



**A weekly email publication for the community
of St. James Church in College Hill**

Message of the Moment

Your Vital Force of Calm

As blessedly cool autumn weather arrives, I feel relieved that summer heat is diminishing. Maybe for today I can imagine a pause in the march of extreme environmental events.

Climate change, which has contributed to long-lasting higher-than-ever temperatures, dismantles our idea of what "once-in-a-lifetime" means. Climate change sets fire, flood, and wind loose upon the world in an uncontrollable weather pattern — much like the virus, traveling on currents of air, sends waves of the pandemic around the globe.

Will the first half of the 21st century one day be remembered as the age of plagues by our survivors? Lord have mercy upon us. We can't predict the future, but we can understand certitudes. For that, we can count our blessings. What is more certain than God, the divine force, our vital life energy? God changes not.

Friends dumbfound us with some of their decisions. For some, the world of social media is seriously more real than the world we're in. Nothing is more probable than a change in plans. We long for our old, mindless way of living, yet we insist that things are going to be different from here on out. We are disoriented people in need of wisdom and grace.

If you need wisdom, then pray. If you need grace, then pray. Wherever you are, hold still. Close your eyes. Take a deep breath. Collect yourself into this present moment. In your prayer, don't use words yet. Don't ask for a thing. Just listen. Bidden or not, God is there.

Remember that God does not speak the way humans do, but God does speak. God speaks as moments quietly come and silently go. In a slow, dawning perception, you will feel God. Find your comfort while resting in God. See how it feels to live outside of time and without worry. The knowledge of God's presence is an experience of a calm and vital force which can reliably be found in relatively the same way, whenever you stop everything else and tune in.

At times, you may know God's peace in the most fleeting of moments. Sometimes your experience will be more substantial. Every moment anchored in the knowledge of God can be collected in your true self, your heart of hearts. A collection of this sort leads to wisdom and grace.

You can cultivate the state of being in God, in Christ, to the extent that you can meet life and still be deeply rooted in being with God, with Christ. This is the beginning of a graceful, wise life. It is a life more certain, more peaceful, and more everlasting than a plague of any kind.

**Yours in Christ,
Mother Dawn+**

First Things First

Children's Sunday school and Children's Chapel start in-person at 9:30 a.m. THIS Sunday. This is for kids aged preschool (potty-trained) to fifth grade. Join us as we embark on a new program year! Masks are required. Please register by clicking here <https://stjameswichita.org/sunday-school-registration/>. Any questions, contact Chelsea, director of programs, at formation@stjameswichita.org.

Join **Minster Curate Dillon Green** as he begins offering a service of **Morning Prayer on Zoom** at 9:30 a.m. every Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday. Link: <https://us06web.zoom.us/j/85465386325?pwd=L2J4eHZMZ0lkWFJVYTc4b0h4OTI0Zz09>

Please let Mary Druding know if your **directory information** needs updated if you haven't already done so. Please email her by **Monday** at volunteers@stjameswichita.org.

Readings This Week



Almighty and everlasting God, you are always more ready to hear than we to pray, and to give more than we either desire or deserve: Pour upon us the abundance of your mercy, forgiving us those things of which our conscience is afraid, and giving us those good things for which we are not worthy to ask, except through the merits and mediation of Jesus Christ our Savior; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

[Click here to go to the Lectionary Page](#)

[Click here for a free PDF download of the Book of Common Prayer](#)

Lessons appointed for the Nineteenth Sunday after Pentecost:

[Job 1:1, 2:1-10](#)

[Psalm 26](#)

[Hebrews 1:1-4; 2:5-12](#)

[Mark 10:2-16](#)

Calendar

**Click here to view our
current calendar of events**

Calendar

Community Outreach

We've collected 35 and still need 15 **blankets for HumanKind Ministries**. Please bring new or serviceable blankets of any size to

church. The basket for blankets is just inside the red doors.

Our **Pocket Change Ministry** is mailing a check for \$500 to **Episcopal Migration Ministries** next week. Our check will help this agency serve **refugees from Afghanistan**.

Our recent **American Red Cross Blood Drive** was a success! We were able to help 50 people who needed lifesaving blood.

The next **Sandwich Saturday** is Nov. 13. Sign up to make 20 to 25 sack lunches and either take them to St. John's or meet Joan Bledsoe at 10:30 a.m. at St. James. Volunteers also are needed to help distribute. Contact **Joan Bledsoe** for more information.

Parish News and Updates

Planting on Oct. 2 has been canceled, and the next **Creation Care** committee meeting will be at 6 p.m. Tuesday, Oct. 5 on Zoom. The link is: <https://us06web.zoom.us/j/85451773824?pwd=Q05na2VBODBCekNSN25OV0pDQnVLdz09>. Click [here](#) for our new website page for more information about this committee.

Join The Episcopal Church's Creation Care movement by registering at this website: <https://www.sustainislandhome.org>. Click on the "Get Started" button.

The next **Agape Friday** will be at 6 p.m. Oct. 8. For now, we are meeting outdoors on the west side of the church. The gathering is open to everyone. Bring your own dinner or snack and chair.

Sacred Ground Circles start on Oct. 14. Find out more at: <https://www.episcopalchurch.org/sacred-ground/>. Please register early at <https://stjameswichita.org/sacred-ground-registration/>.

