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 First Sunday of Advent
Holy Eucharist
29 November 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 are you, holy and living One.
You come to your people and set them free.

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.**

Kyrie **S96**
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. 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.**

The First Lesson Isaiah 64:1-9

A Reading from the Prophet Isaiah.

1O that you would tear open the heavens and come down, so that the mountains
would quake at your presence— 2as 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! 3When you did awesome deeds that we did not
expect, you came down, the mountains quaked at your presence. 4From 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. 5You 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. 6We 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. 7There 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. 8Yet, O Lord, you are our Father; we are the clay, and you are our potter;
we are all the work of your hand. 9Do not be exceedingly angry, O Lord, and do not

remember iniquity forever. Now consider, we are all your people. *The Word of the Lord.* ***Thanks be to God.***

Psalm 80:1-7, 16-18

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 Manasseh, *
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 away 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 Lesson 1 Corinthians 1:3-9

A Reading from the First Letter to the Corinthians.

3Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.4I give thanks to my God always for you because of the grace of God that has been given you in Christ Jesus, 5for in every way you have been enriched in him, in speech and knowledge of every kind— 6just as the testimony of Christ has been strengthened among you— 7so that you are not lacking in any spiritual gift as you wait for the revealing of our Lord Jesus Christ. 8He will also strengthen you to the end, so that you may be blameless on the day of our Lord Jesus Christ. 9God is faithful; by him you were called into the fellowship of his Son, Jesus Christ our Lord. *The Word of the Lord.* ***Thanks be to God.***

Hymn **73**

The Gospel Mark 13:24-37

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

Glory to you, Lord Christ.

24"But in those days, after that suffering, the sun will be darkened, and the moon will
not give its light, 25and the stars will be falling from heaven, and the powers in the
heavens will be shaken 26Then they will see 'the Son of Man coming in clouds' with
great power and glory. 27Then 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. 28"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. 29So also, when you see these things taking place, you know
that he is near, at the very gates. 30Truly I tell you, this generation will not pass away
until all these things have taken place. 31Heaven and earth will pass away, but my
words will not pass away. 32"But about that day or hour no one knows, neither the
angels in heaven, nor the Son, but only the Father. 33Beware, keep alert; for you do
not know when the time will come. 34It 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. 35Therefore, 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, 36or else he may find you asleep when he comes suddenly. 37And what I say
to you I say to all: Keep awake." *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 Ormande Plater*

Presider: As we keep awake for the revealing of our Lord Jesus Christ, let us offer prayers to God who stirs up strength and comes to help us.

Intercessor(s)

For the peace of the world, and for our unity in Christ. **Come, O Lord, and save us.**

For Sean our Presiding Bishop, Adam and Geralyn our bishops and all bishops, for the presbyters, for the deacons and all who minister in Christ, and for all the holy people of God. **Come, O Lord, and save us.**

For the church throughout the world and the faithful in every place. **Come, O Lord, and save us.**

For the leaders of the nations and all in authority. **Come, O Lord, and save us.**

For justice, peace, and freedom among peoples of the earth. **Come, O Lord, and save us.**

For travelers, for the sick and the suffering, for the hungry and the oppressed, and for those in prison. **Come, O Lord, and save us.**

For the dying and the dead. **Come, O Lord, and save us.**

For our deliverance from all affliction, strife, and need. **Come, O Lord, and save us.**

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

Presider: O King of all the nations, only joy of every heart, keystone of the mighty arch who makes us one, come and save the creature you fashioned from clay. Glory to you for ever **Amen.** The Peace of the Lord be always with you. **And also with you.**

Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor. *Silence is 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.**

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

Offertory Hymn **615**

Eucharistic Prayer 1 from Enriching our Worship

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 truly right, and good and joyful, to give you thanks, all-holy God, source of life and fountain of mercy. Because you sent your beloved Son to redeem us from sin and death, and to make us heirs in him of everlasting life; that when he shall come again in power and great triumph to judge the world, we may without shame or fear rejoice to behold his appearing.

Therefore, joining with Angels and Archangels and with the faithful of every generation, we lift our voices with all creation as we sing:

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, gracious God, creator of the universe and giver of life. You formed us in your own image and called us to dwell in your infinite love. You gave the world into our care that we might be your faithful stewards and show forth your bountiful grace. But we failed to honor your image in one another and in ourselves; we would not see your goodness in the world around us; and so we violated your creation, abused one another, and rejected your love. Yet you never ceased to care for us, and prepared the way of salvation for all people. Through Abraham and Sarah you called us into covenant with you. You delivered us from slavery, sustained us in the wilderness, and raised up prophets to renew your promise of salvation. Then, in the fullness of time, you sent your eternal Word, made mortal flesh in Jesus. Born into the

human family, and dwelling among us, he revealed your glory. Giving himself freely to death on the cross, he triumphed over evil, opening the way of freedom and life.

On the night before he died for us, Our Savior Jesus Christ took bread, and when he had given thanks to you, he broke it, and 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." As supper was ending, Jesus 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 poured out for you and for all 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.**

Remembering his death and resurrection, we now present to you from your creation this bread and this wine. By your Holy Spirit may they be for us the Body and Blood of our Savior Jesus Christ. Grant that we who share these gifts may be filled with the Holy Spirit and live as Christ's Body in the world. Bring us into the everlasting heritage of your daughters and sons, that with Mary the God-bearer, blessed James and all your saints, past, present, and yet to come, we may praise your Name for ever. Through Christ and with Christ and in Christ, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, to you be honor, glory, and praise, 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
We break this bread to share in the Body of Christ.
We who are many are one body, for we all share in the one bread.

Invitation to Communion
All baptized Christians are invited to receive Communion.

Postcommunion Prayer *(Please stand)*
Almighty and everliving God, we thank you for feeding us with the spiritual food of the most precious Body and Blood of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ; and for assuring us in these holy mysteries that we are living members of the Body of your Son, and heirs of your eternal kingdom. And now, Father, send

us out to do the work you have given us to do, to love and serve you as faithful witnesses of Christ our Lord. To him, to you, and to the Holy Spirit, be honor and glory, now and for ever. Amen.

The Blessing
May the Sun of Righteousness shine upon you and scatter the darkness from before your path; 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 bless the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**
Recessional Hymn **596**

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. Thank you to Team 4 for hosting. Next week Team 1 will host.

In the past few years, we have only held an early Christmas Eve service. Please let us know if you may be interested in a later Christmas Eve or Christmas Day service.

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.

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

Dates to Remember

29 November	First Sunday of Advent
13 December	Super Cereal Second Sunday
19 December	Essential Items Drive
20 December	Third Sunday Toiletries Collection
24 December	Christmas Eve – Service at 4:30 PM
27 December	Fourth Sunday Focus

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 & Sharon Smith -2Wardens
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