



ST. JAMES' CHURCH

Invitations & Information

March 19, 2017

Dear friends,



“What would happen if one woman told the truth about her life? The world would split open...”

—Muriel Rukeyser

Urbanites savor silence, a rare commodity in bustling cities. A sleepy café, an early morning stroll, an unoccupied park bench—relishing quietude, until someone interjects. If the Samaritan woman (in John 4) feels perturbed with Jesus for interrupting her solitude, drawing water at midday, her demure if surprised reply masks any trace of hostility.

Thirsty Jesus wants water. As Son of God, he longs for something even more fundamental: her liberation. He sees her—spiritually attuned, descendent of Joseph, blessed with her forebear’s skill for stewarding precious resources, a complicated woman who is not just well-suited but indeed the perfect vessel to share the living water that Jesus offers. But Samaritan, woman, unmarried—she seems to have struck out, bucket or no. Only Jesus possesses the power to restore her voice.

And so he does. Defying taboos, upending xenophobic histories that paint her faith idolatrous and dangerous, breaking silences so that she can claim her true identity—God’s beloved child and faithful worshipper—and live into her destiny, as an impassioned witness (the first female in John’s gospel narrative) to God’s transforming love in Jesus Christ. This woman becomes a spring of refreshment, beckoning many others in Sychar to their own saving encounters with Jesus.

Lent invites us to explore the truth of our lives, including silences ready for transformation. How do we long to be liberated? Flowing through our lives, what would Jesus’ love say to a thirsty world? Will we risk seeking, and then sharing, that wellspring of living water?

Prayerful in the yearning,
The Rev. Sarah C. Stewart

Today at St. James’

Fellowship

- After the 8:00 a.m. service, coffee in Sunderland Hall
- After the 9:10 a.m. service, coffee in Coburn Hall
- After the 11:15 a.m. service, coffee in Sunderland Hall

Church School & Youth Group **10:15 a.m.**

Is your family new to St. James’? Stop by the First Time Families podium in the Narthex or Parish House to learn more about formation opportunities for children and youth of all ages.

The Forum **10:30 a.m., Coburn Hall**

Suffering is a part of the human condition that none of us completely escapes, and it is a “Mark” of God’s love operating in our lives when we respond to human need by loving service. The third Mark of Love asks us to see how God is already working in the lives of those in need, and then discover how we can be channels of that mission in the world. The Rev. Ryan Fleenor will lead our discussion.

The Essential Bible **10:30 a.m., St. George Room**

A weekly Bible study led by Sue Bennett, Deborah Roberts, and the Rev. Brenda Husson exploring the most essential and foundational stories of our faith and how they intersect with our day-to-day lives. **Today:** “The Sermon on the Mount & The Transfiguration” (Matthew 5, Mark 15, John 19:16-30)

» **START HERE** TO BEGIN YOUR LIFE IN CHRIST

Welcome to St. James’

- **Pick up a “Start Here” brochure and return the welcome card to provide or update your address.**
- **Introduce yourself to any of the clergy.**

• First Steps

Meet next to the bell at the back corner of the church after the 9:10, 11:15 a.m., and 6:00 p.m. services for an informal conversation with a member of the clergy about what led you to St. James’ and where you might be called to go in your spiritual life.



About today's celebration

The story of the Samaritan woman is one of the classic biblical passages for those preparing for baptism at Easter. As the woman was gradually enlightened about Jesus and about her relationship to God, so the candidates are growing in their relationship with God during Lent.

In the first reading, we move to the account of Moses and Israel in the Exodus from Egypt. On the occasion we read about today, God provides water for the people in the desert. This is an image of God's loving care for all people in the spiritual dryness of this world.

The second reading is about the new life we have in God through Christ. Jesus gave up his life for us, in order that we might be put right with God. In his death and resurrection, the estrangement between

God and humanity is being repaired. We, in baptism, have been reconciled with God.

As people in the desert thirst for water, so Christians find in their Lenten living the thirst for life that only God can quench. All of us, both the baptized and those preparing for baptism, are, like the Samaritan woman, being enlightened and filled with the grace of the living water that comes from our Savior.

From The Rite Light: Reflections on the Sunday Readings and Seasons of the Church Year. © 2009 by Michael W. Merriman.

