



St. Jude's Episcopal Church

Seeking and Worshipping God, Reaching out to Others

January 4, 2026 at 10:30 a.m.
The First Sunday after Christmas Day

--- Everyone is WELCOME here, for everyone is beloved by GOD ---

Happy New Year! Thank you for celebrating the 11th Day, and second Sunday, of Christmas with us. There are a variety of options for the Scripture readings today, and our Worship Committee agreed to focus on one we don't hear very often: the visit of 12-year-old Jesus to the great Temple in Jerusalem, where he stays back to talk with the rabbis. All parents will surely empathize with Mary and Joseph, as they panic when realizing he's not with their group returning to Nazareth. It's also the Sunday closest to Epiphany - when the wise men arrived with odd gifts for an infant. Our hymns will recall that event from Jesus' life.

If you're new or visiting today, a special Welcome to you - please sign our Guest Book at the Welcome Table (library) on your way the Coffee Hour (down the hall). We'd love a chance to get to know each other better.

As always, our worship service includes the celebration of the **Holy Eucharist (Communion)**, and all persons are invited to receive the Sacrament, no questions asked. We bless homemade gluten-free Bread, which you may dip into the small bowl of wine; or, consume your bread and sip wine from the chalice. Or just cross your arms over your chest to decline receiving the wine. You may also ask a blessing from the priest.

Hymn # These hymns are located in the blue Hymnal 1982 in your pew.

WLP # These hymns are located in the green hymnal "Wonder, Love & Praise"

The Gathering of the Community

Opening Hymn #87 _____ *Hark! The herald angels sing*

Christmas Acclamation _____

Presider Blessed be God: Father, Son and Holy Spirit;

People **And blessed be God's kingdom, now and for ever. Amen.**

Presider O Christ, Light of life, you were born into human pain and joy, and gave us power to be your children: Cleanse our hearts and grant us faith to see your presence among us, so that all creation may sing new songs of gladness and walk in the way of peace. **Amen.**

Song of Praise: Hymn #96, vs 1,4 _____ *Angels we have heard on high*

- 1 Angels we have heard on high, singing sweetly through the night,
and the mountains in reply echoing their brave delight.

Gloria in excelsis Deo. Gloria in excelsis Deo!

- 4 See him in a manger laid, whom the angels praise above;
Mary, Joseph, lend your aid, while we raise our hearts in love.

Gloria in excelsis Deo. Gloria in excelsis Deo!

Collect of the Day _____

Presider God be with you.

People **And also with you.**

Presider Let us pray, together.

All O God, who wonderfully created, and yet more wonderfully restored, the dignity of human nature: Grant that we may share the divine life of him who humbled himself to share our humanity, your Son Jesus Christ; who lives and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

The Proclamation of the Word

Please be seated.

The First Reading _____ *Jeremiah 31:7-14*

Reader A Reading from the Prophet Isaiah.

Thus says the LORD:

Sing aloud with gladness for Jacob, and raise shouts for the chief of the nations;
proclaim, give praise, and say, "Save, O LORD, your people, the remnant of Israel."

See, I am going to bring them from the land of the north,
and gather them from the farthest parts of the earth,
among them the blind and the lame, those with child and those in labor, together;
a great company, they shall return here.

With weeping they shall come, and with consolations I will lead them back,
I will let them walk by brooks of water, in a straight path in which they shall not stumble;
for I have become a father to Israel, and Ephraim is my firstborn.

Hear the word of the LORD, O nations, and declare it in the coastlands far away;
say, "He who scattered Israel will gather him, and will keep him as a shepherd a flock."

For the LORD has ransomed Jacob,
and has redeemed him from hands too strong for him.

They shall come and sing aloud on the height of Zion,
and they shall be radiant over the goodness of the LORD, over the grain, the wine, and the
oil, and over the young of the flock and the herd;

their life shall become like a watered garden, and they shall never languish again.

Then shall the young women rejoice in the dance,
and the young men and the old shall be merry.

I will turn their mourning into joy, I will comfort them, and give them gladness for sorrow.

I will give the priests their fill of fatness, and my people shall be satisfied with my bounty,
says the LORD.

