



SAINT JAMES EPISCOPAL

**THE HOLY EUCHARIST RITE II
THE SECOND SUNDAY AFTER
CHRISTMAS DAY
JANUARY 4, 2026
10:30 AM**

WELCOME TO ST. JAMES

St. James is part of the Episcopal Church and a member of the Anglican Communion—a fellowship of 70 million Christians throughout the world. We are a diverse group which gathers around one table as one family in the Body of Christ, each a beloved child of God. The Body of Christ is not simply a gathering of Christians in one place, but the mystical and spiritual connections we have through our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ with Christians throughout the world. St. James strives to be a Christ-centered community proclaiming God's word, worshipping God in the beauty of holiness, lifting our hearts in prayer, exploring and deepening our faith in community, and serving others as Christ came to serve. We welcome all who seek the living God to journey with us.

We believe in the Real Presence: that Jesus Christ becomes truly present to us in the sacrament of his Body and Blood. In this sacrament our unity in Christ is revealed and from it we draw our spiritual strength.

All are welcome at God's altar during communion. Baptized Christians of all ages are invited to receive the sacrament, regardless of your denomination. If you are not baptized or are in any way uncomfortable receiving communion today, when you come forward, simply cross your arms over your chest to indicate you desire to receive a blessing rather than the sacrament. If you are not baptized and would like to be, please speak with a member of the clergy after the service.

Again, welcome, thank you for joining us, and know that we believe in the words of St. Paul who said:

Do not neglect to show hospitality to strangers, for by doing that some have entertained angels without knowing it. (Hebrews 13:2)

Gluten Free Communion Wafers are available. Please make your request known to the clergy at the altar rail.



Hearing Loop Available: Hearing aid users can activate their T-Coils to benefit from this hearing assistance service. St. James also offers assistive listening FM Receivers with ear buds; please make your request to the usher or sound technician.

The Rt. Rev. Daniel P. Richards, Bishop, Episcopal Diocese of Upper South Carolina
The St. James Parish Family, Ministers in this place

The Rev. Kellan J. Day, Rector kellan@stjamesgreenville.org
The Rev. Hope Anderson, Curate curate@stjamesgreenville.org
Dr. Karen A. Eshelman, Director of Music and Organist music@stjamesgreenville.org
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Mrs. Jan Rhodes, Children's Minister children@stjamesgreenville.org
Mr. Sam Nixon, Youth Minister youth@stjamesgreenville.org
Mrs. Lisa Muñoz, Parish Administrator admin@stjamesgreenville.org
Mrs. Regina Foxx, Financial Administrator finance@stjamesgreenville.org

A GUIDE TO OUR SERVICE TODAY AT



SAINT JAMES EPISCOPAL

Welcome! We are delighted that you have chosen to join us for worship tonight. We know that visiting a new church can be a little intimidating, so we prepared this to help you feel more at home.

There are a lot of books in the pew - which one do I use?

You don't need to use any of the books in the pew to follow the service; most of the service is printed in this bulletin. The Book of Common Prayer (BCP) is the red book. The Hymnal 1982, the blue book, contains the hymns and service music; numbers with an S are at the front of the hymnal.

Where are the restrooms?

The restrooms are located in the main hall toward the offices. Go through the double doors at the rear of the church and turn left. Continue down the hall and the restrooms are on your right.

A changing station is located in the accessible restroom on the right near the drinking fountain.

I am hard of hearing. Will I be able to hear?

Hearing aid users can activate their T-Coils to benefit from our hearing assistance service. St. James also offers assistive listening FM Receivers with ear buds; please make your request to the usher or sound technician.

Is nursery care available during the service?

Nursery care for children four years old and under is available during this service should you desire it. The nursery is located on the lower level. Children are welcome at all services.

May my children color during the service?

Children are always welcome in all our services and activity bags are available to help keep our younger children engaged during the service. Children's Activity Bags are located in the corner of the Narthex by the window. Children may choose which activities they'd like to take in their bag. Please return the bag to the basket after the service. There's no need to sort the items when you return them, a volunteer will restock everything for the following Sunday.

When do I stand, sit, or kneel?

Episcopalians sometimes stand, sit or kneel during the service – in fact, different Episcopalians do things differently! The bulletin will suggest standing, sitting or kneeling during different places in the service, but do what you are most comfortable with and what your physical condition allows. We guarantee that someone else will be doing it too!

May I receive communion?

All baptized Christians, regardless of their religious tradition, are welcome to receive communion in the Episcopal Church, including children of all ages.

How do I receive communion?

To receive communion, come forward down the center aisle when the usher invites you to. To receive the bread, lay one hand over the other, forming a cross. The priest will place the bread in your hand. When the chalice is presented, you may dip the bread in the wine and then consume it. Return to your pew by the side aisle after you have received.

What if I am unbaptized or uncomfortable receiving communion?

If you aren't a baptized Christian or if you are uncomfortable or unable to receive communion for any reason, you are encouraged to come to God's altar for a blessing. Simply come forward and cross your arms over your chest. This lets the priest know that you would like to receive a blessing rather than the sacrament. Once you have received your blessing, you can return to your pew down the side aisle.

