

# *Sixth Sunday after Epiphany*



Sacrament of Holy Communion  
Sunday, February 16, 2025  
8:15 a.m.

Blessings and curses abound on the sixth Sunday after Epiphany. We would do well to listen closely to whom the “blessed are” and the “woe tos” are directed and to find our place in the crowd among those who desire to touch Jesus. The risen Christ stands among us in the mystery of the holy supper with an invitation to live in him, and offers power to heal us all.

*St. James Lutheran Church*

109 York Street, Gettysburg, PA  
[www.StJamesGettysburg.org](http://www.StJamesGettysburg.org)

## Welcome to St. James. Here are some tips for worshipping with us.

Large print bulletins and hearing-assist devices can be found on the welcome table in the main hall. Please stand as you are able for parts of the service noted with an asterisk (\*). Thank you for silencing your electronic devices.

In this bulletin, ELW# refers to hymns in the back half of *Evangelical Lutheran Worship* (cranberry color). ACS# refers to hymns in the back half of *All Creation Sings* (purple color). Both books are found in the chair rack in front of you. Other symbols used throughout this bulletin:

**P** Presider    **C** Congregation    **A** Assisting Minister    **L** Lay Reader

The 8:15 worship service will be livestreamed to our YouTube Channel and made available for public viewing. Please note that you may be recorded during worship. You can visit our YouTube Channel at [StJamesGettysburg.org/YouTube](http://StJamesGettysburg.org/YouTube). If you have any questions or concerns, please speak with a member of the staff.

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## Gathering

*The Holy Spirit calls us together as the people of God*

### WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

#### \*CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

**P** Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God, our creator, our protector, our wellspring of life.

**C** Amen.

**P** Trusting that God receives our words and the meditations of our hearts, let us confess our sin.  
*Silence is kept for reflection.*

**P** Merciful God,

**C** **you speak blessing and compassion into the world. Forgive us for the ways we act with judgment, cruelty, or indifference. We ignore the needs of our neighbors; we resist your call to oppose injustice; we give in to scarcity and fear; we assume the worst about one another. Cleanse us from our faults and release us from their grasp. Show us your lovingkindness. Restore our hearts and repair your world, that we may live in Christ's ways. Amen.**

**P** God proclaims these words of assurance: "Do not fear, for I have redeemed you. I have called you by name. You are mine." In † Christ, you are forgiven. In the Spirit, you are made free. Refreshed by the waters of mercy, live anew as beloved children of God.

**C** Amen.

\*GATHERING HYMN: *Jesus Shall Reign*

ELW 434

#### \*PASTORAL GREETING

**P** The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

**C** **And also with you.**

\*PRAYER OF THE DAY

- L** *Let us pray:* Living God, in Christ you make all things new. Transform the poverty of our nature by the riches of your grace, and in the renewal of our lives make known your glory, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.
- C** **Amen.**

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*Word*

*God speaks to us in scripture reading, preaching, and song*

FIRST READING: Jeremiah 17:5-10

<sup>5</sup> Thus says the Lord:

Cursed are those who trust in mere mortals  
and make mere flesh their strength,  
whose hearts turn away from the Lord.

<sup>6</sup> They shall be like a shrub in the desert,  
and shall not see when relief comes.

They shall live in the parched places of the wilderness,  
in an uninhabited salt land.

<sup>7</sup> Blessed are those who trust in the Lord,  
whose trust is the Lord.

<sup>8</sup> They shall be like a tree planted by water,  
sending out its roots by the stream.

It shall not fear when heat comes,  
and its leaves shall stay green;  
in the year of drought it is not anxious,  
and it does not cease to bear fruit.

<sup>9</sup> The heart is devious above all else;  
it is perverse—  
who can understand it?

<sup>10</sup> I the Lord test the mind  
and search the heart,  
to give to all according to their ways,  
according to the fruit of their doings.

