



# ST. JAMES EPISCOPAL CHURCH

*College Hill, Wichita, Kansas*

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 24, 2023

4:00 PM, 7:00 PM, & 11:00 PM

## THE FEAST OF THE NATIVITY OF OUR SAVIOR JESUS CHRIST

*All directions about standing are for those who are able.*

*Masks are welcome, but not required.*

*If making manual acts is part of your piety, these symbols indicate appropriate times (among others) to make these motions.*

✙ - reverence (bow)

✚ - sign of the cross

## THE HOLY EUCHARIST

### THE PRELUDE

4:00 pm “A Christmas Collage”

RANDALL HARTSELL

7:00 pm “A Christmas Collage”

RANDALL HARTSELL

“Of the Father’s Love Begotten”

PAUL WOHLGEMUTH

11:00 pm

HARP VOLUNTARY

*Bells may be rung. The people stand as they are able.*

### THE OPENING HYMN

HYMN 83 v. 1-3

*Please remain standing. Sung at all services.*

“O Come, All Ye Faithful”

ADESTE FIDELES

### WELCOME AND OPENING ACCLAMATION

*Please remain standing.*

*Presider* The angel has announced it:

*People* **Jesus, our Savior, is born!**

*Presider* Like the shepherds, let us share the good news:

*People* **Jesus, our Savior, is born!**

*Presider* Like the angels, let us praise God, saying:

*People* **Jesus, our Savior, is born! ✚Glory to God in heaven and on earth peace among those whom God favors!**

### Info for worship

We invite you to follow the service and take part in a way that feels right to you.

BCP - Book of Common Prayer, or Prayer Book, (red book);

Hymnal (blue book); Hymn numbers beginning with 'S' are found in the front of the Hymnal.

### Manual Acts

If making manual acts is part of your piety, these symbols indicate appropriate times (among others) to make these motions.

✙ - reverence (bow)

✝ - sign of the cross

### Our Language

At St. James Church we use language which we hope expands our sense of God and includes all people as beloved children of God.

### Christmas Crèche

Crèche is an 18th century French word for a scene of Christ's nativity. In England, the word has taken on a more general meaning, where it refers to a nursery where babies are cared for during the work day. In North America, we retain the original connotation of the word referring to the birthplace of Jesus. Christians here set them up in Advent and keep them on display through the arrival of the Magi bearing gifts on The Feast of Epiphany.

## BLESSING OF THE CRÈCHE

*Please remain standing. Shared at the 4:00 pm service.*

*Before the first liturgy of Christmas the priest blesses the representation of the Lord's birth in the form of a crèche. At their entry into the church for the celebration of the Holy Eucharist, the Presider and other ministers may make a station at the crèche. The figure of the Christ Child may be carried in the procession and placed in the crèche.*

*All*

**O great mystery, and wonderful sacrament, that animals should see the new-born Lord, lying in a manger! Blessed is the Virgin whose womb was worthy to bear Christ the Lord. Alleluia!**

*Presider*

The Word was made flesh

*People*

**And dwelt among us.**

*Presider*

Let us pray.

*Presider*

Almighty God, who in the Incarnation of your Son has revealed to us the holiness of creation, be pleased to bless and hallow this image of the Savior's sacred birth, so that those who gaze upon it may behold this mystery, whereby humanity shares in your very nature; through Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

## THE SONG OF PRAISE

**HYMN S278**

*Please remain standing. Spoken at 4:00. Sung at 7:00 & 11:00.*

"Gloria in excelsis"

MATHIAS

*All*

**Glory to God in the highest, and peace to God's people on earth. Lord God, heavenly King, almighty God and Father, we worship you, we give you thanks, we praise you for your glory. ✙ Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father, Lord God, Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world: have mercy on us; you are seated at the right hand of the Father: receive our prayer. For you alone are the Holy One, you alone are the Lord, you alone are the Most High, ✙ Jesus Christ, ✙ with the Holy Spirit, in the glory of God the Father. Amen.**

## THE COLLECT OF THE DAY

*Please remain standing.*

*Presider* God be with you.

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

*Presider* Let us pray.

*Presider* O God, you make us glad by the yearly festival of the birth of your only Son Jesus Christ: Grant that we, who joyfully receive our Redeemer, may with sure confidence behold Jesus, who will come to be our Judge; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

*Please be seated.*

## THE WORD OF GOD CHRISTMAS II

### THE FIRST LESSON

ISAIAH 62:6-12

*Reader* A reading from the Prophet Isaiah.

Upon your walls, O Jerusalem, I have posted sentinels; all day and all night they shall never be silent. You who remind the Lord, take no rest, and give him no rest until he establishes Jerusalem and makes it renowned throughout the earth. The Lord has sworn by his right hand and by his mighty arm: I will not again give your grain to be food for your enemies, and foreigners shall not drink the wine for which you have labored; but those who garner it shall eat it and praise the Lord, and those who

gather it shall drink it in my holy courts. Go through, go through the gates, prepare the way for the people; build up, build up the highway, clear it of stones, lift up an ensign over the peoples. The Lord has proclaimed to the end of the earth: Say to daughter Zion, "See, your salvation comes; his reward is with him, and his recompense before him." They shall be called, "The Holy People, The Redeemed of the Lord"; and you shall be called, "Sought Out, A City Not Forsaken."

