

St. James' Episcopal Church
260 Beaver Dam Road
Brookhaven, NY 11719
631.286.0726
www.welcometostjamesbrookhaven.org

*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 First Sunday after the Epiphany:
The Baptism of our Lord
Holy Eucharist
7 January 2024 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

The Music may be found in the book marked Hymnal 1982.

The Service music is found in the S Section in the front of the Hymnal.

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

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

Gloria

S280

Glory to God in the highest, and peace to his people on earth. Lord God, heavenly King, almighty God and Father, we worship you, we give you thanks, we praise you for your glory. Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father, Lord God, Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world: have mercy on us; you are seated at the right hand of the Father: receive our prayer. For you alone are the Holy One, you alone are the Lord, you alone are the Most High, Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit, in the glory of God the Father. Amen.

Collect of the Day

The Lord be with you. **And also with you.** Let us pray. Father in heaven, who at the baptism of Jesus in the River Jordan proclaimed him your beloved Son and anointed him with the Holy Spirit: Grant that all who are baptized into his Name may keep the covenant they have made, and boldly confess him as Lord and Savior; who with you and the Holy Spirit lives and reigns, one God, in glory everlasting. **Amen.**

The First Lesson

Genesis 1:1-5

A Reading from the book of Genesis.

¹In the beginning when God created the heavens and the earth, ²the earth was a formless void and darkness covered the face of the deep, while a wind from God swept over the face of the waters. ³Then God said, “Let there be light”; and there was light. ⁴And God saw that the light was good; and God separated the light from the darkness. ⁵God called the light Day, and the darkness he called Night. And there was evening and there was morning, the first day. *The Word of the Lord. Thanks be to God.*

Psalm 29

¹ Ascribe to the Lord, you gods, *

ascribe to the Lord glory and strength.

² Ascribe to the Lord the glory due his Name; *

worship the Lord in the beauty of holiness.

³ The voice of the Lord is upon the waters;

the God of glory thunders; *

the Lord is upon the mighty waters.

⁴ The voice of the Lord is a powerful voice; *

the voice of the Lord is a voice of splendor.

⁵ The voice of the Lord breaks the cedar trees; *

the Lord breaks the cedars of Lebanon;

⁶ He makes Lebanon skip like a calf, *

and Mount Hermon like a young wild ox.

⁷ The voice of the Lord splits the flames of fire;

the voice of the Lord shakes the wilderness; *

the Lord shakes the wilderness of Kadesh.

⁸ The voice of the Lord makes the oak trees writhe *

and strips the forests bare.

⁹ And in the temple of the Lord *

all are crying, “Glory!”

¹⁰ The Lord sits enthroned above the flood; *

the Lord sits enthroned as King for evermore.

¹¹ The Lord shall give strength to his people; *

the Lord shall give his people the blessing of peace.

A Reading from Acts of the Apostles

¹While Apollos was in Corinth, Paul passed through the interior regions and came to Ephesus, where he found some disciples. ²He said to them, “Did you receive the Holy Spirit when you became believers?” They replied, “No, we have not even heard that there is a Holy Spirit.” ³Then he said, “Into what then were you baptized?” They answered, “Into John’s baptism.” ⁴Paul said, “John baptized with the baptism of repentance, telling the people to believe in the one who was to come after him, that is, in Jesus.” ⁵On hearing this, they were baptized in the name of the Lord Jesus. ⁶When Paul had laid his hands on them, the Holy Spirit came upon them, and they spoke in tongues and prophesied—⁷altogether there were about twelve of them.
The Word of the Lord. Thanks be to God.

Hymn

76

The Gospel

Mark 1:4-11

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

⁴John the baptizer appeared in the wilderness, proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins. ⁵And people from the whole Judean countryside and all the people of Jerusalem were going out to him, and were baptized by him in the river Jordan, confessing their sins. ⁶Now John was clothed with camel’s hair, with a leather belt around his waist, and he ate locusts and wild honey. ⁷He proclaimed, “The one who is more powerful than I is coming after me; I am not worthy to stoop down and untie the thong of his sandals. ⁸I have baptized you with water; but he will baptize you with the Holy Spirit.” ⁹In those days Jesus came from Nazareth of Galilee and was baptized by John in the Jordan. ¹⁰And just as he was coming up out of the water, he saw the heavens torn apart and the Spirit descending like a dove on him. ¹¹And a voice came from heaven, “You are my Son, the Beloved; with you I am well pleased.” *The Gospel of the Lord. Praise to you, Lord Christ.*

Homily

The Renewal of Baptismal Vows

Dear People of God: In Holy Baptism we follow the pattern of our Lord Jesus Christ. As he came up from the water he was anointed by the Spirit of God and designated as God's Son. So we also are anointed by that same Spirit; we are reborn and adopted as children with whom God is well pleased. Let us now renew our own baptismal covenant.

