

St. James' Episcopal Church

Family Christmas Pageant and Holy Communion

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December 24, 2025

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www.saintj.com

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*The Christmas flowers and greenery are given
for the Glory of God and by...*

Ruth Poole, in memory of Bob Poole & Paul McCreary.

Katie Cunningham, in memory of Jim Cunningham.

Meg and John Amouroux, in thanksgiving for the love to and from their
families and friends, and in memory of their fathers,
Bud Amouroux & George Barger.

Brian and Evelyn Cochran, in memory Tom Cochran &
Alison Coffman.

Bob and Lauren Doherty, in memory of Beatrice Mettasick,
& Lawrence Windham.

Barbara Johnsen, in memory of Philip Johnsen.

Bob Bynum, in memory of Gretchen Leupke Bynum.

Sylvia Ma, in thanksgiving for Eileen & Chris Ma,
and in memory of Emily & Arnold Hsieh.

Barbara Milligan, in memory of John Milligan.

Burtin and Elizabeth Hart, in thanksgiving for Aidan & Isla, and in
memory of Robert E. Hart & Fent H. Ferris..

Nancy Castaneda, in thanksgiving for her beautiful daughter, Laura,
and in memory of her parents, Ted & Dorothy Balderston.

Matt and Will Hurley-Feliciano, in thanksgiving for their families
& all families..

Jasmine Reynolds, in thanksgiving for friends & family, and
in memory of her father, Clinton.

Charisma Pangilinan, in memory of her mother, Caridad.

Janice Brandt, in memory of Sally & Les Brandt,
and Whitney & Jean Hodgkins.

Margaret Broun, in memory of Marnie Hartmann, Bob Bell,
and Bill Dalgliesh.

Don and Marilyn Rose, in thanksgiving for the abundant love
and support from St. James'.

Ingrid Jacobson, in memory of Denise Jacobson.

*Vivienne Paratore, in memory of David Ramsay.
John Kimber, in memory of Elizabeth Kimber Nurser & Joan Kimber.
Al and Mary Casas, in thanksgiving for their growing family.
Bob and Kitty Reed, in thanksgiving for their family.
Patty and Robert Lacy, in memory of Regina Dennie.
Victor and Missy Bontempo, in memory of Nick Bontempo.
Ann Soltz, in memory of Margaret Rainey.
Timothy and Miranda Caley, in memory of Tina & Michael.
Tony and Alberto Verdin, in memory of Robin Lakey.
Darcia and Gregg Feeney, in memory of Elmer & Vicki Austin and
Jim & Pat Feeney.
Nancy and Brad Catania, in memory of Alice, Le, Barbara & Fred.
Kristine Berg, in thanksgiving for Karl Schmidt & Stephany Berg, and
in memory of JoAnn Schmidt.
Reena Davis, in thanksgiving for all her blessings and
in memory of Stella Davis.
Jay and Toni Shellen, in thanksgiving for their family
Sally Morgan in memory of all the victims of gun violence,
we will never forget.*

Welcome to St. James' Episcopal Church

This service is meant to be casual and relaxed.

Please feel free to allow your children to roam around,
and know that noise is perfectly okay.

Our purpose is for each person to have an experience of the sacred story of
Christmas, understanding that God meets us in the most unexpected and wonderful
ways, often in the midst of chaos!

The Nativity of Our Lord Jesus Christ

please stand and sing O Come, All ye Faithful

*O come, all ye faithful, joyful and triumphant,
O come ye, O come ye to Bethlehem;
come, and behold him, born the King of angels;
O come, let us adore him,
O come, let us adore him,
O come, let us adore him,
Christ the Lord.*

*Sing, choirs of angels, sing in exultation,
sing, all ye citizens of heaven above;
glory to God, glory in the highest;
O come, let us adore him,
O come, let us adore him,
O come, let us adore him,
Christ the Lord.*

Presider: Behold, I bring good news of great joy, which will come to all the people; for to you is born in the city of David a Savior who is Christ the Lord.

People: **Glory to God on the Highest, and Peace to God's people on earth.**

Presider: May God be with You.

People: **And also with You.**

Presider: Let us pray.