**L** The word of the Lord.

**C** **Thanks be to God.**

1 How blest are they who venture not  
Into the dark and sinful way,  
But find delight in God's own law,  
And contemplate it night and day.

2 As trees beside the stream they grow  
And flourish, wholesome fruit they bear;  
The wicked lot are cast aside  
And lost to their own dark despair.

3 The judgment of the Lord is sure  
And good to those who seek God's face;  
The righteous find themselves redeemed,  
And heirs to God's all-knowing grace.

SECOND READING: 1 Corinthians 15:12-20

<sup>12</sup> Now if Christ is proclaimed as raised from the dead, how can some of you say there is no resurrection of the dead? <sup>13</sup> If there is no resurrection of the dead, then Christ has not been raised; <sup>14</sup> and if Christ has not been raised, then our proclamation has been in vain and your faith has been in vain. <sup>15</sup> We are even found to be misrepresenting God, because we testified of God that he raised Christ—whom he did not raise if it is true that the dead are not raised. <sup>16</sup> For if the dead are not raised, then Christ has not been raised. <sup>17</sup> If Christ has not been raised, your faith is futile and you are still in your sins. <sup>18</sup> Then those also who have died in Christ have perished. <sup>19</sup> If for this life only we have hoped in Christ, we are of all people most to be pitied.

<sup>20</sup> But in fact Christ has been raised from the dead, the first fruits of those who have died.

**L** The word of the Lord.

**C** Thanks be to God.

\*GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



Al - le-lu - ia! Lord and Sav - ior: o - pen now your sav - ing word.



Let it burn like fire with - in us; speak un - til our hearts are stirred.



Al - le - lu - ia! Lord, we sing for the good news that you bring.

HOLY GOSPEL: Luke 6:17-26

**P** The Holy Gospel according to Luke.

**C** **Glory to you, O Lord.**

<sup>17</sup> [Jesus] came down with [the twelve] and stood on a level place, with a great crowd of his disciples and a great multitude of people from all Judea, Jerusalem, and the coast of Tyre and Sidon.<sup>18</sup> They had come to hear him and to be healed of their diseases; and those who were troubled with unclean spirits were cured. <sup>19</sup> And all in the crowd were trying to touch him, for power came out from him and healed all of them.

<sup>20</sup> Then he looked up at his disciples and said:

“Blessed are you who are poor,  
for yours is the kingdom of God.

<sup>21</sup> “Blessed are you who are hungry now,  
for you will be filled.

“Blessed are you who weep now,  
for you will laugh.

<sup>22</sup> “Blessed are you when people hate you, and when they exclude you, revile you, and defame you on account of the Son of Man. <sup>23</sup> Rejoice in that day and leap for joy, for surely your reward is great in heaven; for that is what their ancestors did to the prophets.

<sup>24</sup> “But woe to you who are rich,  
for you have received your consolation.

<sup>25</sup> “Woe to you who are full now,  
for you will be hungry.

“Woe to you who are laughing now,  
for you will mourn and weep.

<sup>26</sup> “Woe to you when all speak well of you, for that is what their ancestors did to the false prophets.”

**P** The Gospel of the Lord.

**C** **Praise to you, O Christ.**

SERMON, FOLLOWED BY SILENCE FOR REFLECTION

\*HYMN OF THE DAY: *O God, My Faithful God*

ELW 806

\*RECEPTION OF NEW MEMBERS

\*APOSTLES' CREED

**C** **I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.**

**I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, 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, he is seated at the right hand of the Father, and he will come 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.**

\*PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

Petitions conclude: "God of grace," Our response: "**hear our prayer.**"

