SAINT JAMES
EPISCOPAL

THE HOLY EUCHARIST RITE II

THE FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT

NOVEMBER 29, 2026

10:30 AM

THE ADVENT LITURGY

This Sunday we begin the observance of Advent, the first season of the church year, which begins with the fourth Sunday before Christmas and continues until the Eve of the Nativity of Our Lord Jesus Christ (Christmas Eve). Advent is derived from a Latin word "*adventus*," which is roughly translated as "coming." The observance of Advent has its roots in the latter half of the sixth century and while Advent was once formally kept with much of the solemnity of Lent, the western Church eventually relaxed the fasting requirements in Advent but continued to discourage festivities during the season. Our Advent bears much of these traditional marks including a solemnity that sets the season apart from the seasons of Pentecost and Christmas. Blue is the liturgical color for Advent, Altar flowers are replaced with simple greens, the *Gloria* is replaced with the *Kyrie,* and silence is more prevalent than at other times of the church year. The liturgy and lessons reflect that Advent is a time of preparation and expectation for the coming celebration of our Lord's nativity, and for the final coming of Christ "in power and glory."

WELCOME TO ST. JAMES

All are welcome at God's altar during communion. Baptized Christians of all ages are invited to join with us in receiving 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 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 (cell: 269-267-4315)...……...…kellan@stjamesgreenville.org
The Rev. Hope Anderson, Curate (cell: 972-762-7719)……..curate@stjamesgreenville.org
Dr. Karen A. Eshelman, Director of Music and Organist……music@stjamesgreenville.org
Ms. Keli DeHart, Day School Director…… dayschool@stjamesgreenville.org
Mrs. Jan Rhodes, Children's Minister…….……...children@stjamesgreenville.org
Mrs. Lisa Muñoz, Parish Administrator……...admin@stjamesgreenville.org
Mrs. Regina Foxx, Finance Administrator …… finance@stjamesgreenville.org

SERVICE GUIDE FOR TODAY AT ST JAMES

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

The Book of Common Prayer (BCP) is the red book found in the pew rack. 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.

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.

Room 229 is a soft-landing space for young families and nursing parents who want to stay close to worship. Room 229 is the room behind the small altar located at the end of the hallway in the Narthex. We're delighted your whole family is here!

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 now 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.

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.

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 bread will be placed in your hand. Consume the bread and when the chalice is presented, grasp the chalice lightly at the foot and guide it to your lips to drink the wine. Another option is to 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 receiving 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 celebrant know that you would like to receive a blessing rather than the sacrament. Once you have received your blessing, return to your pew.

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 Savior of the Nations, Come J. S. Bach

THE WORD OF GOD

All stand.

Processional Hymn *Lo! he comes with clouds descending* **Hymn 57**

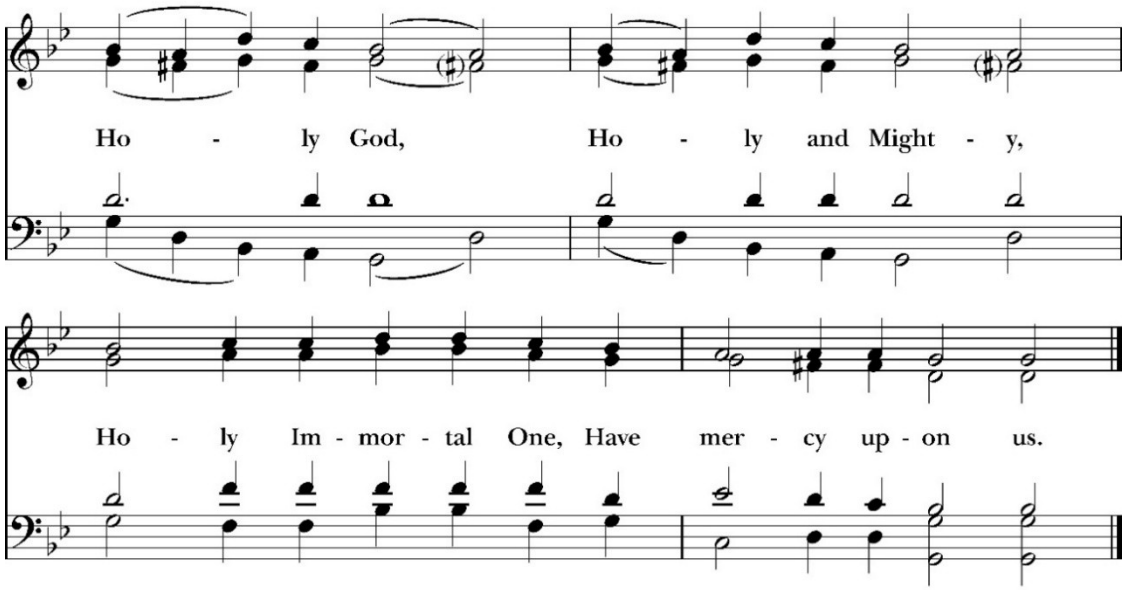
Opening Acclamation Book of Common Prayer (BCP) 299

