

St. James' Episcopal Church  
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*St. James' Episcopal Church welcomes you to our service of worship.  
If you are searching for a spiritual home,  
we invite you to become part of our community of faith and love.*

*The mission of St. James' Church derives from the nature of the church.  
It exists for the good of all people, to spread the word of  
God's Salvation and to bring people to know Jesus Christ.*



**The Twenty Fifth Sunday after Pentecost  
Holy Eucharist  
19 November 2023 9:30 AM**

*Let us acknowledge with respect and reverence the Unkechaug People, who have stewarded this land throughout the generations, while not forgetting the colonization of this land.*

### **The Liturgy of the Word**

Blessed be God Father, Son and Holy Spirit.

**And blessed be God's Kingdom, now and forever. Amen.**

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**

Lord, have mercy. **Christ, have mercy.** Lord, have mercy.

Collect of the Day The Lord be with you. **And also with you.** Let us pray. Blessed Lord, who caused all holy Scriptures to be written for our learning: Grant us so to hear them, read, mark, learn, and inwardly digest them, that we may embrace and ever hold fast the blessed hope of everlasting life, which you have given us in our Savior Jesus Christ; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

*Nomination of a Warden and Bishop Committee Members*

### **The First Lesson**

### **Zephaniah 1:7, 12-18**

#### ***A Reading from the Prophet Zephaniah.***

<sup>7</sup>Be silent before the Lord God! For the day of the Lord is at hand; the Lord has prepared a sacrifice, he has consecrated his guests. <sup>12</sup>At that time I will search Jerusalem with lamps, and I will punish the people who rest complacently on their dregs, those who say in their hearts, "The Lord will not do good, nor will he do harm." <sup>13</sup>Their wealth shall be plundered, and their houses laid waste. Though they build houses, they shall not inhabit them; though they plant vineyards, they shall not drink wine from them. <sup>14</sup>The great day of the Lord is near, near and hastening fast; the sound of the day of the Lord is bitter, the warrior cries aloud there. <sup>15</sup>That day will

be a day of wrath, a day of distress and anguish, a day of ruin and devastation, a day of darkness and gloom, a day of clouds and thick darkness, <sup>16</sup>a day of trumpet blast and battle cry against the fortified cities and against the lofty battlements. <sup>17</sup>I will bring such distress upon people that they shall walk like the blind; because they have sinned against the Lord, their blood shall be poured out like dust, and their flesh like dung. <sup>18</sup>Neither their silver nor their gold will be able to save them on the day of the Lord's wrath; in the fire of his passion the whole earth shall be consumed; for a full, a terrible end he will make of all the inhabitants of the earth. *The Word of the Lord.*  
***Thanks be to God.***

Psalms 90:1-8, (9-11), 12

<sup>1</sup> Lord, you have been our refuge \*

**from one generation to another.**

<sup>2</sup> Before the mountains were brought forth,  
or the land and the earth were born, \*

**from age to age you are God.**

<sup>3</sup> You turn us back to the dust and say, \*

**“Go back, O child of earth.”**

<sup>4</sup> For a thousand years in your sight are like yesterday when it is past \*

