



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 & Stephen Hard, *Wardens*
EJ Ososki, *Treasurer*

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

VESTRY

2025
Stephen Hard
Skip Mason
Bob Sudell

2026
Kathy Bullard
Doug McDowell
Molly Sherman

2027
Linda Mason
Ed Preneta
David Tompkins

First Sunday of Advent

November 30, 2025, 10:15 a.m.

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

The Word of God

◆Collect of the Day (*Contemporary, in unison*) see insert

Psalm 122 (*responsively, the People in **bold***) see insert

◆The Holy Gospel Matthew 24:36–44

The Sermon

The Nicene Creed BCP pg. 358

◆The Prayers of the People

Lord God, wake us up from sleep, from the pettiness, fear, and anger that can infect our hearts and our relationships, and bring us into the life of Your Presence, the reality of Your saving life in Jesus. We pray, responding, Christ is coming. Awake!

For the Church, that She may be an instrument of teaching, life, hope, shining the light of Jesus in the darkness of the world. We pray, **Christ is coming. Awake!**

For nations around the world and the power brokers who make decisions that they may decide based on what is best for the people, awakened and inspired by the Spirit of the risen Christ. We pray, **Christ is coming. Awake!**

For all who are struggling, particularly those who are homeless, challenged by addiction or mental illness, and for all children who are in war zones, dysfunctional families, or in any situation of violence or abuse, we pray, **Christ is coming. Awake!**

For all who have asked for our prayers, especially Maeve Cooper, Bob C., Michael R., Sara, Don, Barrett, Mary S., Emilia, Matt G., Tiffany O., John M., Brian, Avery, Cruz, Karen, Jane B., Jane, Robert Pizzanello, Geoffrey Newton, Jayla, Heather,

Mark, Gary, Laurent, Tom, and all others for whom we pray, silently or aloud
[*pause here*] ... We pray, **Christ is coming. Awake!**

For all who have died, especially Bill Briggs, and all others for whom we pray,
silently or aloud [*pause here*] ... We pray, **Christ is coming. Awake!**

We pray, in thanksgiving, for the marriage of Michael and Anju Turbeville last
weekend. May they continue to be awakened to the joyous presence of Christ in
their life together. We pray, **Christ is coming. Awake!**

Celebrant: Lord God, in Christ Jesus we are reminded that the night of sin and
evil are nearing their end and we must clothe ourselves with His love and
purpose. Inspire us during this Advent season with His righteousness, wisdom,
and truth, that we may become more fully awake to the reality of His coming.
We pray, in the name of Jesus. **Amen.**

Confession of Sin and Absolution BCP pg. 360

The Peace BCP pg. 360

The Holy Communion

Offertory

◆DOXOLOGY (vs. 3) Hymnal 380

*The Great Thanksgiving – Prayer B BCP pg. 367

**Sanctus* Hymnal (front section) S 130

*The Lord's Prayer BCP pg. 364

**Agnus Dei* (Lamb of God) Hymnal (front section) S 164

*The Breaking of the Bread BCP pg. 364

Gluten-free hosts are available.

Communion Hymns: 61, 454, 68

◆Postcommunion Prayer BCP pg. 366

Announcements

◆HYMN *Judge eternal, throned in splendor* Hymnal 596

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.

Serving this week

Crucifer		Chloe Roberts
Altar Guild		Mimi Hostetter & Verona Schlosky
Chalicists	8:00 a.m.	Mimi Hostetter
	10:15 a.m.	Chandler Howard
Lectors	8:00 a.m.	Kim Faubert
	10:15 a.m.	Donna Paye
Ushers	8:00 a.m.	Janet LaPierre-Green
	10:15 a.m.	Michael DeNegriss & Tim Milligan
Welcomer		Sue Holland
Coffee Hour Host		Dave Woodford & Stephen Karwowski
Care Ministry / Altar Flower delivery		Linda Mason

Today's altar flowers are given to celebrate
the birthday of our beloved daughter, Mia,
with gratitude to God for her & our loving family.

~ Felicia DeDominicis & Gary Flynn



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.

The lectionary readings for the Second Sunday of Advent, December 7th are:
Isaiah 11:1–10; Psalm 72:1–7, 18–19; Romans 15:4–13; Matthew 3:1–12.