Bible Memorization Challenge— Week of March 19

Seek the Lord while he may be found; call upon him while he is near.
— Isaiah 55:6

This Week { March 20 - 25 }

* **Special this week** Learn more at stjames.org/calendar

Monday, March 20

Morning Prayer	8:00 - 8:20 a.m.
Caregivers Playgroup (0-36 months)	10:30 - 12:00 p.m.
Evening Prayer in Lent	6:00 - 6:30 p.m.
Centering Prayer	6:30 - 7:00 p.m.
Overnight Shelter ministry	

Tuesday, March 21

Morning Prayer	8:00 - 8:20 a.m.
Tuesday Lunch Program	9:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.
Playgroup (3-5 year olds)	3:30 - 4:45 p.m.
Cherub Choir rehearsal	3:45 - 4:15 p.m.
Canterbury Choir rehearsal	6:30 - 8:00 p.m.
Overnight Shelter ministry	

Wednesday, March 22

Holy Eucharist	8:00 - 8:30 a.m.
Bible Study	8:30 - 9:30 a.m.
Playgroup (0-12 months)	10:30 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.
Centering Prayer	12:00 - 12:30 p.m.
Overnight Shelter ministry	

Thursday, March 23

Morning Prayer	8:00 - 8:20 a.m.
Playgroup (12-24 months)	10:30 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.
We Love to Sing & Bible Legos	4:00 - 4:45 p.m.
Primary Choir rehearsal	4:00 - 4:30 p.m.
Thursdays for Families	4:45 - 6:00 p.m.
Education for Ministry	6:30 - 9:00 p.m.
The Catechumenate	6:30 - 8:30 p.m.
Overnight Shelter ministry	

Friday, March 24

Men's Small Group	7:00 - 8:00 a.m.
Morning Prayer	8:00 - 8:20 a.m.
Playgroup (24-36 months)	10:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.
Centering Prayer	12:00 - 12:30 p.m.
Friday Dinner Program	5:00 - 9:00 p.m.
Overnight Shelter ministry	

Next Sunday { March 26 }

The Fourth Sunday in Lent

1 Samuel 16:1-13, Psalm 23, Ephesians 5:8-14, John 9:1-41

8:00 a.m. Holy Eucharist *intimate, meditative*
Homily by the Rev. Brenda Husson, Rector.

9:10 a.m. Holy Eucharist *intergenerational, festive*
Sermon by the Rev. Ryan Fleenor, Associate Rector. The Canterbury Choir offers anthems by Alice Parker and David Evans.

11:15 a.m. Choral Eucharist *reverent, timeless, traditional*
Sermon by the Rev. Brenda Husson. The Compostela Choir offers Dean Meyers's *Husson Missa Brevis* and anthems by Thomas Tallis and Craig Phillips.

6:00 p.m. Candlelight Communion *contemplative, centering*
Homily by the Rev. Sarah Stewart. Music for piano and flute.

The Forum

10:30 a.m., Coburn Hall

Associate for Mission Susana Ferrer explores how the prophetic witness of Jesus calls us to recognize and fight for human unity. Jesus came to tear down the walls that divide us. How can we continue this mission, challenging unjust structures, working for peace and reconciliation?

The Essential Bible

10:30 a.m., St. George Room

A weekly Bible study led by Sue Bennett, Deborah Roberts, and the Rev. Brenda Husson exploring the most essential and foundational stories of our faith and how they intersect with our day-to-day lives. **Up next:** "Loaves and Fishes & Living Water" (Mark 8:1-10, John 6:1-14, 4:1-30)

Visiting preacher from Spain

Sunday, April 2 | 11:15 a.m. Choral Eucharist

We are very pleased to welcome the Rt. Rev. Carlos López-Lozano, Bishop of the Reformed Episcopal Church of Spain, as our guest preacher at the 11:15 a.m. Choral Eucharist on April 2. Bishop Carlos and his wife Anna are longtime friends of St. James' (Brenda got to know them well during her sabbatical many years ago in Spain), and the church in Spain is an important part of the worldwide Anglican Communion. Please join us in welcoming our visitors in early April.

News & Notes

The 20-1-7 Challenge and “5 Marks of Love”

Looking for ways to go deeper in your faith this Lent? Take the 20-1-7 challenge! Spend 20 minutes in prayer or Bible study each day, 1 hour in worship each week, and 7 hours in service to others. Join Episcopalians around the country in “The 5 Marks of Love,” a series of daily email reflections from the Society of Saint John the Evangelist. Visit stjames.org/lent to sign up and to learn more about the season.