Hear what the Spirit is saying to God's people. **Thanks be to God.**

The Psalm _____ *Psalm 84:1-8*

- 1 How dear to me is your dwelling, O Lord of hosts! *
My soul has a desire and longing for the courts of the Lord;
my heart and my flesh rejoice in the living God.
- 2 The sparrow has found her a house
and the swallow a nest where she may lay her young; *
by the side of your altars, O Lord of hosts, my King and my God.
- 3 Happy are they who dwell in your house! *
they will always be praising you.
- 4 Happy are the people whose strength is in you! *
whose hearts are set on the pilgrims' way.

- 5 Those who go through the desolate valley will find it a place of springs, *
 for the early rains have covered it with pools of water.
- 6 They will climb from height to height, *
 and the God of gods will reveal himself in Zion.
- 7 Lord God of hosts, hear my prayer; *
 hearken, O God of Jacob.
- 8 Behold our defender, O God; *
 and look upon the face of your Anointed.

The Second Reading _____ *Ephesians 1:3-6,15-19a*

Reader A reading from the Letter of Paul to the Ephesians.

Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us in Christ with every spiritual blessing in the heavenly places, just as he chose us in Christ before the foundation of the world to be holy and blameless before him in love. He destined us for adoption as his children through Jesus Christ, according to the good pleasure of his will, to the praise of his glorious grace that he freely bestowed on us in the Beloved.

I have heard of your faith in the Lord Jesus and your love toward all the saints, and for this reason I do not cease to give thanks for you as I remember you in my prayers. I pray that the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory, may give you a spirit of wisdom and revelation as you come to know him, so that, with the eyes of your heart enlightened, you may know what is the hope to which he has called you, what are the riches of his glorious inheritance among the saints, and what is the immeasurable greatness of his power for us who believe.

Hear what the Spirit is saying to God’s people. **Thanks be to God.**

Sequence Hymn #109, vs 1,2,3,6 _____ *The first Nowell*

The Gospel Reading *Remain standing as able* _____ *Luke 2:41-52*

Deacon The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ, according to Luke.
People **Glory to you, Lord Christ.**

The parents of Jesus went to Jerusalem every year for the festival of the Passover. And when he was twelve years old, they went up as usual for the festival. When the festival was ended and they started to return, the boy Jesus stayed behind in Jerusalem, but his parents

did not know it. Assuming that he was in the group of travelers, they went a day's journey. Then they started to look for him among their relatives and friends. When they did not find him, they returned to Jerusalem to search for him.

After three days they found him in the temple, sitting among the teachers, listening to them and asking them questions. And all who heard him were amazed at his understanding and his answers. When his parents saw him they were astonished; and his mother said to him, "Child, why have you treated us like this? Look, your father and I have been searching for you in great anxiety." He said to them, "Why were you searching for me? Did you not know that I must be in my Father's house?" But they did not understand what he said to them. Then he went down with them and came to Nazareth, and was obedient to them. His mother treasured all these things in her heart. And Jesus increased in wisdom and in years, and in divine and human favor.

The Gospel of the Lord. **Praise to you, Lord Christ.**

The Sermon *Please be seated* _____ *The Rev. Susan Anslow Williams*
Please remain in silence for a moment of reflection following the sermon.

The Nicene Creed *Please stand* _____

We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God,
eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light,
true God from true God, begotten, not made,
of one Being with the Father. Through him all things were made.
For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven:
by the power of the Holy Spirit he became incarnate from the Virgin Mary,
and was made man.

For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate;
he suffered death and was buried.

On the third day he rose again, in accordance with the Scriptures;
he ascended into heaven, and is seated at the right hand of the Father.

He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead,
and his kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life,
 who proceeds from the Father and the Son.
 With the Father and the Son he is worshiped and glorified.
 He has spoken through the Prophets.
 We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church.
 We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.
 We look for the resurrection of the dead,
 and the life of the world to come. Amen.

Prayers of the People *Please kneel or stand, as able* _____

Deacon Gracious and loving God, in Jesus you have filled all humanity with your divine life: Hear our prayers of joy and thanksgiving as we offer our supplications to you, saying Glory to God in the highest, and peace to God's people on earth.

