



St. James Parish

WITH ST. MARK'S MINISTRIES

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The Rev. George C. Roberts, Rector

Blake Hansen, *Director of Music*
Susan Deming, *Parish Administrator*
Ray Smith, *Sexton*

Lee Febos, *Clergy Intern*
Cheryl Rusczyk, *Admin., St. Mark's Ministries*
Kim McLaurin, *Nursery Supervisor*

OFFICERS

Kathy Bullard & David Tompkins, *Wardens*
EJ Ososki, *Treasurer*

Bonnie Sudell, *Clerk*
Jerry Hess, *Ass't Treasurer*

VESTRY

2026
Kathy Bullard
Doug McDowell
Molly Sherman

2027
Linda Mason
Ed Preneta
David Tompkins

2028
David Hrdlicka
Carol Kirkwood
Michael Slusarz

The Third Sunday in Lent

March 8, 2026, 10:15 a.m.

HOLY EUCHARIST RITE 2

Prelude (*please listen in silence, preparing for worship*)

Procession (*in silence*)

The Word of God

◆An Exhortation

Beloved in the Lord: Our Savior Christ, on the night before he suffered, instituted the Sacrament of his Body and Blood as a sign and pledge of his love, for the continual remembrance of the sacrifice of his death, and for a spiritual sharing in his risen life. For in these holy Mysteries we are made one with Christ, and Christ with us; we are made one body in him, and members one of another.

Having in mind, therefore, his great love for us, and in obedience to his command, his Church renders to Almighty God our heavenly Father never-ending thanks for the creation of the world, for his continual providence over us, for his love for all mankind, and for the redemption of the world by our Savior Christ, who took upon himself our flesh, and humbled himself even to death on the cross, that he might make us the children of God by the power of the Holy Spirit, and exalt us to everlasting life.

To Christ our Lord who loves us, and washed us in his own blood, and made us a kingdom of priests to serve his God and Father, to him be glory in the Church evermore. Through him let us offer continually the sacrifice of praise, which is our bounden duty and service, and, with faith in him, come boldly before the throne of grace.

◆HYMN	<i>Come thou fount of every blessing</i>	Hymnal 686
◆Opening Sentences		BCP pg. 355
◆Collect for Purity		BCP pg. 355
◆ <i>Kyrie</i>		Hymnal (front section) S 96
◆Collect of the Day (<i>Contemporary, in unison</i>)		see insert
First Reading	Exodus 17:1–7	
Psalm 95 (<i>responsively, the People in bold</i>)		see insert
Second Reading	Romans 5:1–11	
◆HYMN	<i>Shepherd of souls</i> (vv. 1–2)	Hymnal 343
◆The Holy Gospel	John 4:5–42	
◆HYMN	<i>Shepherd of souls</i> (vv. 3–4)	Hymnal 343
The Sermon		The Rev. George Roberts
The Nicene Creed		BCP pg. 358

In peace, we pray to you, Lord God.

Silence

For all people in their daily life and work;

For our families, friends, and neighbors, and for those who are alone.

For this community, the nation, and the world;

For all who work for justice, freedom, and peace.

For the just and proper use of your creation;

For the victims of hunger, fear, injustice, and oppression.

For all who are in danger, sorrow, or any kind of trouble;

For those who minister to the sick, the friendless, and the needy.

For the peace and unity of the Church of God;

For all who proclaim the Gospel, and all who seek the Truth.

For Sean, our Presiding Bishop, and Jeff and Laura, our Bishops; and for all bishops and other ministers;

For all who serve God in his Church.

For the special needs and concerns of this congregation. We pray especially for Maxine Christensen, Phil, Bill, Lisa Vallee, Danielle Harris, Jer H., Bob C., Michael R., Emilia, Matt G., Tiffany O., John M., Brian, Cruz, Karen, Jane B., Jane, Robert Pizzanello, Geoffrey Newton, Jayla, Heather, Laurent, Tom, and all others we name, silently or aloud.

Silence; the People may add their own concerns

Hear us, Lord;

For your mercy is great.

We thank you, Lord, for all the blessings of this life.

Silence; the People may add their own thanksgivings

We will exalt you, O God our King;

And praise your Name for ever and ever.

We pray for all who have died, that they may have a place in your eternal kingdom.

Silence; the People may add their own petitions

Lord, let your loving-kindness be upon them;

Who put their trust in you.

We pray to you also for the forgiveness of our sins.

Silence may be kept.