Monday Evening Prayer in Lent Mondays, 6:00 p.m.

Every Monday, parishioners meet in the baptistry for Centering Prayer at 6:30 p.m. This season, we invite you to come early (or only) for Evening Prayer at 6:00 p.m.

Parenting Forum Sun. April 2, 10:30 a.m.

Prayer is essential to our lives of faith, yet many of us struggle with the sense that we don't do it well enough. The Rev. Ryan Fleenor will help us explore simple and effective ways to pray together as a family in every season of our lives.

Looking ahead: Palm Sunday begins in the Park April 9

Our 9:10 a.m. congregation will begin their Palm Sunday worship at the 72nd Street entrance to Central Park. We will process to the church with palms and song, singing “All Glory, Laud, and Honor”! For our full schedule of Holy Week services, visit stjames.org/lent.

Career Day volunteers needed Apr. 11, 4:00-6:00 p.m.

Do you love what you do? Inspire and inform young adults at the Osborne Association's Career Day next month. Contact Susana Ferrer by March 23 to learn more or sign on.

Icon Writing Retreat: sign up now June 9-11

Religious icons have for centuries been used in prayer by Christians. Christine Hales returns to lead a weekend workshop in praying with and creating icons. Contact Grace Beacham to reserve your space.

Search updates

The search committee for our new Associate Rector continues its work interviewing candidates from around the nation. And as announced in February, we look forward to welcoming our new Rockwell Fellow, the Rev. Eva Suarez, in July!

Living as citizens of the kingdom of heaven

In Lent, we are especially aware of the tension between how we wish to live as citizens of God's kingdom—and how we fail to fulfill that calling. Still, we are promised in this season that we can never stray too far from the God who offers us new life and joyful resurrection. What percentage of your income is God calling you to set apart for God's purposes? It's not too late to make a commitment for 2017! Visit stjames.org/2017commitment to do so today.

Pastoral Notes & Prayer Requests

Holding one another's joys sorrows and concerns before God in prayer is a spiritual practice that characterizes our life together at St. James'. In our worship services we pray each other's prayers together. Outside of our time together many parishioners make it part of their daily lives to pray the prayers of the parish community. You are invited to participate in your own way.

Thanks be to God

- For this weekend's Lenten Retreat at Holy Cross Monastery, led by Lay Associate Matthew Leaycraft, and for the members of the parish attending.
- For the Family Friday Purim party on March 10, and everyone who dressed up to tell the story of Esther, made Hamantaschen to share with our Dinner Program guests, or donated items for the “blessing bags.”
- for the generosity of parishioners who have already made pledges for 2017, including nearly 300 households; and of all whose faithful financial stewardship contributed to 2016's annual giving exceeding all budgetary goals and previous records.

Your prayers are requested

- for the observance of a holy Lent at St. James', that in self-examination and repentance, we may receive the message of pardon and absolution set for in the Gospel, and celebrate with joy the Easter feast.
- for the members of the 2017 Catechumenate at St. James', especially those preparing for baptism, confirmation or reception this Easter.
- for wisdom and prayerful discernment in the search for our next Associate Rector, especially for those serving on the search committee and those who have applied, as well as for the Rev. Will Peyton as he begins his new ministry in Charlottesville, Virginia.
- for members and friends of the parish who are sick, sorrowful, or in any kind of trouble: Donald, Henry, David, Susan, Terry & Mary Jane, Mary Cary, Mal, Elona, Carol, Lydia, Cynthia, Pam, Caroline & Michael, Walterene, Sue, Bob, James Edward, Joan, Lois, Carmela, Brian, Alice, Sara, Michael, Jen & Ulrik, Norman, Janet, Eula Mae, Carol, Kathy, Jane, Lilly, Richard, Laura, Sallie, Ann & Ben, Bob, Nick, Chris, Georgia, Alain & Stafford, Amanda, Jonathan, Koula, Sara, Blanche, Victor, George, Carolyn & David, Roy, Kari & Zoe, Casper, Valli, Seth, Jeanette, Iris, Sophie, Sue, Asher, Mady, Celeste, Kate, Marielle, Jackie, Maria & her parents, Madison & Bryce, Lisa, Frank, Otto, Lisa, Carmen, Manny, Milton, Alice Mary, Maurice, William, Andy & Sabra, Izabel, Rick, Doug, Barbara, Richard, Peter & Dianne, Lewie's family, Ben & Juergen, Chuck, Lynn, Kell, Josie, Jackie, Birgit & Kevin, Kunle, Peter,

