



St. James Parish

WITH ST. MARK'S MINISTRIES

3 Mountain Road
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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 Fifth Sunday after Epiphany

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

HOLY EUCHARIST RITE 2

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

◆Hymn *Be thou my vision* Hymnal 488

The Word of God

◆Opening Acclamation BCP pg. 355

◆Collect for Purity BCP pg. 355

◆*Gloria* Hymnal (front section) S 280

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

First Reading Isaiah 58:1–9a

Psalms 112:1–10 (*responsively, the People in bold*) see insert

Second Reading 1 Corinthians 2:1–12

◆HYMN *O Zion, tune thy voice* (vv. 1–2) Hymnal 543

◆The Holy Gospel Matthew 5:13–20

◆HYMN *O Zion, tune thy voice* (vv. 3–4) Hymnal 543

The Sermon The Rev. George Roberts

The Nicene Creed BCP pg. 358

◆The Prayers of the People

Lord Jesus Christ, You told Your disciples, “You are the light of the world!” Grant us the sense of purpose, courage, and wisdom that we might shine Your light in the world’s darkness. We pray, responding, Lord, make us Your light!

For the Church that She may be like that “city on a hill” where the Light of Jesus, His grace and truth, His hope and healing, His clarity and mystery shine into the world’s darkness, we pray, **Lord, make us Your light!**

For leaders of the world, that Your Light may shine upon their greed, violence, and corruption where and when it exists, and raise up leaders instead who love kindness, justice, grace, and truth. We pray, **Lord, make us Your light!**

For all who dwell in the darkness of sin, addiction, pain, isolation, illness, anger, or violence. We pray, **Lord, make us Your light!**

For all who have asked for our prayers, especially Barbara Campbell, Andrea Hunt, John Beer, Jer H., Bob C., Michael R., Sara, Don, Barrett, Emilia, Matt G., Tiffany O., John M., Brian, Avery, Cruz, Karen, Jane B., Jane, Robert Pizzanello, Geoffrey Newton, Jayla, Heather, Laurent, Tom, and for all

others we pray for, silently or aloud [*pause here*] ... We pray, Lord, make us Your light!

For all who have died, especially David Erickson, and all others for whom we pray, silently or aloud [*pause here*] ... We pray, Lord, make us Your light!

Celebrant: Lord God, in Christ, You are the Light of all the world! Bathe us in Your loving, forgiving, gracious Light and help us to be instruments of that healing light shining in a world of need. We pray, in the Name of Jesus, the light of the world.

Amen.

Confession of Sin and Absolution BCP pg. 360

The Peace BCP pg. 360

The Holy Communion

Offertory *Star in the East*

◆DOXOLOGY (vs. 3) Hymnal 380

*The Great Thanksgiving – Prayer B BCP pg. 367

*Sanctus Hymnal (front section) S 125

*The Lord's Prayer BCP pg. 364

*The Breaking of the Bread BCP pg. 364

Gluten-free hosts are available.

Communion Hymns: 419, 629, 505

◆Postcommunion Prayer BCP pg. 366

Announcements

◆HYMN *Awake, thou spirit of the watchmen* Hymnal 540

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
Acolytes		Story Cadigan & Sefakor Tompkins
Altar Guild		Mimi Hostetter & Verona Schlosky
Chalicians	8:00 a.m.	Barbara Mitchell
	10:15 a.m.	Andrea Harris
Lectors	8:00 a.m.	Jay Hostetter
	10:15 a.m.	Elizabeth McBride
Ushers	8:00 a.m.	Janet LaPierre-Green
	10:15 a.m.	Tracey Roberts & Tim Milligan
Welcomer		Linda Mason
Coffee Hour Host		Janet LaPierre-Green
Care Ministry / Altar Flower delivery		Joyce Bettencourt

Today's altar flowers are given
in loving memory of my husband Tom.

~ Barbara Mitchell



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.