Intercessor You have entrusted the Church with good news of great joy for all people: Inspire our witness, that we may spread the light of Jesus' love to all humanity. Bless those who lead us, especially in ministries with children and youth. Guide Sean our Presiding Bishop, Anne our Assisting Bishop, the clergy and lay leaders of our diocese. In our parish, bless all who teach and shepherd our Godly Play classes. *Silence.*

Glory to God in the highest,
People **and peace to God's people on earth.**

Intercessor Send your powerful compassion into those who exercise authority on earth, that they may be servants of peace, bringing comfort and security to all who are vulnerable. We pray for Donald our President, Gretchen our Governor, and all who have been entrusted with power over the welfare of others. *Silence.*

Glory to God in the highest,
People **and peace to God's people on earth.**

Intercessor Embrace with your protection all who are oppressed: refugees, migrants and displaced people, those threatened by war, poverty or deportation, and families with no place to call home. *Silence.*
 Glory to God in the highest,

People **and peace to God's people on earth.**

Intercessor Fill this community with hospitality and generosity, that we may care for one another and celebrate the joy of your presence in fragile humanity. We give you thanks for all the agencies who provide shelter, food, clothing and basic needs, in our name and with our support, to our poorest neighbors.

Silence.

Glory to God in the highest,

People **and peace to God's people on earth.**

Intercessor We entrust to your divine grace all who are on our Prayer List, and others we name aloud: *Names are invited.* Bring them holy comfort and human caring in their time of need. *Silence.*

Glory to God in the highest,

People **and peace to God's people on earth.**

Intercessor We bless you for the lives of people we love, who have died and now dwell with you in heaven. We remember Connie Koch and others whose names we carry in our hearts: *Names are invited aloud.* Grant that we may join them at length, with all your saints, in your eternal kingdom. *Silence.*

Glory to God in the highest,

People **and peace to God's people on earth.**

Presider O God, by the leading of a star you manifested your only Son to the peoples of the earth: Lead us, who know you now by faith, to your presence, where we may see your glory face to face; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. *Amen.*

Confession of Sin _____

Deacon Gathered in the name of Jesus, let us remember and confess our sins against God and our neighbor. (*silence, kneeling as able*)

All **Gracious God: In Christ Jesus you came among us as light shining in the darkness. We confess our failure to welcome this light, to honor it in others and in ourselves. Forgive us our sins of thought, word and deed; and renew our hopes, that we may live in peace with you and one another; we ask in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

Absolution

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

The Peace *Please stand*

Presider The peace of the Lord be always with you.

People **And also with you!**

Let us share God's peace with one another

Welcome and Announcements

Stump the Priest! _____ *Answering your questions*

Offertory

If you wish to give online, point your phone's camera at the QR code to the right and tap the webpage that pops up. It will take you to the St. Jude's online giving form!



Offertory Hymn

Dwelling Place

See music insert

Doxology *Please stand as our gifts are brought to the altar* _____ *"Old 100th"*

**Praise God from whom all blessings flow, praise him all creatures here below.
Praise him above, ye heavenly host. Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.**

The Celebration of the Eucharist

Eucharistic Prayer "A" _____ BCP p. 361

Priest The Lord be with you.

People **And also with you.**

Priest Lift up your hearts.

People **We lift them to the Lord.**

Priest Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People
Priest

It is right to give God thanks and praise.

It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth. Because you gave Jesus Christ, your only Son, to be born for us; who, by the mighty power of the Holy Spirit, was made perfect Man of the flesh of the Virgin Mary his mother; so that we might be delivered from the bondage of sin, and receive power to become your children.

Therefore we praise you, joining our voices with Angels and Archangels and with all the company of heaven, who for ever sing this hymn to proclaim the glory of your Name:

Sanctus: WLP #858 _____ *Land of Rest*

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow - er and might,
heaven and earth are full of your glo - ry, Ho - san - na in the high - est.
Bless - ed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.
Ho - sa - na in the high - est. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

The people may remain standing or may kneel as the priest continues.

Priest

Holy and gracious Father: In your infinite love you made us for yourself, and, when we had fallen into sin and become subject to evil and death, you, in your mercy, sent Jesus Christ, your only and eternal Son, to share our human nature, to live and die as one of us, to reconcile us to you, the God and Father of all.

He stretched out his arms upon the cross, and offered himself, in obedience to your will, a perfect sacrifice for the whole world.

