

Alleluía, Christ is Risen!



Third Sunday in Easter

May 4th, 2025 Holy Eucharist Rite II

St. James' Episcopal Church

WELCOME!

It is such a pleasure to have you with us today, and we would be so blessed to see you again! We are affirming of all people, including those of all races, ethnicities, genders, orientations, political views, ages, and backgrounds. *You are welcome here.* We hope your faith has been strengthened by your time here.

Join us for Communion!

All baptized individuals are welcome to receive communion in the Episcopal Church. If you prefer not to receive, join us at the altar rail and cross your arms for a blessing. Gluten-free bread is available as well, just ask! Haven't been baptized yet? Speak to Father Mike to begin your life-changing celebration- you are never too old to be baptized in the church!

How do I become a member?

Being a member of St. James is easy! All you need to do is fill out our membership form and you are a member. If you are a confirmed Episcopalian moving from an Episcopal congregation, just simply contact our parish office (610-489-7564), give the Parish Administrator the name of your previous church, and we will contact your previous church for a Letter of Transfer.

What if I am not an Episcopalian?

You don't need to be a confirmed Episcopalian to be a member of St. James'. You just need to have been baptized and send us a copy of your baptism. All this is on the membership form.

How do I get a membership form?

Just fill out the "white" welcome card that is in the pews and place it in the offertory plate as it is being passed. Once the office receives your card, we will send you a membership package in the mail. Once you have filled the forms, you can either mail them back to St. James' or bring them with you to church and hand them to Fr. Mike after the service.

What if I have never been baptized?

Just let Fr. Mike know of your desire to be baptized and we will schedule a Sunday to do so. Baptism is a life-changing experience and one that is done with the community of believers here at St. James'. At our baptism, we make promises to God that help us to live our lives as faithful followers of Christ. We the family of believers here at St. James' will make promises also to uphold you in this endeavor and to support you in any way that we can.

Let's stay in touch!

Not ready to commit to membership just yet? That's ok! If you'd like to join our weekly "Happenings" email list, speak to Father Mike, or send an email to Sara Terenzi, our Office Admin, at office@stjames-episcopal.org

Want more information? Scan the code to visit our "Visitor Information" page.



Third Sunday of Easter

The Holy Eucharist Rite Two Sunday, May 4, 2025

The Word of God

PRELUDE

PROCESSIONAL HYMN (8 and 10am only)

TITLE: Alleluia! sing to Jesus (Hyfrydol) (H 460)





EASTER ACCLAMATION (BCP p. 355) *The people standing, the Celebrant says*

Celebrant: Alleluia. Christ is risen.

People: The Lord is risen indeed. Alleluia.

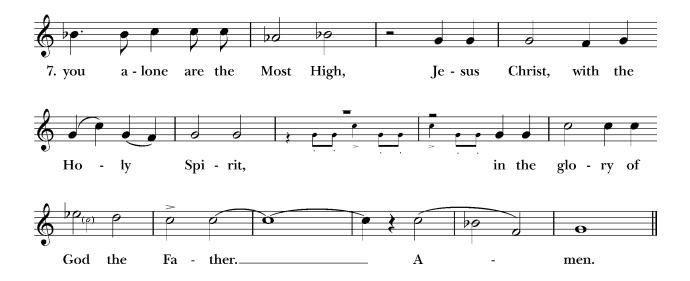
COLLECT FOR PURITY (BCP p. 355) *The Celebrant may say*

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 ELEISON (5pm only)

CelebrantPeopleCelebrantLord, have mercy.Lord, have mercy.





THE COLLECT OF THE DAY (BCP P. 357)

Celebrant The Lord be with you.

People And also with you.

Celebrant Let us pray.

O God, whose blessed Son made himself known to his disciples in the breaking of bread: Open the eyes of our faith, that we may behold him in all his redeeming work; who lives and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. *Amen.*

THE LESSONS Please be seated for the readings

FIRST READING: Acts 9:1-6 [7-20]

A Reading from the Acts of the Apostles.

¹Saul, still breathing threats and murder against the disciples of the Lord, went to the high priest ²and asked him for letters to the synagogues at Damascus, so that if he found any who belonged to the Way, men or women, he might bring them bound to Jerusalem. ³Now as he was going along and approaching Damascus, suddenly a light from heaven flashed around him. ⁴He fell to the ground and heard a voice saying to him, "Saul, Saul, why do you persecute me?" ⁵He asked, "Who are you, Lord?" The reply came, "I am Jesus, whom you are persecuting. ⁵But get up and enter the city, and you will be told what you are to do." [⁵The men who were traveling with him stood speechless because they heard the voice but saw no one. ⁵Saul got up from the ground, and though his eyes were open, he could see nothing; so they led him by the hand and brought him into Damascus. ⁵For three days he was without sight, and neither ate nor drank.