Bill, John, Joanne, Prune, Lee McGee, Gingi, Emi, Nathan & Nicholas, the Kirkpatrick family, Martha, David, Tom, Becky, Martha, Meredith, Maggie & Steve, Theo, Allison, Hayden, Lee, Douglas, Elai, Vicky, Amy, Patricia, Ramon, Pelham, Anthony, Nancy, Lenore & Rutger, Zoey, Pat, Geraldine, Bruce, Mary Beth, Kate, Shari, Paige, Jacqueline, Charles, Evan, Francesca, Amalie, Allegra, Nadine, Isabelle & Viviane, Tracey, Mimi, Hermie, Meshida & her children, Stephan, Kevin, Paul, Greg, Jeannette, Betsy, Bob, Walter, Sarah's dad, Emanuel, Edward, Rodney, Nancy, LeRoy, André, Russell, Bill & Gail, Daphne, Nicole, Alfred, Susanna, Agnes, Manidipa, Hays, Dominick, Mary Frances, Louis, Dorothy, Sam, Grace, Linda, Mary Ann, Frank, Artemis, Len, Julia, Kate, Aris, Jo Ann, and Gregory.

- for St. Mary's Church (Manhattanville), according to the Diocesan cycle of prayer.
- for the Diocese of Mbale in Uganda, its ministries and people, and their Bishop, the Rt. Rev. Patrick Gidudu, according to the Anglican cycle of prayer.
- for the United States of America, for wisdom and grace for elected and appointed leaders in the exercise of their duties, that by faithful administration and wise laws, the rights and dignity of all may be protected, and our nation be a blessing to other nations of the earth.
- for justice and peace in this city and nation; for those who serve the common good in law enforcement and the courts; and for the victims of racism, injustice, and police brutality.
- for all who are persecuted for their faith, including Christians in the Middle East; for all refugees and all who welcome and serve those in need.
- for members and friends of the parish serving in the Armed Forces, in the Diplomatic Corps, and with the U.N.: Tracy, Christian, Mads, Michael, Mark.

We commend to God's never-failing care

- victims of war and violence throughout the world, including all victims of terrorism, and migrants and refugees who have died fleeing danger.
- all whom we love but see no more, including Christopher Gray (for whom a memorial service was held on Friday) and Rosalind Havemeyer.

To have your prayer requests printed in this space, or to provide an update regarding someone for whom you have already requested prayer, please e-mail the clergy at pastoralcare@stjames.org, visit stjames.org/prayer.



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 Jennifer Charrington
 Katharine Fleming
 Nancy Murray
 Holly Heston Rochell

Marcy Sendax
 Gordon Smith
 Lisa Smith
 Waddell Stillman
 Anne Strassner

George Wade
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The Rev. Craig Townsend
Dir. Rockwell Center for Clergy Development



The Rev. Carol Anderson
Non-stipendiary Priest Associate



Jean-Claude Pelissier
Verger Emeritus

Worship

SUNDAYS

8:00 a.m. · Chapel Eucharist
 9:10 a.m. · Holy Eucharist
 11:15 a.m. · Choral Eucharist
 6:00 p.m. · Candlelight Communion

WEEKDAYS

M, T, Th, F 8:00 a.m. · Morning Prayer
 Wed. 8:00 a.m. · Holy Eucharist
 Thu. 4:45 p.m. · Worship for Families

CENTERING PRAYER

Mon. 6:30 p.m.
 Wed. 12:00 p.m.
 Fri. 12:00 p.m.

Open for prayer and meditation
Sunday, 7:00 a.m. - 7:00 p.m.
Tue. - Fri, 8:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.

Visit Us

PARISH HOUSE HOURS

Mon. - Fri. · 9:00 - 9:00 p.m.
 Wednesdays · 9:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.

ST. JAMES' CHURCH

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To reach any of us during the week,
 or in case of pastoral emergency at
 any time, call 212-774-4200.

STJAMES.ORG

*St. James' Church is a
 community that actively
 shares the love of Jesus
 Christ with each other,
 our city and the world.*



ST. JAMES' IS AN EPISCOPAL CHURCH,
 A MEMBER OF THE WORLDWIDE
 ANGLICAN COMMUNION.