



ST. JAMES

Episcopal
CHURCH

WEEKLY INSERT FOR ST. JAMES

Seventh Sunday after Pentecost – July 27th, 2025

THE COLLECT OF THE DAY

Celebrant: The Lord be with you.

People: **And also with you.**

Celebrant: Let us pray.

O God, the protector of all who trust in you, without whom nothing is strong, nothing is holy: Increase and multiply upon us your mercy; that, with you as our ruler and guide, we may so pass through things temporal, that we lose not the things eternal; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

THE FIRST LESSON

Hosea 1:2-10

When the LORD first spoke through Hosea, the LORD said to Hosea, "Go, take for yourself a wife of whoredom and have children of whoredom, for the land commits great whoredom by forsaking the LORD." So he went and took Gomer daughter of Diblaim, and she conceived and bore him a son.

And the Lord said to him, "Name him Jezreel; for in a little while I will punish the house of Jehu for the blood of Jezreel, and I will put an end to the kingdom of the house of Israel. On that day I will break the bow of Israel in the valley of Jezreel."

She conceived again and bore a daughter. Then the Lord said to him, "Name her Lo-ruhamah, for I will no longer have pity on the house of Israel or forgive them. But I will have pity on the house of Judah, and I will save them by the Lord their God; I will not save them by bow, or by sword, or by war, or by horses, or by horsemen."

When she had weaned Lo-ruhamah, she conceived and bore a son. Then the Lord said, "Name him Lo-ammi, for you are not my people and I am not your God."

Yet the number of the people of Israel shall be like the sand of the sea, which can be neither measured nor numbered; and in the place where it was said to them, "You are not my people," it shall be said to them, "Children of the living God."

Reader: Hear what the spirit is saying to God's people.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

PSALM 85 *Benedixisti, Domine*

- 1 You have been gracious to your land, O LORD, *
you have restored the good fortune of Jacob.
- 2 You have forgiven the iniquity of your people *
and blotted out all their sins.
- 3 You have withdrawn all your fury *
and turned yourself from your wrathful indignation.
- 4 Restore us then, O God our Savior; *
let your anger depart from us.

- 5 Will you be displeased with us for ever? *
will you prolong your anger from age to age?
- 6 Will you not give us life again, *
that your people may rejoice in you?
- 7 Show us your mercy, O LORD, *
and grant us your salvation.
- 8 I will listen to what the LORD God is saying, *
for he is speaking peace to his faithful people
and to those who turn their hearts to him.
- 9 Truly, his salvation is very near to those who fear him, *
that his glory may dwell in our land.
- 10 Mercy and truth have met together; *
righteousness and peace have kissed each other.
- 11 Truth shall spring up from the earth, *
and righteousness shall look down from heaven.
- 12 The LORD will indeed grant prosperity, *
and our land will yield its increase.
- 13 Righteousness shall go before him, *
and peace shall be a pathway for his feet.

THE SECOND LESSON

Colossians 2:6-16

As you have received Christ Jesus the Lord, continue to live your lives in him, rooted and built up in him and established in the faith, just as you were taught, abounding in thanksgiving.

See to it that no one takes you captive through philosophy and empty deceit, according to human tradition, according to the elemental spirits of the universe, and not according to Christ. For in him the whole fullness of deity dwells bodily, and you have come to fullness in him, who is the head of every ruler and authority. In him also you were circumcised with a spiritual circumcision, by putting off the body of the flesh in the circumcision of Christ; when you were buried with him in baptism, you were also raised with him through faith in the power of God, who raised him from the dead. And when you were dead in trespasses and the uncircumcision of your flesh, God made you alive together with him, when he forgave us all our trespasses, erasing the record that stood against us with its legal demands. He set this aside, nailing it to the cross. He disarmed the rulers and authorities and made a public example of them, triumphing over them in it.

