

Emmanuel Episcopal Church

Evening Prayer

October 21, 2026

[St. James of Jerusalem](#)

If I say, "Surely the darkness will cover me, and the light around me turn to night," darkness is not dark to you, O Lord; the night is as bright as the day; darkness and light to you are both alike.

Psalm 139:10, 11

Confession of Sin

Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

Silence may be kept.

**God of all mercy,
we confess that we have sinned against you,
opposing your will in our lives.
We have denied your goodness in each other,
in ourselves, and in the world you have created.
We repent of the evil that enslaves us,
the evil we have done,
and the evil done on our behalf.
Forgive, restore, and strengthen us
through our Savior Jesus Christ,
that we may abide in your love
and serve only your will.**

Almighty God have mercy on us, forgive us all our sins through the grace of Jesus Christ, strengthen us in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep us in eternal life. **Amen.**

Invitatory and Psalter

<i>Officiant</i>	O God, make speed to save us.
<i>People</i>	O Lord, make haste to help us.

**Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit: *
as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be for ever. Amen.**

O Gracious Light

Light of the world,
in grace and beauty,
Mirror of God's eternal face,
Transparent flame of love's free duty,
You bring salvation to our race.

Now, as we see the lights of evening,
We raise our voice in hymns of praise;
Worthy are you of endless blessing,
Sun of our night,
lamp of our days.

Psalm 119: 33-40

BCP 766

Teach me, O Lord, the way of your statutes, *
and I shall keep it to the end.

**Give me understanding, and I shall keep your law; *
I shall keep it with all my heart.**

Make me go in the path of your commandments, *
for that is my desire.

**Incline my heart to your decrees *
and not to unjust gain.**

Turn my eyes from watching what is worthless; *
give me life in your ways.

**Fulfill your promise to your servant, *
which you make to those who fear you.**

Turn away the reproach which I dread, *
because your judgments are good.

**Behold, I long for your commandments; *
in your righteousness preserve my life.**

**Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit: *
as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be for ever. Amen.**

The Lessons

The First Lesson

Sirach 7: 4-14

A Reading from the Book of Sirach.

Do not seek from the Lord high office,
or the seat of honour from the king.
Do not assert your righteousness before the Lord,
or display your wisdom before the king.
Do not seek to become a judge,
or you may be unable to root out injustice;
you may be partial to the powerful,
and so mar your integrity.
Commit no offence against the public,
and do not disgrace yourself among the people.

Do not commit a sin twice;
not even for one will you go unpunished.
Do not say, 'He will consider the great number of my gifts,
and when I make an offering to the Most High God, he will accept it.'
Do not grow weary when you pray;
do not neglect to give alms.
Do not ridicule a person who is embittered in spirit,
for there is One who humbles and exalts.
Do not devise a lie against your brother,
or do the same to a friend.
Refuse to utter any lie,
for it is a habit that results in no good.
Do not babble in the assembly of the elders,
and do not repeat yourself when you pray.

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The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Canticle 16 The Song of Zechariah

Luke 1:68-79

Blessed be the Lord, the God of Israel; *
you have come to your people and set them free.

You have raised up for us a mighty savior, *

born of the house of your servant David.

Through your holy prophets you promised of old,
that you would save us from our enemies, *
from the hands of all who hate us.
To show mercy to our forebears *
and to remember your holy covenant.
This was the oath you swore to our father Abraham, *
to set us free from the hands of our enemies,
Free to worship you without fear, *
holy and righteous before you,
all the days of our life.
And you, child, shall be called the prophet of the Most High, *
for you will go before the Lord to prepare the way,
To give God's people knowledge of salvation *
by the forgiveness of their sins.
In the tender compassion of our God *
the dawn from on high shall break upon us,
To shine on those who dwell in darkness
and the shadow of death, *
and to guide our feet into the way of peace.

The Second Lesson

Luke 10:17-24

A Reading from the Gospel according to Luke.

The seventy returned with joy, saying, "Lord, in your name even the demons submit to us!" He said to them, "I watched Satan fall from heaven like a flash of lightning. See, I have given you authority to tread on snakes and scorpions, and over all the power of the enemy; and nothing will hurt you. Nevertheless, do not rejoice at this, that the spirits submit to you, but rejoice that your names are written in heaven." At that same hour Jesus rejoiced in the Holy Spirit and said, "I thank you, Father, Lord of heaven and earth, because you have hidden these things from the wise and the intelligent and have revealed them to infants; yes, Father, for such was your gracious will. All things have been handed over to me by my Father; and no one knows who the Son is except the Father, or who the Father is except the Son and anyone to whom the Son chooses to reveal him." Then turning to the disciples, Jesus said to them privately, "Blessed are the eyes that see what you see! For I tell you that many prophets and kings desired to see what you see, but did not see it, and to hear what you hear, but did not hear it."

The Word of the Lord

Thanks be to God.