Lord Jesus Christ, your birth at Bethlehem draws us to kneel in wonder at heaven touching earth: accept our heartfelt praise as we worship you, where with God and the Holy Spirit you live and reign, now and forever. **Amen.**

The Children's Pageant

From A to Zzzz

Children are invited to gather at the back of church so they can help bring our nativity figures to the front of church and assemble our nativity scene.

We invite you to join in singing verses of The First Noel during the pageant, please remain seated.

A reading from the Gospel according to Luke (Luke 2:4-7)

A reading from the Gospel according to Luke (Luke 2:9-14)

The first Noel the angel did say
Was to certain poor shepherds
In fields as they lay;
In fields where they lay tending their sheep,
On a cold winter's night that was so deep.

Refrain

Noel, Noel, Noel, Noel, born is the King of Israel.

A reading from the Gospel according to Luke (Luke 2: 15 – 20)

They looked up and saw a star
Shining in the east, beyond them far;
And to the earth it gave great light,
And so it continued both day and night.

Refrain

Noel, Noel, Noel, Noel, born is the King of Israel.

A reading from the Gospel according to Matthew (Matthew 2:1, 9-11)

And by the light of that same star
Three wise men came from country far;
To seek for a king was their intent,
And to follow the star wherever it went

Refrain

Noel, Noel, Noel, Noel, born is the King of Israel.

This star drew nigh to the northwest,
Over Bethlehem it took its rest;
And there it did both stop and stay,
Right over the place where Jesus lay.

Refrain

Noel, Noel, Noel, Noel, born is the King of Israel.

Then entered in those wise men three,
Full reverently upon the knee,
And offered there, in His presence,
Their gold and myrrh and frankincense.

Refrain

Noel, Noel, Noel, Noel, born is the King of Israel.

A reading from the Prophet Isaiah (Isaiah 9:6)

Then let us all with one accord
Sing praises to our heav'nly Lord;
That hath made Heav'n and earth of naught,
And with His blood mankind hath bought.

Refrain

Noel, Noel, Noel, Noel, born is the King of Israel.

The Blessing of the Children and the Nativity Scene

Holy and Blessed One, you sent your beloved Son into the world as a newborn baby.

May the manger remind us of your arms that hold us.

May Mary remind us of your mothering love.

May Joseph remind us of your fathering love.

May all the animals remind us of the goodness of creation.

May shepherds remind us of your care for us.

May the wise people remind us of the gifts we give and receive.

And may the angels remind us of the amazing news of the birth of our Savior, Jesus.

Amen.

Presider: May the peace of Christ be always with you.

People: ***And also with you.***

please share the Peace of Christ with your neighbors

The Offertory

*join in singing Hark the Herald Angels Sing as the collection is taken
thank you for supporting the ministry of St. James'*

*Hark! the herald angels sing
glory to the newborn King!
Peace on earth and mercy mild,
God and sinners reconciled!
Joyful, all ye nations, rise,
Join the triumph of the skies
with the angelic host proclaim
Christ is born in Bethlehem!*

(Refrain)

*Hark! the herald angels sing
glory to the newborn King!*

*Christ, by highest heaven adored;
Christ, the everlasting Lord;
late in time behold him come,*

*Offspring of the Virgin's womb.
Veiled in flesh the Godhead see;
hail the incarnate Deity.
Pleased as man with man to dwell;
Jesus, our Emmanuel!*

(Refrain)

*Christ, by highest heaven adored;
Christ, the everlasting Lord;
late in time behold him come,
Offspring of the Virgin's womb.
Veiled in flesh the Godhead see;
hail the incarnate Deity.
Pleased as man with man to dwell;
Jesus, our Emmanuel*

(Refrain)

Stand & sing the Doxology as the gifts are brought to the altar

*Praise God from whom all blessings flow,
Praise God all creatures here below,
Praise God above ye heavenly hosts,
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.
Amen.*

Holy Communion

The Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

Presider: Lift up your hearts.

People: We lift them to the Lord.

Presider: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People: It is right to give God thanks and praise.

Thank you, God, for making us and our wonderful world. Wherever we are in your world, we should always thank you, through Jesus, your Son. Jesus lived as one of us; Jesus died on the cross for us; Jesus is alive because you gave him life again; Jesus is with us now.