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.**

The Collect for Purity

Trisagion *(sung three times)* *Hymn S102*



Music: Ver. *Hymnal 1982*, after Alexander Archangelsky (1846-1924). Setting: Copyright © Church Publishing Inc.

The Collect of the Day

The Celebrant says to the people

The Lord be with you.
People **And also with you.**
Celebrant Let us pray.

Almighty God, give us grace to cast away the works of darkness, and put on the armor of light, now in the time of this mortal life in which your Son Jesus Christ came to visit us in great humility; that in the last day, when he shall come again in his glorious majesty to judge both the living and the dead, we may rise to the life immortal; through him who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

All are seated.

The First Reading **Isaiah 64:1-9**

O that you would tear open the heavens and come down,
so that the mountains would quake at your presence—

as when fire kindles brushwood
and the fire causes water to boil—

to make your name known to your adversaries,
so that the nations might tremble at your presence!

When you did awesome deeds that we did not expect,
you came down, the mountains quaked at your presence.

From ages past no one has heard,
no ear has perceived,

no eye has seen any God besides you,
who works for those who wait for him.

You meet those who gladly do right,
those who remember you in your ways.

But you were angry, and we sinned;
because you hid yourself we transgressed.

We have all become like one who is unclean,
and all our righteous deeds are like a filthy cloth.

We all fade like a leaf,
and our iniquities, like the wind, take us away.

There is no one who calls on your name,
or attempts to take hold of you;

for you have hidden your face from us,
and have delivered us into the hand of our iniquity.

Yet, O Lord, you are our Father;
we are the clay, and you are our potter;
we are all the work of your hand.

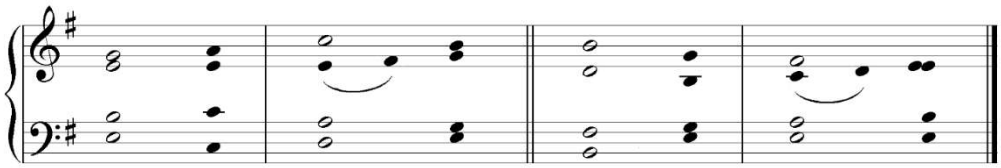
Do not be exceedingly angry, O Lord,
and do not remember iniquity forever.
Now consider, we are all your people.

The Word of the Lord

People **Thanks be to God**

All remain seated.

Psalm 80:1-7, 16-18 *Qui regis Israel*



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1 Hear, O Shepherd of Israel, leading Joseph like a / flock; *
shine forth, you that are enthroned upon the / cherubim.

