



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 Fourth Sunday of Easter

April 26, 2026, 10:15 a.m.

HOLY EUCHARIST RITE 2

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

◆Hymn *Before the Lord's eternal throne* Hymnal 391

The Word of God

◆Opening Acclamation BCP pg. 355

◆Collect for Purity BCP pg. 355

◆*Gloria* Hymnal (front section) S 278

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

First Reading Acts 2:42–47

Psalms 23 (*responsively, the People in bold*) see insert

Second Reading 1 Peter 2:19–25

◆HYMN *Shepherd of souls* (vv. 1–2) Hymnal 343

◆The Holy Gospel John 10:1–10

◆HYMN *Shepherd of souls* (vv. 3–4) Hymnal 343

The Sermon The Rev. George Roberts

The Nicene Creed BCP pg. 358

◆The Prayers of the People

Lord Jesus, You are the Good Shepherd, the One who bore our sins in Your own flesh so that we can be free, grace-filled sheep of Your fold. Grant us the wisdom and the courage to walk through the gate of peace that You have opened, as we pray responding, Lord, hear our prayer.

For the Church that She may equip Her people with the good news that they are forgiven, saved, and free in the truest sense of the word: free to worship the God who saves and to live without fear. We pray, **Lord, hear our prayer.**

For leaders of nations, especially our President, Congress, and for the leaders of Iran, Israel, Lebanon, and any place where there is violence, war, or disagreement. May seek the voice and life of the Good Shepherd who invites all of His sheep to follow the sound of His voice into a place of abundant life. We pray, **Lord, hear our prayer.**

For all who suffer because of war or violence; for any who struggle with mental illness, addiction, or homelessness; for those who can find no peace, and all

families that are dealing with separation or friction, we pray, **Lord, hear our prayer.**

For all who have asked for our prayers, especially Nina, Norman Wack, Pauline, Susan Livingston, Maxine Christensen, Phil, Bill, Lisa Vallee, Cruz, Danielle Harris, Jer H., Bob C., Emilia, Matt G., Tiffany O., John M., Brian, Jane B., Jane, Robert Pizzanello, Geoffrey Newton, Jayla, Heather, Laurent, Tom, and for all others we now pray for, silently or aloud [*pause here*] ... We pray, **Lord, hear our prayer.**

For all who have died, especially Alice Willard, those who have died by violence, and those we pray for now, silently or aloud [*pause here*] ... We pray, **Lord, hear our prayer.**

Celebrant: God of the living and of the dead, You have revealed Your mercy and grace in the body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ, who suffered pain and yet rose in glory and life. Save us with the reality of Christ's undoing of death, and may we be delivered into the place of abundance with Him in life and in death. We ask in His holy Name. **Amen.**

The Peace

The Holy Communion

Offertory	<i>The Lord is My Shepherd</i>	Thomas Matthews
◆DOXOLOGY (vs. 3)		Hymnal 380
*The Great Thanksgiving – Prayer A		BCP pg. 361
* <i>Sanctus</i>		Hymnal (front section) S 125
*The Lord's Prayer		BCP pg. 364
*The Breaking of the Bread		BCP pg. 364
	<i>Gluten-free hosts are available.</i>	

Communion Hymns: 378, 316, 478

◆Postcommunion Prayer		BCP pg. 365
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Announcements

◆HYMN	<i>Praise the Lord, rise up rejoicing</i>	Hymnal 334
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The Dismissal		BCP pg. 366
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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
Acolytes		Erik & Ella Ososki
Altar Guild		Nina Hayes & Joyce Bettencourt
Chalicians	8:00 a.m.	Armen Michalak
	10:15 a.m.	Carol Kirkwood
Lectors	8:00 a.m.	Kim Faunert
	10:15 a.m.	Grier Torrence
Ushers	8:00 a.m.	Janet LaPierre-Green
	10:15 a.m.	Michael DeNegris & Tim Millgan
Welcomer		Dianne Antos
Coffee Hour Host		Bill Zappone
Care Ministry / Altar Flower delivery		Dona Waugh
Vestry Keyholder		Dave Tompkins

Today's altar flowers are given in memory of
my mother, Astrid Benson Harris,
& my sisters, Astrid Johansen & Patricia Barnes.

~ Andrea Harris



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.

Sunday Bible Study: we've just begun a new Bible study on the books of Proverbs,
Ecclesiastes, and the Song of Solomon, using a study guide from the Ignatius Bible
Study series (available in the parish office for \$10). The three books are connected as
part of the "wisdom literature" of the Old Testament. Bible study begins Sundays at
12:30 pm via Zoom with Meeting ID: 815 4332 7235; Passcode: 982548.