*Reader* The Word of the Lord *or*

Hear what the Spirit is saying to God's people

*People* **Thanks be to God.**

### The Spirituality of Incarnation

Episcopalians root their theology in the doctrine of the Incarnation, that God came among us as one of us. As people of the Incarnation, the idea that we can exclude God from creation, or that there are places where God is 'not allowed,' is nonsensical, and borders on heresy. God is everywhere. We are in God. We may ignore God's presence, but there is no way we can keep God out. God is with us whether we deserve or not; whether we respond or not. God is present in rollicking carolers and God is present to those who suffer and grieve. This is the Incarnation. God is with us: Emmanuel.

## THE RESPONSE

## PSALM 97

*Please remain seated. Spoken at 4:00. The psalm may be spoken in unison, or responsively by whole or half verse. Sung at 7:00 & 11:00 by the choir. The people may join the choir in singing the psalm.*



- 1 The LORD is King;  
let the earth re<sup>1</sup>joice; \*  
let the multitude of the isles be glad.
- 2 Clouds and darkness are round a<sup>1</sup>bout him, \*  
righteousness and justice are the foundations of his throne.
- 3 A fire goes be<sup>1</sup>fore him \*  
and burns up his enemies on every side.
- 4 His lightnings light up the world; \*  
the earth sees it and is a<sup>1</sup>fraid.
- 5 The mountains melt like wax at the presence of the LORD, \*  
at the presence of the Lord of the whole earth.
- 6 The heavens de<sup>1</sup>clare his righteousness, \*  
and all the peoples see his glory.
- 7 Confounded be all who worship carved images  
and delight in false gods! \*  
Bow down be<sup>1</sup>fore him, all you gods.
- 8 Zion hears and is glad, and the cities of Judah re<sup>1</sup>joice, \*  
be<sup>1</sup>cause of your judgments, O LORD.
- 9 For you are the LORD,  
most high over all the earth; \*  
you are exalted far above all gods.
- 10 The LORD loves those who hate evil; \*  
he preserves the lives of his saints  
and delivers them from the hand of the wicked.
- 11 Light has sprung up for the righteous, \*  
and joyful gladness for those who are true<sup>1</sup>hearted.
- 12 Rejoice in the LORD, you righteous, \*  
and give thanks to his holy Name.

### History of the Nativity Scene

St. Francis of Assisi is credited with creating the first nativity scene on Christmas Eve of the year 1223. Francis was inspired to this after visiting the historical place of Christ's birth on a pilgrimage to the Holy Land – the humble stable in a Bethlehem cave. Francis' first scene of Christ's birth was presented in a service of the Mass held in a cave in Greccio, Italy. He invited his fellow friars and townspeople to join the celebration. An empty manger (the feeding trough of farm animals which served as Jesus' crib) inside the cave, with a live ox and donkey beside it, was set up as on that first Christmas night. Through visual aids like these, people saw that Jesus came into the world in poverty and simplicity. This, Francis hoped, would counter the rampant greed and materialism prev-

## THE SECOND LESSON

TITUS 3:4-7

*Reader* A reading from letter from Titus.

When the goodness and loving kindness of God our Savior appeared, he saved us, not because of any works of righteousness that we had done, but according to his mercy, through the water of rebirth and renewal by the Holy Spirit. This Spirit he poured out on us richly through Jesus Christ our Savior, so that, having been justified by his grace, we might become heirs according to the hope of eternal life.

*Reader* The Word of the Lord *or*  
Hear what the Spirit is saying to God's people

*People* **Thanks be to God.**

## THE GOSPEL HYMN

HYMN 89

*Please stand as you are able. Sung at all services.*

"It came upon a midnight clear"

CAROL

✙ *As the gospel book passes by. Please turn to face the Gospel with reverence for the Word.*

## THE HOLY GOSPEL

LUKE 2:1-20

*Please stand as you are able.*

*Deacon* ✙ The Holy Gospel of our Savior Jesus Christ according to Luke.