2 In the presence of Ephraim, Benjamin, and Ma-/nasseh, *
stir up your strength and come to / help us.

3 Restore us, O God of / hosts; *
show the light of your countenance, and we shall be / saved.

4 O Lord God of / hosts, *
how long will you be angered despite the prayers of your / people?

5 You have fed them with the bread of / tears; *
you have given them bowls of tears to / drink.

6 You have made us the derision of our / neighbors, *
and our enemies laugh us to / scorn.

7 Restore us, O God of / hosts; *
show the light of your countenance, and we shall be / saved.

16 Let your hand be upon the man of your right / hand, *
the son of man you have made so / strong for yourself.

17 And so will we never turn a-/way from you; *
give us life, that we may call upon your / Name.

18 Restore us, O Lord God of / hosts; *
show the light of your countenance, and we shall be / saved.

The Second Reading **1 Corinthians 1:3-9**

Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

I give thanks to my God always for you because of the grace of God that has been given you in Christ Jesus, for in every way you have been enriched in him, in speech and knowledge of every kind—just as the testimony of Christ has been strengthened among you—so that you are not lacking in any spiritual gift as you wait for the revealing of our Lord Jesus Christ. He will also strengthen you to the end, so that you may be blameless on the day of our Lord Jesus Christ. God is faithful; by him you were called into the fellowship of his Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

The Word of the Lord
People **Thanks be to God**

All stand.

Sequence Hymn *Rejoice! rejoice, believers* **Hymn 68**

All remain standing.

The Gospel **Mark 13:24-37**

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

Jesus said, "In those days, after that suffering,

the sun will be darkened,
and the moon will not give its light,
and the stars will be falling from heaven,
and the powers in the heavens will be shaken.

Then they will see 'the Son of Man coming in clouds' with great power and glory. Then he will send out the angels, and gather his elect from the four winds, from the ends of the earth to the ends of heaven.

"From the fig tree learn its lesson: as soon as its branch becomes tender and puts forth its leaves, you know that summer is near. So also, when you see these things taking place, you know that he is near, at the very gates. Truly I tell you, this generation will not pass away until all these things have taken place. Heaven and earth will pass away, but my words will not pass away.

"But about that day or hour no one knows, neither the angels in heaven, nor the Son, but only the Father. Beware, keep alert; for you do not know when the time will come. It is like a man going on a journey, when he leaves home and puts his slaves in charge, each with his work, and commands the doorkeeper to be on the watch. Therefore, keep awake—for you do not know when the master of the house will come, in the evening, or at midnight, or at cockcrow, or at dawn, or else he may find you asleep when he comes suddenly. And what I say to you I say to all: Keep awake."

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

All are seated.

The Sermon

The Rev. Hope Anderson

The Nicene Creed

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

God of grace, we turn to you with our whole hearts.
In this season of waiting, we rest and rejoice in your promises.
May we find our true home in you.
Loving God,
let your kingdom come.

God of new life, we pray for the church, the body of Christ, in all the world.
Carry us on the wind of your Holy Spirit.
Guide your people to joyfully proclaim the Good News.
Loving God,
let your kingdom come.

God of justice, we pray for our world, the world you so loved that you gave your Son.
We pray for all who suffer from hunger, conflict, or disaster.
Help us to listen to those who are marginalized and to use our resources so that all may flourish.
Loving God,
let your kingdom come.

God of mercy, we pray for our community.
Send your light to all who have lost hope and to any who feel alone.
May they know you as their refuge and strength.
Loving God,
let your kingdom come.

God of comfort, receive into your mercy all those who have died,
remembering especially those we now name silently or aloud (*Silence*).
May all who grieve know you as the Morning Star,
who rises with compassion and meets us in our grief.
Loving God,
Let your kingdom come.

God of hope, inspire us by the power of your Spirit,
and the witness of your saints, to live with a sense of wonder and delight
in the world that you have made and our place in it.
Loving God,
let your kingdom come.

The Celebrant adds a concluding Collect.

The Confession & Absolution

The Deacon or 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

Celebrant The peace of the Lord be always with you.
People **And also with you.**

THE HOLY COMMUNION

Offertory Anthem

The Truth from Above — Traditional English

This is the truth sent from above,
The truth of God, the God of love:
Therefore don't turn me from your door,
But hearken all, both rich and poor.