Canticle S. A Song of our True Nature

Julian of Norwich

Christ revealed our frailty and our falling, *
our trespasses and our humiliations.

Christ also revealed his blessed power, *
his blessed wisdom and love.
He protects us as tenderly and as sweetly when we are in greatest need; *
he raises us in spirit
and turns everything to glory and joy without ending.
God is the ground and the substance, the very essence of nature; *
God is the true father and mother of natures.
We are all bound to God by nature, *
and we are all bound to God by grace.
And this grace is for all the world, *
because it is our precious mother, Christ.
For this fair nature was prepared by Christ
for the honor and nobility of all, *
and for the joy and bliss of salvation.

James of Jerusalem, also known as James the Just, was an important leader of the early Christian Church in Jerusalem during the first century. He is traditionally identified as a brother of Jesus and is recognized as one of the earliest leaders of the Christian community following Jesus' resurrection. It is written that Jesus' brothers did not believe in Him (John 7:2-5), and from this, and from references in early Christian writers, it is inferred that James was not a disciple of the Lord until after the Resurrection.

One of James's most significant contributions was his role in the Council of Jerusalem, described in Acts 15. The council considered whether Gentile converts to Christianity needed to follow Jewish religious laws, including circumcision. James helped shape the decision that Gentile believers should not be required to observe the entirety of the Jewish law.

Outside the New Testament, James is mentioned by the Jewish historian Josephus, who reports that he was much respected even by the Pharisees for his piety and strict observance of the Law, but that his enemies took advantage of an interval between Roman governors in 62 AD to have him put to death.

James of Jerusalem represents the important connection between the Jewish roots of Christianity and the development of the early Church. His leadership helped establish a place for Gentile believers within the Christian community and contributed to the growth of Christianity beyond Jerusalem.

We share reflections on the day's scripture, readings, and commemoration.

*What do you notice?
What is speaking to you?
What difference does it make?*

What is one way you could make your faith more visible through your actions this week?

The Apostles' Creed

**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

Officiant The Lord be with you.

People **And also with you.**

Officiant Let us pray.

The 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 for ever. Amen.**

Suffrages B

V. Show us your mercy, O Lord;
R. And grant us your salvation.
V. Clothe your ministers with righteousness;
R. Let your people sing with joy.
V. Give peace, O Lord, in all the world;
R. For only in you can we live in safety.
V. Lord, keep this nation under your care;
R. And guide us in the way of justice and truth.
V. Let your way be known upon earth;
R. Your saving health among all nations.
V. Let not the needy, O Lord, be forgotten;
R. Nor the hope of the poor be taken away.
V. Create in us clean hearts, O God;
R. And sustain us with your Holy Spirit.

James of Jerusalem

Grant, O God, that, following the example of your servant James of Jerusalem, brother of our Lord, your Church may give itself continually to prayer and to the reconciliation of all who are at variance and enmity; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and ever. **Amen.**

The Collect of the Day

Almighty and everlasting God, in Christ you have revealed your glory among the nations: Preserve the works of your mercy, that your Church throughout the world may persevere with steadfast faith in the confession of your Name; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

A Collect for Peace

Most holy God, the source of all good desires, all right judgments, and all just works: Give to us, your servants, that peace which the world cannot give, so that our minds may be fixed on the doing of your will, and that we, being delivered from the fear of all enemies, may live in peace and quietness; through the mercies of Christ Jesus our Savior. **Amen.**

A Prayer for Mission

O God, you manifest in your servants the signs of your presence: Send forth upon us the spirit of love, that in companionship with one another your abounding grace may increase among us; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

We offer intercessions and thanksgivings from our heart either silently or aloud or in the chat function

We pray for healing for those on the parish prayer list, including: Andrew, Debbie and Evelyn Bourne, Peter Brown, Ally Bush, Lydia Cedrone, John Claya, Jacob DeCarlen-Bumiller, John DeNatale, Donna, Peggy Downs, Erica, Kristen Goddard, Michelle Hager, CJ, Ginny Johnson, Jonathan, Chris Kelsey, Kevin MacKenzie, Diane Manning, Mark Martino, Sara Murphy, Mo Pollman, Rebecca, Carolyn and Jeff Robinson, Keith Santarelli, Sheila and Josh, Souliotis Family, Trudy, Amy Walsh, Kelly Wood, and Alan Wright.

The General Thanksgiving

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**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.**

A Prayer of St. Chrysostom

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Almighty God, you have given us grace at this time with one accord to make our common supplication to you; and you have promised through your well-beloved Son that when two or three are gathered together in his Name you will be in the midst of them: Fulfill now, O Lord, our desires and petitions as may be best for us; granting us in this world knowledge of your truth, and in the age to come life everlasting. **Amen.**

Let us bless the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Glory to God whose power, working in us, can do infinitely more than we can ask or imagine: Glory to him from generation to generation in the Church, and in Christ Jesus for ever and ever. **Amen.**

Ephesians 3 20,21