

# St. David's Episcopal Church

Sixth Sunday after "The Epiphany"

February 12<sup>th</sup>, 2017



The Very Rev. Dr. J. Mastine Nisbett, *Rector/Dean*  
Richard Williams, Herman Clark, *Wardens*  
Phyllis Fibleuil, *Music Director/Organist*  
Dorothy Lundy, *Parish Secretary*

**"Proclaiming Good News to the Poor, the Blind, the  
Captive and the Oppressed"**  
*("You are asked to please turn off all mobile devices during the  
service. Thank you!")*

## Holy Eucharist

Processional Hymn: (1982)

No. 657

### THE MINISTRY OF THE WORD (Rite II) p. 355

(The people standing, the Celebrant says)

Blessed be God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit.

*People* And blessed be His kingdom, now and forever,

*Amen*

*The Celebrant says:*

#### The Collect for Purity:

Almighty God, to you all hearts are open, all desires known, and from you no secrets are hid: Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you, and worthily magnify your Holy name; through Christ our Lord. Amen

*“Gloria” (1982)*

No. S280

*The Celebrant says to the people:*

The Lord be with you.

*People* And also with you.

*Celebrant* Let us pray.

#### Collect for: “Sixth Sunday after the Epiphany”:

O God, the strength of all who put their trust in you: Mercifully accept our prayers; and because in our weakness we can do nothing good without you, give us the help of your grace, that in keeping your commandments we may please you both in will and deed; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. *Amen.*

*A Reading from Deuteronomy 30: (15-20)*

<sup>15</sup> See, I have set before you today life and prosperity, death and adversity. <sup>16</sup> If you obey the commandments of the Lord your God\* that I am commanding you today, by loving the Lord your God, walking in his ways, and observing his commandments, decrees, and ordinances, then you shall live and become numerous, and the Lord your God will bless you in the land that you are entering to possess. <sup>17</sup> But if your heart turns away and you do not hear, but are led astray to bow down to other gods and serve them, <sup>18</sup> I declare to you today that you shall perish; you shall not live long in the land that you are crossing the Jordan to enter and possess. <sup>19</sup> I call heaven and earth to witness against you today that I have set before you life and death, blessings and curses. Choose life so that you and your descendants may live, <sup>20</sup> loving the Lord your God, obeying him, and holding fast to him; for that means life to you and length of days, so that you may live in the land that the Lord swore to give to your ancestors, to Abraham, to Isaac, and to Jacob.

The Word of the Lord.

*People:* Thanks be to God.

*(moment of silence)*

Psalm 119: (1-8)

- 1 Happy are they whose way is blameless, \*  
who walk in the law of the LORD!
  
- 2 *Happy are they who observe his decrees \*  
and seek him with all their hearts!*
  
- 3 Who never do any wrong, \* but always walk in his ways.
  
- 4 *You laid down your commandments, \*  
that we should fully keep them.*
  
- 5 Oh, that my ways were made so direct \*  
that I might keep your statutes!
  
- 6 *Then I should not be put to shame, \*  
when I regard all your commandments.*
  
- 7 I will thank you with an unfeigned heart, \*  
when I have learned your righteous judgments.
  
- 8 *I will keep your statutes; \* do not utterly forsake me.*

*(All) Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit: \* as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen.*

*A Reading from Paul's letter to 1 Corinthians 3(1-9)*

And so, brothers and sisters,<sup>\*</sup> I could not speak to you as spiritual people, but rather as people of the flesh, as infants in Christ. <sup>2</sup>I fed you with milk, not solid food, for you were not ready for solid food. Even now you are still not ready, <sup>3</sup>for you are still of the flesh. For as long as there is jealousy and quarrelling among you, are you not of the flesh, and behaving according to human inclinations? <sup>4</sup>For when one says, 'I belong to Paul', and another, 'I belong to Apollos', are you not merely human?<sup>5</sup> What then is Apollos? What is Paul? Servants through whom you came to believe, as the Lord assigned to each. <sup>6</sup>I planted, Apollos watered, but God gave the growth. <sup>7</sup>So neither the one who plants nor the one who waters is anything, but only God who gives the growth. <sup>8</sup>The one who plants and the one who waters have a common purpose, and each will receive wages according to the labour of each. <sup>9</sup>For we are God's servants, working together; you are God's field, God's building.

