

A Service for Pentecost

May 19, 2024

10:15 a.m.

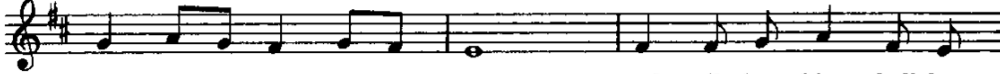


St. James Parish

Farmington, Connecticut

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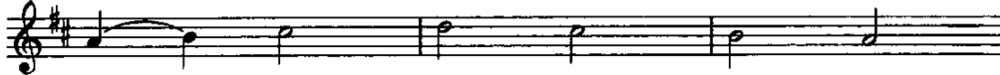
 1 Seek ye — first the king - dom of God
 2 Ask, and it shall be giv - en un - to you,


 and its right - eous - ness, and all these things shall be
 seek, and ye shall find, knock, and the door shall be


 add - ed un - to you; Al - le - lu, al - le - lu - ia!
 o - pened un - to you; Al - le - lu, al - le - lu - ia!

Refrain
 2

 Al - le - lu - ia, al - le -


 lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!


 Al - le - lu, al - le - lu - ia!

Words: St. 1, Matthew 6:33; adapt. Karen Lafferty (20th cent.). St. 2, Matthew 7:7.

Stanza 2 is not part of the hymn as originally written.

Music: *Seek Ye First*, Karen Lafferty (20th cent.)

13. 11. 7 with Alleluias

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OPENING ACCLAMATION

Celebrant Blessed be the one, holy, and living God.

People Glory to God for ever and ever.

GLORIA (*sung*)

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.**

SALUTATION

Celebrant God be with you.

People **And also with you.**

Celebrant Let us pray.

COLLECT FOR PENTECOST

Almighty God, on this day you opened the way of eternal life to every race and nation by the promised gift of your Holy Spirit: Shed abroad this gift throughout the world by the preaching of the Gospel, that it may reach to the ends of the earth; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

LESSONS

Ezekiel 37:1–14

The hand of the Lord came upon me, and he brought me out by the spirit of the Lord and set me down in the middle of a valley; it was full of bones. He led me all around them; there were very many lying in the valley, and they were very dry. He said to me, "Mortal, can these bones live?" I answered, "O Lord God, you know." Then he said to me, "Prophecy to these bones, and say to them: O dry bones, hear the word of the Lord. Thus says the Lord God to these bones: I will cause breath to enter you, and you shall live. I will lay sinews on you, and will cause flesh to come upon you, and cover you with skin, and put breath in you, and you shall live; and you shall know that I am the Lord."

So I prophesied as I had been commanded; and as I prophesied, suddenly there was a noise, a rattling, and the bones came together, bone to its bone. I looked, and there were sinews on them, and flesh had come upon them, and skin had covered them; but there was no breath in them. Then he said to me, "Prophecy to the breath, prophesy, mortal, and say to the breath: Thus says the Lord God: Come from the four winds, O breath, and breathe upon these slain, that they may live." I prophesied as he commanded me, and the breath came into them, and they lived, and stood on their feet, a vast multitude.

Then he said to me, "Mortal, these bones are the whole house of Israel. They say, 'Our bones are dried up, and our hope is lost; we are cut off completely.' Therefore prophesy, and say to them, Thus says the Lord God: I am going to open your graves, and bring you up from your graves, O my people; and I will bring you back to the land of Israel. And you shall know that I am the Lord, when I open your graves, and bring you up from your graves, O my people. I will put my spirit within you, and you shall live, and I will place you on your own soil; then you shall know that I, the Lord, have spoken and will act," says the Lord.

Lector Hear what the Spirit is saying to God's people.

People **Thanks be to God.**

Psalm 104:25–35, 37 (sung)

O LORD, how manifold are your works! *
in wisdom you have made them all; the earth is full of your creatures.

Yonder is the great and wide sea with its living things too many to number, *
creatures both small and great.

There move the ships, and there is that Leviathan, *
which you have made for the sport of it.

All of them look to you *

to give them their food in due season.

You give it to them; they gather it; *

you open your hand, and they are filled with good things.

You hide your face, and they are terrified; *

you take away their breath, and they die and return to their dust.

You send forth your Spirit, and they are created; *

and so you renew the face of the earth.

May the glory of the LORD endure for ever; *

may the LORD rejoice in all his works.

He looks at the earth and it trembles; *

he touches the mountains and they smoke.