Reader: Hear what the spirit is saying to God's people.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

THE GOSPEL

Luke 11:1-13

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

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

Jesus was praying in a certain place, and after he had finished, one of his disciples said to him, "Lord, teach us to pray, as John taught his disciples." He said to them, "When you pray, say:

Father, hallowed be your name.
Your kingdom come.
Give us each day our daily bread.
And forgive us our sins,
for we ourselves forgive everyone indebted to us.
And do not bring us to the time of trial."

And he said to them, "Suppose one of you has a friend, and you go to him at midnight and say to him, 'Friend, lend me three loaves of bread; for a friend of mine has arrived, and I have nothing to set before him.' And he answers from within, 'Do not bother me; the door has already been locked, and my children are with me in bed; I cannot get up and give you anything.' I tell you, even though he will not get up and give him anything because he is his friend, at least because of his persistence he will get up and give him whatever he needs.

"So I say to you, Ask, and it will be given you; search, and you will find; knock, and the door will be opened for you. For everyone who asks receives, and everyone who searches finds, and for everyone who knocks, the door will be opened. Is there anyone among you who, if your child asks for a fish, will give a snake instead of a fish? Or if the child asks for an egg, will give a scorpion? If you then, who are evil, know how to give good gifts to your children, how much more will the heavenly Father give the Holy Spirit to those who ask him!"

Celebrant: The Gospel of the Lord.
People: Praise to you, Lord Christ.

SERMON

The Rev. Rowan J. Larson

THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Hear Our Prayer

God of mercy whose care and compassion for us is beyond imagining. Hear us as you heard Abraham and answer our prayers as may be best for us and always to your glory as we say, **Lord in your mercy, hear our prayer.**

Guide your church that it might be a bold and fearless champion of the dignity of all people and place of welcome and respite for the weary, the oppressed, and the marginalized.

Lord in your mercy, hear our prayer.

Open the eyes and hearts of all in authority. Grant them wisdom and compassion in the exercise of their responsibilities that they might always pursue the path of the greatest good.

Lord in your mercy, hear our prayer.

Allow us to see the good in our neighbors that we might be forceful advocates for human thriving in all the places we call home.

Lord in your mercy, hear our prayer.

Remind us of our call to be the caretakers of creation and embolden us to demand urgent action to ensure environmental sustainability.

Lord in your mercy, hear our prayer.

Bring your healing presence into the lives of all who suffer from any distress.

Lord in your mercy, hear our prayer.

Hold the dead in your loving care and grant us also to enter into your eternal love on the day of our death.

Lord in your mercy, hear our prayer.

Celebrant: Creating and sustaining Lord, you know the longing of our hearts before we ask. Look upon us with compassion and lead us ever deeper into relationship with your so that we might more fully be the people you created us to be. All these we ask in the name of our Lord and savior, Jesus Christ. **Amen.**

OFFERTORY

"HYMN TO JOY"

Setting by Albert L. Travis

COMMUNION HYMN 2

"Just as I am"

VF 84

1 Just as I am, with - out one plea,
 2 Just as I am, though tossed a - bout
 3 Just as I am, poor, wretch - ed, blind;
 4 Just as I am: thou wilt re - ceive;
 5 Just as I am, thy love un - known
 6 Just as I am, of thy great love

but that thy blood was shed for me,
 with man - y a con - flict, man - y a doubt;
 sight, rich - es, heal - ing, of the mind,
 wilt wel - come, par - don, cleanse, re - lieve,
 has bro - ken ev - ery bar - rier to down;
 the breadth, length, depth, and height to prove,

and that thou bidd'st me come to thee,
 fight - ings and fears with - in, with - out,
 yea, all I need, in thee to find,
 be - cause thy prom - ise I be - lieve,
 now to be thine, yea, thine a - lone,
 here for a sea - son, then a - bove:

O Lamb of God, I come, I come.

WOODWORTH

THOSE IN SERVICE

Acolyte:	Ty Sherwood
Readers:	Alison Counts, Vicki Van Rensselaer
Eucharistic Minister:	
Ushers:	Vicki Van Renssalaer, Cathy Oster
Videographer:	Keith Nathan
Altar Guild:	Pat Dunn, Dale Bray
Counters:	Jessica Wilson, Frances Moore