The first thing which I do relate
Is that God did man create,
The next thing which to you I'll tell,
Woman was made with man to dwell.

Then, after this, 'twas God's own choice
to place them both in Paradise,
There to remain, from evil free,
Except they ate of such a tree.

But they did eat, which was a sin,
And thus their ruin did begin.
Ruined themselves, both you and me,
And all of their posterity.

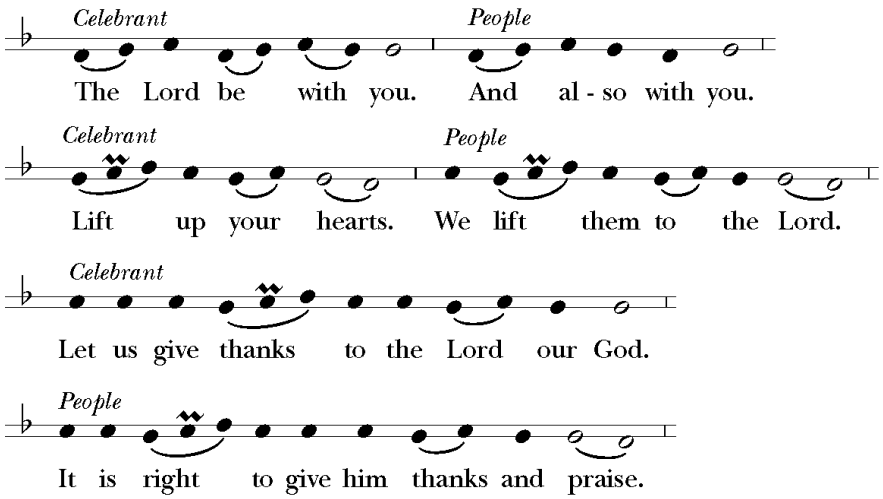
Thus we were heirs to endless woes,
Till God the Lord did interpose,
And so a promise soon did run,
That he would redeem us by his Son.

All stand.

Presentation Hymn *Come, thou long expected Jesus* **Hymn 66**

The Great Thanksgiving *Eucharistic Prayer B* BCP 367

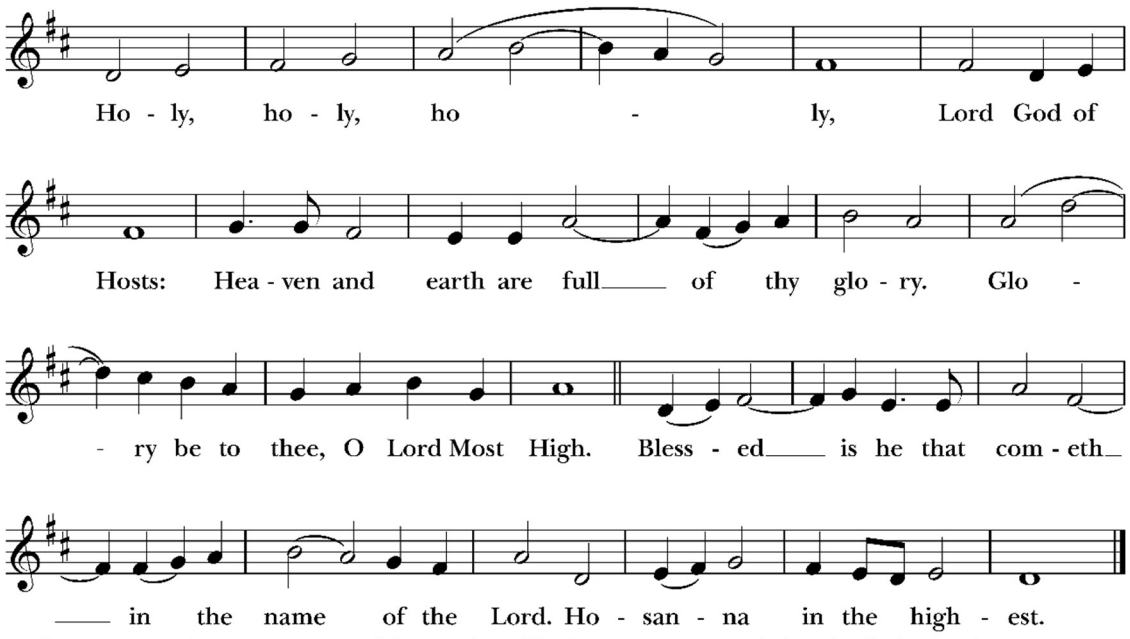
The People remain standing.