On the night he was handed over to suffering and death, our Lord Jesus Christ took bread; and when he had given thanks to you, he broke it, and gave it to his disciples, and said, "Take, eat: This is my Body, which is given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me."

After supper he took the cup of wine; and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, and said, "Drink this, all of you: This is my Blood of the new Covenant, which is shed for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me."

Therefore we proclaim the mystery of faith:

All **Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.**

Priest We celebrate the memorial of our redemption, O Father, in this sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving. Recalling his death, resurrection, and ascension, we offer you these gifts.

Sanctify them by your Holy Spirit to be for your people the Body and Blood of your Son, the holy food and drink of new and unending life in him. Sanctify us also that we may faithfully receive this holy Sacrament, and serve you in unity, constancy, and peace; and at the last day bring us with all your saints into the joy of your eternal kingdom.

All this we ask through your Son Jesus Christ: By him, and with him, and in him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit all honor and glory is yours, Almighty Father, now and for ever. **Amen!**

Priest And now, as our Savior Christ has taught us, we are bold to say:

All **Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy Name,
thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread.
And forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us.
And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, for ever and ever. Amen.**

The Breaking of Bread, *silence follows* _____

Priest Alleluia, Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us.

People **Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia!**

An Invitation to Communion_____ *source: Iona Community*

Priest Our feast of bread and wine is now made ready. It is the feast of company with Jesus, and all who love him.

Deacon It is the table of sharing with the poor of the world, with whom Jesus identified

himself. It is communion with the earth, in which Christ became incarnate.

Priest So come and share in this banquet: You have much faith and you who would like to have more; you who have been here often, and you who have not been for a long time; you who have tried to follow Jesus, and you who have failed; Come. It is Christ who invites us to meet him here.

Deacon These are the gifts of God for you, the beloved people of God.

The Communion *Please be seated until invited by the Ushers to come forward, or let them know if you would like Communion brought to you in the pew. **All are welcome** but no one is obliged to receive. If you would prefer not to receive Communion, please cross your arms across your chest indicating you would like to receive a blessing instead. Today we are blessing gluten-free bread. The wine may be sipped from the chalice, or wait to intinct (dip your bread) into the small bowl of blessed wine. Please do not intinct into the chalice.*

Communion Hymns #119 _____ *As with gladness men of old*
#117 _____ *Brightest and best of the stars*

Prayer after Communion *Please stand, or kneel* _____

Priest Let us pray.

All **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.**

The Christmas Blessing, *following a silence*

Priest May Christ, who by his Incarnation gathered into one things earthly and heavenly, fill you with his joy and peace; and the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be among you, and remain with you always. **Amen.**

The Sending Out

Sending Out Hymn #99 _____ *Go tell it on the mountain*

Sending Out *The Deacon dismisses the congregation, after which the people respond:*

Thanks be to God! Alleluia! Alleluia!

Do you know someone who wasn't able to join us for Christmas, but would like a Poinsettia? Today's the day to take one with you, to bless our homebound friends.

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<u>Serving at the Liturgy</u>	<u>Today</u>	<u>Next Sunday</u>
<i>Presider</i>	Rev. Susan A Williams	Rev. Mary Jo Schuetz
<i>Assisting</i>	Rev. Dcn. Judy Marinceo	Rev Dcn Judy Marinceo
<i>Choir Director</i>	Katie Young	Katie Young
<i>Organist</i>	~	
<i>Eucharistic Minister</i>	Paul Dolza	Amy Freeman
<i>Intinction Cup</i>	Amy Freeman	Dee Grossman
<i>Reader</i>	Debbie James	Rev. Wayne Knotts
<i>Prayers</i>	Dave James	Dolores Ruby
<i>Ushers</i>	Dave & Denise Rayner	Charlie J., Jessica Miller
<i>Live-streamer</i>	Dave Rayner	Lynn Hopper
<i>Vestry of the Day</i>	??	Dave James
<i>Altar Guild</i>	Sarah D, Lisa C	Dee G, Lisa C
<i>Coffee Hour</i>	??	??

It's time to sign up for a new year of blessings! As of Dec. 31, we have zero January hosts/hostesses for coffee hour or sponsors of altar flowers. You can rectify this by signing up in Vandenberg Hall (behind the coffee hour tables) or by calling/emailing Liz in the office. Thank you!