¹⁰Now there was a disciple in Damascus named Ananias. The Lord said to him in a vision, "Ananias." He answered, "Here I am, Lord." ¹¹The Lord said to him, "Get up and go to the street called Straight, and at the house of Judas look for a man of Tarsus named Saul. At this moment he is praying, ¹²and he has seen in a vision a man named Ananias come in and lay his hands on him so that he might regain his sight." ¹³But Ananias answered, "Lord, I have heard from many about this man, how much evil he has done to your saints in Jerusalem; ¹⁴and here he has authority from the chief priests to bind all who invoke your name." ¹⁵But the Lord said to him, "Go, for he is an instrument whom I have chosen to bring my name before Gentiles and kings and before the people of Israel; ¹⁶I myself will show him how much he must suffer for the sake of my name." ¹⁷So Ananias went and entered the house. He laid his hands on Saul

and said, "Brother Saul, the Lord Jesus, who appeared to you on your way here, has sent me so that you may regain your sight and be filled with the Holy Spirit." ¹⁸And immediately something like scales fell from his eyes, and his sight was restored. Then he got up and was baptized, ¹⁹and after taking some food, he regained his strength.

For several days he was with the disciples in Damascus, ²⁰and immediately he began to proclaim Jesus in the synagogues, saying, "He is the Son of God."]

Reader The Word of the Lord.
People Thanks be to God.

PSALM: Psalm 30

¹I will exalt you, O LORD, because you have lifted me <u>up</u> * and have not let my enemies triumph <u>over me</u>. ²O LORD my God, I cried out to <u>you</u>, * and you restored me to <u>health</u>.

³You brought me up, O LORD, from the <u>dead</u>; *
you restored my life as I was going down to the <u>grave</u>.
⁴Sing to the LORD, you servants of <u>his</u>; *
give thanks for the remembrance of his <u>holiness</u>.

⁵For his wrath endures but the twinkling of an <u>eye</u>, * his favor for a <u>lifetime</u>.
⁶Weeping may spend the <u>night</u>, * but joy comes in the morning.

While I felt secure, I said,
"I shall never be dist<u>urbed.</u> *
You, LORD, with your favor, made me as strong as the <u>mountains</u>."

Then you hid your <u>face</u>, *
and I was filled with <u>fear</u>.

⁹I cried to you, O <u>LORD;</u> *
I pleaded with the Lord, <u>saying</u>,

¹⁰"What profit is there in my blood, if I go down to the <u>Pit</u>? *
will the dust praise you or declare your <u>faithfulness</u>?

Hear, O LORD, and have mercy upon me; *
 O LORD, be my helper."
 You have turned my wailing into dancing; *
 you have put off my sack-cloth and clothed me with joy.

¹³Therefore my heart sings to you without <u>ceasing</u>; * O LORD my God, I will give you thanks for <u>ever</u>.

SECOND READING: Revelation 5:11-14

A Reading from the Revelation of John.

¹¹I looked, and I heard the voice of many angels surrounding the throne and the living creatures and the elders; they numbered myriads of myriads and thousands of thousands, ¹²singing with full voice, "Worthy is the Lamb that was slaughtered to receive power and

wealth and wisdom and might and honor and glory and blessing!" ¹³Then I heard every creature in heaven and on earth and under the earth and in the sea, and all that is in them, singing, "To the one seated on the throne and to the Lamb be blessing and honor and glory and might forever and ever!" ¹⁴And the four living creatures said, "Amen!" And the elders fell down and worshiped.

Reader The Word of the Lord.
People Thanks be to God.

SEQUENCE HYMN (8 and 10am only) All stand



GOSPEL LESSON All stand John 21:1-19

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

People Glory to you, Lord Christ.

¹Jesus showed himself again to the disciples by the Sea of Tiberias; and he showed himself in this way. ²Gathered there together were Simon Peter, Thomas called the Twin, Nathanael of Cana in Galilee, the sons of Zebedee, and two others of his disciples. ³Simon Peter said to them, "I am going fishing." They said to him, "We will go with you." They went out and got into the boat, but that night they caught nothing.