*People* **Glory to you, Lord Christ.**

In those days a decree went out from Emperor Augustus that all the world should be registered. This was the first registration and was taken while Quirinius was governor of Syria. All went to their own towns to be registered. Joseph also went from the town of Nazareth in Galilee to Judea, to the city of David called Bethlehem, because he was descended from the house and family of David. He went to be registered with Mary, to whom he was engaged and who was expecting a child. While they were there, the time came for her to deliver her child. And she gave birth to her firstborn son and wrapped him in bands of cloth, and laid him in a manger, because there was no place for them in the inn. In that region there were shepherds living in the fields, keeping watch over their flock by night. Then an angel of the Lord stood before them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were terrified. But the angel said to them, "Do not be afraid; for see-- I am bringing you good news of great joy for all the people: to you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is the Messiah, the Lord. This will be a sign for you: you will find a child wrapped in bands of cloth and lying in a manger." And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the

### About the Gospels

The English word 'gospel' comes from the Anglo-Saxon *godspel*, or good news, translated from the Greek *euangelion*. In Christian usage, it means the good news of God's saving act in Jesus Christ. The term 'gospel' came to designate a literary genre which told the story of the life, death, and resurrection of Jesus Christ. The New Testament contains four gospels: Matthew, Mark, Luke, and John.

### Gospel in Liturgy

In the Episcopal liturgy, the gospel is the final reading from Holy Scripture at the Eucharist. It is proclaimed by a gospeler in holy orders. The 2nd Council of Nicaea in 787 decreed that icons, crosses, and gospel books could be venerated as sacred images, just as the incarnate Christ is the image of the invisible God. Today, many still choose to venerate the gospel book by bowing in reverence as it comes near.

### The Nicene Creed

After the sermon, on most weekends (at primary worship services of the parish) we rise and say the Nicene Creed, an ancient confession of the church's beliefs. The Creed is a sign of our unity with Christians throughout all times and places. Though originally composed at an ancient time, it expresses key insights into the nature of God and creation. You may like to know that this version follows the Greek original precisely by saying "was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the Virgin Mary," to emphasize that Mary was an active participant in the Incarnation. It also follows the Greek and Latin (and our English of Rite I) by using "who" rather than "he" in the section about the Holy Spirit. The words "and the Son," were not a part of the original Greek text and have been removed. They were added in some later Latin translations. The Episcopal Church, at General Convention of 1988, placed itself on record as favoring their omission, a decision later approved by Lambeth Conference.

heavenly host, praising God and saying, "Glory to God in the highest heaven, and on earth peace among those whom he favors!" When the angels had left them and gone into heaven, the shepherds said to one another, "Let us go now to Bethlehem and see this thing that has taken place, which the Lord has made known to us." So they went with haste and found Mary and

Joseph, and the child lying in the manger. When they saw this, they made known what had been told them about this child; and all who heard it were amazed at what the shepherds told them. But Mary treasured all these words and pondered them in her heart. The shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all they had heard and seen, as it had been told them.

*Deacon* The Gospel of our Savior  
*People* Praise to you, Lord Christ.

### THE SERMON

THE REV. DAWN FRANKFURT, RECTOR

*Please be seated. At the conclusion of the sermon a moment of silent reflection is observed.*

### THE NICENE CREED

BCP 358

*Please stand as you are able.*

*All*

**We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen. We believe in one Lord, ✙ Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one Being with the Father; through him all things were made. For us and for our salvation ✙ he came down from heaven, was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the Virgin Mary and became truly human. For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate; he suffered death and was buried. On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures; he ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end. We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father, who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified, who has spoken through the prophets. We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church. We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins. † We look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen.**

## THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

*Please remain standing.*

*Leader* As we join the angels and shepherds to celebrate with joy the birth of Jesus Christ, let us pray to God who brings light and healing to all of creation. We pray:

*Leader* For the Church: remembering especially Michael our Presiding Bishop, Cathleen our Bishop, and St. James Church, that we may embrace God's will, however mysterious or surprising it may seem.

*People* **Glory and praise to you, O God.**

*Leader* For all who live in the midst of war and wish for peace. For the people of the Holy Land, for Ukrainians, and for Christians, Jews, and Muslims everywhere, that God's spirit will open pathways of peace and bring forth hope to all who live in danger and fear.

*People* **Glory and praise to you, O God.**

*Leader* For all who find Christmas difficult, for those in need, for the sick and the suffering, especially, *(pause for prayers from the congregation)* \_\_\_\_\_, that Christ will bring healing and light to their hearts and souls.

*People* **Glory and praise to you, O God.**

*Leader* For those who have died, especially, *(pause for prayers from the congregation)* \_\_\_\_\_, and all those whose memory is honored in the Christmas greens and flowers, that all the departed may rejoice in the light of God's countenance, let us pray to the Lord.

*People* **Glory and praise to you, O God.**

*Leader* For those who are warm and surrounded by love. We pray that God would shield the joyous, protect the innocent, and sustain with unfailing providence our many blessings, that receiving the gifts of God thankfully we may rejoice in the true gift of Jesus who lives in us.

*People* **Glory and praise to you, O God.**

*Leader* Lifting our voices with all creation, with Mary the God-bearer, Saint Joseph, Saint James, the saints revered through generations, the angels, and the heavenly chorus, we give ourselves to God who came and dwelled among us.