The Celebrant proceeds

…who for ever sing this hymn to proclaim the glory of your Name:

Sanctus *Hymn S114*

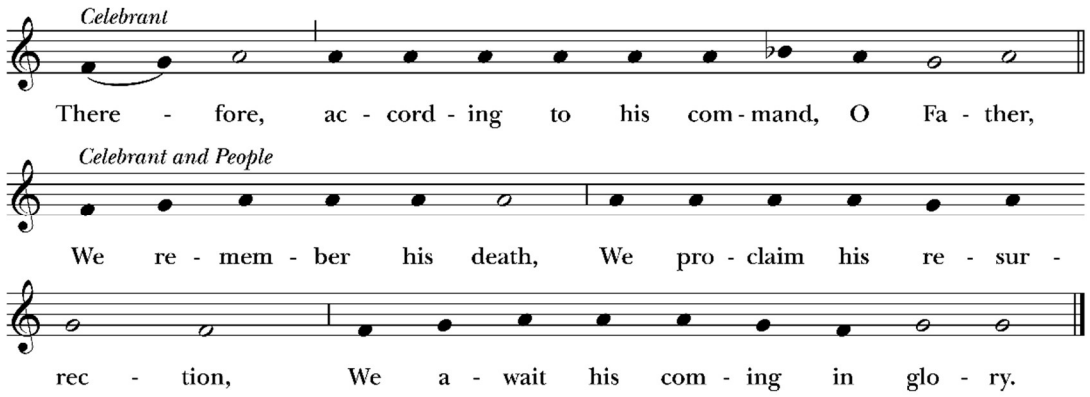


Music: From *Missa de Sancta Maria Magdalena*, Healey Willan (1880-1968). By permission of Oxford University Press.

The Celebrant continues

The Memorial Acclamation

Hymn S136



Music: Ambrosian anaphora chant; adapt. Mason Martens (1933-1991). Copyright © 1971 Mason Martens.

The Celebrant continues

…By him, and with him, and in him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit all honor and glory is yours, Almight Father, now and for ever. **Amen.**