⁴Just after daybreak, Jesus stood on the beach; but the disciples did not know that it was Jesus. ⁵Jesus said to them, "Children, you have no fish, have you?" They answered him, "No." ⁶He said to them, "Cast the net to the right side of the boat, and you will find some." So they cast it, and now they were not able to haul it in because there were so many fish. ⁷That disciple whom Jesus loved said to Peter, "It is the Lord!" When Simon Peter heard that it was the Lord, he put on some clothes, for he was naked, and jumped into the sea. ⁸But the other disciples came in the boat, dragging the net full of fish, for they were not far from the land, only about a hundred yards off.

⁹When they had gone ashore, they saw a charcoal fire there, with fish on it, and bread. ¹⁰Jesus said to them, "Bring some of the fish that you have just caught." ¹¹So Simon Peter went aboard and hauled the net ashore, full of large fish, a hundred fifty-three of them; and though there were so many, the net was not torn. ¹²Jesus said to them, "Come and have breakfast." Now none of the disciples dared to ask him, "Who are you?" because they knew it was the Lord. ¹³Jesus came and took the bread and gave it to them, and did the same with the fish. ¹⁴This was now the third time that Jesus appeared to the disciples after he was raised from the dead.

¹⁵When they had finished breakfast, Jesus said to Simon Peter, "Simon son of John, do you love me more than these?" He said to him, "Yes, Lord; you know that I love you." Jesus said to him, "Feed my lambs." ¹⁶A second time he said to him, "Simon son of John, do you love me?" He said to him, "Yes, Lord; you know that I love you." Jesus said to him, "Tend my sheep." ¹⁷He said to him the third time, "Simon son of John, do you love me?" Peter felt hurt because he said to him the third time, "Do you love me?" And he said to him, "Lord, you know everything; you know that I love you." Jesus said to him, "Feed my sheep. ¹⁸Very truly, I tell you, when you were younger, you used to fasten your own belt and to go wherever you wished. But when you grow old, you will stretch out your hands, and someone else will fasten a belt around you and take you where you do not wish to go." ¹⁹(He said this to indicate the kind of death by which he would glorify God.) After this he said to him, "Follow me."

The Gospel of the Lord.

People Praise to you, Lord Christ.

SERMON: The Rev. Dr. Mike Sowards

THE NICENE CREED (BCP p. 358) All 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

r 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.

THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE You may stand or kneel

Father, we pray for your holy catholic Church; *That we all may be one.*

Grant that every member of the Church may truly and humbly serve you; *That your Name may be glorified by all people.*

We pray for all bishops, priests, and deacons;

That they may be faithful ministers of your Word and Sacraments.

We pray for all who govern and hold authority in the nations of the world; *That there may be justice and peace on the earth.*

Give us grace to do your will in all that we undertake;

That our works may find favor in your sight.

Have compassion on those who suffer from any grief or trouble; *That they may be delivered from their distress.*

Give to the departed eternal rest, especially Lester, Martha & Anna Tinner, and Thomas & Eleanor Wright, in whose names these flowers are given;

Let light perpetual shine upon them.

We praise you for your saints who have entered into joy; *May we also come to share in your heavenly kingdom.*

Let us pray for our own needs and those of others.

We pray for those on the St. James' prayer list: Adele*, Alex, Alexis & Steven, Angela*, Arlene, Art*, Ashton, Becky, Beverly*, Bill, Bob, Caitlin, Carol*, Catherine, Cathy M., Charlotte, Cheryl, David, Debbie, Diana, Diane, Donald, Donna, Doreen, Ed, Elaina, Eliza*, Eric, Fran A.*, Fran R, Frank, Fred, Gary, James & Luca, Jean*, Jeannine*, Jeff*, Joan, John, John & Lori, Katherine,* Kathy & Mike*, Kathy M., Kim, Linda, Lizzy, Lynnie, Lucie, Marie, Marvin & Debbie*, Mark, Michael, Mike, Olga, Rich, Sherrie, Sophie*, Suzannah, Tim*, Tracie, William E., and all those who, in this transitory life, are in trouble, sorrow, need, sickness, or any other adversity. *Are there others?*

CONCLUDING COLLECT

Almighty and eternal God, ruler of all things in heaven and earth: Mercifully accept the prayers of your people and strengthen us to do your will; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

THE PEACE All stand

Celebrant The peace of the Lord be always with you.

People And also with you.

Then the Ministers and the People may greet one another in the name of the Lord.