*People* **Glory and praise to you, O God.**

*Presider* Source of light and gladness, accept the prayers we offer at this feast of joy. May the Rising Sun of Christ spread across the world, bringing peace and harmony to humanity for ever. **Amen.**

### Historical Use of Incense (at 11:00 pm service only)

Sacred scents have graced worship since ancient times. Israelite priests burned incense with offerings, to yield a holy fragrance pleasing to God (Ex. 30). After the construction of Solomon's Temple, worship practices evoked communal memory through great clouds of incense within the Holy of Holies, denoting the divine presence dwelling in their midst (Ex. 33).

With the same mystical reverence as their Jewish ancestors, early Christians embraced the Psalmist's vision of the prayers of the faithful rising like incense before God (Ps. 141:2, Rev. 5:8). Scholars suggest by the fourth century, Christian offices of daily prayer included regular use of incense.

Ritual in the Eastern Christian church expanded the practice of censuring objects and individuals in worship to include the congregation, affirming the laity's equal status alongside priests, each one valued and holy, a living image of God.

## CONCLUDING PRAYER

*Please remain standing.*

*Presider* God of glory, your goodness and loving-kindness have come to dwell among us, and salvation has knocked on our door. It is our joy to tell the world about this child, this joy we can't contain, this hope that came alive. Open our mouths and stretch out our arms, so we may sing your praises and embrace the child in a manger. **Amen.**

## CONFESSION OF SIN AND ABSOLUTION

*Deacon* At the second coming, God will bring to light the things now hidden in darkness, and will disclose the purposes of the heart. Therefore in the light of Christ let us confess our sins.

*Please kneel or stand as you are able. A moment of silence is observed.*

*All* **Most merciful God, we confess that we have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done, and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We are truly sorry and we humbly repent. For the sake of our Savior Jesus Christ, have mercy on us and forgive us; that we may delight in your will, and walk in your ways, to the glory of your Name. Amen.**

*The Presider stands and says:*

*Presider* Almighty God have mercy on you, † forgive you all your sins through the grace of Jesus Christ, strengthen you in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep you in eternal life. **Amen.**

## INVITATION TO THE PEACE

*Please remain standing.*

*Presider* The Peace of Christ be always with you.

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

*The People greet one another in Christ while respecting the personal space of neighbors. After greeting, please be seated for the announcements.*

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

*Please be seated.*

### The Peace

This is a liturgical exchange of greeting and is a sign of reconciliation, love, and renewed relationships in the Christian community. Initiated by the Presider, who says, "The peace of Christ be always with you," the people respond, "And also with you." The gesture of Peace has been expressed in a variety of ways, including a kiss on the cheek, an embrace, a handclasp, or a bow. This is an ancient Christian practice. It has been associated with Romans 16:16, "Greet one another with a holy kiss," and similar passages.



# HOLY COMMUNION

## INVITATION TO THE OFFERTORY

*Please remain seated.*

*Presider* Set the table of grace, bring additional chairs, and make a bountiful meal - for angels and shepherds, entire oceans and forests, and everything that lives in them are coming to celebrate the arrival of the Prince of Peace.

*People* **Let us bring our gifts to God, joining the joyful song of creation.**

## THE OFFERTORY

*Please remain seated as the people's offering of bread and wine is brought forward. During the offertory music, the alms basins are passed in the pews.*

## THE OFFERTORY MUSIC

*Please remain seated.*

4:00 pm "Away in a Manger"

WILLIAMS & KIRKPATRICK

7:00 pm "Song of Mary"

HAROLD FRIEDEL

11:00 pm "O Holy Night"

ADOLPHE ADAM

## THE PRESENTATION HYMN

HYMN 107

*Please stand as you are able as the ushers bring the People's offering to the altar.*

*Sung at all services.*

"Good Christian Friends Rejoice"

IN DULCI JUBILO

## THE PRESENTATION

*Please remain standing.*

*Presider* All things come of you, O God.

*All* **And of your own have we given you.**

### Text Giving

You can now give to St. James using your mobile device!

Text **StJamesWichita** and the amount you want to give to **73256**

Click the link that is sent back to you.

Complete your gift using the online form provided.

[Example Message](#)

To: 73256

Text: StJamesWichita \$75

Messages and data rates may apply. Message frequency varies. Text HELP to 73256 for help. Text STOP to 73256 to cancel.

### Censing the Congregation

As we prepare to share the Eucharist, the peoples' gifts are brought to the altar. The congregation remains standing after the presentation while the altar is censed. The acolyte then turns to cense each side of the congregation from the chancel steps.

Facing the lectern side of the church first, the acolyte bows to the people. Those on that side of the congregation return the bow. They are censed by three swings of the Thurible. The acolyte bows again and that side of the congregation returns the bow.

The acolyte turns to the congregation on the pulpit side of the nave and the pattern of bowing and censing is repeated.