The Word of the Lord.

*People: Thanks be to God. (moment of silence)*

Gradual Hymn: *"Up On a Mountaintop"* (before Gospel)

Up on a mountaintop, Jesus sat down,  
Teaching the people who gathered around:  
Look for the blessings that God kindly brings;  
God's loving kingdom is changing all things.

You are the salt and you're also the light.  
Flavor God's world, with your faith shining bright.  
Know that I've come here, God's word to fulfill.  
Keep the commandments and follow them well.

Let go of anger, for it is a sin.  
It will destroy you, both outside and in.  
Even your thinking can lead you astray;  
Whatever tempts you, just throw it away.

Keep strong the bonds between husband and wife;  
Keep your commitments for all of your life.  
Don't swear by heaven or by earth below;  
Let "yes" be "yes" then,  
and let "no" be "no."

If any hurt you, then you may resist,  
But not with hatred or weapon or fist.  
God's way is stronger than any you face;  
Stand up and love them! And give them God's grace.

Love those who hate you and pray for them, too.  
God's mercy reaches out far beyond you.  
Seek, as God's people, God's wholeness each day  
So you can witness to God's perfect way.

*The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ, according  
to Matthew 5(21-37)*

*People:* Glory to you, Lord Christ.

<sup>21</sup> ‘You have heard that it was said to those of ancient times, “You shall not murder”; and “whoever murders shall be liable to judgement.”<sup>22</sup> But I say to you that if you are angry with a brother or sister,<sup>\*</sup> you will be liable to judgement; and if you insult<sup>\*</sup> a brother or sister,<sup>\*</sup> you will be liable to the council; and if you say, “You fool”, you will be liable to the hell<sup>\*</sup> of fire. <sup>23</sup> So when you are offering your gift at the altar, if you remember that your brother or sister<sup>\*</sup> has something against you,<sup>24</sup> leave your gift there before the altar and go; first be reconciled to your brother or sister,<sup>\*</sup> and then come and offer your gift. <sup>25</sup> Come to terms quickly with your accuser while you are on the way to court<sup>\*</sup> with him, or your accuser may hand you over to the judge, and the judge to the guard, and you will be thrown into prison. <sup>26</sup> Truly I tell you, you will never get out until you have paid the last penny. <sup>27</sup> ‘You have heard that it was said, “You shall not commit adultery.”<sup>28</sup> But I say to you that everyone who looks at a woman with lust has already committed adultery with her in his heart. <sup>29</sup> If your right eye causes you to sin, tear it out and throw it away; it is better for you to lose one of your members than for your whole body to be thrown into hell.<sup>\*</sup> <sup>30</sup> And if your right hand causes you to sin, cut it off and throw it away; it is better for you to lose one of your members than for your whole body to go into hell.<sup>\*</sup> <sup>31</sup> ‘It was also said, “Whoever divorces his wife, let him give her a certificate of divorce.”<sup>32</sup> But I say to you that anyone who divorces his wife, except on the ground of unchastity, causes her to commit adultery; and whoever marries a divorced woman commits adultery. <sup>33</sup> ‘Again, you have heard that it was said to those of ancient times, “You shall not swear falsely,

but carry out the vows you have made to the Lord.”<sup>34</sup> But I say to you, Do not swear at all, either by heaven, for it is the throne of God,<sup>35</sup> or by the earth, for it is his footstool, or by Jerusalem, for it is the city of the great King.<sup>36</sup> And do not swear by your head, for you cannot make one hair white or black.<sup>37</sup> Let your word be “Yes, Yes” or “No, No”; anything more than this comes from the evil one.\*

The Gospel of the Lord.

*People: Praise to you, Lord Christ.*

The Sermon: *Father Nisbett*  
(*moment of silence*)

The Nicene Creed (BCP)	pg. 358
Prayers of the People (Form VI)	pg. 392
The Penitence (BCP)	pg. 393
Exchange of the Peace	

*At The Offertory*

Anthem (Choir):

Offertory Sentence

Offertory Hymn: (Levas) No. 176

*Hymn after the Offertory*

*Give thanks with a Grateful Heart,*

*Give thanks to the Holy One:*

*Give thanks because he's given Jesus Christ his Son*

*And now let the weak say, "I am strong"*

*Let the poor say "I am rich,"*

*Because of what the Lord has done for us. Give thanks!*

*Presentation of Elements*

The Great Thanksgiving (Prayer "A)

pg. 361

The Great Mystery

Hymns during Communion: (1982))