Do you reaffirm your renunciation of evil and renew your commitment to Jesus Christ? **I do.**

Do you believe in God the Father? **I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.**

Do you believe in Jesus Christ, the Son of God? **I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord. He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit and born of the Virgin Mary. He suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried. He descended to the dead. On the third day he rose again. He ascended into heaven, and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again to judge the living and the dead.**

Do you believe in God the Holy Spirit? **I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting.**

Will you continue in the apostles' teaching and fellowship, in the breaking of bread, and in the prayers? **I will, with God's help.**

Will you persevere in resisting evil, and, whenever you fall into sin, repent and return to the Lord? **I will, with God's help.**

Will you proclaim by word and example the Good News of God in Christ? **I will, with God's help.**

Will you seek and serve Christ in all persons, loving your neighbor as yourself? **I will, with God's help.**

Will you strive for justice and peace among all people, and respect the dignity of every human being? **I will, with God's help.**

May Almighty God, the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has given us a new birth by water and the Holy Spirit, and bestowed upon us the forgiveness of sins, keep us in eternal life by his grace, in Christ Jesus our Lord. **Amen.**

Thanksgiving over the Water

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

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give him thanks and praise.

We thank you, Almighty God, for the gift of water. Over it the Holy Spirit moved in the beginning of creation. Through it you led the children of Israel out of their bondage in Egypt into the land of promise. In it your Son Jesus received the baptism of John and was anointed by the Holy Spirit as the Messiah, the Christ, to lead us, through his death and resurrection, from the bondage of sin into everlasting life. We thank you, Father, for the water of Baptism. In it we are buried with Christ in his death. By it we share in his resurrection. Through it we are reborn by the Holy Spirit. Therefore in joyful obedience to your Son, we come to you in faith, having been baptized in the Name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. Now sanctify this water, we pray you, by the power of your Holy Spirit, that it may be to us a dew of remembrance of our baptisms so that we who have been cleansed from sin and born again may continue for ever in the risen life of Jesus Christ our Savior. To him, to you, and to the Holy Spirit, be all honor and glory, now and for ever. **Amen.**

Prayers of the People

Presider: As we celebrate the baptism of Christ, let us offer prayers to God who calls us to a baptism of repentance.

Intercessor(s)

By the baptism of the Son of God in the river Jordan. **Lord, have mercy.**

For Michael our Presiding Bishop, Lawrence, Geralyn, and Daniel, our bishops and the presbyters, for the deacons and all who minister in Christ, and for all the holy people of God. **Lord, have mercy.**

For all who seek Christ, and for the conversion of the whole human race. **Lord, have mercy.**

For mercy, peace, and justice throughout the world **Lord, have mercy.**

For all those in danger and need: the sick and the suffering, the hungry and the oppressed, and those in prison. **Lord, have mercy.**

For the dying and the dead. **Lord, have mercy.**

For our deliverance from all affliction, strife, and need. **Lord, have mercy.**

Remembering the Blessed Virgin Mary, Blessed John the Baptist, Blessed James, and all the saints, let us offer one another and ourselves to the living God through Christ. **To you, O Lord.**

Presider: God, who breathed across the waters of creation, accept the prayers we offer on this joyful feast, and lead us by your Spirit from darkness into light; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen. The Peace of the Lord be always with you. **And also with you.**

The Liturgy of the Table

Hymn

121

Eucharistic Prayer A

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. Because in the mystery of the Word made flesh, you have caused a new light to shine in our hearts, to give the knowledge of your glory in the face of your Son Jesus Christ our Lord.

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:

S130 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.

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

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.**

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.
Please follow the directions of the usher to the Communion Station.*

Postcommunion Prayer *(Please stand)*

God of abundance, you have fed us with the bread of life and cup of salvation; you have united us with Christ and one another; and you have made us one with all your people in heaven and on earth. Now send us forth in the power of your Spirit, that we may proclaim your redeeming love to the world and continue for ever in the risen life of Christ our Savior. Amen.

The Blessing

May Christ, the Son of God, be manifest in you, that your lives may be a light to the world; and 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 in the Parish Hall for Fellowship Hour after service. Join us in the Parish Hall for the Vicar's Brunch. Next week Sharon Smith 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.

Thank you to all who have committed to support our ministry at St. James by filling out an intention card and giving of your time, talent, and treasure. If you have not done so, we invite you to prayerfully consider how God is calling you to respond to this call to help us minister in this part of the vineyard.

We'll be reading Genesis with The Good Book Club. Join us at Fellowship Hour next week for a discussion on the previous week's readings.

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

Dates to Remember

14 February	Ash Wednesday
24 March	Palm Sunday
28 March	Maundy Thursday
29 March	Good Friday
31 March	EASTER

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
Ted Anderson -25 & Sharon Smith -24; Wardens
Doreen Vaz, Treasurer
Kamala Browne -25, Karen LeGé – 25, Judy McCadden-26
Tracy Rentz McLeod -24, Diane Robinson – 24, John Ryley -26

The Bible text is from the New Revised Standard Version Bible, copyright 1989 by the Division of Christian Education of the National Council of the Churches of Christ in the USA, and used by permission.