How can I find out more about St. James?

The most comprehensive way to find out more about St. James is to visit our website www.stjamesgreenville.org. There you will find information about our ministries, leadership and programs. However, the best way to find out more about St. James is to ask! We would love to get to know you better and share with you why St. James is our spiritual home – just ask one of us! If you prefer, you can fill out a visitor card in the pew and a member of the clergy will be in touch.

Are you visiting St. James today?

If so, please take a moment to fill out an online visitor card!

<https://www.stjamesgreenville.org/online-visitor-card>

THE HOLY EUCHARIST RITE II

Please turn off all cellular phones and similar devices.

Be mindful that this service is being live-streamed; the camera and microphones are live during the prelude

and until the end of the postlude.

Children are welcome at all services.

Prelude

How Bright Appears the Morning Star

Dietrich Buxtehude

THE WORD OF GOD

All stand.

Processional Hymn

The first Nowell the angel did say

Hymn 109

Opening Acclamation

Book of Common Prayer (BCP) 355

The people standing, the Celebrant says

Blessed be God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

People **And blessed be his kingdom, now and for ever. Amen.**

A Song of Praise:

Angels we have heard on high

Hymn 96

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.

3 Come to Bethlehem and see
him whose birth the angels sing;
come, adore on bended knee
Christ, the Lord, the newborn King.
Gloria in excelsis Deo,
gloria in excelsis Deo.

The Collect of the Day

BCP 357

The Celebrant says to the people

The Lord be with you.

People **And also with you.**

Celebrant Let us pray.

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 First Reading

Jeremiah 31:7-14

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.

People The Word of the Lord
 Thanks be to God

Psalm 84 *Quam dilecta!*

Robert Knox Kennedy
(b. 1945)



© 1979, Robert Knox Kennedy.

- 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 you're A-/ointed.
- 9 For one day in your courts is better than a thousand in my own / room, *
and to stand at the threshold of the house of my God
than to dwell in the tents of the / wicked.
- 10 For the Lord God is both sun and / shield; *
he will give grace and / glory;
- 11 No good thing will the Lord with-/hold *
from those who walk with in-/tegrity.
- 12 O Lord of / hosts, *
happy are they who put their / trust in you!

The Second Reading

Ephesians 1:3-6, 15-19a

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.

The Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

All stand.

Sequence Hymn

How lovely is thy dwelling-place

Hymn 517

All remain standing.

The Gospel

Luke 2:41-52

Celebrant 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.

People **Praise to you, Lord Christ.**

The Sermon

The Rev. Hope Anderson

The Nicene Creed

BCP 358

All stand and together say

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.

The Prayers of the People

As we join the angels and shepherds to celebrate with joy the birth of Jesus Christ, let us offer prayers to God who shines the light of Christ on all creation, saying: **Holy God, be born in us today.**

For the Church in all places, remembering especially Sarah, the Archbishop-elect of Canterbury, Sean our Presiding Bishop, and Daniel our bishop, that our worship and praise may give glory to God, and our witness and ministry bring new hope to many. **Holy God, be born in us today.**

For this Parish Family, that we, like the angels, may announce the good news of God's saving love and be instruments of peace to all who walk the human journey with us. **Holy God, be born in us today.**

For people of faith everywhere, that God's spirit will open new pathways of peace and hope to all who live in danger and fear. **Holy God, be born in us today.**

For those who live and work in places of trouble and violence, especially for the people of the Middle East, that the Prince of Peace will guide all hearts to strive for peace and justice, let us pray to the Lord. **Holy God, be born in us today.**

For all those who are caring for others this Christmas season, that God will strengthen and protect healthcare workers, public safety and utility workers, and those who care for the poor and vulnerable. **Holy God, be born in us today.**

For all who find Christmas difficult, for those whose lives are touched by fear, anxiety, or depression, and for all those in need of our prayers especially those on the St. James and St. Francis parish prayer lists, that Christ will bring healing, light, and hope to their hearts. **Holy God, be born in us today.**

For all the blessings God has given us, that we may receive them thankfully and rejoice that Christ is born again in our hearts and lives. **Holy God, be born in us today.**

For those who have died, remembering especially all those in whose memory the Christmas flowers are given, that they may rejoice in the light of God's incarnate Word. **Holy God, be born in us today.**

Lifting our voices with all creation, with James the Apostle, Francis of Assisi, Mary the mother of God, and with all the heavenly host, let us offer ourselves and one another to the living God through Christ. **Glory to you, Lord God.**

The Celebrant adds a concluding collect.

The Confession & Absolution

The Celebrant says

Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

Silence may be kept.

Most merciful God,
we confess that we have sinned against you
in thought, word, and deed,
by what we have done,
and by what we have left undone.
We have not loved you with our whole heart;
we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves.
We are truly sorry and we humbly repent.
For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ,
have mercy on us and forgive us;
that we may delight in your will,
and walk in your ways,
to the glory of your Name. Amen.