100th Anniversary apparel can be purchased using the order form found on the display table in the lobby near the red front doors. The order deadline is Oct. 15 with merchandise arriving approximately Nov. 1.

St. James Episcopal Church: the First 100 Years (our history book) can be purchased anytime in the bookkeeper office. Books will be available in the lobby on Sundays between services. Books are \$25 each.

Parish Profile

St. James has been a constant in Denise Evans Gorney's life for 55 years. "I've been here since I was 8," the cradle

Episcopalian said. The daughter of Deacon Emerita Deedee Evans, Denise has been involved in many ways over those decades.

"I was in the girl choir 100 years ago," she joked.

She's also sang with the children's choir and the adult choir. She's served on the vestry, helped teach Sunday School,

heads the memorials and furnishings committee, has assisted with the Olde English Tea and worked with the artist of the Te Deum window painting to make prints and cards available. She oversees sales and distribution of those products for the parish.

Denise was married at St. James, and her three children and two of her grandchildren were baptized here.

Denise was a stay-at-home mother until her children — the trio was born 33 months apart — were in high school.

She has worked as a color consultant, furniture merchandiser and space planner.

She owned a home decor consignment and gift store in Andover for about five years.

She still does some design work. Much of her time is devoted to her grandchildren and her mother. Oh, and spoiling Baxter, her 12-year-old Maltese.



What do you do to rest and return to God?

"I've found myself being much more prayerful during the pandemic.

I spend time every morning with a devotion I listen to.

That's the way I start my day."

What do you like about St. James?

"I've been there for so long that it feels like home. The people are wonderful. Some of my closest friends that I consider family I met at St. James."

Prayer

Parish Prayers for the Week of Oct. 3

In the [Anglican Cycle of Prayer](#): Pray for the Church of the Province in West Africa.

In the [World Council of Churches Cycle of Prayer](#): Pray for the people of Armenia, Azerbaijan and Georgia.

In the [Kansas Cycle of Prayer](#): Pray for Grace Cathedral, Topeka.

Pray for those serving in the military: Will Corkins, J. David Anderson-

Lusk and Maureen Tanner.

Pray for those who have died: Colin Carroll, Jackie Davis, Anne Allen (former St. James organist), Jan Siefkes (mother of Joan Moore and grandmother of Grace and Eve Moore), Nan King, and Justin Wittman Bayles, son of the Rev. Joseph Bayles.

Pray for those who are in trouble, sorrow, need, sickness or any other adversity: Ian, Mary (niece of Kate Miller), Helen, Laura, Jean, Marge, Dal, Gary, Pam, Jayne, Betty, Gus, Bob, Joe, Jerry, Larry, Mary, Jean, George, Carly, Tom, Cindy, Cathy, Kam, Donna McCain and family, all people with COVID-19, and all health care workers.

Our Parish Prayer List: All members of our parish community are asked to pray for each person on our prayer list. To share your prayers of thanksgiving (births, weddings, new jobs, anniversaries, etc.), to notify us that someone you love is serving in the military, to share that you or someone you love is suffering, or to tell us of a death, please call 316-683-5686 or email office@stjameswichita.org.

**If your prayers have been answered,
we would love to rejoice with you.
Please let us know so your name may be removed
from our list of people most urgently in need. Thank you.**

Let Us Pray

Visit this place, O Lord, and drive far from it all snares of the enemy; let your holy angels dwell with us to preserve us in peace; and let your blessing be upon us always; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

O God, the author of peace and lover of concord, to know you is eternal life and to serve you is perfect freedom: Defend us, your humble servants, in all assaults of our enemies; that we, surely trusting in your defense, may not fear the power of any adversaries; through the might of Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Almighty God, you know that we have no power in ourselves to help ourselves: Keep us both outwardly in our bodies and inwardly in our souls, that we may be defended from all adversities which may happen to the body, and from all evil thoughts which may assault and hurt the soul; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. Amen.

Psalm 18:2-7

My God, my rock in whom I put my trust, *
my shield, the horn of my salvation, and my refuge;
you are worthy of praise.

I will call upon the Lord, *
and so shall I be saved from my enemies.

The breakers of death rolled over me, *
and the torrents of oblivion made me afraid.

The cords of hell entangled me, *
and the snares of death were set for me.

I called upon the Lord in my distress *
and cried out to my God for help.
He heard my voice from his heavenly dwelling; *
my cry of anguish came to his ears.

Psalm 91:9-13

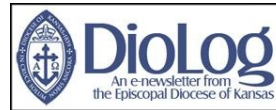
Because you have made the Lord your refuge, *
and the Most High your habitation,
There shall no evil happen to you, *
neither shall any plague come near your dwelling.
For God shall give his angels charge over you, *
to keep you in all your ways.
They shall bear you in their hands, *
lest you dash your foot against a stone.
You shall tread upon the lion and adder; *
you shall trample the young lion and the serpent
under your feet.

Helpful Links

[View Last Week's Service](#)

[Contribute to St. James Church](#)

[Parish Leadership](#)



**Whoever you are and
wherever you find yourself
on your journey of faith,
you are welcome here.**



St. James
Episcopal Church
CELEBRATING

YEARS
1920-2020
A COMMUNION
OF SAINTS

Get in Touch with St. James Episcopal Church



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