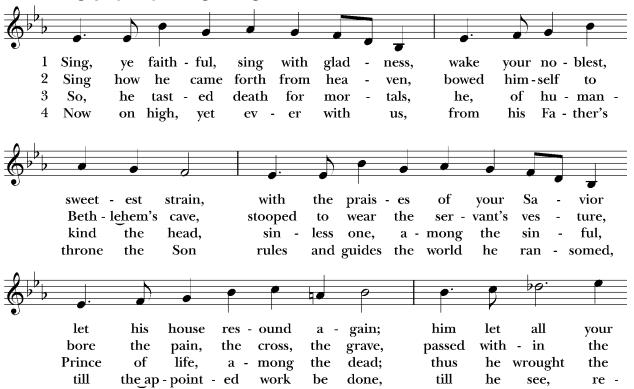
The Holy Communion

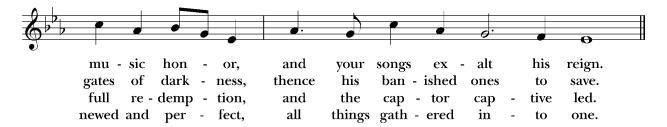
OFFERTORY SENTENCE The Celebrant says

Walk in love, as Christ loved us and gave himself for us, an offering and sacrifice to God. *Ephesians 5:2*

OFFERTORY HYMN (8 and 10am only) All stand

TITLE: Sing, ye faithful, sing with gladness (Finnian) (H 492)





DOXOLOGY

Praise God from whom all blessings flow;

Praise God, all creatures here below;

Praise God above, ye heavenly host:

Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING - EUCHARISTIC PRAYER A

SURSUM CORDA (BCP p. 361) The People remain standing

CelebrantThe Lord be with you.PeopleAnd also with you.CelebrantLift up your hearts.

People We lift them to the Lord.

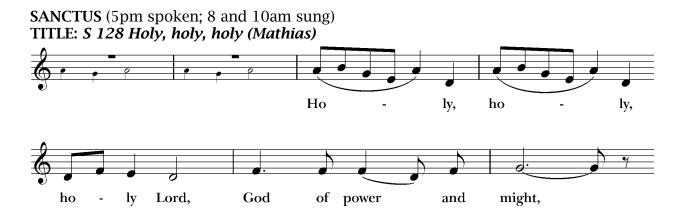
Celebrant Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

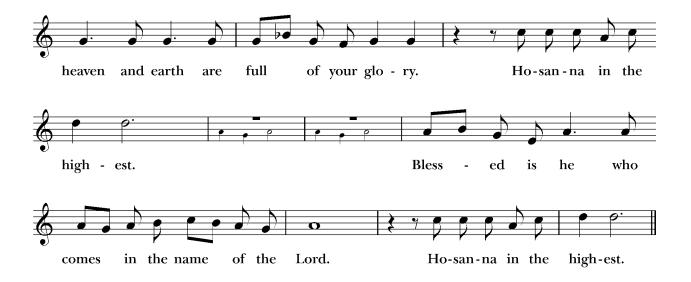
People It is right to give God thanks and praise.

PROPER PREFACE (BCP p. 361) *Then, facing the Holy Table, the Celebrant proceeds* It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Almighty God, Creator of heaven and earth.

But chiefly are we bound to praise you for the glorious resurrection of your Son Jesus Christ our Lord; for he is the true Paschal Lamb, who was sacrificed for us, and has taken away the sin of the world. By his death he has destroyed death, and by his rising to life again he has won for us 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:





WORDS OF INSTITUTION The People stand or kneel

The Celebrant continues

Holy and gracious God: 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:

Celebrant and People

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

EPICLESIS (BCP p. 363) *The Celebrant continues*

We celebrate the memorial of our redemption, Almighty God, 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 God, now and for ever. *AMEN*.

THE LORD'S PRAYER

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,

forever and ever. Amen.

THE BREAKING OF THE BREAD

FRACTION ANTHEM (5 PM SPOKEN)

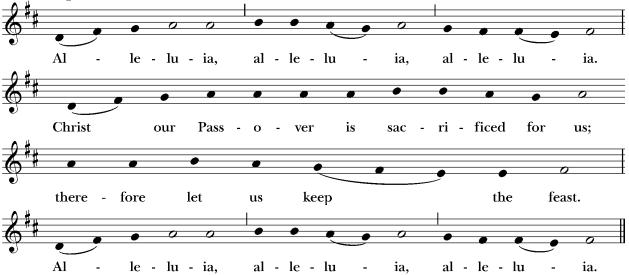
Celebrant: Alleluia, alleluia, Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us;

People: Therefore let us keep the feast, Alleluia, alleluia.