The Lord's Prayer

Hymn S119

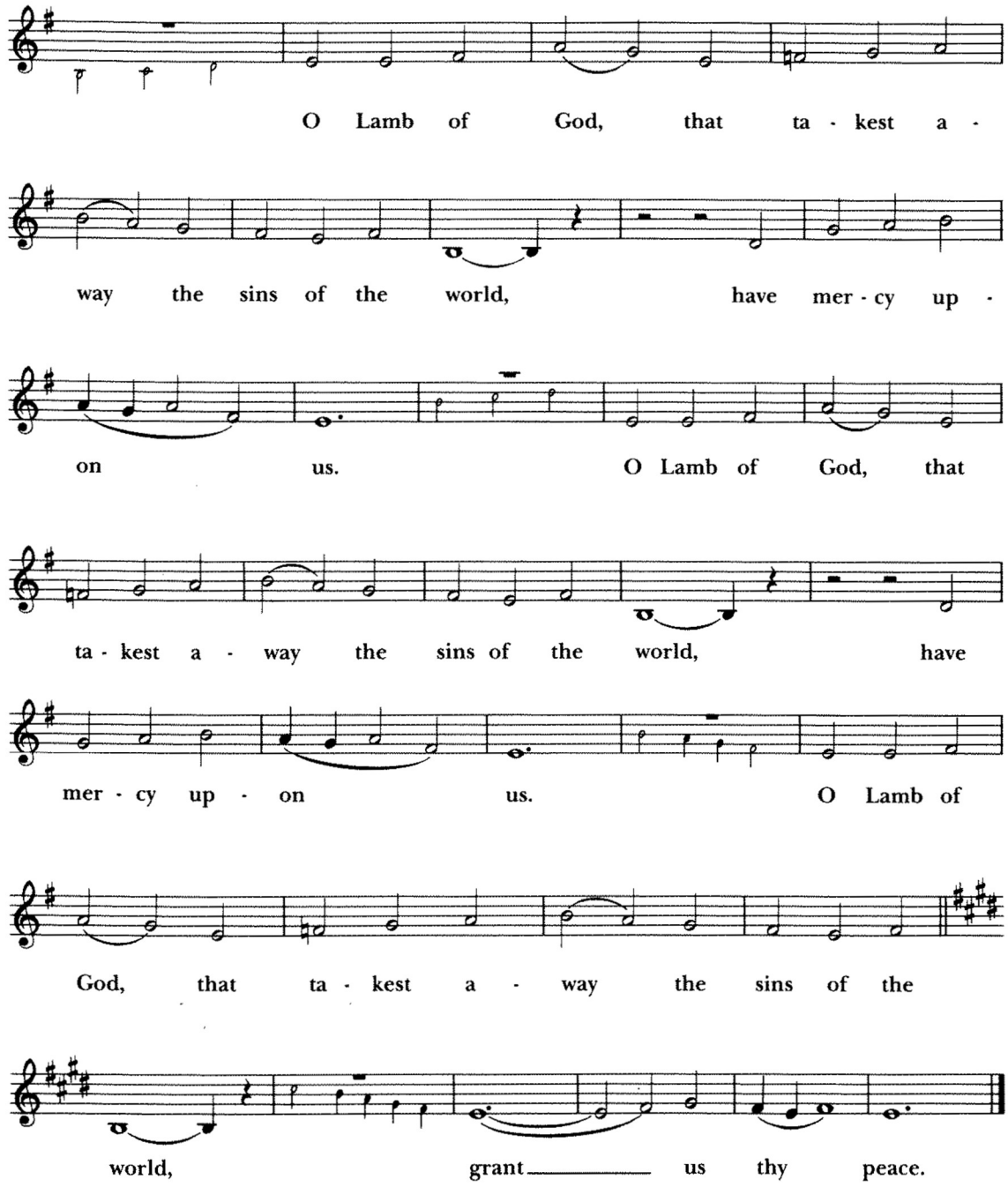
And now, as our Savior Christ has taught us, we are bold to say,

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.

Agnus Dei

Hymn S158



Setting: From *Missa de Sancta Maria Magdalena*, Healey Willan (1880-1968)