Priest and People

Have mercy upon us, most merciful Father;
in your compassion forgive us our sins,
known and unknown,
things done and left undone;
and so uphold us by your Spirit
that we may live and serve you in newness of life,
to the honor and glory of your Name;
through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Absolution

The Peace

BCP pg. 360

The Holy Communion

Offertory

J. Comenius & J. Althouse

When My Lips Can Frame No Sound

◆DOXOLOGY (vs. 3)

Hymnal 380

*The Great Thanksgiving – Prayer A

BCP pg. 361

**Sanctus*

Hymnal (front section) S 130

*The Lord's Prayer

BCP pg. 364

*The Breaking of the Bread

BCP pg. 364

Gluten-free hosts are available.

**Agnus Dei*

Hymnal (front section) S 164

Communion Hymns: 167, 649, 148

◆Postcommunion Prayer

BCP pg. 365

◆Lenten Prayer (*in unison*)

BCP pg. 832

Blessed Savior, at this hour you hung upon the cross, stretching out your loving arms: Grant that all peoples of the earth may look to you and be saved; for your tender mercies' sake. Amen.

Announcements

◆HYMN

Rock of ages

Hymnal 685

The Dismissal

BCP pg. 366

Postlude (*please remain seated to enjoy the Postlude or depart in silence*)

- ◆ You are invited to stand, as able.
 - * You are invited to kneel, as able.
- BCP refers to *The Book of Common Prayer*, found in the pew book rack.

The hand-hewn cross crafted by John Newton will anchor our prayers during this upcoming Lenten season. We have used John's cross in Lent for a number of years and it has been a blessing as we focus our Lenten prayers. We ask that, if you would like to place a prayer concern/need on the Cross, you come up after the service (or anytime you wish to come by the church), take a card (available at the Cross itself), write your prayer request on it, place the card on the Cross with an iron nail provided in the bowl (use the hammer, if you would like) in solidarity with Christ's Passion. Be blessed this Lent!



Serving this week

Crucifer		Chloe Roberts
Acolytes		Story Cadigan & Sefakor Tompkins
Altar Guild		Janet LaPierre-Green & Donna Wilkie
Chalicians	8:00 a.m.	Mimi Hostetter
	10:15 a.m.	Michael DeNegris
Lectors	8:00 a.m.	Janet LaPierre-Green
	10:15 a.m.	John Newton
Ushers	8:00 a.m.	Janet LaPierre-Green
	10:15 a.m.	Michele Briganti & Olivia Paré
Welcomer		Linda Mason
Coffee Hour Host		David & Verona Schlosky



We welcome all who are guests with us this week – we are so glad you are here! Please fill out one of the small cards in the pew rack and hand it to an usher so we can get to know you better.

Music for the 10:15 am worship service is streamed with permission under ONELICENSE #A-736322.

Join us online for worship this morning! Join us at 10:15 a.m. on Facebook Live (you do NOT need a Facebook account) – <https://bit.ly/StJamesLive>. **Join us on** Mondays for Morning Prayer at 9:30 am, also livestreamed on Facebook at the same link.

Women's Ministry

TODAY, March 8th at 5:30 pm, Potluck Lenten Dinner with Compline. Join your women friends for an evening of dinner, conversation and a compline service led by our very own Clergy Intern, Lee Febos.

Fellowship Committee forming: St James is very blessed to have so much new growth and involvement in church activities! We are starting a Fellowship Committee to provide TEAMS of folks who will work together to plan and coordinate our bigger events. These events may be church dinners, concerts, picnics, or special guests. Additionally, it will make sure there is training and coordination of our Sunday coffee hours. Please consider being a part of this committee. **The first meeting will be after the 10:15 service TODAY in the library.** If you have any questions, please call Kathy Bullard at 860-673-6444.



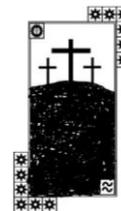
Lenten Bible Study: today we continue our Lenten Bible study, using the text *Lent: A Season of Repentance and Renewal* by Esau McCaulley as our guide through our Sundays of study (TODAY and ending the 22nd). We meet via Zoom at 12:30 pm with Meeting ID: 815 4332 7235; Passcode: 982548.

Conversations around social concerns & the body of Christ. TOMORROW, March 9th, at 6:30 pm, St. James will host our first conversation to give folks a chance to discuss issues facing our community, region, country, or world. The conversations will spring, we pray, from the things that are concerning folks and they will always be, ultimately, viewed through the lens of Christ's call on our lives. This is a rescheduled date because of the February 22nd/23rd storm.



Men's Breakfast: THIS SATURDAY, March 13th at 8:00 am, all men of the parish are invited to join us for a time of conversation and good food at the Crazy Pancake, 17 Whiting Street, in Plainville. Come as you are. Everyone is responsible for his own breakfast but let Fr. George know if that is a challenge, as there is assistance available. Join in fellowship with Fr. George and a great breakfast!

