SAINT JAMES THE ELDER, APOSTLE
July 25, 2021

Introit
I will speak of your testimonies before kings, [O Lord,]
and shall not be put to shame.
I will sing of the steadfast love of the LORD, forever;
with my mouth I will make known your faithfulness to all generations.
Let the heavens praise your wonders, O LORD,
your faithfulness in the assembly of the holy ones!
Blessèd are the people who know the festal shout,
who walk, O LORD, in the light of your face,
who exult in your name all the day
and in your righteousness are exalted.
Glory be 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.
I will speak of your testimonies before kings, [O Lord,]
and shall not be put to shame.

Collect of the Day

O gracious God, Your servant and apostle James was the first among the Twelve to suffer martyrdom for the name of Jesus Christ. Pour out upon the leaders of Your Church that spirit of self-denying service that they may forsake all false and passing allurements and follow Christ alone, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

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During Holy Communion we will be offering
the Common Cup, and Individual Cups.

WE PREPARE OUR HEARTS AND MINDS FOR HOLY COMMUNION

St. Paul, in his letter to the Corinthians, bids us to examine ourselves before taking Holy Communion. Therefore, to receive our Lord's true Body and Blood we:

†**REPENT** of our sinful nature and our sinful acts;

†**BELIEVE** that Jesus lived the perfect life to shed His Blood for us on the cross as the atoning sacrifice for the forgiveness of our sin;

†**BELIEVE** that, in the Supper, Jesus gives us His true Body and Blood in, with, and under the bread and wine. Therefore, the bread and wine are not merely symbols of the Body and Blood of Jesus, but are joined to the real presence of Christ's Body and Blood given and shed for us;

†**INTEND** by the power of the Holy Spirit, to change our sinful lives and strive to walk according to God's holy and perfect will.

In joyful obedience to the teaching of Holy Scripture, we ask that only those who are one in Church confession and faith join us at the table of our Lord. Guests who are members in good standing in fellow congregations of the Missouri Synod are invited to join us in the Holy Supper. **Children and adults desiring to come forward for a blessing are encouraged to do so.** If you have questions or if you would like to have information about joining our fellowship, please visit with the Pastor prior to worship. Thank you for honoring the sacredness of God's altar and our Lord's Table.

Sermon Notes:

First Reading Acts 11:27—12:5 27Now in these days prophets came down from
Jerusalem to Antioch. 28And one of them named Agabus stood up and foretold by the
Spirit that there would be a great famine over all the world (this took place in the
days of Claudius). 29So the disciples determined, everyone according to his ability,
to send relief to the brothers living in Judea. 30And they did so, sending it to the
elders by the hand of Barnabas and Saul. 1About that time Herod the king laid violent
hands on some who belonged to the church. 2He killed James the brother of John
with the sword, 3and when he saw that it pleased the Jews, he proceeded to arrest
Peter also. This was during the days of Unleavened Bread. 4And when he had seized
him, he put him in prison, delivering him over to four squads of soldiers to guard
him, intending after the Passover to bring him out to the people. 5So Peter was kept
in prison, but earnest prayer for him was made to God by the church.

Epistle Romans 8:28–39 28 We know that for those who love God all things work
together for good, for those who are called according to his purpose. 29For those
whom he foreknew he also predestined to be conformed to the image of his Son, in
order that he might be the firstborn among many brothers. 30And those whom he
predestined he also called, and those whom he called he also justified, and those
whom he justified he also glorified. 31What then shall we say to these things? If God
is for us, who can be against us? 32He who did not spare his own Son but gave him
up for us all, how will he not also with him graciously give us all things? 33Who shall
bring any charge against God's elect? It is God who justifies. 34Who is to condemn?
Christ Jesus is the one who died—more than that, who was raised—who is at the
right hand of God, who indeed is interceding for us. 35Who shall separate us from the
love of Christ? Shall tribulation, or distress, or persecution, or famine, or nakedness,
or danger, or sword? 36As it is written, "For your sake we are being killed all the day
long;we are regarded as sheep to be slaughtered." 37No, in all these things we are
more than conquerors through him who loved us. 38For I am sure that neither death
nor life, nor angels nor rulers, nor things present nor things to come, nor powers,
39nor height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us
from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.

Holy Gospel Mark 10:35–45 35And James and John, the sons of Zebedee, came
up to [Jesus] and said to him, "Teacher, we want you to do for us whatever we ask
of you." 36And he said to them, "What do you want me to do for you?" 37And they said
to him, "Grant us to sit, one at your right hand and one at your left, in your glory."
38Jesus said to them, "You do not know what you are asking. Are you able to drink
the cup that I drink, or to be baptized with the baptism with which I am baptized?"
39And they said to him, "We are able." And Jesus said to them, "The cup that I drink
you will drink, and with the baptism with which I am baptized, you will be baptized,
40but to sit at my right hand or at my left is not mine to grant, but it is for those for
whom it has been prepared." 41And when the ten heard it, they began to be indignant
at James and John. 42And Jesus called them to him and said to them, "You know that
those who are considered rulers of the Gentiles lord it over them, and their great
ones exercise authority over them. 43But it shall not be so among you. But whoever
would be great among you must be your servant, 44and whoever would be first among
you must be slave of all. 45For even the Son of Man came not to be served but to
serve, and to give his life as a ransom for many."