes of the people, he inquired of them where the Messiah was to be born. They told him, "In Bethlehem of Judea; for so it has been written by the prophet:

 `And you, Bethlehem, in the land of Judah,
 are by no means least among the rulers of Judah;
for from you shall come a ruler
 who is to shepherd my people Israel."

Then Herod secretly called for the wise men and learned from them the exact time when the star had appeared. Then he sent them to Bethlehem, saying, "Go and search diligently for the child; and when you have found him, bring me word so that I may also go and pay him homage." When they had heard the king, they set out; and there, ahead of them, went the star that they had seen at its rising, until it stopped over the place where the child was. When they saw that the star had stopped, they were overwhelmed with joy. On entering the house, they saw the child with Mary his mother; and they knelt down and paid him homage. Then, opening their treasure chests, they offered him gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh. And having been warned in a dream not to return to Herod, they left for their own country by another road.

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

The Sermon

The Rev. Josh Hoover

The Apostles' Creed

BCP, 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 of the People

Almighty and merciful God, we remember before you the poor and neglected persons whom it would be easy for us to forget: the homeless and the destitute, those in prison, and all who have
Because we are promised that God listens to our prayers, let us pray with boldness and confidence for the church, the world, and all people in need.

Silence

Gracious Father, we pray for your church. Fill her with all truth and peace. Where she is corrupt, purify her; where in error, direct her; where in anything amiss, reform her. Where she is right, strengthen her; where in want provide for her; where divided, reunite her; radiant God,
let your light shine upon us.

Almighty God, hear our prayers for this parish family. Strengthen the faithful, arouse the careless, and restore the penitent. Grant us all things necessary for our common life, help our leadership to be trustworthy messengers, and bring us all to be of one heart and mind within your holy church.
Radiant God,

let your light shine upon us.

We pray for Donald our President, Joe, our President-elect, Gretchen, our Governor, and all elected leaders of our country. Keep them ever aware of the oppressed and disenfranchised so they might protect the rights and freedoms of all people, and give them wisdom to bring healing to our divided times. Radiant God,

let your light shine upon us.

We pray for the poor, disabled, vulnerable, and sick, especially Penny; Nev; Natalie; JoAnn; Leslie; Jerin & Micah; Dave; Richard & Sue; Erica; Ronald; Richard; Al, Greg; Matthew; Chuck & Mickie; Bill; Dee; Riley; Catherine & Charlie; Burt; Marko; Kurt; Don; Pete; Rebecca; Joey & Carol; Eric and Julie; Annie; Jarvis; Steve; Bill; Owen; Jodi; Pinkney, Osborne; Kim; Molly; Lindsey & Andy; Rob; Kiera; and Mary, that they may live with the assurance and hope that God has formed them and knows them intimately. Radiant God,

let your light shine upon us.

We give thanks for those who have followed Christ in their own lives, and all who are now at one with God. May their faith and witness inspire us to reach new heights as we reach out in answer to God's call. Radiant God,

let your light shine upon us.

Into your hands, O Lord, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in your mercy, through your Son, the Beloved, Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

The Peace

Presider The peace of the Lord be always with you.
People **And also with you.**

Welcome and Announcements

Offertory

The Offertory is a time when we offer back to God some of what God gives to us. God gives us wheat and grapes and, through our labor, we turn them into bread and wine.

God gives us bodies and minds, and we use these in our life and labor to earn our daily bread. When we give a portion of our income back to God, God blesses it, and returns it to us as services provided by the church, in outreach to those in need, and in lives changed by God's spirit.

Offertory Hymn 530

Spread, O spread, thou mighty word (1-2,5)

Gott sei Dank

Spread, O spread, thou mighty word,
spread the kingdom of the Lord,
that to earth's remotest bound
all may heed the joyful sound;

word of how the Father's will
made the world, and keeps it, still;
how his only Son he gave,
earth from sin and death to save;

Word of life, most pure and strong,
word for which the nations long,
spread abroad, until from night
all the world awakes to light.

The Lord's Prayer

Presider The Lord be with you.
People **And also with you.**
Presider 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.