\*SHARING GOD'S PEACE

**P** The peace of Christ be with you always.

**C** **And also with you.**

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*Meal*

*God feeds us with the presence of Jesus Christ*

TITHES AND OFFERINGS

MUSICAL OFFERING: *Give Me Jesus*

setting, Rachel Trelstad Porter

\*OFFERTORY

*This Joy*

**This little light of mine, I'm goin'-a let it shine;**

**This little light of mine, I'm goin'-a let it shine;**

**This little light of mine, I'm goin'-a let it shine,**

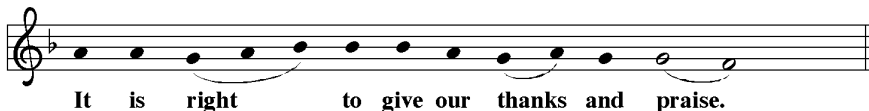
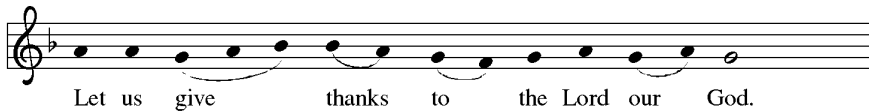
**Let it shine, let it shine, let it shine.**

\*OFFERING PRAYER

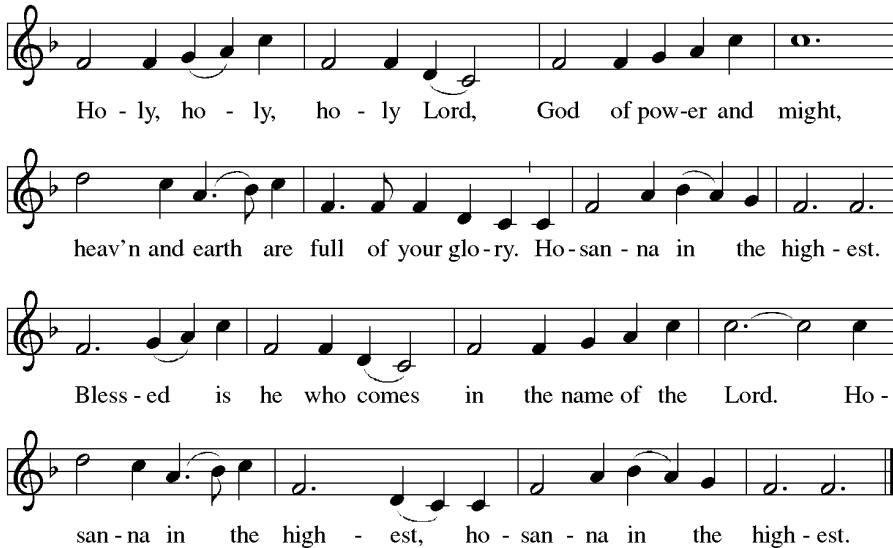
**A** Let us pray.

**C** **God of grace, your love reaches to the heavens, and your abundance to the depths of the seas. Bless what we offer to your service: our gifts, our abilities, and our hearts. Let us overflow with gratitude and generosity, now and always. Amen.**

\*GREAT THANKSGIVING



*It is indeed right, our duty, and our joy ... we praise your name and join their unending hymn:*



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow-er and might,  
heav'n and earth are full of your glo-ry. Ho-san - na in the high - est.  
Bless - ed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Ho -  
san - na in the high - est, ho - san - na in the high - est.

\* EUCHARISTIC PRAYER

\* LORD'S PRAYER

**Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us. Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours, now and forever. Amen.**

\* INVITATION

**P** The joy of the Lord is our strength. Come, eat this meal of gladness.

**C** **Thanks be to God.**

DISTRIBUTION OF ELEMENTS

*All are welcome at Christ's table. Come one, come all, the feast is spread! An usher will give you a cup and guide you toward the platform. During the continuous flow, please fill in spaces starting at the front of the platform completing the circle. We offer a chalice with grape juice first, followed by a chalice of wine. Please indicate your preference by extending your glass at the appropriate time. Rice crackers are available for those with gluten allergies. If you are unable to come forward, please alert an usher and you will receive the sacrament while seated.*

