Dear friends,

Salt and light. Those are the images Jesus uses in our gospel text this week, to tell his listeners (and us!) that “you are the salt of the earth...you are the light of the world.”

Salt and light feel like simple things, ones we might have in abundance, a way for Jesus to use the everyday and ordinary to make a point about how we ought to live. But in the ancient world, salt and light weren’t simple things—an hour of artificial light cost the equivalent of an average day’s wages. Salt was enormously precious, costly to have and laborious to produce.

Salt and light, these desired, special, necessary luxuries were the comparisons Jesus had to make about his first followers—people who were poor, who were outcast, who were sick or afraid. People who felt forgotten or marginalized or hopeless were the exact ones Jesus came to tell that they were treasured, precious, and useful.

But here’s the thing about salt and light—to have these gifts is to use them. Light shines, that’s what it does. Salt only works when it’s poured out, when it’s sprinkled and scattered and used up. Like Christ himself, who poured out his own life for us, we are meant to live in to our own preciousness, our own beauty and utility, not by hiding ourselves away—but by pouring ourselves out for the life of the world.

In Christ,
The Rev. Eva Suarez, Associate Rector

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Every Sunday

Fellowship
• After the 9:10 a.m. service, coffee outside Coburn Hall
• After the 11:15 a.m. service, coffee in Sunderland Hall

Nursery Care available downstairs
Nursery care is available during the 9:10 and 11:15 a.m. services, and the adult formation offerings.

Formation for all ages!
At St. James’, we believe that if you come here, you will grow. To learn more, visit the First-time Families podium in the Narthex.
• Toddler (ages 2-3) and Primary (ages 4-6) 9:05 - 11:00 a.m.
• Church School, Youth Group (grades 1-12) 10:15 - 11:00 a.m.
• The Forum 10:30 - 11:00 a.m.

Healing Prayer
Is there something you would like prayer for—a joy or a concern, for yourself or someone else? Join our Healing Prayer ministers in the Chapel following worship at 9:10, 11:15 a.m., and 6:00 p.m.

New? START HERE TO BEGIN YOUR LIFE IN CHRIST
• Pick up a “Start Here” brochure and return the welcome card.
• “Meet me at the bell” (after 9:10, 11:15 a.m., and 6:00 p.m.)
Meet next to the bell at the back corner of the church for an informal conversation with a priest about what led you here and where you might be called to go in your spiritual life.
Next Sunday: February 16

The Sixth Sunday after the Epiphany
Deuteronomy 30:15-20 or Sirach 15:15-20; 1 Corinthians 3:1-9; Matthew 5:21-37; Psalm 119:1-8

8:00 a.m. Holy Eucharist
Homily by the Rev. Zack Thompson, Associate Rector.

9:10 a.m. Family Eucharist
Sermon by the Rev. Brenda Husson, Rector. The Canterbury Choir offers the music of G.F. Handel and James Gossler.

11:15 a.m. Choral Eucharist

6:00 p.m. Candlelight Communion
Homily by the Rev. Brenda Husson. Music for piano and violin.

The Forum 10:30 a.m., Coburn Hall
This Epiphany, we are reading the Gospel of Matthew together as a parish. The Rev. Brenda Husson will continue our 7-week Forum series with “The Passion according to Matthew.”

Christianity and Racial Justice 4:00 - 5:30 p.m., Sunderland Hall
Join the Revs. Brenda Husson and Eva Suarez and parishioner Kevin Booker for a four-week course exploring our relationship to race as Christians in contemporary America—theologically, biblically, historically, and culturally. Some reading and a commitment of participation is required; please contact Eva to learn more or to get involved. Meeting Sundays, 4:00 - 5:30 p.m. through March 1st.

Youth Trip to the American South
Our Youth Group is traveling this weekend to significant sites in the American Civil Rights Movement. Please pray for the youth and their chaperones as they encounter this complicated story in our national history.

Epiphany 2020: The Beloved Community According to Matthew
Purchase your copy of “A Journey with Matthew: 50 Day Bible Challenge” and take up our parish-wide Epiphany reading! Contact the Rev. Ryan Fleenor for details.

Upcoming Reading Schedule

- **Sunday, February 9**
  - Matthew 23:1-22
- **February 10**
  - Matthew 23:23-39
- **February 11**
  - Matthew 24:1-22
- **February 12**
  - Matthew 24:23-41
- **February 13**
  - Matthew 24:42 - 25:13
- **February 14**
  - Matthew 25:14-30
- **February 15**
  - Matthew 25:31-46
- **Sunday, February 16**
  - Matthew 26:1-16

This week’s Bible Memorization verse

Do not think that I have come to abolish the law or the prophets; I have come not to abolish but to fulfill.