### Eucharist

The sacrament of the Eucharist is the principal act of Christian worship in our church. The term is from the Greek, "thanksgiving." Jesus instituted the Eucharist at the Last Supper where he shared bread and wine at a sacred meal with his disciples. Christ's sacrifice is made present in the Eucharist, and in it we are united to his one self-offering. The grace bestowed in Holy Communion augments (deepens, increases) faith, forgives sin, and and strengthens of our charity. Everyone who seeks a deeper knowledge of Christ is welcome to receive the sacrament.

### Real Presence

The Episcopal Church teaches the real presence of Christ in the sacrament of the Holy Eucharist. Our Catechism notes that the inward and spiritual grace in the eucharist is "the Body and Blood of Christ given to his people and received by faith." Belief in the real presence does not imply a claim to know how Christ is present in the eucharistic elements nor does it imply that the consecrated eucharistic elements cease to be bread and wine. Christ's presence is made known in the gathered eucharistic community.

## THE GREAT THANKSGIVING - EUCHARISTIC PRAYER A

BCP 361

*Please remain standing. Spoken at 4:00. Sung at 7:00 & 11:00.*



*Presider*

It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Almighty God, Creator of heaven and earth. Because you gave ✝ Jesus Christ, your only Son, to be born for us; who, by the mighty power of the Holy Spirit, was made perfectly human of the flesh of the Virgin Mary his mother; so that we might be delivered from the bondage of sin, and receive power to become your children. Therefore we praise you, joining our voices with Angels and Archangels and with all the company of heaven, who for ever sing this hymn to proclaim to the glory of your Name:

## THE SANCTUS

HYMN S128

*Please remain standing. Spoken at 4:00. Sung at 7:00 & 11:00.*

“Holy, holy, holy Lord”

MATHIAS

*All* **Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might, heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest. ✝ Blessed is one who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.**

*The people may stand or kneel.*

*Presider*

Holy and gracious God: In your infinite love you made us for yourself; and, when we had fallen into sin and become subject to evil and death, you, in your mercy, sent ✝ Jesus Christ, your only and eternal Son, to share our human nature, to live and die as one of us, to reconcile us to you, the God and maker of all. Jesus stretched out his arms upon the cross, and offered himself in obedience to your will, a perfect sacrifice for the whole world.

*Presider* On the night he was handed over to suffering and death, our ✙ Savior Jesus Christ took bread; and when he had given thanks to you, he broke it, and gave it to his disciples, and said, “Take, eat: This is my Body, which is given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me.” ✙

After supper Jesus took the cup of wine; and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, and said, “Drink this, all of you: This is my Blood of the new Covenant, which is shed for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me.” ✙ Therefore we proclaim the mystery of faith:

*All* **Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.**

*Presider* We celebrate the memorial of our redemption, Almighty God, in this sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving. Recalling Christ’s death, resurrection, and ascension, we offer you these gifts.

Sanctify them by your Holy Spirit to be for your people the Body and Blood of your Son, the holy food and drink of new and unending life in Christ. † Sanctify us also that we may faithfully receive this holy Sacrament, and serve you in unity, constancy, and peace; and at the last day bring us with all your saints into the joy of your eternal kingdom.

All this we ask through ✙ Jesus Christ our Savior. By Christ, and with Christ, and in Christ, in the unity of the Holy Spirit all honor and glory is yours, Almighty God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

## THE LORD’S PRAYER

*Please remain standing.*

*Presider* As our Savior Christ has taught us, we now pray,

*All* **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.**

### Communion in One Kind

Our doctrine upholds the truth that the fullness of communion is available by receiving either the consecrated bread or wine. Communicants receive both the body and the blood in either the consecrated bread or the wine, though all are invited (as they are able) to receive both kinds. Our belief in the fullness of communion in one kind (bread or wine) is called the doctrine of concomitance. The term concomitance comes from the Latin, “to accompany.”

## AGNUS DEI

HYMN S165

*Please remain standing. Spoken at 4:00. Sung at 7:00 & 11:00.*

“Jesus, Lamb of God”

MATHIAS

*All* Jesus, Lamb of God:  
**Have mercy on us.**  
Jesus, bearer of our sins:  
**Have mercy on us.**  
Jesus, redeemer of the world:  
**Give us your peace.**

## THE FRACTION

HYMN S152

*Please remain standing. Spoken at 4:00. Sung at 7:00 & 11:00.*

“Christ our Passover”

MARTENS

*Presider* Al - le - lu - ia. Christ our Pass - o - ver is sac - ri - ficed for us;

*All* There-fore let us keep the feast. Al - le - lu - ia.

## THE INVITATION TO COMMUNION

*Please remain standing.*

*Presider* The gifts of God for the people of God.