Nos. 652, 674, 593

Post Communion Prayer:

*"Eternal God, heavenly Father, you have graciously accepted us as living members of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ, and you have fed us with spiritual food in the Sacrament of his Body and Blood. Send us now into the world in peace, and grant us strength and courage to love and serve you with gladness and singleness of heart; through Christ our Lord. Amen."*

Greetings and Announcements

The Blessings

Recessional Hymn: (1982)

No. 581

Dismissal:

Musical Postlude: (*please remain seated, quietly!*)

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Today's Usher's:

8:00 AM – *Sharon Powell; Shirley Anderson*

10:30 AM – *Iris Campbell; Trevor Ifill; Keith Richards;  
Dorothy Dixon*

We welcome all visitors this morning, especially anyone visiting for the first time. Please sign our Guestbook located in the narthex (lobby) and do visit us again.

*Flowers in the Sanctuary:*

"is given in thanksgiving to God in celebration of the 32<sup>nd</sup> anniversary of *The Very Rev Dr. J. Mastine Nisbett and his family's* arrival as the new Rector of St. David's Church on February 6<sup>th</sup>, 1985." "*What a Blessing!*" from all of St. David's family & friends.

*Sanctuary Lamp:*

“is offered in prayers of thanksgiving for the 32<sup>nd</sup> anniversary of the arrival (February 6, 1985) and fruitful Ministry of *The Very Rev. Dr. J. Mastine, Rector, /Dean, Mrs. Enid, and their three sons, Dr. Jason, Jevon and Jereme Nisbett*, at St. David’s. *“to God be the Glory... on behalf of our church family.”* Euclid & Daphnie Jordan.

Asking for volunteers to host upcoming *Fellowship Hours* following morning services. See list on desk in rear of the church. Thanks!

**This Week’s Events**

*Bible Study:* Next meeting, Wednesday, February 15<sup>th</sup>, 2017 @9:00 AM. All invited and don’t forget your book.

*Telephonic Prayer Group:* *Every Wednesday and Thursday evening @8PM* (712)432-8399, access code:707241# (all are welcome and invited to participate).

*Parish Choir rehearsal* – Thursdays, @ 7:30 PM. All members are asked to be present. Currently accepting new members.

*Youth Group* meet on Fridays\_ @ 7:30 pm. (*cancelled this week*)

*Youth Choir* rehearsals – Saturdays @ 5:00 pm

*Free Income Tax Preparation:* Saturday, February 18<sup>th</sup>, 2017 @ St. Peter’s Episcopal Church Parish Hall, (137-28 244<sup>th</sup> St., Rosedale, NY (10AM – 2PM) (*see flyers in narthex*)

## Upcoming Events

The ECW will meet next Sunday, February 19<sup>th</sup>, 2017 following the 10:30 AM service. All Ladies are invited to join us. *You are asked to wear "African outfits" if possible.*

Brotherhood of St. Andrew (Queens Assembly) Annual Scholarship Luncheon: Monday, February 20<sup>th</sup>, 2017 (church service starts @ 9:30 AM St. Joseph's Episcopal Church (99-10 217<sup>th</sup> Lane, Queens Village) followed by 12 Noon luncheon @ Thomasina's Banquet Hall (205-35 Linden Blvd., St. Albans. See any member of BSA for tickets. (\$45.00 adults: \$30.00 children (under 12).

Quiet Day - Saturday, March 4<sup>th</sup>, 2017 (10am - 2pm).  
Conductor: *Rev. Dr. Dennison Richards.*

The February and March Birthday Fellowship Hour will take place March 5<sup>th</sup>, 2017 following both services. Please see *Rosalyn Brown (8AM)* and *Annette Marion (10:30AM)* for information.

Refreshment Sunday (mid-Lent): Sunday, March 26, 2017.