COMMUNION MEDITATION: *There Is a Balm in Gilead*

setting, Pam Gervais

\* TABLE BLESSING AND PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

**A** *Let us pray:* Nourishing God, at this table you have refreshed us with holy gifts of food and drink. Strengthen us for service, and send us out to embody your good news of liberation and healing for the sake of the world. In the name of Christ we pray,

**C** **Amen.**

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## Sending

God blesses us in mission to the world

\*BLESSING

**P** The Spirit of the triune God ☩ bless you with joy, anoint you with compassion, and send you in love.

**C** Amen.

\*SENDING HYMN: *Let Justice Flow Like Streams*

ELW 717

\*DISMISSAL

**A** Go in peace. Live in hope.

**C** Thanks be to God.

\*POSTLUDE: *Jesus Shall Reign*

setting, Robert A. Hobby

**ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS:** Portions of the liturgy are from Evangelical Lutheran Worship © 2006 Augsburg Fortress. Psalm from The Psalter for Christian Worship © 2010 Michael Morgan. Used by permission of Westminster John Knox Press. Print and streaming permissions granted by Augsburg Fortress License #SAS024997, CCLI License #2678434, and OneLicense.net #A-707473.

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## Lift Up in Prayer

Sandy Alleman	Richard Henry	Jeff Snyder	Marilyn
Taylor Balderas	Deb Litten	Irelyn Sprenkle	Mike
Helen Bardell	Chelli McGlaughlin	John Steinberger	Mike
Katee Brown	Jen Mickelson	Michelle Steinberger	Miriam
Rena Collins	Stephen Ordemann	Cheryl Weaver	Ramona
Andy Crouse	Jim Roach	Avery	Sean
Shawn Dooley	Barbara Sanders	Beverly	Tiffany
Joanne Fisher	William Scott IV	Bill	Wayne
Tim Fleming	Lisa Sheads	Dennis	Will
Caleb Freeman	Lisa Sites	Diane	
Erin Freeman	Lou Shuba	Hilda	
Hazel and Frank	Deborah Smith	Jane	
George	Nick Smeal	Lisa	

We rejoice and give thanks for our newest members, who are joining at today's worship services, and for all St. James' members who guide them. Welcome our new members and continue to lead them in your light.



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*Flowers are given to the Glory of God and*

In loving memory of Robert Shuba, brother of Lou Shuba, by Lou and Priscilla Shuba

In loving memory of Rev. Marty Young, by his family.

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*Announcements*

**Sunday School is offered between church services. We have the following classes available.**

Adult Discussion Group - Religion and Outreach (Library)

Exploring Faith- Theology and Social Issues (Room 300)

The Seekers - Bible Study (Room 204)

Movers and Shapers- Young Adult Fellowship (Room 301)

Faith and Fellowship- Coffee and Discussion (Room 309)

Pre-School-5th Grade Sunday School- (Room 305)

Confirmation (Grades 6-8) – Youth House

Ask an usher if you are unsure about which class is right for you.

**Bible Study with Pastor Andrew** – Bible Study continues Thursday mornings at 10 am in the Gathering area. We are studying Genesis.

**Winter Book Study with Pastor Libby** – Join us on Mondays at 3pm in the Gathering Area. We are studying “The Lion, The Witch & The Wardrobe” by C.S. Lewis.

**Youth Group Schedule Change** – There will be no youth group on 2/23. Instead, join us for family bowling on 2/23 (keep reading for more details).

**Valentine Concert** – Enjoy a free community concert at St. James today at 4 p.m. Enjoy performances from various St. James’ musicians and support the Gettysburg Community Soup Kitchen and Voices Unite in GAC, through a free will offering.

**Family Bowling (for all ages)** - Sunday, February 23, 4:00 - 6:00 p.m. at Rockwell Lanes on Biglerville Road. Please RSVP if you plan to attend so we can reserve lanes. RSVP and find more details at [stjamesgettysburg.org/event/family-bowling-night/](http://stjamesgettysburg.org/event/family-bowling-night/)

**Church Van Committee** – We are looking for a few more committed members to serve on this committee. If interested in serving, please contact Alan Haynes at [cardreamer88@comcast.net](mailto:cardreamer88@comcast.net) or 717-778-8102

**Common Ground Recovery Ministry** – Our next service is Monday March 3 @ 6:30 pm and services continue the 1st Monday of each month. All are welcome !