*Please be seated.*

*All who seek God and a deeper life in Christ are welcome to receive Holy Communion. Please receive the bread in open and outstretched hands and sip the wine from the chalice, guiding it gently to your lips; or you may dip the wafer into the wine. Gluten-free wafers are available; please make your need known to the minister. If you prefer to receive a blessing instead of the sacrament, indicate your choice by crossing your hands over your chest.*

## COMMUNION MUSIC

*Please be seated.*

4:00 pm “God Rest Ye Merry Gentlemen” ARR. BOUDE MOORE

7:00 pm “Break Forth, O Beauteous Heavenly Light” J.S. BACH

11:00 pm HARP VOLUNTARY

*At the conclusion of Communion, a moment of silence is observed. Hand candles are distributed as people return to their seats following Communion.*

## COMMUNION HYMN

HYMN 109 v. 1-4

*Please remain seated. Sung at all services.*

“The First Nowell”

THE FIRST NOWELL

*Acolytes and ushers light the people’s hand candles. Please share the light with those seated near you.*

## POST COMMUNION HYMN

HYMN 111

*Sung at 7:00 & 11:00.*

“Silent Night”

STILLE NACHT

*Please extinguish hand candles after the hymn.*

*Place your candle in baskets provided near exits after the close of the service.*

## POST COMMUNION PRAYER

*Presider* Let us pray.

*Please kneel or stand as you are able.*

*All* **Eternal God, you have graciously accepted us as living members of our Savior Jesus Christ, and you have fed us with spiritual food in the Sacrament of his Body and Blood. Send us now into the world in peace, and grant us strength and courage to love and serve you with gladness and singleness of heart; through Christ our Savior. Amen.**

## THE BLESSING

*Please stand as you are able.*

*Presider* May Almighty God, who sent Jesus to be incarnate in human nature, bless you in this holy season, scatter the darkness of sin, and brighten your heart with the light of holiness. **Amen.**

May God, who sent angels to proclaim the glad news of the Savior’s birth, fill you with joy, and make you heralds of the Gospel. **Amen.**

May God, who in the Word made flesh joined heaven to earth and earth to heaven, give you peace and favor. **Amen.**

And the blessing of God Almighty, the †Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be among you and remain with you always. **Amen.**

## THE CLOSING HYMN

HYMN 100

*Please remain standing. Sung at all services.*

“Joy to the World”

ANTIOCH

## THE DISMISSAL

*Please remain standing.*

*Deacon* Go and sing to God. Declare the glory of the Wonderful Counselor, and tell everyone that God's salvation is here!

*People* **Thanks be to God.**

## THE POSTLUDE

*4:00 pm* "A Joyous Christmas" ARR. JOHN LEAVITT

*7:00 pm* "A Joyous Christmas" ARR. JOHN LEAVITT

*11:00 pm* "Silent Night"

*Feel free to take this bulletin with you when you go if you attend the 11:00 pm service. At the 4:00 pm and 7:00 pm service, please leave your bulletin for use again at later services. Thank you.*

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## SERVICE PARTICIPANTS

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The Rev. Dawn Frankfurt, Rector

Dakota Bennett, Organist

Chase Moore, Lay Worship Leader

Elizabeth Wenger, Lay Worship Leader

Paul Leeker, Lay Worship Leader

Kennedy Compton, Choristers Director & Cantor

Faith O' Neal, Harpist

The St. James Choir & Handbell Choir

The St. James Choristers

### 4:00 PM

*Greeter*- Peggy Zerger, Tom Zerger

*Acolyte*- Danny Blair

*Chalice Bearer* - Rick Milhon

*Lector* - Mary Druding, Louise

Brinegar

*Usher* - Paul Rillema, Gary Cheever

### 7:00 PM

*Acolyte* - Jay Price, Danny Blair, Eoin Blair

*Chalice Bearer* - Deb Bagby

*Lector* - Barbara Orsak, Joan Moore

*Usher* - Gary Cheever, Peggy Zerger, Tom Zerger

### 11:00 PM

*Acolyte* - Jason Fletcher, Alexis Fletcher

*Thurifer* - Paul Leeker

*Chalice Bearer* - Deb Bagby

*Lector* - William Compton, Rob Compton

*Usher* - Johnson Olanya, Janet Newlin

*With special thanks to the St. James Altar Guild*

*The 7:00 service is live-streamed by Wichita Livestream*

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**THE CHRISTMAS GREENS & POINSETTIAS ADORNING THE  
CHURCH ARE GIVEN TO THE GLORY OF GOD AND...**