Silver Jubilee of the New Edifice: *Friday, June 23, 2017; (8PM-12:30AM (Black-Tie Gala)-@ The Coral House, 70 Milburn Ave., Baldwin, NY 11510. (Tickets \$125.00 per person.) See Barbara Morrison for add'l. information (718/712-8969 or (917)374-1062 (asking for members & associates to take ads or page in Jubilee Journal) Thanks!*

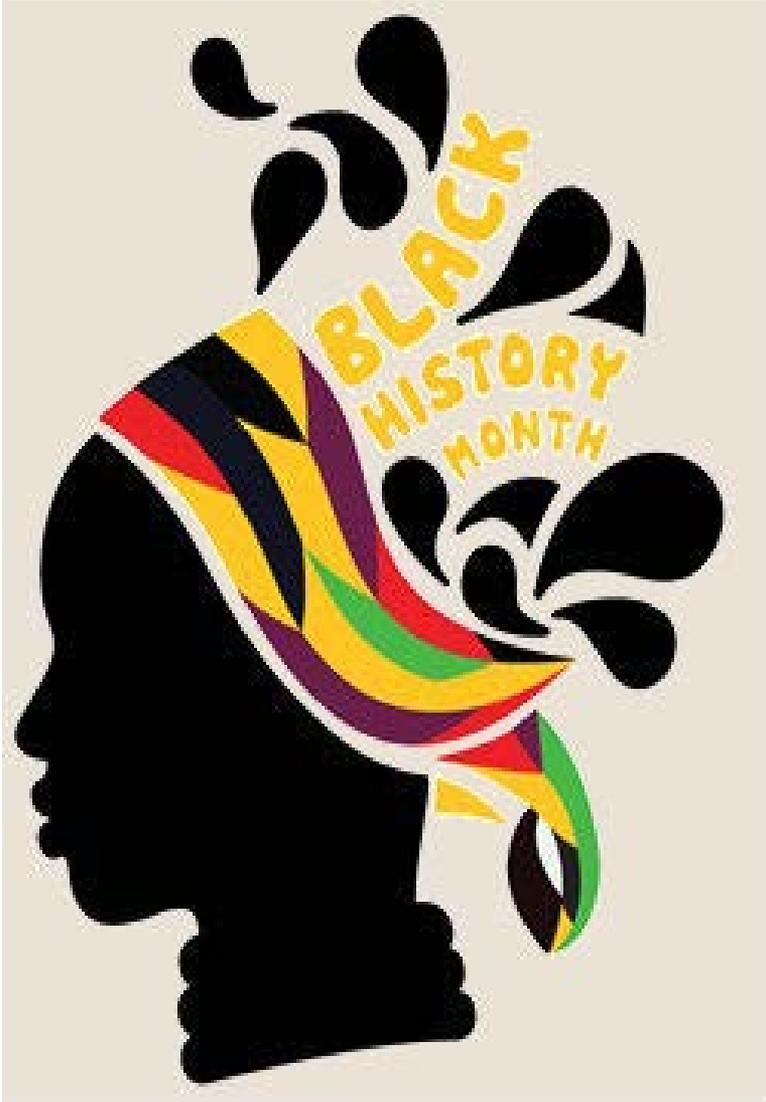
SICK AND SHUT-IN MEMBERS & FAMILY

*Inez Atkinson*; Andrea Alleyne; Veronica Alleyne; Dennis Alston; *Icilda Anderson*; Anne Arley; Maritza Armien; Nelda Binal; *Etta Blagrove*; Sherron Bokonga; Lilly Bowens; Ewart Bowie, Lowell Bowie, Ginnderland Brooks; Kirk Brouwer; Winston Brown; Jerome Bryan; Ralph Coard; *Lilla Codner*; Priscilla Coleman; Lancelot Cowan; Che' Constantine; Niall Constantine; Justine Cunningham; Kayden DaCosta; Muriel Cust-Francis; Cicely Daniel; Herbert Daniel; Sharon Davis; Egan Davson; Lawrence Demeglio; Eunice Dixon; ; Cecile Fearon; Jeanette Francis- Fearon; Winifred Garrison; Muris Gayle; Gordon C. Gladden; Patrick Goin; Winnie Gooden; Gem Grant; Nellie Green; Viola Gretton; Jeffrey Grosvenor; Sylvia Grosvenor;; Shae Haris; *Gem Harris*; Khaled Hassanin; Ida Headley; *Roy Henneman*; Janiese Henry; *Maureen Henry*; Donald Herbison; Rita Herbert; Louise Hermon;; Leslie Hutchinson-Morris; Ivy Irons; Marlon Jacobs; Victor Jiminez & family; Cecil Johnson; James Johnson; *Melrose Johnson*; *Joyce Jones*; Yvonne Jones; Rhonda Jordon; Michelle Joseph; *Germaine King*; Christie Laieta; *Ellen Lawrence*; *Jean Lawrence*; Dudley Lawson; Ronald Lee; Isabella Lewis; Robert Lewis; Lorna Lewis; *Fitz Longman*; Bertram Longsworth; Rev. Washington L. Lundy; Flavia Lytch-Threatt; Brandon Manasse; Amyika Marcial; *Bevon Mars*; Marc A. Mathews; Clara Maynard;; William D. Mullings;; *Kerwin O'Brien*; *Blanche O'Reilly*; John Parkes; Gene Pendarvis; Theresa Pulla; Nancy Taylor–Hall; Geneva Randolph; Monique Robert; Rev. Egbert Robertson; Sonia Rochester; Richard Rose; Henry Samuel; Joy Simon; Pauline Sekou; Lloyd Simmonds; Yvonne Simmonds; Leroy Small; Shirley Smith; Gerretta Sores; Calvin Souden; Dudley Spence; Hugh Springer; Marjorie Stevens; *Cecil Stevens*; *Beresford Stewart*; *Lillieth Stewart*; Dan Stewart;; Christine Turner; Cleveland Vanier; Myron Wade; *Olive Walford*; Barbara Wanaselja; Amanda Watts; *Emma Weekes*; Alberta West; Anita Williams; Carmen Williams;; Ken Williams;; Yvonne Williams; Phondel Yarboro. (*Italics indicate members of St. David's*)

*Meditation: "Middle of the Movie"*