Lenten Devotionals submissions due: The December 6th deadline is upon us this week!! If you have not yet sent your Lenten Devotional work to dianneantos45@gmail.com , it's time! THANK YOU!

Wednesday mid-day service: join us for Holy Eucharist with prayers for healing in the Chapel (behind the choir seating) at 11:30 am. Immediately following the service, you are invited to stay for lunch (bring your own lunch – brown bag or something to warm up) and time for conversation in the parish hall. All are welcome!

LAST CHANCE – Thankfulness Bookmarks. Throughout November Women's Ministry is providing art supplies in the parish hall for our parishioners to create bookmarks which will then be laminated and used in our pew books. Bring your imagination and creativity to make a useful tool for all who come to worship here!



Care packages for college students & military: Each year around December finals, we send our young people in college or serving in the military a small care package to let them know we are thinking about and praying for them. If you have a child or grandchild serving in the Armed Forces or at college (even if they are living at home), **please provide the parish office with their name and address by TOMORROW.** We will take donations of granola bars, snacks, etc. to put in the care packages; **please use the marked donation box in the parish hall.** We also invite you to donate to our Youth Fund to support this and other ministries for our older children and young adults.

Advent Bible study: Join us on the four Sundays of Advent at 12:30 pm on Zoom, for a special Bible Study of Advent. We will use the theme of our Advent wreath candles – and their colors – to frame a special four-part Bible study. **Beginning TODAY** and the next three Sundays of Advent (December 7th, 14th, and 21st), we will explore Hope (purple, Advent 1), Peace (purple, candle 2), Joy (pink, candle 3), and Love (purple, candle 4). Each week will be framed by verses from scripture that foretell the coming of the Messiah, from the prophets, the psalms, and the Gospel witness itself. Please plan to join us via Zoom, if you can!! Note that on December 21st the Study will begin at 1 p.m. due to our *Greening of the Church*. A wonderful way to connect to the themes of the Advent season, as we wait expectantly the coming of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.

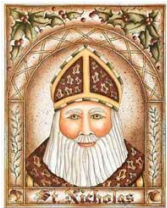




Advent Lessons & Carols: Please join us on Sunday, December 14th, at 5 pm for an inspiring service of **Advent Lesson and Carols** at St. James Parish. We will have special instrumental music, choral singing, and Advent hymns to join in with as a congregation. The Lessons will be read by members of St. James. All are invited to join us, following the service, for a reception in the parish hall.

The **2026 Altar Flower Calendar** is posted in the narthex (church entryway). Please sign-up for a Sunday when you would like to donate and dedicate the flowers for the day's services. Note: there will be no altar flowers during Lent.

Sundays of Advent: *O little town of Bethlehem*: We love singing the hymns and carols that frame our brief, beautiful season of Christmastide! I so look forward to singing *Hark! The herald angels sing*, *Silent Night*, *It came upon a midnight clear*, and so many other wonderful hymns that express the joy of Christ's nativity and what that birth means for the world. But have you ever really explored the words of some of our great hymns of Christmas or Advent? Well, **beginning TODAY, the first Sunday of Advent**, and running each of the following 3 Sundays of Advent (December 7th, 14th, 21st), we will dive a little deeper into the meaning and purpose of some of the great music of the Advent and Christmas season. There will be no book to buy, come as you are, and this will be a fun and hopeful study of the words that frame the great tunes we have come to love. **Join us 9–9:45 am in the parish hall, each Sunday morning beginning TODAY.**



First Sunday Breakfast & St. Nicholas Day! Find delicious food and fellowship at *First Sunday Breakfasts* cooked by a great crew of men of the parish: pancakes, sausage, bacon, eggs, juice and coffee as good as Mom made. A gluten-free option will also be available. And, of course, much good conversation! So, **join us NEXT SUNDAY, December 7th from 9 am–9:45 am**, bring your family and neighbors, and share in the

great food from our Men's Group. **In addition, we will celebrate St. Nicholas Day!** St. Nicholas was known for giving to the poor, caring for orphaned children, and defending the faith of Jesus as it had come down through the church. We will have a visit from St. Nicholas again, who will share stories with us and our children! We also invite, on this special day, folks to bring ornaments from home that you would like to donate to the church which we will put on our St. James Christmas Tree that very day (lightly used or new ones, please). So much to celebrate next Sunday!!