I will sing to the LORD as long as I live; *

I will praise my God while I have my being.

May these words of mine please him; *

I will rejoice in the LORD.

Bless the LORD, O my soul. *

Hallelujah!

Acts 2:1–21

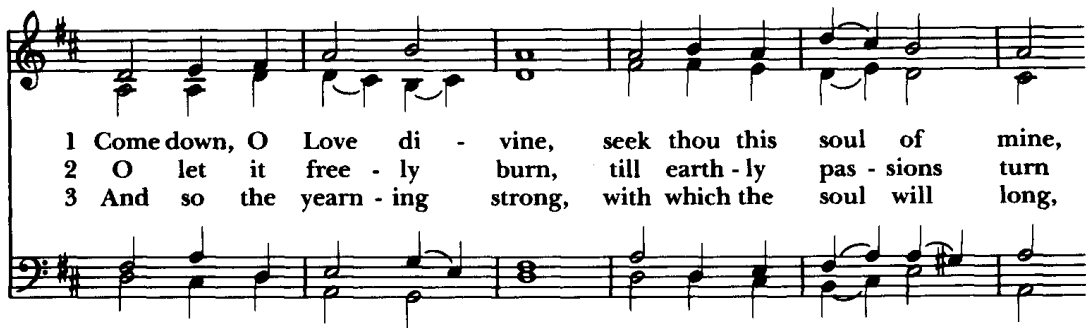
When the day of Pentecost had come, the disciples were all together in one place. And suddenly from heaven there came a sound like the rush of a violent wind, and it filled the entire house where they were sitting. Divided tongues, as of fire, appeared among them, and a tongue rested on each of them. All of them were filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak in other languages, as the Spirit gave them ability.

Now there were devout Jews from every nation under heaven living in Jerusalem. And at this sound the crowd gathered and was bewildered, because each one heard them speaking in the native language of each. Amazed and astonished, they asked, "Are not all these who are speaking Galileans? And how is it that we hear, each of us, in our own native language? Parthians, Medes, Elamites, and residents of Mesopotamia, Judea and Cappadocia, Pontus and Asia, Phrygia and Pamphylia, Egypt and the parts of Libya belonging to Cyrene, and visitors from Rome, both Jews and proselytes, Cretans and Arabs-- in our own languages we hear them speaking about God's deeds of power." All were amazed and perplexed, saying to one another, "What does this mean?" But others sneered and said, "They are filled with new wine."

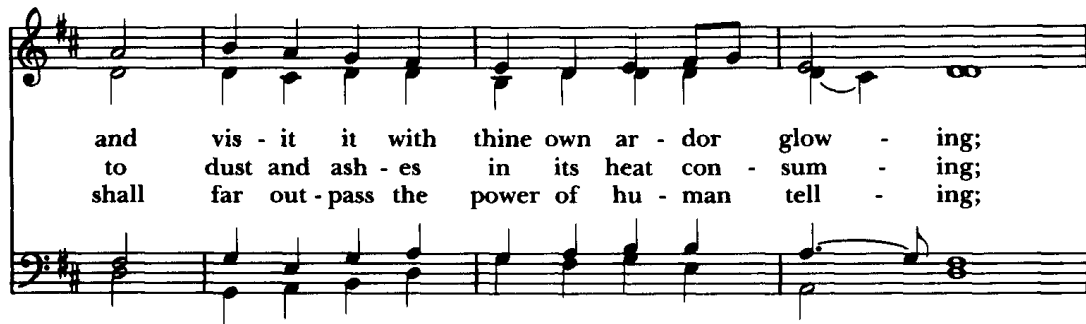
But Peter, standing with the eleven, raised his voice and addressed them, "Men of Judea and all who live in Jerusalem, let this be known to you, and listen to what I say. Indeed, these are not drunk, as you suppose, for it is only nine o'clock in the morning. No, this is what was spoken through the prophet Joel: 'In the last days it will be, God declares, that I will pour out my Spirit upon all flesh, and your sons and your daughters shall prophesy, and your young men shall see visions, and your old men shall dream dreams. Even upon my slaves, both men and women, in those days I will pour out my Spirit; and they shall prophesy. And I will show portents in the heaven above and signs on the earth below, blood, and fire, and smoky mist. The sun shall be turned to darkness and the moon to blood, before the coming of the Lord's great and glorious day. Then everyone who calls on the name of the Lord shall be saved.' "

Lector Hear what the Spirit is saying to God's people.