**Meal Train** - Are you able to provide a meal for other church members in a time of need? MealTrain.org will be used to organize and schedule meal deliveries. If you can help, contact Joe MacDowell at 717-253-3903 or joekaym65@gmail.com to be added to the list of volunteers.



**Giving to St. James** - Your financial gift allows St. James to do great things! Our mission is to live & love like Jesus. We serve and support our community – both locally & globally. Your gift and support make a difference in our community & world. Thank you! Scan the QR code or visit [StJamesGettysburg.org/give](http://StJamesGettysburg.org/give).

**Gettysburg C.A.R.E.S.** - The C.A.R.E.S. program is at capacity (30 guests). Donations to support breakfasts would be greatly appreciated. The bolded items are most in need: **Fruit Juices (shelf stable)**, Ground Coffee, **Paper Towels**, Large White Kitchen Trash Bags, Dawn Liquid Dish Soap. These items can be dropped off at the church office. Thanks for your support!



**Sign-up for our weekly eBlast to always know what's happening at St. James!**

**Fastnachts** – It's hard to believe but fastnacht time is right around the corner (March 1-4)!!! Are you able to volunteer with the preparation or do you want to order fastnachts? Sign up to help or order here: [stjamesgettysburg.org/event/fastnachts-2025/](http://stjamesgettysburg.org/event/fastnachts-2025/)

**Easter Flowers** – Lillies and Tulips will be available for \$12.50 each and will decorate the worship space for Easter. You can also honor or memorialize someone by making a donation for ELCA's World Hunger. Orders are due by **Wednesday, March 19**. You can order using the QR code.



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## *Serving in Worship*

### **Preacher**

Pastor Libby Baker-Mikesell

### **Presider**

Pastor Andrew R. Geib

### **Minister of Music**

Jonathan Noel

### **8:15 am Worship Service**

#### **Assisting Minister**

Sam Main

#### **Acolyte**

Anden Dutrow

#### **Bell Ringer**

Aiden Dutrow

#### **Prayer of the Day**

Aiden Dutrow

#### **Lay Readers**

Jud Seilhamer

Kathy Felix

#### **Communion Assistants**

Dee Wells, Michael Guise

Kim Guise, Kathy Smith

#### **Ushers**

Ron Sollenberger, Eric Smith

Alan Haynes, Brad Smith

#### **Greeters**

Kathy Felix

Shirley Sanders

#### **Bread Baker**

Shirley Sanders

#### **Sacristy**

Debby Luquette

Cathy Haynes

#### **AV Operator**

Denise Wood



**We are Christ's people, and this is Christ's house with its doors wide open.  
If you are passing through, Godspeed.  
If you are looking for a worship home, stay with us.  
We invite guests to join us, but most of all, to return often.**

Welcome to long-time Lutherans, Christians from every tradition, and people new to faith.

Welcome to all who have no church home, want to follow Christ, have doubts, or do not believe.

Welcome to new visitors and old friends.

Welcome to people of every age and size, color and culture, every sexual orientation, gender identity and expression, socio-economic status, marital status, ability, and challenge.

Welcome to believers and questioners, and to questioning believers.

This is a place where you are welcome to  
celebrate and sorrow, rejoice, and recover.

This is a place where lives are made new.

Come and listen for the Holy Spirit calling you

to love your neighbor wholeheartedly,

seek justice, create peace,

and practice compassion.

As members of the body of Christ, we are called to be ministers of reconciliation both in the church and in the world. Through our baptism we are reconciled to God through the saving grace of Christ Jesus and challenged by the Gospel to be agents of healing and love within our church and society. As a community of faith, we proclaim this statement of welcome.