Advent Devotionals: Each Advent we have a small devotional to help us further connect with the importance and power of the Advent season. This year we are using *Our Dear Christ Enters In* by Jane Wilke. These devotions are in the pews this Sunday and are yours to take, pray with, and grow with for Advent, as we approach the Nativity of our Lord. Each devotion – representing each day of Advent - has a brief scripture verse, a short reflection, and a prayer.

Annual Appeal for Stewardship: We hope that you have been actively engaging God in conversation about your gift to our Annual Appeal for the continuing life and ministry of St. James. **Please fill out your pledge card and return it as promptly as possible. Thank you to those who have already done so!** As of Tuesday, November 25th, we have received 73 pledges totaling \$216,177 with a goal of \$358,000. **If you pledged for 2026 and requested giving envelopes, the boxed envelope sets will be available in the narthex (church entryway) beginning December 14th.**



Join us for *Greening of the Church*: On Sunday, December 21st, following 10:15 a.m. worship, we'll begin our *Greening of the Church* for Christmas! We are looking for volunteers to come help hang greens, wreaths and decorate the windows, all while enjoying fellowship and creating a glorious welcome for the Christmas season. If you are going to join us, please bring some clippers for trimming greens. We are also in need of fresh greens for the windowsills. If you are willing to donate them, there will soon be a box to drop them in on the sidewalk to the right of the front entrance of the church. We are doing both indoor and outdoor Greening. Blessings and we look forward to seeing you on the 21st!

Coffee Hour signups: Many thanks to who have hosted our time of fellowship this year! The 2026 signup is now on the parish hall ramp bulletin board, offering you the opportunity to host a Coffee Hour in the New Year! On your day, you make regular & decaffeinated coffee and then clean up after Coffee Hour. You may signup for as many Sundays as you'd like – or just one! Signup to work alone or with a friend or two! Providing simple snacks (cookies, cupcakes, maybe a small gluten-free option) is nice, but **not** necessary to volunteer for this ministry.

Outreach Corner

Food Collection

Thank you to everyone in our wonderful St James Community for your immediate and generous response to our food collection effort. The great need at these food pantries continues, so we will continue our collection. There are two bins in the narthex. The blue one is for the community food pantries and the darker bin is for St Mark's Pantry. There are some items that are most needed by all of the food pantries:

- Canned proteins – tuna, chicken, stews, beans, soup, chili, and other canned meats
- Canned fruit and vegetables
- Low sodium foods
- Pasta, sauces, Mac and cheese
- Peanut butter and jelly
- Cereal, crackers, oatmeal, snacks
- Flour, sugar, mixes, condiments, coffee, tea
- Toilet paper, laundry detergent
- Personal items – toothpaste, toothbrushes, shampoo, deodorant etc.

Outreach Meeting

Our yearend Outreach Meeting will be held Sunday, December 14th after the 10:15 am service. At this meeting we will review our outreach efforts this year to determine if they are still in line with our priorities and people's needs. Additionally, we will determine the remaining recipients of St James' Outreach contributions for 2025. Everyone with an interest in Outreach is invited to this very important meeting.

Angel Tree for Friendship Service Center & Farmington Community Services

St. James Outreach Ministry asks you to help provide Christmas gifts to approximately 20 individuals from the Friendship Service Center and 8-10 children from Farmington Community Services. Angel ornaments representing each individual are on a Christmas



tree in the narthex (church entryway). Please select one or more ornaments, sign your name on the corresponding sign-out chart, purchase an appropriate Christmas gift(s) for your chosen recipient, and return the gift *unwrapped* to the Parish Hall with the ornament attached as the gift tag. Each recipient was asked to list several items that they are hoping for.

It is *not* expected that all items on the tag will be donated. You can choose to fulfill all items (alone or partnered with friends at church) or just one or two items. This is a wonderful opportunity for St James to share joy with those in need in our community. **The deadline for gifts is NOON on MONDAY, December 15th.** If you have any questions, please see Dona Waugh or Linda Larkin. Thank you very much!

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 Wifi 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).