Braver Angels visit: THIS MORNING between the services and after the 10:15 service, Paul Manfredi of *Braver Angels* will be with us. Paul is going to tell us a little bit about the work of *Braver Angels*, their mission, and how they work with communities like ours. *Braver Angels* has a vision: “We envision an America where courageous citizen is the honored norm, renewing civic culture and building trust across political difference.” Though *Braver Angels* is a secular organization, a 501(c)(3), they have experience working with faith communities toward having constructive dialogue across difference. They encourage secular and faith-based communities to work together to create space for conversation when people disagree. We offer this opportunity as an exciting window into work we may be invited into, if we so choose. Join us and feel free to invite anyone you know from outside the church.



Faith & Fries! THIS TUESDAY, April 28th, from 7–8:30 pm you are invited to join us for *Faith and Fries* at Puente American-Latino Pub at 81 Main Street in Unionville. Come for dinner, have a drink or snack, whatever is comfortable for you. At our April gathering, we will explore question stirred by John 20:15b–16: Thinking he was the gardener, she said, “Sir, if you have carried him away, tell me where you have put him, and I will get him.” Jesus said to her, “Mary.” She turned toward him and cried out in Aramaic, “Teacher.” How do we miss Jesus when He is standing right in front of us? How is He, post-Resurrection, appearing to us in this messy world? We invite all to come as they are able and please, feel free to invite a friend, neighbor, or co-worker! Call the church with questions.

First Sunday Breakfast – 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, May 3rd from 9 am–9:45 am, bring your family and neighbors, and share in the great food from our Men’s Group.**



The lectionary readings for Sunday, May 3rd are:

Acts 7:55–60; Psalm 31:1–5, 15–16; 1 Peter 2:2–10; John 14:1–14.

Ascension and *Thy Kingdom Come*, (TKC) is a faith-based movement that began in the United Kingdom and has spread, over the last few years, all over the world. TKC is a cycle of prayer that begins on the day of our Lord's Ascension (May 14th this year) and ends on Pentecost (May 24th). The tradition is that our Lord Jesus Christ, after appearing to and teaching His disciples, after His Resurrection from the dead, was assumed – ascended – into heaven, promising His followers that they would receive the Holy Spirit in Jerusalem. *Thy Kingdom Come*



Thy Kingdom Come invites us, from the day of Ascension until Pentecost (10 days, including the feast days themselves), to pray for five people in our lives who either don't know Jesus Christ's grace and love or have not embraced faith in Christ. This year we will offer a Novena, a series of readings and reflections along with a space for you to note what is coming up for you and the people for whom you're praying. **There will be no Holy Eucharist on Wednesday, May 13th, at 11:30 am, to make space for the special worship on the day of Ascension. We will begin our engagement with TKC at Holy Eucharist in the Melissa Jane Inrig Memorial Chapel at 11 am on Thursday, May 14th, Ascension Day, where light incense will be used.** Each day folks are invited to pray for yourselves - and for your five designees for prayer – and there will be something shared on our Facebook page each day. The Lord's Prayer is strongly featured in the prayers we offer during the time between Ascension and Pentecost, as well.



Ascension Choral Evensong: On Saturday, May 16th at 6 p.m., two days after the Feast of the Ascension, we will offer a Service of Choral Evensong. Evensong takes the place of Evening Prayer or vespers in our Daily Office and offers prayers and wonderful music in the Anglican tradition. There is no Eucharist at this service, only bidding prayers and lots of sacred music. Please join us for Evensong and then stay for a festive reception in the Parish Hall, immediately following the service.

Mulching Party–Friday, May 15th, at 9 am. It is that time of year to do a little weeding and a lot of mulching. Anyone who wants to bring a shovel, rake, wheelbarrow, work gloves, and a little grit, come join Skip and Linda Mason for a little down-home fun at the church! We will make a lovely day of it and get the job done – meaning mulching and all of that. No RSVP, just show up and bring your joy and GRIT. Rain or shine.





EfM Open House at St. James's Episcopal, West Hartford on Monday, May 4th, at 6:30 pm. Education. Community. Reflection.

Discovery. It's some of what happens in Education for Ministry (EfM). Come to our Open House and see what the program is all about from the people in the group. Scripture study, review of church history, spiritual reflection, an enriching community life, discovering how we can serve. As one of our alums said, "EfM changed my life and deepened my faith in ways I never imagined." Two programs are offered, "Classic" the four-year study of Old & New Testaments, Church History, Theology and Ethics and "Wide Angle" a one-year survey of a range of texts. Group worship, study and reflection, listening to others, exploring new perspectives, participating in an enriching journey. Take the first step and join us on Monday May 4th. For more information, contact Ron Ward, EfM Mentor at rtwtmr@comcast.net or 860 463 8057. Check out our video <https://stjameswh.org/discipleship/education/efm>

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).