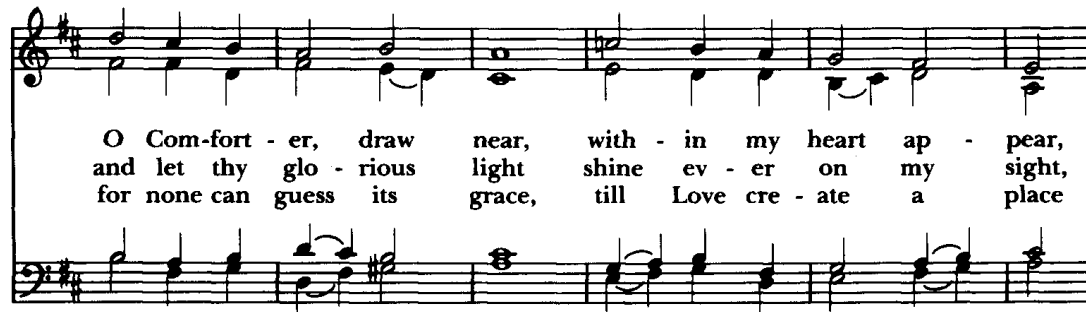
People **Thanks be to God.**



1 Come down, O Love di - vine, seek thou this soul of mine,
 2 O let it free - ly burn, till earth - ly pas - sions turn
 3 And so the yearn - ing strong, with which the soul will long,



and vis - it it with thine own ar - dor glow - ing;
 to dust and ash - es in its heat con - sum - ing;
 shall far out - pass the power of hu - man tell - ing;



O Com - fort - er, draw near, with - in my heart ap - pear,
 and let thy glo - rious light shine ev - er on my sight,
 for none can guess its grace, till Love cre - ate a place



and kin - dle it, thy ho - ly flame be - stow - ing.
 and clothe me round, the while my path il - lum - ing.
 where - in the Ho - ly Spi - rit makes a dwell - ing.

Words: Bianco da Siena (d. 1434?); tr. Richard Frederick Littledale (1833-1890), alt.
 Music: *Down Ampney*, Ralph Vaughan Williams (1872-1958)

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GOSPEL

John 15:26-27; 16:4b-15

Jesus said to his disciples, "When the Advocate comes, whom I will send to you from the Father, the Spirit of truth who comes from the Father, he will testify on my behalf. You also are to testify because you have been with me from the beginning.

"I did not say these things to you from the beginning, because I was with you. But now I am going to him who sent me; yet none of you asks me, 'Where are you going?' But because I have said these things to you, sorrow has filled your hearts. Nevertheless I tell you the truth: it is to your advantage that I go away, for if I do not go away, the Advocate will not come to you; but if I go, I

will send him to you. And when he comes, he will prove the world wrong about sin and righteousness and judgment: about sin, because they do not believe in me; about righteousness, because I am going to the Father and you will see me no longer; about judgment, because the ruler of this world has been condemned.

“I still have many things to say to you, but you cannot bear them now. When the Spirit of truth comes, he will guide you into all the truth; for he will not speak on his own, but will speak whatever he hears, and he will declare to you the things that are to come. He will glorify me, because he will take what is mine and declare it to you. All that the Father has is mine. For this reason I said that he will take what is mine and declare it to you.

HYMN

Come down, O Love Divine (v. 3)

see previous page

SERMON

The Rev. George Roberts

RENEWAL OF BAPTISMAL VOWS

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.**

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Lord, you said to Your disciples, on the night before You died for us, "Do not let your hearts be troubled." Yet, our hearts are troubled and heavy. Inspire us, Lord God, and bless us with the coming of Your Spirit that we may be infused with hope, overwhelmed by joy, and prepared for Your work in the world. We pray, responding, Come, Holy Spirit!

