

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 Nineteenth Sunday after Pentecost
Holy Eucharist
4 October 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.

People **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.

The Collect

The Lord be with you. **And also with you.** Let us pray. Almighty and everlasting God, you are always more ready to hear than we to pray, and to give more than we either desire or deserve: Pour upon us the abundance of your mercy, forgiving us those things of which our conscience is afraid, and giving us those good things for which we are not worthy to ask, except through the merits and mediation of Jesus Christ our Savior; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

The First Lesson

Isaiah 5:1-7

A Reading from the Book of Isaiah.

¹ I will sing for my beloved my love song concerning his vineyard: My beloved had a vineyard on a very fertile hill. ² He dug it and cleared it of stones and planted it with choice vines; he built a watchtower in the midst of it and hewed out a wine vat in it; he expected it to yield grapes, but it yielded rotten grapes. ³ And now, inhabitants of Jerusalem and people of Judah, judge between me and my vineyard. ⁴ What more was there to do for my vineyard that I have not done in it? When I expected it to yield grapes, why did it yield rotten grapes? ⁵ And now I will tell you what I will do to my vineyard. I will remove its hedge, and it shall be devoured; I will break down its wall, and it shall be trampled down. ⁶ I will make it a wasteland it shall not be pruned or

hoed, and it shall be overgrown with briers and thorns; I will also command the clouds that they rain no rain upon it. ⁷ For the vineyard of the Lord of hosts is the house of Israel, and the people of Judah are his cherished garden; he expected justice but saw bloodshed; righteousness but heard a cry!. *The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.***

Psalm 80:7-14

¹⁷ Restore us, O God of hosts; *

show the light of your countenance, and we shall be saved.

⁸ You have brought a vine out of Egypt; *

you cast out the nations and planted it.

⁹ You prepared the ground for it; *

it took root and filled the land.

¹⁰ The mountains were covered by its shadow *

and the towering cedar trees by its boughs.

¹¹ You stretched out its tendrils to the Sea *

and its branches to the River.

¹² Why have you broken down its wall, *

so that all who pass by pluck off its grapes?

¹³ The wild boar of the forest has ravaged it, *

and the beasts of the field have grazed upon it.

¹⁴ Turn now, O God of hosts, look down from heaven;

behold and tend this vine; *

preserve what your right hand has planted.

The Second Lesson

Philippians 3:4b-14

A Reading from the Letter to the Philippians.

⁴ If anyone else has reason to be confident in the flesh, I have more: ⁵ circumcised on the eighth day, a member of the people of Israel, of the tribe of Benjamin, a Hebrew born of Hebrews; as to the law, a Pharisee; ⁶ as to zeal, a persecutor of the church; as to righteousness under the law, blameless. ⁷ Yet whatever gains I had, these I have come to regard as loss because of Christ. ⁸ More than that, I regard everything as loss because of the surpassing value of knowing Christ Jesus my Lord. For his sake I have suffered the loss of all things, and I regard them as rubbish, in order that I may gain Christ ⁹ and be found in him, not having a righteousness of my own that comes from the law but one that comes through faith in Christ, the righteousness from God based on faith. ¹⁰ I want to know Christ and the power of his resurrection and the sharing of his sufferings by becoming like him in his death, ¹¹ if somehow I may attain the resurrection from the dead. ¹² Not that I have already obtained this or have already reached the goal, but I press on to lay hold of that for which Christ has laid hold of

me. ¹³ Brothers and sisters, I do not consider that I have laid hold of it, but one thing I have laid hold of: forgetting what lies behind and straining forward to what lies ahead, ¹⁴ I press on toward the goal, toward the prize of the heavenly call of God in Christ Jesus. *The Word of the Lord. Thanks be to God.*

Hymn

545

The Gospel

Matthew 21: 21:33-46

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

Glory to you, Lord Christ.