—Matthew 5:17
News & Notes

St. Jamesians Rectory Event       Wed. Feb. 19, 6:30 - 8:00 p.m.
Parishioners in their 20s & 30s are invited to join the clergy for food, fellowship, and a discussion of “Love-iticus: Balancing Love, Dating, and Faith.” Please RSVP to Jeremy Diakonov-Curtis.

Beatitude Small Group begins     Sun. Feb. 23, 12:30 -1:30 p.m.
Journey through Lent with fellow parishioners in this six-week deep-dive into the Beatitudes, Jesus’s enigmatic and yet much-loved teaching in Matthew 5. Contact the Rev. Ryan Fleenor to register.

New Ministry Opportunity         Sun. Feb. 23, 12:30 p.m.
Join the Rev. Eva Suarez, Charles Curtis, and Windsor Jones to learn about new opportunities for ministry with immigrants and asylum seekers here in New York City, and to hear all about Eva and Charles’ recent trip to the U.S-Mexico Border. We will gather in Coburn Hall; light refreshments will be served.

Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper     Tue. Feb. 25, 5:00 - 7:00 p.m.
Feast on pancakes, sausage, fruit salad, and friendship as we prepare for the beginning of the Lenten season! Our Annual Pancake Supper is a fun occasion for all ages; this year, we will be invited to paint tiles for the parish-wide “Alleluia banner,” which will be used in the Easter Day liturgy. Contact Grace Beacham to learn more.

Ash Wednesday: worship and service Wednesday, February 26
Mark your calendar for Ash Wednesday, with services of Holy Eucharist at 8:00 a.m., 12:00, and 6:00 p.m. A children’s service will be held at 4:30 p.m. If you would like to distribute “Ashes to Go” in the morning, please contact the Rev. Ryan Fleenor.

Holy Cross Lent Retreat           March 6 - 8
Join Matthew Leaycraft for a time for reflection and quiet punctuated by the rhythm of the Daily Office and group discussion. Get off the grid and go deeper into the heart of God! Availability is limited; please contact Matt to learn more.

Easter Altar Guild donations      deadline March 30
Easter offers a beautiful opportunity to honor and remember friends and loved ones with a gift of flowers for our Altar and Narthex. Please visit stjames.org/altarguild to make a contribution.

2021 Holy Land Pilgrimage         sign up by April 20
The Rev. Brenda Husson will lead a 13-day pilgrimage in the Holy Land at the beginning of Lent 2021, walking in the footsteps of Jesus. Visit stjames.org/holy-land to learn more!

Also, spots remain for Canterbury!
Join the Rev. Ryan Fleenor for a 10-day pilgrimage in southern England, hiking part of the medieval Pilgrims Way to Canterbury. Visit stjames.org/canterbury2020 to learn more. Almost full!

Growing in faith through Beloved Community at St. James’
Thank you to all who made 2019 commitments and year-end gifts, and to those who have committed for 2020! If you are ready to do so, please visit stjames.org/2020commitment. Envelopes for those who have requested them are available in the Parish House.

Prayer List

Thanks be to God
• for the birth of Remley Joel Baldwin, great-nephew of Diane Pollard,
• for the generosity of parishioners who have made pledges for 2020, and for all who share in the financial support of the parish.

Your prayers are requested
• for St. James’ this Epiphany season, that being illuminated by Word and Sacrament, we may shine with the radiance of Christ’s glory, that his light may be known to the ends of the earth.
• for our partners at St. Vincent’s School and in the Diocese of Haiti, during this time of conflict and civil unrest.
• for St. Philip’s Church in-the-Highlands, Garrison, according to the Diocesan cycle of prayer.
• for the Anglican Church of Canada, its people and ministries, and the Most Rev. Linda Nicholls, Primate of the Anglican Church of Canada, according to the Anglican Communion cycle of prayer.
• for our work as stewards of God’s creation, that we may use the earth’s resources rightly in the service of others, and be mindful of our connection to all living things.
• for the United States of America, for wisdom and grace for our leaders in the exercise of their duties, that 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 intolerance.
• 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; all migrants and refugees who have died fleeing danger; and all those killed in the military service of our nation.
• all whom we love but see no more, including Izabella Walker and Widodo Mugjanto.

To have your prayer requests printed in this space, or to provide an update, please e-mail the clergy at pastoralcare@stjames.org.
The Clergy & Lay Staff

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Gerlinde Brixius
Richard Brown
Tristan Bultman
Stephen de Francesc

Dolly Bross Geary
Susanna Guffey
Elizabeth Littlejohn
Marcy Sendax
Bob Stinson
Anne Strassner

Mary Malhotra,
Vestry Officer for Stewardship
Annika Gottfrid,
Youth Representative

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

Worship

SUNDAYS
8:00 a.m. · Holy Eucharist (Chapel)
9:10 a.m. · Family 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
Mon.-Fri. 5:30 p.m. · Evening Prayer

CENTERING PRAYER
Tue. 6:00 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.
Mon. - 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.

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