**and like a watch in the night.**

<sup>5</sup> You sweep us away like a dream; \*

**we fade away suddenly like the grass.**

<sup>6</sup> In the morning it is green and flourishes; \*

**in the evening it is dried up and withered.**

<sup>7</sup> For we consume away in your displeasure; \*

**we are afraid because of your wrathful indignation.**

<sup>8</sup> Our iniquities you have set before you, \*

**and our secret sins in the light of your countenance.**

<sup>9</sup> [When you are angry, all our days are gone; \*

**we bring our years to an end like a sigh.**

<sup>10</sup> The span of our life is seventy years,

perhaps in strength even eighty; \*

**yet the sum of them is but labor and sorrow,**

**for they pass away quickly and we are gone.**

<sup>11</sup> Who regards the power of your wrath? \*

**who rightly fears your indignation?]**

<sup>12</sup> So teach us to number our days \*

**that we may apply our hearts to wisdom.**

## The Second Lesson

## 1 Thessalonians 5:1-11

*A Reading from the First Letter to the Thessalonians.*

<sup>1</sup>Now concerning the times and the seasons, brothers and sisters, you do not need to have anything written to you. <sup>2</sup>For you yourselves know very well that the day of the Lord will come like a thief in the night. <sup>3</sup>When they say, "There is peace and security," then sudden destruction will come upon them, as labor pains come upon a pregnant woman, and there will be no escape! <sup>4</sup>But you, beloved, are not in darkness, for that day to surprise you like a thief; <sup>5</sup>for you are all children of light and children of the day; we are not of the night or of darkness. <sup>6</sup>So then let us not fall asleep as others do, but let us keep awake and be sober; <sup>7</sup>for those who sleep sleep at night, and those who are drunk get drunk at night. <sup>8</sup>But since we belong to the day, let us be sober, and put on the breastplate of faith and love, and for a helmet the hope of salvation. <sup>9</sup>For God has destined us not for wrath but for obtaining salvation through our Lord Jesus Christ, <sup>10</sup>who died for us, so that whether we are awake or asleep we may live with him. <sup>11</sup>Therefore encourage one another and build up each other, as indeed you are doing. *The Word of the Lord. Thanks be to God.*

## Hymn

551

## The Gospel

## Matthew 25: 14-30

*The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ According to Matthew.*

***Glory to you, Lord Christ.***

<sup>14</sup>"For it is as if a man, going on a journey, summoned his slaves and entrusted his property to them; <sup>15</sup>to one he gave five talents, to another two, to another one, to each according to his ability. Then he went away. <sup>16</sup>The one who had received the five talents went off at once and traded with them, and made five more talents. <sup>17</sup>In the same way, the one who had the two talents made two more talents. <sup>18</sup>But the one who

had received the one talent went off and dug a hole in the ground and hid his master's money. <sup>19</sup>After a long time the master of those slaves came and settled accounts with them. <sup>20</sup>Then the one who had received the five talents came forward, bringing five more talents, saying, 'Master, you handed over to me five talents; see, I have made five more talents.' <sup>21</sup>His master said to him, 'Well done, good and trustworthy slave; you have been trustworthy in a few things, I will put you in charge of many things; enter into the joy of your master.' <sup>22</sup>And the one with the two talents also came forward, saying, 'Master, you handed over to me two talents; see, I have made two more talents.' <sup>23</sup>His master said to him, 'Well done, good and trustworthy slave; you have been trustworthy in a few things, I will put you in charge of many things; enter into the joy of your master.' <sup>24</sup>Then the one who had received the one talent also came forward, saying, 'Master, I knew that you were a harsh man, reaping where you did not sow, and gathering where you did not scatter seed; <sup>25</sup>so I was afraid, and I went and hid your talent in the ground. Here you have what is yours.' <sup>26</sup>But his master replied, 'You wicked and lazy slave! You knew, did you, that I reap where I did not sow, and gather where I did not scatter? <sup>27</sup>Then you ought to have invested my money with the bankers, and on my return I would have received what was my own with interest. <sup>28</sup>So take the talent from him, and give it to the one with the ten talents. <sup>29</sup>For to all those who have, more will be given, and they will have an abundance; but from those who have nothing, even what they have will be taken away. <sup>30</sup>As for this worthless slave, throw him into the outer darkness, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.' *The Gospel of our Lord. Praise to you, Lord Christ.*

## Homily

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    *Compiled by Deacon Ormonde Plater*

*Presider:* As we wait in pregnant expectation for the day of the Lord, let us offer prayers to God for all in every danger and need.

*Intercessor(s):*

For this holy gathering, and for the people of God in every place. **Lord, have mercy.**

For all peoples and their leaders, and for justice and righteousness in the world. **Lord, have mercy.**

For good weather, abundant fruits of the earth and peaceful times. **Lord, have mercy.**

For the sick and the suffering, travelers and refugees, prisoners, and their families, and the dying and dead. **Lord, have mercy.**

For our communities and those who live in them and for our families, companions, and all those we love. **Lord, have mercy.**

Lifting our voices with all creation, with the Blessed Virgin Mary, blessed James and all the saints, let us offer ourselves and one another to the living God through Christ. **To you, O Lord.**

*Presider:* Almighty God, who gave us salvation through Jesus Christ and made us children of light, hear the prayers we offer this day and bring us to the time and season of your glory; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor. *Silence is kept for a while.* **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.**

Almighty God have mercy on you, forgive you all your sins through our Lord Jesus Christ, strengthen you in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep you in eternal life. **Amen.** The Peace of the Lord be always with you. **And also with you**

### **The Liturgy of the Table**

Hymn

**598**

Eucharistic Prayer B

The Lord be with you. **And also with you.**

Lift up your hearts. **We lift them to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**It is right to give him 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. Through Jesus Christ our Lord; who on the first day of the week overcame death and the grave, and by his glorious resurrection opened to us the way of everlasting life.