Bible Study: we continue our study for Epiphany using Fleming Rutledge's little book *Epiphany: Season of Glory*, as a text to engage the wider implications of our faith and life with Christ through the often-minimized season of Epiphany. We meet via Zoom at 12:30 pm with Meeting ID: 815 4332 7235; Passcode: 982548.

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!

Women's Ministry

TOMORROW, February 9th, beginning at 4:30 pm (come when you can)

Prudence Crandall Valentine Care Project - our fellow parishioner Christina DeFranco has asked for our help filling 100 beautiful bags for women at Prudence Crandall for Valentines. She has been doing this project for 7 years; this year we can help. We will meet in the Parish Hall and work to fill the bags and make them lovely. **Donations of “luxury” items are being accepted for the Bags: soaps, chocolates, make-up, lotions & haircare products, items for children, gift cards.**

March 8th at 5:30pm, 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.



Men's Breakfast THIS SATURDAY, February 14th at 7:30 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!

Pre-Lenten time of reflection & preparation: THIS SATURDAY, February 14th, at 9:30 am (until noon), we will host time of gentle reflection as we prepare for the season of Lent, beginning on Ash Wednesday, the 18th. We will have some time for silence, prayer, and Kelvin Young will be back to lead us in a time of sound healing. Please join us and feel free to invite a friend or neighbor. A time to connect with Christ's peace as we enter into the season of Lent.

Chili Cookoff! On Tuesday, February 17th, Shrove Tuesday, at 6 pm, we'll hold our Annual Chili Cookoff as a fundraiser for our 2026 Dominican Republic Mission Trip in April. Folks are encouraged to share their favorite chili recipe. You'll be able to sample the chilies first and then take full servings of their favorites! There is no charge to come, participate, and taste the chilies, but this is a fundraiser!! Please bring \$1, \$5, \$10 bills as we will have some fun ways to pick the "best" chili and to raise funds for the DR mission trip. Freewill offerings will, of course, be accepted, too!! A short service, Farewell to Alleluias, will begin around 6:45 or 7 pm.



Signup to prepare, cook, and/or just eat at <https://bit.ly/3Z4RG6b>. To ensure variety and not too much repetition or too many chilies or desserts, there is a space for your name and for you to say what type of chili/dessert you will be sharing.



We will have two Ash Wednesday services on February 18th: one at noon and one at 7 pm, both with Holy Eucharist. The 7 o'clock service will be livestreamed. If you cannot attend in-person worship, but would like to have ashes, you need only stop by the church 9 am–11 am or 2 pm–4 pm. If you wish to have ashes and cannot make it to church, call Fr. George to schedule a very short visit for the imposition of ashes.

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. **Beginning on Wednesday, February 25th**, and going through the four succeeding Wednesdays (March 4th, 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 will lead 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 will begin each night with soup and salad at 5:30 pm, and then continue until around 7 pm** for conversation, questions, and perhaps a new perspective on Matthew.

Stations of the Cross. Join us on Fridays of Lent, beginning on Friday, February 20th, 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.



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

Exodus 24:12–18; Psalm 2; 2 Peter 1:16–21; Matthew 17:1–9.



Tax time is here! Farmington’s Volunteer Income Tax Assistance (VITA) Partnership is sponsoring free tax preparation.

Where: First Church of Christ, Congregational offices in Amistad Hall. (Enter through the door on School Street.)

When: Saturdays, February 7th to April 11th; 10 am to 1 pm

By Appointment Only. Call 860-424-7185 to schedule an appointment.

Who Can File: Individuals and families whose combined annual income is no more than \$69,000.

IRS-trained and certified volunteers prepare simple State and Federal tax returns to ensure you receive your maximum tax refund and available tax benefits (ex., Earned Income Tax and Child Tax Credits). Taxes can be filed electronically with refunds received in 7-10 days. More information is available on flyers posted around the St. James building.

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).