For the leaders of the church: send Your Spirit upon us and give us the courage to speak, the patience to listen, and the desire to be united by Your enduring love. We pray, **Come, Holy Spirit!**

For our elected leaders, especially in our Congress and state legislatures. Help us, as the Church, to engage the political powers that be with the truth of Your enduring mercy and peace. May we hold them accountable to the One who calls us to give rest to the weary, even Jesus Christ, our Lord. We pray, **Come, Holy Spirit!**

For all who have asked for our prayers, especially Marjorie King, Tim Roy, Mark Dobbins, Joyce Jensen, Joan Sussler, David Pines, Chris, Brian, Felix, Luisa, baby Wilder, Krystal, Tom, Alan, William, Teri, Henry, and all others for whom we pray, silently or aloud [*pause here*] ... We pray, **Come, Holy Spirit!**

For all who have died, especially Frank Ahern and any we name now, silently or aloud [*pause here*] We pray, **Come, Holy Spirit!**

Celebrant: Eternal God, in whose perfect kingdom no sword is drawn but the sword of righteousness, no strength known but the strength of love: So mightily spread abroad Your Spirit, that all peoples may be gathered under the banner of the Prince of Peace, as children of one Father; to whom be dominion and glory, now and forever. **Amen.**

THE PEACE

Celebrant The peace of Christ be always with you.

People **And also with you.**

THE HOLY COMMUNION

Offertory Anthem

Praise His Holy Name!

Keith Hampton

Eucharist Prayer

Celebrant The Lord be with you.

People **And also with you.**

Celebrant Lift 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 our thanks and praise.**

Celebrant We praise you and we bless you, holy and gracious God, source of life abundant. From before time you made ready the creation. Your Spirit moved over the deep and brought all things into being: sun, moon, and stars; earth, winds, and waters; and every living thing. You made us in your image, and taught us to walk in your ways. But we rebelled against you, and wandered far away; and yet, as a mother cares for her children, you would not forget us. Time and again you called us to live in the fullness of your love.

And so this day we join with Saints and Angels in the chorus of praise that rings through eternity, lifting our voices to magnify you as we say:

SANCTUS

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

The Celebrant continues

Glory and honor and praise to you, holy and living God. To deliver us from the power of sin and death and to reveal the riches of your grace, you looked with favor upon Mary, your willing servant, that she might conceive and bear a son, Jesus the holy child of God. Living among us, Jesus loved us. He broke bread with outcasts and sinners, healed the sick, and proclaimed good news to the poor. He yearned to draw all the world to himself yet we were heedless of his call to walk in love. Then, the time came for him to complete upon the cross the sacrifice of his life, and to be glorified by you.

On the night before he died for us, Jesus was at table with his friends. He took bread, gave thanks to you, broke it, and gave it to them, 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. Again, he gave thanks to you, 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."

Now gathered at your table, O God of all creation, and remembering Christ, crucified and risen, who was and is and is to come, we offer to you our gifts of bread and wine, and ourselves, a living sacrifice.

Pour out your Spirit upon these gifts that they may be the Body and Blood of Christ. Breathe your Spirit over the whole earth and make us your new creation, the Body of Christ given for the world you have made.

In the fullness of time bring us, with St. James, St. Peter, and all your saints, from every tribe and language and people and nation, to feast at the banquet prepared from the foundation of the world.

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.

The Lord's Prayer

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed by 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

Celebrant We break this bread to share in the Body of Christ.

People **We who are many are one body, for all share in the one bread.**

Communion Music

Post-Communion Prayer

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.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

THE BLESSING

God's Blessing be with you, Christ's peace be with you, the Spirit's outpouring be with you, now and always. **Amen.**

HYMN

In Christ there is no East or West

Hymnal 529

1 In Christ there is no east or west, in him no
 2 In Christ shall true hearts ev - ery - where their high com -
 3 Join hands, dis - ci - ples of the faith, what - e'er your
 4 In Christ now meet both east and west; in him meet

south or north, but one great fel - low -
 mu - nion find; his ser - vice is the
 race may be. All chil - dren of the
 south and north. All Christ - ly souls are

ship of love through - out the whole wide earth.
 gold - en cord close - bind - ing hu - man - kind.
 liv - ing God are sure - ly kin to me.
 one in him through - out the whole wide earth.

DISMISSAL

Let us go forth in the name of Christ.

Thanks be to God.

Serving this morning

Crucifer	Chloe Roberts
Acolytes	Kaitlin Bittner & Kody Bittner
Altar Guild	Joyce Bettencourt
Chalicer	Carol Kirkwood
Lector	Dona Waugh
Ushers	Evan Lapointe
Junior Ushers	Jake & Anna Lapointe
Welcomer	Kathy Bullard
Care Ministry/Altar flower delivery	Susan Rubin

This morning's altar flowers are given in loving memory of
our parents, Charles & Mary Schlosky and
Herman & Veronica Backiel.