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:

**S129     Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,  
heaven and earth are full of your glory.  
Hosanna in the highest.  
Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.  
Hosanna in the highest.**

We give thanks to you, O God, for the goodness and love which you have made known to us in creation; in the calling of Israel to be your people; in your Word spoken through the prophets; and above all in the Word made flesh, Jesus, your Son. For in these last days you sent him to be incarnate from the Virgin Mary, to be the Savior and Redeemer of the world. In him, you have delivered us from evil, and made us worthy to stand before you. In him, you have brought us out of error into truth, out of sin into righteousness, out of death into life. On the night before he died for us, 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, according to his command, O Father, **We remember his death, We proclaim his resurrection, We await his coming in glory;**

And we offer our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving to you, O Lord of all; presenting to you, from your creation, this bread and this wine. We pray you, gracious God, to send your Holy Spirit upon these gifts that they may be the Sacrament of the Body of Christ and his Blood of the new Covenant. Unite us to your Son in his sacrifice, that we may be acceptable through him, being sanctified by the Holy Spirit. In the fullness of time, put all things in subjection under your Christ, and bring us to that heavenly country where, with Mary the God bearer, blessed James all your saints, we may enter the everlasting heritage of your sons and daughters; through Jesus Christ our Lord, the firstborn of all creation, the head of the Church, and the author of our salvation. 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.**



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

Fraction Anthem

Alleluia. Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us;  
**Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia.**

Invitation to Communion

*All baptized Christians are invited to receive Communion.*

Postcommunion Prayer *(Please stand)*

**Loving God, we give you thanks for restoring us in your image and nourishing us with spiritual food in the Sacrament of Christ's Body and Blood. Now send us forth a people, forgiven, healed, renewed; that we may proclaim your love to the world and continue in the risen life of Christ our Savior. Amen.**

The Blessing

The blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be among you, and remain with you always. **Amen.**

Announcements

Dismissal

Let us go forth in the name of Christ. **Thanks be to God.**

## Announcements

Welcome to our service. We are happy you could join us, either in person or via technological means. To join us as we worship via Zoom. Call in to 646 558.8656 Meeting ID: 317 854 854 Password: 187300. Please join us for fellowship in the Parish Hall after service. Please join us for our Cultural Heritage Potluck. Next week Jim and Doreen Vaz will host.

Are you receiving and reading the weekly e-messenger Good News from St. James? Check your email to make sure it is not going into your spam folder. If not, email the church and we will be sure to put you on the list.

Fr. Hickman may be reached at 631.320.8777. Monday is his Sabbath Day.

## Dates to Remember

|             |  |
|-------------|--|
| 3 December  | First Sunday in Advent   |
| 24 December | Fourth Sunday in Advent 9:30 AM<br>Christmas Eve Service at 4:30PM |

For a Birthday

**O God, our times are in your hand: Look with favor, we pray, on your servant *N.* as *she* begins another year. Grant that *she* may grow in wisdom and grace, and strengthen *her* trust in your goodness all the days of *his* life; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

For Travelers

**O God, our heavenly Father, whose glory fills the whole creation, and whose presence we find wherever we go: Preserve those who travel in particular \_\_\_\_\_; surround them with your loving care; protect them from every danger; and bring them in safety to their journey's end; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

For an Anniversary

**O God, you have so consecrated the covenant of marriage that in it is represented the spiritual unity between Christ and his Church: Send therefore your blessing upon these your servants, that they may so love, honor, and cherish each other in faithfulness and patience, in wisdom and true godliness, that their home may**

**be a haven of blessing and peace; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen.**



The Most Rev'd Michael Curry, Presiding Bishop and Primate  
The Right Rev'd Lawrence Provenzano, Bishop of Long Island  
The Right Rev'd Geralyn Wolf, Assistant Bishop  
The Right Rev'd Daniel Allotey, Assisting Bishop  
The Right Rev'd William Franklin, Assisting Bishop  
The Rev'd Hickman Alexandre, Vicar

Bishop's Committee  
Dawn Herrmann -23 & Sharon Smith -24; Wardens  
Doreen Vaz, Treasurer  
Ted Anderson -24, Kamala Browne -25, Judy McCadden-23  
Tracy Rentz McLeod -24, John Ryley -23

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