So, with the angels and everyone in heaven, we say together:

**Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,
Heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the
highest.**

**Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna in the highest.**

Great and wonderful Father, we remember when Jesus had supper with his friends the night before he died, he took the bread; he thanked you, broke it, gave it to his friends and said: Take this and eat it – this is my body, given for you. Do this to remember me.

After supper, Jesus took the cup of wine; he thanked you, gave it to his friends and said: All of you drink from this cup, because this is my blood – the new promise of God's love. Whenever you drink it, do it to remember me.

Together we remember that Jesus is always with us and say:

Christ has died.

Christ is risen.

Christ will come again.

So loving Father, remembering how dearly Jesus loves us, we should love him too. Send your Holy Spirit, gentle as a dove, on us and on these gifts, so that, with everyone who eats and drinks this bread and wine, the body and blood of Jesus, we may be full of your life and goodness. Help us all to walk hand in hand with Jesus and live our lives for him.

All honor and glory belong to you, Father, through Jesus, your Son, with the Holy Spirit: one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

Presider: And now, let us pray the prayer that Jesus taught us:

People and Presider:

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be 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.**

The Breaking of the Bread

the Presider breaks the consecrated bread

Presider Alleluia, we are one bread, one body!

People **We will love one another as God loves us. Alleluia!**

The Presider says The Gifts of God for the People of God.

All are welcome to receive Holy Communion. To receive communion, hold out your hands, one on top of the other and the priest will give you the bread. You may eat the bread and then drink from the cup (use your hand to guide the cup) or cross your arms over your chest when you approach the chalice as an indication you would rather not consume.

Note, we are not offering intinction (dipping the bread into the wine). You may also come up for a blessing instead of receiving communion; cross your arms over your chest and the priest will bless you.

please join in singing Angels We Have Heard on High

*¹ Angels we have heard on high,
singing sweetly through the night,
and the mountains in reply
echoing their brave delight.
Gloria in excelsis Deo.*

*Come to Bethlehem and see
him whose birth the angels sing;
come, adore on bended knee
Christ, the Lord, the newborn King.
Gloria in excelsis Deo.*

*Shepherds, why this jubilee?
Why these songs of happy cheer?
What great brightness did you see?
What glad tidings did you hear?
Gloria in excelsis Deo.*

*See him in a manger laid
whom the angels praise above;
Mary, Joseph, lend your aid,
while we raise our hearts in love.
Gloria in excelsis Deo.*

Please stand and light your glow stick as we sing Silent Night

*Silent night, holy night, all is calm, all is bright
round yon virgin mother and child.
Holy infant, so tender and mild,
sleep in heavenly peace.
Sleep in heavenly peace.*

*Silent night, holy night, shepherds quake at the sight,
glories stream from heaven afar,
heavenly hosts sing alleluia;
Christ, the Savior is born!
Christ, the Savior is born!*

*Silent night, holy night, Son of God, love's pure light
radiant beams from thy holy face,
with the dawn of redeeming grace,
Jesus, Lord, at thy birth.
Jesus, Lord, at thy birth.*

*Together we pray this post-communion prayer
(this is said as an echo prayer):*

Presider	Let us pray. Holy, gracious and loving God,
People:	Holy, gracious and loving God,
Presider:	You have drawn us to your heart,
People:	You have drawn us to your heart,
Presider:	And nourished us at your table.
People:	And nourished us at your table.
Presider:	Now send us forth
People:	Now send us forth
Presider:	To be your people in the world,
People:	To be your people in the world,
Presider:	This day and evermore. Amen.
People:	This day and evermore. Amen.

The Presider blesses the people.

Please remain standing and join in singing Joy to the World!

*Joy to the world! the Lord is come;
let earth receive her King;
let every heart prepare him room,
and heaven and nature sing,
and heaven and nature sing,
and heaven, and heaven and nature sing.*

*Joy to the world! the Savior reigns;
let us our songs employ,
while fields and floods, rocks, hills, and plains,
repeat the sounding joy,
repeat the sounding joy,
repeat, repeat the sounding joy.*

*He rules the world with truth and grace,
and makes the nations prove
the glories of his righteousness,
and wonders of his love,
and wonders of his love,
and wonders, wonders of his love.*

The Presider dismisses the People

.

The people reply:

Thanks be to God, Alleluia, Alleluia!