Concluding Prayers

Collect for Sundays

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.**

Collect for Times of Conflict

O God, you have bound us together in a common life. Help us, in the midst of our struggles for justice and truth, to confront one another without hatred or bitterness, and to work together with mutual forbearance and respect; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

A Prayer for Spiritual Communion

Siblings in Christ, at this time we are rightly separated one from another and unable to gather around the Eucharistic table to break bread and drink wine. And because it is the desire of God's people to participate more fully in the life and ministry of Our Lord Jesus Christ, let us now invite Our Savior more deeply into our hearts by praying a prayer of Spiritual Communion.

In union, O Lord, with your faithful people at every altar of your Church, where the Holy Eucharist has been and will be celebrated, I desire to offer to you praise and thanksgiving. I remember your death, Lord Christ; I proclaim your resurrection; I await your coming in glory. Since I cannot receive you today in the Sacrament of your Body and Blood, I explicitly ask you into my heart. Cleanse and strengthen me with your grace, Lord Jesus, help me see all the ways in which you are still available, and let me never be separated from you. May I live in you, and you in me, in this life and in the life to come. Amen.

General Thanksgiving

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.

The Blessing

Presider The Peace of God, which passes all understanding, keep your hearts and minds in the knowledge and love of God, and of God's son, our Lord Jesus Christ, and the blessing of God Almighty, who comes to us as Father, Son, and Holy Spirit be among you and remain with you always.

People Amen.

Hymn 539

O Zion, haste (1-2)

Tidings

O Zion, haste, thy mission high fulfilling,
to tell to all the world that God is Light;
that he who made all nations is not willing
one soul should fail to know his love and might.

*[Refrain] Publish glad tidings:
tidings of peace,
tidings of Jesus,
redemption and release.*

Proclaim to every people, tongue, and nation
that God, in whom they live and move, is Love:
tell how he stooped to save his lost creation,
and died on earth that all might live above. [Refrain]

The Dismissal

People Thanks be to God.

Postlude

Postlude on a Theme by Orlando Gibbons *Christopher Tambling (1964-2015)*

JOIN US ON ZOOM for VIRTUAL COFFEE HOUR

<https://zoom.us/j/94003915550>

This Week at St. James **January 10th to January 16th**

Sun.	11:00 a.m.	The Bridge and the Beatitudes via Zoom https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86780915634
Mon.	8:00 a.m. 8:00 p.m.	Morning Prayer – St. James Facebook page Compline – https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82061214048
Tue.	8:00 a.m. 8:00 p.m.	Morning Prayer – St. James Facebook page Compline – https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82061214048
Wed.	8:00 a.m. Noon 7:15 p.m. 8:00 p.m.	Morning Prayer – St. James Facebook page Bible Study - https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84940791816 Choir Chat & Rehearsal - https://us04web.zoom.us/j/77926156745 Compline – https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82061214048
Thur.	8:00 a.m. 8:00 p.m.	Morning Prayer – St. James Facebook page Compline – https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82061214048
Fri.	8:00 a.m. 8:00 p.m.	Morning Prayer – St. James Facebook page Compline – https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82061214048

Permission to podcast / stream the music in this service obtained from ONE LICENSE with license #A-702960. All rights reserved.

Psalm 72 setting by Michel Guimont, from *Psalms for the Revised Common Lectionary*, ©1998, 2002 by GIA Publications.

“Postlude on a Theme by Orlando Gibbons,” by Christopher Tambling, © 1993 by Kevin Mayhew Ltd.

St. James Episcopal Church

355 West Maple Road Birmingham MI 48009

Phone 248-644-0820

website: www.stjamesbirmingham.org

email: prayer@stjamesbirmingham.org

Worship Schedule

Sundays 10:00 a.m. on [Facebook](#) and our [Website](#) and via [Zoom](#)

Weekdays Morning Prayer 8:00 a.m. on [Facebook](#)

Weekdays Compline 8:00 p.m. on [Zoom](#)

The Rev. Joshua A. Hoover, Rector

josh@stjamesbirmingham.org