~ David & Verona Schlosky



Join us online for worship this morning! Join us at 10:15 a.m. on Facebook Live (you do NOT need to have a Facebook account) – <https://bit.ly/StJamesLive>



Pentecost Celebration!! Following this worship service, we will have a picnic on the lawn (or indoors, if necessary) with hamburgers and hotdogs. Join us for a time of community, fun and food! The life of the Church continues in us!!

Join us for worship during the week on Facebook Live on St. James Parish's Facebook page:
<https://bit.ly/StJamesLive>

Mondays for Morning Prayer at 9:30 am
Wednesdays for Evening Prayer at 5 pm
Fridays for Compline at 7:30 pm.

Sunday Bible Study: We are on hiatus for the rest of May, returning on June 2nd to begin an exploration of the Acts of the Apostles.



Supplies needed for mission to the Dominican Republic: Our mission team is going to assist with Vacation Bible School in the *De La Gracia* community we are partnering with in Boca Chica. Please consider donating the following supplies, if you didn't take a choice from the box last Sunday: glue, glue sticks, crayons, pencils, construction paper, and kids' scissors. We will leave any extra supplies with the community when we return to CT. A donation box is in the narthex. Please contact Tracey Roberts at robertsrus6@gmail.com with any questions.

Graduates! Every year, we try to recognize our graduates in some way and this year will be no exception! If you have a child or grandchild graduating this spring, please let Sue in the parish office know ASAP their name and where they are graduating from (and degree, if applicable). We also would like to know where our high school graduates might be heading this fall. Email the office at st.james.church@sbcglobal.net or call 860-677-1564 — thank you!



Join us for our Community Dinner at Camp Washington! The event starts at 5 p.m. on Saturday, June 1st with a service of beautiful music, inspiring words, and Holy Communion in the language of the Celtic Christian tradition led by The Rev. Tuesday Rupp and accompanied by Pete Miserendino on guitar, our friends from St Paul's, Woodbury. Contemporary and contemplative, a beautiful offering to God. Following worship, join us at 6:15 p.m. for dinner- A time of community, conversation, and wonderful food! REGISTER NOW at <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/community-dinner-tickets-853675174427?aff=oddtcreator>

Stations of the Cross Book & Artwork DR Fundraiser: If you would like to purchase one of the Stations handmade books that you enjoyed while viewing the Stations this past Easter season, OR if you would like a copy of any of the artwork for this project NOW is the time to take advantage of this sale! The books are individually made just for you and the artwork can be bought as a 11"x17" or 8"x10" print, a 4"x5" print or magnet. Everything is reasonably priced, and every cent earned goes to the DR mission. These can make great presents for inspiration, hope and pure enjoyment for what all the artists did during this project. Please consider helping the mission through your purchases of these items. For sale between and after church on Sundays, or call Father George or Linda Mason for more information or assistance.



The lectionary readings for next Sunday, May 26th are:

Isaiah 6:1–8; Psalm 26; Romans 8:12–17; John 3:1–17.

Gifts of Love provides a backpack of food for clients' families for the weekend, when school lunches are not available, including throughout the summer. Our Outreach Ministry is continuing to supply them with peanut butter & jelly year-round. Peanut butter & jelly must be in *plastic* jars as they won't send glass jars home in children's backpacks. Please, bring in PB & J, leaving the jars in the labeled basket at the top of the parish hall stairs to the church. If you can pick up small containers of fruit or applesauce, those would be great additions to the backpacks as well!



Spring Clean-up days! We are looking for Volunteers for spring cleanup in our memorial gardens at St James on Saturday, June 8th and at the rectory on Saturday, June 15th. Bring your own tools and gloves. Please contact Jim Wilkie jwilkie721@comcast.net) if you can help. Rain date for either event would be Saturday, June 22nd.



June is Gun Violence Awareness month. Gun violence continues to be a huge challenge in our country, in our cities and towns. For the last few years, several of our church communities have come together to pray for peace and to envision, with God's help, a different path forward. **Join us on Thursday, June 6, at 7 pm for a service of prayer and healing.** We understand that real action by governing bodies is necessary for gun violence to be truly diminished, but we hope you will join us to deepen our resolve to be voices for peace in the world. **The Vigil Against Gun Violence will take place in Farmington on the green between the Barney Library and the First Church of Christ, Congregational Meetinghouse.**



St. James Parish

3 Mountain Road in Farmington, CT 06032

Telephone 860-677-1564

The Rev. George C. Roberts, *Rector*

Blake Hansen, *Director of Music*

www.stjamesfarmington.org