When you walk into a movie that's already started it takes time to get oriented. Someone may have to whisper a quick explanation. Today's gospel passage is like a movie whose first scenes we missed. The disciples are gathered around Jesus on the mountain. Before we walked in, he called all sorts of different people blessed. He had told them, "You are the salt of the earth," the light of the world. Only then--after these pronouncements of blessing--does he invoke the demands of righteousness that we hear. Flashback: the Israelite ancestors, ready to cross over into the land of promise after forty years of wandering. Moses calls to their memory and brings into "today" the long ago gift of the law on Mt. Sinai. Moses appeals to their future: "Choose life" (Deut. 30:19). Love the Lord; walk in God's ways. Like Moses, Jesus brings forward a well-known covenant. With the refrain, "You have heard... But I say to you," Jesus also calls his hearers to the Torah's fulfillment. It's not enough to have avoided committing murder, adultery, or perjury. Even if you're angry (for instance), you're liable for judgment. Jesus is aiming at self-righteousness, not at emotions or sensations that are among God's gifts to us. Here he contrasts the letter of the law (getting away with the minimum) and its spirit (truly loving). His words are not for terrified consciences, but for those who would congratulate themselves because they haven't technically broken a law. To be human is to have feelings and desires. How we channel them matters. Anger, like pain, is a sign that something is wrong--and a necessary asset in fighting injustice. In future scenes Jesus himself will overturn tables and taker the religious leaders to task. We'll have to keep watching to get the whole story.

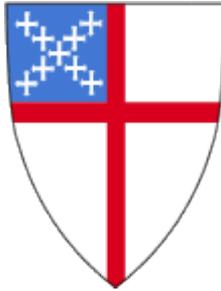
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**FEBRUARY IS "BLACK HISTORY MONTH"**

**SERMON NOTES**

## **“EMPOWERING THE CHURCH FOR SERVICE”**



St. David's Episcopal (Anglican) Church  
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[stdavidsepiscopa@aol.com](mailto:stdavidsepiscopa@aol.com)

### **VESTRY**

Richard Williams, *Senior Warden*

Herman Clark, *Junior Warden*

### **Class of 2017**

Sharon Brown, Ivor Lawson, Charmaine Mitchell

### **Class of 2018**

Annette Marion, Yvonne Mitchell, Meagan Nettey

### **Class of 2019**

Steve Morrison, Randy Moses, Ann Stewart

### **Officers (not vestry members)**

Ms. Patricia Samuels, *Treasurer*

Ms. Eulah Walker, *Asst. Treasurer*

Ms. Noella Jackman, *Clerk*

Ms. Dorothy Lundy, Parish Secretary

*“Proclaiming Good News to the Poor, the Blind, the Captive  
and the Oppressed”*