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- ◆ In loving memory of Sallie Hager and Marjorie Skinner Scott from Paula Skinner & Deb Hager.
- ◆ In thanksgiving from Randall & Marilyn Schrag.
- ◆ In loving memory of Charles Johns from Claudette Johns.
- ◆ In thanksgiving for family and friends from Tom & Peggy Zerger.
- ◆ In loving memory of Glenn & Tessie Zerger and Don & Mary Curry from Tom & Peggy Zerger
- ◆ In loving memory of Charles & Evelyn Tanner and Arley & Avis House from Terry & Gerry House.
- ◆ In thanksgiving for Diana and Alex from Gene & Joan Bledsoe.
- ◆ In thanksgiving for the Siefkes, Moore, and Caballero families from Joan, Gracie, Eve and Noelle Moore.
- ◆ In thanksgiving for Marjorie Williams from Jim & JoAnn Williams and Dana Williams.
- ◆ In loving memory of Kenneth Williams from Jim & JoAnn Williams and Dana Williams.
- ◆ In thanksgiving for the People of St. James Church and their generous spirit from Mother Dawn Frankfurt.
- ◆ In loving memory of Colleen Didier from Jennifer King.
- ◆ In loving memory of our son, Ryan Hunter Reep, from Danny & Amy Reep.
- ◆ In loving memory of our parents, Nelda & Howard Ellington and Patricia Reep from Amy & Danny Reep.
- ◆ In thanksgiving for our children and grandchildren from Amy & Danny Reep.
- ◆ In loving memory of our parents, Jim and Betty Bowman, Paul Edward, and Francis & Margaret Schmidt, from Richard and Peg Bowman.
- ◆ In thanksgiving for the ministry of Mother Dawn from Lowell & Marcia Wilder.
- ◆ In thanksgiving for the light of Christ from Deb Bagby.

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## THE CHRISTMAS GREENS & POINSETTIAS ADORNING THE CHURCH ARE GIVEN TO THE GLORY OF GOD AND...

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- ◆ In thanksgiving for Woody Swain, Clay Bastian, and Joan Moore for their support of the bookkeeper from Susie Stallings.
- ◆ In loving memory of Kenneth W. Haag and Donald J. Maycher from Gary and Toni Maycher.
- ◆ In loving memory of my faithful family who celebrate this glorious season in the Kingdom of God - L, J, L, D, B, J, S, J... from Diane Schawe.
- ◆ In thanksgiving to my dear mom, children, family, and friends from Diane Schawe.
- ◆ In thanksgiving for our family from Terry & Janet Newlin.
- ◆ In loving memory of our departed loved ones from Terry & Janet Newlin.
- ◆ In loving memory of Patricia Bayles and Justin Bayles, from Joseph Bayles.
- ◆ In loving memory of Emily Swain Smith from Woody & Barbara Swain.
- ◆ In thanksgiving from Emalyn and George Rogers.





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## PARISH PRAYERS

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**In the Anglican Cycle of Prayer:** The Episcopal Church in the Philippines

**In the World Council of Churches Cycle of Prayer:** Japan, North Korea, South Korea

**In the Kansas Cycle of Prayer:** Pray for St. Stephen's, Wichita

**Our seminarian,** Maddy Bishop

**Those discerning a call to the priesthood:** Paul Leeker, Elizabeth Wenger

**Those serving in the military:** Davis Jackson; Will Corkins; Maureen Tanner

**In thanksgiving for** George Noah born at 4:23 am on December 18 - 5 lbs, 7 oz, 20.5 inches long. Parents are Allie and Christopher Nicholson, grandparents are Celeste and Jerrell Smith.

**Those in trouble, sorrow, need, sickness or any other adversity:** Judy T.; Sam & Beth; Vicky R.; Barbara S.; Lise H.; Jeri & Bill; Hazel S.; Stephen G.; Allie N.; Kris S.; Marlene H.; Judy; Greta P.; Larry R.; Simon family; Nancy C.; Philippa P.; Drew H.; Elena S.; Bella P.; Delmar & Mary; Racine; Daimon; Anna; Dick & Judy; John O. & family; Brianna P.; Sylvester; Pat; Andy S.; Sue C.; Martha L.; Joseph B.; Joan J.; Jayne P.; Deb H.; Dal H.; Carole U.; Bill & Carolyn R.; Marge R.; Marcia & Lowell; Jerry M.; Gus G.

**Those who have recently died:** Helen Haskin Bousfield; Margarita Busche; Hollis S.; Jill Spohn; Mark T.

**Some who have died in Decembers past:** Mary Albright; Holly Bell; Martha Black; Carl Brink; Charlotte Cochran; Dorcas Cooper; Flo Duncan; Peggy Duncan; Ruth T. Elrick; Pat Evans; Ron Harrison; Betty Holmer; Helen Hope; Tomora Jennings; June E. Morell; Gladys Osborne; Tom Reid; Mary Rickman; Betty Robinson; Wanda Sanders; Margaret Sandlin; Elizabeth Sheffield; John Sheffield; Lois Smith; Ev Stephenson; Norris Taylor; Marcia Thudium; Gretchen Waite; Mary Jo Watson; Richard Wingell

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## THIS WEEK AT ST. JAMES

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**MONDAY, DECEMBER 25**

*Office Closed*

10:00 am - Christmas Day Service

**TUESDAY, DECEMBER 26**

*Office Closed*

**THURSDAY, DECEMBER 28**

12:00 pm - The Book Club of St. James/  
St. Stephens

5:30 pm - Endowment Funds Board

**SATURDAY, DECEMBER 30**

5:30 pm - In-Person Worship Service

**SUNDAY, DECEMBER 31**

8:30 am - In-Person Worship Service

10:45 am - In-Person & Online Worship

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## PARISH ANNOUNCEMENTS

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**Adult Forum** will restart on Sunday, January 7. We will kick off the new year with the **Year In Review**, led by Phil Speary.