The Celebrant offers the absolution.

The Peace

The peace of the Lord be always with you.

People **And also with you.**

BCP 360

THE HOLY COMMUNION

The Offertory

1 What treasures shall I give to him
Once higher than the Cherubim,
Now poor and cold, but still a King
and lying in a manger?

2 Shall I give my precious gold,
Riches brightest to behold,
Gift of kings in days of old
to this infant stranger?

3 Or frankincense to fill the air
With perfume sweet and odor fair,
Symbol of a people's prayer
delivered out of danger?

The Giving Carol

Irish traditional tune
Arr. by Henry Lebedinsky

4 Or myrrh, the oil of the tomb
Foreshadow of a future gloom;
A shameful Cross, the death of whom
Lies sleeping in the manger?

5 The greatest gift that I can bring
is not a jewel or precious thing:
A heart attuned to serving him
 Who fed and healed the stranger.

6 The gift of loving charity
Helping those in poverty:
This is what he asks of me,
Our God within the manger.

Words by Henry Lebedinsky

All stand.

Presentation Hymn

The great Creator of the worlds

Hymn 489

The Great Thanksgiving *Eucharistic Prayer*

BCP 367

The people remain standing.

The Celebrant proceeds.

...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:

Celebrant and people

Sanctus BCP 367 / *Hymnal S130*

The musical score consists of two staves of music in G clef, B-flat key signature, and common time. The top staff is for the soprano voice and the bottom staff is for the basso continuo. The lyrics are written in a Gothic script font, corresponding to the musical phrases. The score includes several melodic lines with various note values and rests, separated by vertical bar lines. The lyrics are as follows:

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of power and
might, Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord,
God of power and might, hea - ven and earth are
full, full of your glo - ry. Ho -
san - na in the high - est. Ho - san - na
in the high - est. Bless - ed is he who comes

in the name of the Lord. Ho - san - na

in the high - est. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

Setting: From *Deutsche Messe*, Franz Schubert (1797-1828); arr. Richard Proulx (1937-2010). Adaptation copyright ©1985, GIA Publications, Inc.

The Celebrant continues

Memorial Acclamation

Hymnal S138

Celebrant

Therefore, according to his com - mand, O Fa - ther,

Celebrant and People

We re - mem - ber his death, We pro - claim his re - sur -

rec - tion, We a - wait his com - ing in glo - ry.

Setting: McNeil Robinson II (1943-2015). Copyright © 1984, Theodore Presser Co. Used by permission of the publisher.

The Celebrant continues

...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.

Celebrant

People

A-men.

The Lord's Prayer

Hymnal S119/BCP 364

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

People and Celebrant

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 the Bread

Hymnal S164/BCP 364

Je - sus, Lamb of God: have mer - cy on us.

Je - sus, bear - er of our sins: have mer - cy on us.

Je - sus, re - deem - er, re - deem - er of the world:

give us your peace, give us your peace.

Setting: From *Deutsche Messe*, Franz Peter Schubert (1797-1828); arr. Richard Proulx (1937-2010). Adaptation copyright © 1985, GIA Publications, Inc.

Baptized Christians of all traditions and ages are invited to receive the sacrament. If you are not baptized or are uncomfortable receiving communion for any reason, you are invited to come forward to receive a blessing. If you are unable to come forward for communion, alert an usher and communion will be brought to you.

At Communion

How bright appears the Morning Star

Hymn 497

After Communion, the People standing or kneeling, the Celebrant says

Let us pray.

Celebrant and People

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.

Sending Forth of Eucharistic Visitors

Celebrant In the name of this congregation, I send you forth bearing these holy gifts, that those to whom you go may share with us in the communion of Christ's Body and Blood.

People **We who are many are one body, for we all share one bread, one cup.**

The Christmas Blessing

May Almighty God, who sent his Son to take our nature upon him, bless you in this holy season, scatter the darkness of sin, and brighten your heart with the light of his holiness. **Amen.**

May God, who sent his angels to proclaim the glad news of the Savior's birth, fill you with joy, and make you heralds of the Gospel. **Amen.**

May God, who in the Word made flesh joined heaven to earth and earth to heaven, give you his peace and favor. **Amen.**

And the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be upon you and remain with you for ever. **Amen.**

Processional Hymn

Good Christian friends, rejoice

Hymn 107

Dismissal

BCP 366

The Celebrant dismisses the people and they respond.

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

Postlude

In Thee Is Gladness

J. S. Bach

To make an online donation to St. James, please go to our webpage <https://www.stjamesgreenville.org/donate>.

You can also text "SJGVL" to 73256 to give using your mobile device.

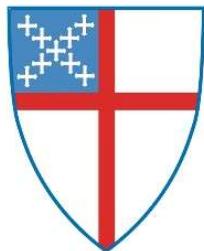
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Prayers of the People adapted from the United Church of Christ.



*St. James Episcopal Church is, above all,
a welcoming, caring community.*

*We are dedicated to worship, outreach,
fellowship and growth in the service of Christ.*

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