³³ “Listen to another parable. There was a landowner who planted a vineyard, put a fence around it, dug a winepress in it, and built a watchtower. Then he leased it to tenants and went away. ³⁴ When the harvest time had come, he sent his slaves to the tenants to collect his produce. ³⁵ But the tenants seized his slaves and beat one, killed another, and stoned another. ³⁶ Again he sent other slaves, more than the first, and they treated them in the same way. ³⁷ Then he sent his son to them, saying, ‘They will respect my son.’ ³⁸ But when the tenants saw the son, they said to themselves, ‘This is the heir; come, let us kill him and get his inheritance.’ ³⁹ So they seized him, threw him out of the vineyard, and killed him. ⁴⁰ Now when the owner of the vineyard comes, what will he do to those tenants?” ⁴¹ They said to him, “He will put those wretches to a miserable death and lease the vineyard to other tenants who will give him the produce at the harvest time.” ⁴² Jesus said to them, “Have you never read in the scriptures: ‘The stone that the builders rejected has become the cornerstone this was the Lord’s doing, and it is amazing in our eyes?’ ⁴³ “Therefore I tell you, the kingdom of God will be taken away from you and given to a people that produces its fruits. ⁴⁴ The one who falls on this stone will be broken to pieces, and it will crush anyone on whom it falls.” ⁴⁵ When the chief priests and the Pharisees heard his parables, they realized that he was speaking about them. ⁴⁶ They wanted to arrest him, but they feared the crowds, because they regarded him as a prophet. *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: Let us offer prayers to God for the vineyard of the Lord of hosts and for all in every danger and need.

Intercessors:

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

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

For all who work, and for tenants and landlords. **Lord, have mercy.**

For good weather, and for who harvest and offer the fruits of the earth. **Lord, have mercy.**

For all domestic and wild animals. **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: O Lord our God, who sent your Son to save the whole world, hear the prayers we offer this day and strengthen us to press on toward the heavenly goal; 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 C

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 our thanks and praise.

It is right to give you thanks and praise, O Lord, our God, sustainer of the universe.
Glory to you for ever and ever.

At your command all things came to be: shining light and enfolding dark; the vast expanse of interstellar space, galaxies, suns, the planets in their courses, and this fragile earth, our island home; by your will they were created and have their being. From the primal elements you brought forth the human race, and blessed us with the capacity for memory, reason, and skill; you made us the stewards of your creation.
Glory to you for ever and ever.

But we turned against you, and betrayed your trust; and we turned against one another. Again and again you called us to return. Through prophets and sages you revealed your righteous law. In the fullness of time you sent your Son, born of a woman, to be our Savior. He was wounded for our transgressions, and bruised for our iniquities. By his death he opened to us the way of freedom and peace. **Glory to you for ever and ever.**

Therefore we praise you, joining with the heavenly chorus, with prophets, apostles, and martyrs, and with those in every generation who have looked to you in hope, to proclaim with them your glory, in their unending hymn:

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

Blessed are you, Lord our God, for sending us Jesus, the Christ, who on the night he was handed over to suffering and death, took bread, said the blessing, broke the bread, gave it to his friends, and said, “Take, eat: this is my body which is given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me.” In the same way, after supper, he took the cup of wine; he gave you thanks, and said, “Drink this, all of you: this is my blood of the new covenant, which is shed for you and for all for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me.” Remembering now his work of redemption, and offering to you this sacrifice of thanksgiving, we celebrate his death and resurrection, as we await the day of his coming. **Glory to you for ever and ever.**

Therefore, we who have been redeemed by Jesus Christ, and made a new people by water and the Spirit, now bring before you these gifts. Sanctify them by your Holy Spirit to be the Body and Blood of Jesus Christ our Savior. Sanctify us also, and let the grace of this Holy Communion make us one body, one spirit in Christ, that we may worthily serve the world in his name. **Glory to you for ever and ever.**

Pour out your Spirit upon the whole earth and make it your new creation. Gather your Church together from the ends of the earth into your kingdom, where peace and justice are revealed, that we, with all your people, of every language, race, and nation, may share the banquet you have promised. Through Christ, with Christ, and in Christ, all honor and glory are yours, creator of all. **Glory to you for ever and 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

Hymn

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Dismissal

Let us bless the Lord. **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. Thank you to Team 2 for hosting. Next week Team 3 will host.

Our efforts are underway for the Seamen's Church Institute Christmas at Sea program. Please see any member of the leadership team if you can knit or sew, collect Christmas cards and items, or support the effort in anyway.

Dates to Remember

4 October	Blessing of Pets and Animals Evening Prayer 4 PM
11 October	Super Cereal Second Sunday
17 October	Essential Items Drive 9 AM -12 Noon
18 October	Third Sunday Toiletries Collection
24 October	Paint Night

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 Dr. Adam Shoemaker, Bishop of Long Island
The Right Rev'd Geralyn Wolf, Assistant Bishop
The Rev'd Hickman Alexandre, Vicar

Bishop's Committee
Ted Anderson -27 & Sharon Smith -26; Wardens
Doreen Vaz, Treasurer
Kamala Browne -28, Diana Caldwell -27, Karen LeGé – 28,
Judy McCadden-26, Tracy Rentz McLeod -27, Jim Vaz -26

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