FRACTION ANTHEM (8 and 10am sung)

TITLE: S 154 Christ our Passover (Hurd) (BCP p. 364)

This setting is not used in Lent.



INVITATION (BCP p. 364) *The Celebrant says*

The Gifts of God for the People of God. Take them in remembrance that Christ died for you, and feed on him in your hearts by faith, with thanksgiving.

DISTRIBUTION (BCP p. 365) The ministers receive the Sacrament in both kinds, and then immediately deliver it to the people.

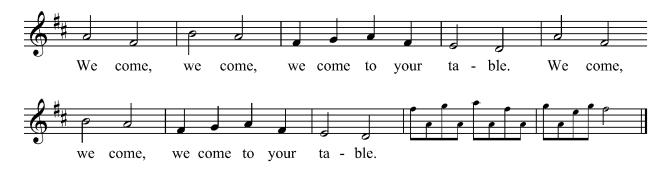
COMMUNION HYMNS (8 and 10am only)

TITLE: Come, risen Lord, and deign to be our quest (Sursum Corda) (H 306)









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POST-COMMUNION PRAYER - (BCP P. 365)

Let us pray.

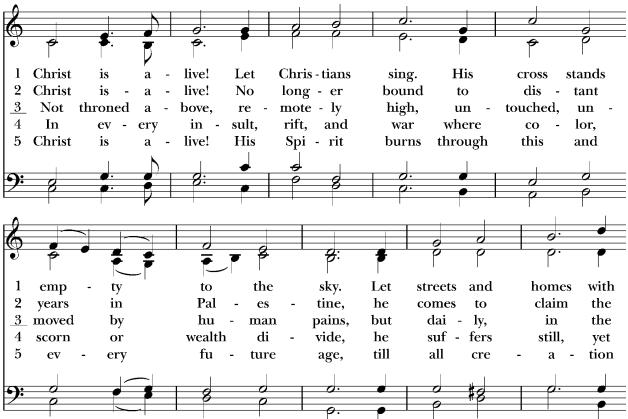
Celebrant and People

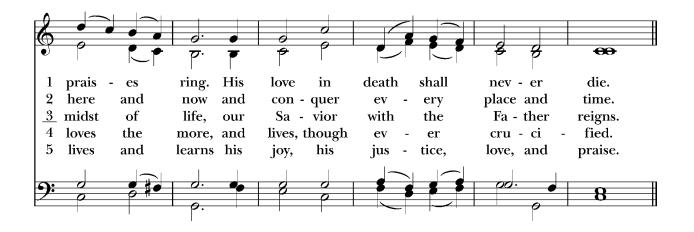
Eternal God, heavenly Father, you have graciously accepted us as living members of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ, and you have fed us with spiritual food in the Sacrament of his Body and Blood. Send us now into the world in peace, and grant us strength and courage to love and serve you with gladness and singleness of heart; through Christ our Lord. Amen.

BLESSING

RECESSIONAL HYMN (8 and 10am only)

TITLE: Christ is alive! Let Christians sing (Truro) (H 182)





DISMISSAL (BCP p. 366)

Alleluia, Alleluia! Let us go forth in the name of Christ.

People Thanks be to God. Alleluia, Alleluia!

POSTLUDE

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ANNOUNCEMENTS

- Outreach House Items for the Week: Boxed Pasta & Sauce
- The Annual Meeting of St. James' will be held this Sunday after the 10am service. We will be voting on Vestry members as well as providing reports on our finances & ministries. Please join us for this important gathering as we look forward to our future!
- Picnic Planning committee will meet on Wednesday, May 7th at 1pm in the parish hall.
- On Saturday May 10th, Ben Morissette, a Scout with Troop 119, will be conducting the book sorting portion of his Eagle project from 8:30-12p in Platt's hall. In coordination with The Pater Foundation, a charitable organization which seeks to provide education to the children in Nambacha, Kenya, Ben and Troop 119 scouts will be collecting and sorting books to be sent to their library. No volunteers needed, but K-8 books or donations for shipping are gratefully appreciated.
- Our next **Foyer Gathering**, hosted by Sandra & George Drexler, will take place on **May** 17th at 6:30 pm. More info and sign up to follow.
- St. James is having a **summer picnic** on **June 29**, following the 10am service on church property. All are welcome to attend and join us as we celebrate our fellowship. Food and beverages, games, prizes and crafts for children, adult games too! We have a sign-up sheet for those interested. It is not a commitment that you will attend and if you don't sign up, you are still welcome to attend. The sign-up sheet will help us gauge the amount of food needed. Thanks for helping us plan and hope to see you there!
- Chair Yoga with Janice Tuesday afternoons at 3:30 \$10
- Redner's Save a Tape Program provides ongoing support to Outreach House. Drop boxes for tapes are available at the church in the marked bin above the coat racks outside the office and in the lobby and the gated donation area at Outreach House. If you are a Redner's shopper, please save your tapes.
- **If you are visiting us for the first time,** please be sure to fill out the white card located in the front of your pew for more information about our Parish:



Dine and Donate



Bella Rosy Pizzeria & Italian Restaurant

3801 Germantown Pike Collegeville

https://www.bellarosypizzeria.com - 610-831-9240

Tuesday, May 13 - Lunch or Dinner Dine in or Take out

Benefit - St. James' Outreach House

Outreach House will receive 10% of the day's receipts. Help Outreach House care for local neighbors in need.



outreachhouse@stjames-episcopal.org - 610-489-3481



St. James' Episcopal Church

knowing and serving God by serving others

3768 Germantown Pike, Collegeville, PA 19426 610-489-7564 www.stjames-episcopal.org



CHURCH STAFF

The Rev. Dr. Mike Sowards, D. Min., Rector – rector@stjames-episcopal.org

For Pastoral Emergencies, please call Fr. Mike at 215-251-8856

Lauren Exley, Director of Music and Christian Education – education@stjames-episcopal.org

Sara Terenzi, Parish Administrator – office@stjames-episcopal.org

Ronald Davis, Director of Music Emeritus

Restrooms are located through Platts Hall. Please use the door next to the altar to exit, go down the hallway to Platts Hall, located to the right. Follow the signs to the bathrooms through the far door.

Coffee Hour is available following the 10am service. Please join us for a time of fellowship in Platts Hall.

CHILDREN AND YOUTH

Children belong here! We welcome their God-given wiggles, questions, and joyful sounds. Please walk through the aisles, feed the babies, and leave and reenter the service as you need. To assist families, we offer pew activity bags, a "pray-ground" in the back of the sanctuary, and a nursery space in Platts Hall.

Drop-off Nursery Care with our paid staff is available throughout the 8am and 10am services. The Nursery is in Platts Hall. Please ask an usher for assistance.

Church School is available for PreK – 12th grade during the 10am service (September – May.) Students are dismissed after the opening hymn and return for Communion.

Youth Group for $6^{\rm th}$ – $12^{\rm th}$ grade meets monthly (September - May.) See the bulletin board outside the Sanctuary for the current schedule.

WORSHIP SCHEDULE

Saturday, 5pm (spoken service) Sunday, 8am (with music) Sunday, 10am (with music and choir) Live-Stream available at 10am

WEEKDAY SCHEDULE

Monday

AA (7pm, Platt's Hall)

Tuesday

Yoga with Janice (3:30 chair yoga, Platt's Hall) **Wednesday**

Veterans in Recovery Meeting (6:30pm, Platt's Hall)

Theology on Zoom (7:30pm, link in Happenings, Sept-May)

Thursday

Christ and Coffee (11am, Platt's Hall) Teen Choir (6:30pm, Select Nights) Scouts (7pm, Platt's Hall and Downstairs) Adult Choir Rehearsal (7:30pm, Choir Room)

OUTREACH HOUSE

Interested in volunteering? See "Happenings" for our current schedule and sign-up links.

Interested in becoming a client? Confidential assistance is available for parishioners. For more information, please speak with Fr. Mike.

MEDIA POLICY: St. James' Episcopal Church regularly photographs, and video records our worship services and events. Please note if you are attending our 10AM Worship Service you will be recorded on our live-stream broadcast.

CHURCH VESTRY

Rector's Warden: Sarah Deacle; People's Warden: Marilyn Hastings; Vestry Secretary: Kathy Hutchinson; Outreach Ministries: Marilyn Hastings, Barbara Bateman; Treasurer: Mark Schultz; Fellowship: Tanya Millet, Sue Rice; Member Ministry: Sharon Hansen; Building & Grounds: Francois Springuel, Gene Goff; Communications: Janice Tabbut, Ryan Collins; Education & Worship: Fr. Mike

Our Mission is: To know and serve God by serving others. **Worship has ended...Service Begins!**