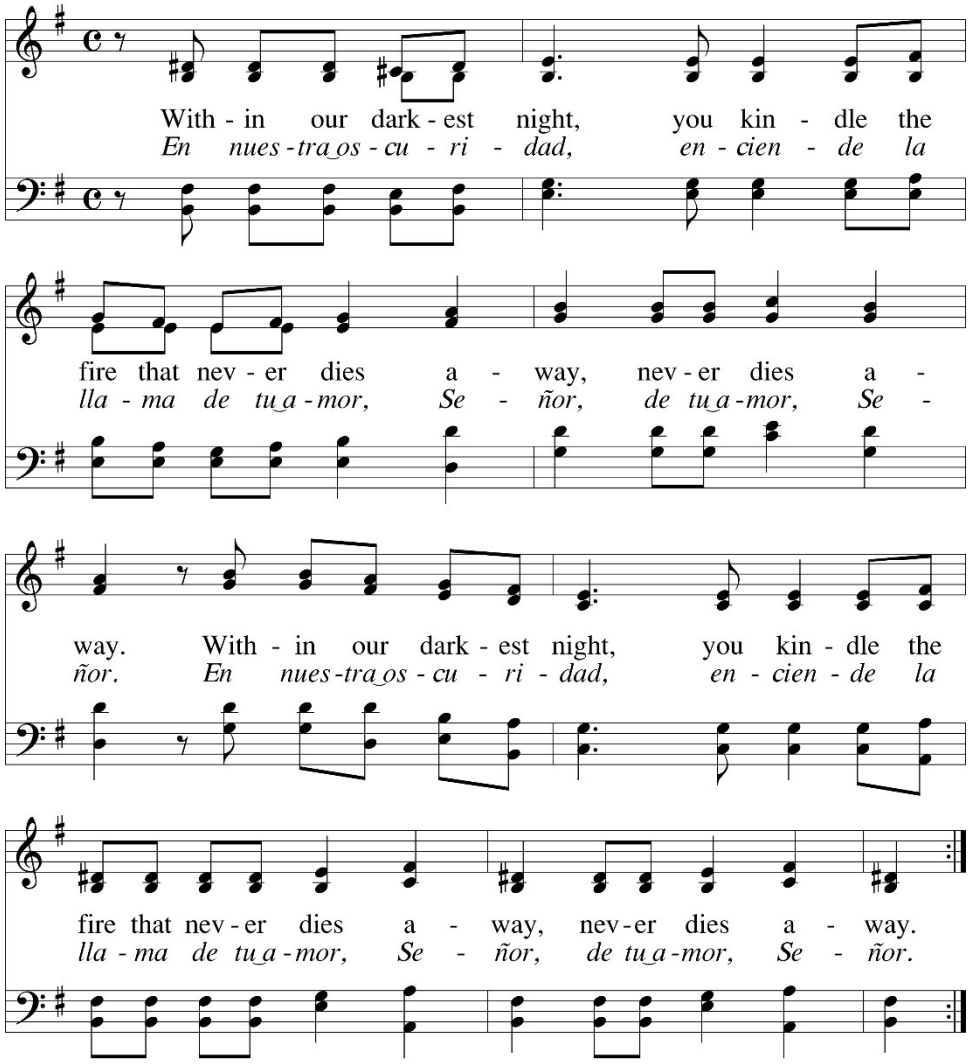
Baptized Christians of all ages are invited to receive the sacrament.
All are welcome to come forward to God's altar for a blessing.
At this time parents are encouraged to pick up their children in the nursery and come forward as a family.

At Communion

Savior of nations, come! **Hymn 54**

Within our darkest night Taizé chant

This Taizé chant is a repeated meditative prayer song
for everyone to sing and learn by heart.



Text: Taizé Community, 1991
Tune: Jacques Berthier, 1923–1994
© 1991, Les Presses de Taizé, GIA Publications, Inc., agent

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.**

Advent Blessing

May Almighty God, by whose providence our Savior Christ came among us in great humility, sanctify you with the light of his blessing and set you free from all sin. **Amen.**

May he whose second Coming in power and great glory we await, make you steadfast in faith, joyful in hope, and constant in love. **Amen.**

May you, who rejoice in the first Advent of our Redeemer, at his second Advent be rewarded with unending life. **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 *The King shall come when morning dawns* **Hymn 73**

Dismissal

The Celebrant, dismisses the people and they respond.

Let us go forth in the name of Christ.

People **Thanks be to God.**

Postlude O Savior, Rend the Heavens Wide Wilbur Held

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You can also text "SJGVL" to 73256 to give using your mobile device.
Please give generously to help support the mission and ministries of St. James Episcopal Church.

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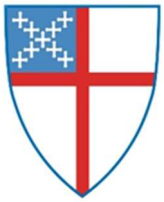
Advent Prayers of the People adapted from the Church of Ireland. "Advent All Age Resources." 2026



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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