

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 Second Sunday after Christmas
Holy Eucharist
4 January 2026 9:30 AM

The Liturgy of the Word

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.

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

Hymn of Praise

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Collect of the Day

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

Jeremiah 31:7-14

A Reading from the prophet Jeremiah.

⁷For 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." ⁸See, 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. ⁹With 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. ¹⁰Hear 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." ¹¹For the Lord has ransomed Jacob, and has redeemed him from hands too strong for him. ¹²They 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. ¹³Then 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. ¹⁴I will give the priests their fill

of fatness, and my people shall be satisfied with my bounty, says the Lord. *The Word of the Lord. Thanks be to God.*

Psalms 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 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 Lesson

Ephesians 1:3-6,15-19a

A Reading from the Letter to the Ephesians.

³ 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,⁴ just as he chose us in Christ before the foundation of the world to be holy and blameless before him in love. ⁵ He destined us for adoption as his children through Jesus Christ, according to the good pleasure of his will,⁶ to the praise of his glorious grace that he freely bestowed on us in the Beloved. ¹⁵ I have heard of your faith in the Lord Jesus and your love towards all the saints, and for this reason ¹⁶ I do not cease to give thanks for you as I remember you in my prayers. ¹⁷ 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, ¹⁸ 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, ¹⁹ and what is the immeasurable greatness of his power for us who believe. *The Word of the Lord. Thanks be to God.*

Hymn

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The Gospel

Matthew 2:13-15,19-23

The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew.

Glory to you, Lord Christ.

¹³Now after they had left, an angel of the Lord appeared to Joseph in a dream and said, “Get up, take the child and his mother, and flee to Egypt, and remain there until I tell you; for Herod is about to search for the child, to destroy him.” ¹⁴Then Joseph got up, took the child and his mother by night, and went to Egypt, ¹⁵and remained there until the death of Herod. This was to fulfill what had been spoken by the Lord through the prophet, “Out of Egypt I have called my son.” ¹⁹When Herod died, an angel of the Lord suddenly appeared in a dream to Joseph in Egypt and said, ²⁰“Get up, take the child and his mother, and go to the land of Israel, for those who were seeking the child’s life are dead.” ²¹Then Joseph got up, took the child and his mother, and went to the land of Israel. ²²But when he heard that Archelaus was ruling over Judea in place of his father Herod, he was afraid to go there. And after being warned in a dream, he went away to the district of Galilee. ²³There he made his home in a town called Nazareth, so that what had been spoken through the prophets might be fulfilled, “He will be called a Nazorean.” *The Gospel of the 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

Presider: As we join the whole creation and celebrate with joy the Word made flesh, let us offer prayers to God who dwells among us to the end of time.

Intervenor(s)

By the wedding of the human and divine natures in Christ Jesus. **Glory and praise to you, O living God.**

For Sean our Presiding Bishop, Lawrence, GERALYN, and William our bishops, and the presbyters, for the deacons and all who minister in Christ, and for all the holy people of God. **Glory and praise to you, O living God.**

For all believers who put their trust in the incarnate Son of God. **Glory and praise to you, O living God.**

For the leaders of the nations and all in authority, and for peace and justice. **Glory and praise to you, O living God.**

For travelers, for the sick and the suffering, for the hungry and the oppressed, for those in prison, and for the dying and the dead. **Glory and praise to you, O living God.**

For our deliverance from all affliction, strife, and need. **Glory and praise to you, O living God.**

Remembering our most glorious and blessed Virgin Mary, blessed Joseph, blessed James and all the saints, let us offer ourselves and one another to the living God through Christ. **To you, O Lord.**

Presider: Source of grace and truth, accept the prayers we offer on this joyful feast. May we come to see the true light who shines throughout the world and who is God for all eternity; 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

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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 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:

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)*

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 Blessing

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.**

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.

Have you filled out your intention sheet? Help us in ministering to the community by pledging your time, talent and treasure. Sheets may be found in the narthex and in the office. There is also an online version. Thank you to all who have already made a commitment to St. James in 2026.

Hickman's mobile number is 631.320.8777. You may call or text him there.

Dates to Remember

6 January	Epiphany Service at Christ Church, Bellport – 7 PM
11 January	Super Cereal Second Sunday
17 January	Essential Items Drive 9A-12Noon
18 January	Third Sunday Toiletries Collection
8 February	Super Cereal Second Sunday
15 February	Third Sunday Toiletries Collection
18 February	Ash Wednesday Services at 12Noon and 6 PM
21 February	Essential Items Drive 9A-12Noon

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 Sean Rowe, 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 -26; Wardens
Doreen Vaz, Treasurer
Kamala Browne -25, Diana Caldwell -27, Karen LeGé – 25,
Judy McCadden-26, Tracy Rentz McLeod -27, Jim Vaz -26

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