Stations of the Cross. Join us on Fridays of Lent at 5:30 pm, for an exploration of the ancient form of prayer and worship known as The Stations of the Cross. The Stations were said in the medieval world when a pilgrim could not journey to Jerusalem to walk the way of Jesus, the Stations of the Cross. We will gather each Friday in Lent to pray a beautiful set of prayers combining "The Stations of the Cross" found in the St. Augustine Prayer Book and a beautiful poem written for our Stations by Dianne Antos. We use, as our focus of prayer, 14+ beautiful stations done in various art mediums by members of our own parish. If you have never experienced this time of beauty, repentance, prayer, and grace – or if you have come in the last two years we have held this time as sacred – join us and be blessed.



A funeral service for longtime St. Mark's and then St. James Parish member, Barbara Campbell will be held on Saturday, May 16th at 11 am here at St. James.

Lenten series on Wednesdays of Lent – Matthew’s Gospel: Healing, parables, & storytelling: Matthew’s Gospel has a deep desire to show us that Jesus healed through exorcising demons, touching and blessing the sick and needy. Jesus’ teaching through parable is a form of healing, too. Jesus ministers to us and grows us as His disciples by deepening our understanding of who He is and how He saves us. **Continuing on Wednesdays, March 11th, 18th, and 25th,** all are invited to explore a portion of Jesus’ witness in the Gospel of Matthew. With our intern, Lee Febos, Fr. George leads any curious about Christ’s power to heal and teach, beginning with an overview of Chapter 8 in the Gospel of Matthew, in which Jesus heals, teaches, and exorcizes demons. **We begin each night with soup and salad at 5:30 pm, and then continue until around 7 pm** with conversation, questions, and perhaps a new perspective on Matthew.



Town Hall on Capital Projects. Next Sunday, March 15th, immediately following the 10:15 am service, we will host an informational Town Hall, as part of coffee hour, on Capital/Major Projects for our building and grounds. Our Capital Committee, a subcommittee of our Vestry, has been working since the fall on identifying and vetting major projects toward repairing and/or improving our building and grounds, including making the building more accessible for people with mobility issues. We will share what work has already been done in the last year and share work that has been done to gather information on other projects that might be done. The Capital Committee very much wants to hear from you; the March 15th gathering is not only to share information, but to gather it from our parish. What questions do you have? What concerns might you want to share? What projects might you desire to champion that your Capital Committee or Vestry have not yet identified. Please, please come and share the time with us as we move forward building up our future together.



Dominican Mission fundraiser! We are running our envelope fundraiser again for April’s mission to the Dominican Republic. On the parish hall kiosk are envelopes labeled \$1 to \$100. Please take one (or two), place the designated amount in the envelope, and place it in the offering plate or bring it (or mail it) to the parish office. Last year we raised \$5,000 (!!!), which we can only do if every envelope is taken. Will you help us? If you have questions about our mission to the Dominican Republic, please see Fr. George.



The lectionary readings for next Sunday, March 15th are:

1 Samuel 16:1–13; Psalm 23; Ephesians 5:8–14; John 9:1–41.

Hearing assist support upgrade: We have an upgrade to our sanctuary audio system which should clear up volume issues some have experienced on the livestream and in the worship space itself. Please let us know if those issues are unresolved for you at home. There is a discreetly placed Wi-Fi station that should help folks with hearing impairments. We have four devices which can be found on the table in the narthex (ask ushers for help, if needed). The process is simple and below; if you have an iPhone or Android, you can use your phone:

- + Get one of our hearing aid devices
- + Log into to *St. James Par* (our Wi-Fi network) with password *St.Jofc2010*
- + Go to the App Store and download *Wavecast* audio receiver (Williams).
- + Once you have the app, open it, and click on Search by channel or name
- + Adjust the volume on the hearing aid device (each device comes with simple instructions).

MISSION STATEMENT

*We welcome all to worship and nurture spiritual growth through faith, grace and reason.
We reach out to those in need as a caring community &
live Christ's teaching to love one another.*

COMMUNION IN THIS CHURCH

All baptized Christians are welcome at the Lord's table in the Episcopal Church. If you are visiting, and have received Communion in your own parish, then please share in the sacrament with our parish. Gluten-free hosts are available. If you are not baptized, you are welcome to ask for a blessing.

GUESTS

A cordial welcome to St. James Parish. Please fill out a Welcome Card in the pew rack and place it in the collection box or hand it to an usher. We invite you to sign our guest book as you leave the church. Scan this QR code to access our website for more information about St. James Parish.

THE CHURCH IS ALWAYS OPEN FOR PRAYER & MEDITATION

The Parish Office is open Monday–Friday, 9 am–2 pm.
Sunday worship services are held at 8 am (Rite 1) and 10:15 am (Rite 2).