Sunday, January 7 is **Children's Sunday School and Children's Chapel** starting at 9:30 am upstairs in the Kidz Zone. All kids in preschool- 5th grade are welcome. Questions? Contact Chelsea

**Tabs for Ronald McDonald House:** There is a small cardboard house in the entryway to collect aluminum pull tabs for Ronald McDonald house. They collect these and cash them in to help with their services for children and families.

**We need Nursery Volunteers!** If you are interested or want more information, contact Chelsea at [formation@stjameswichita.org](mailto:formation@stjameswichita.org)

**Birthdays & Anniversaries** - In 2024 we will begin celebrating birthdays and wedding anniversaries on the first Sunday of each month (for the month to come). If your birthday or anniversary is that month, please stand and be recognized in the service.

**Gospel of Mark** meets every Wednesday at 6:00 pm. Everyone is welcome, you don't need to come to every session to join.

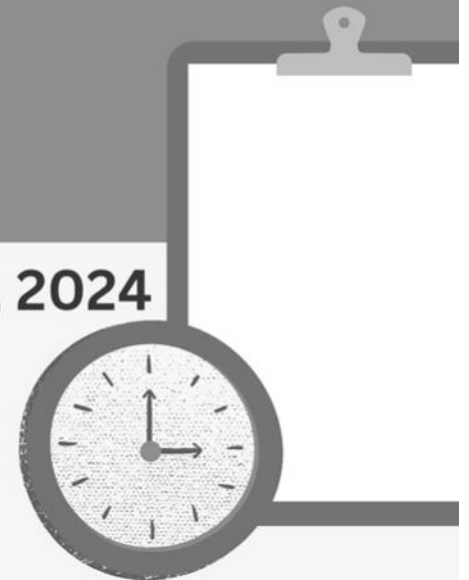
**Save the date!** The 2024 **Annual Meeting** is Sunday, January 28. We will have one church service that Sunday, at 9:30 am, and the Annual Meeting will follow at 10:45 am.

# 20 | ANNUAL 24 | MEETING

**SUNDAY, JANUARY 28, 2024  
10:45 AM**

**There will be one worship service  
on Sunday, January 28, at 9:30 am**

\*Saturday's service will be at the usual time, 5:30 pm.







Loving  
Liberating  
Life-Giving

**The Rev. Dawn M. Frankfurt**  
Rector  
motherdawn@stjameswichita.org

**The Ven. Jeff Roper**  
Archdeacon

**Chelsea Whipple**  
Director of Programs  
formation@stjameswichita.org

**Dakota Bennett**  
Director of Music  
music@stjameswichita.org

**Susan Stallings**  
Bookkeeper  
bookkeeper@stjameswichita.org

**Krystal Poindexter**  
Parish Communicator  
office@stjameswichita.org

**Jose Alonso**  
Sexton

**Weekly Eucharist Services**  
Saturday at 5:30 pm  
Sunday at 8:30 am & 10:45 am

**Adult Forum**  
Every Sunday at 9:45 am  
(except second Sundays)

**Children's Sunday School and  
Children's Chapel**  
First Sunday of each month, start-  
ing at 9:30 am

**New to St. James?**  
If you are new to St. James and  
haven't filled out a **Newcomer  
Card**, we would love to know  
more about you! Once we have a  
card from you, we will have a  
name badge ready for the  
following weekend.

# WELCOME TO ST. JAMES

*Episcopal Church of Wichita, Kansas*

3750 E. Douglas Ave., Wichita, KS 67208  
(316) 683-5686 | www.stjameswichita.org  
office@stjameswichita.org

**WHOEVER YOU ARE AND WHEREVER YOU FIND  
YOURSELF ON YOUR JOURNEY OF FAITH,  
YOU ARE WELCOME HERE.**

You will hear these words every week at St. James as we invite you to join us for the Word and Sacraments that are God's gifts to all. It does not matter who you are, what you look like, what you have done in the past, or who you love. God's grace is not petty; it is not earned. It is radical and universal. We at St. James seek to mirror God's healing love by making this community a safe place for skeptics, doubters, seekers, those who have been wounded by the church, those who have never darkened its doors, those who have wandered, as well as new believers and those who have never left. As a diverse community we have discovered in God a oneness greater than our differences. We have come to know that our variety reflects the divine comprehensiveness of God. Engaging God is a lifelong process. Wherever you find yourself on your journey of faith, we believe God invites you to keep traveling. In some subtle or profound way, the Spirit of God drew you here. Our hearts are open to God and to you.

**SIGN-UP FOR THE  
WEEKLY ETOWER**



**FOLLOW US!  
STJAMESWICHITA**



**GIVE ONLINE  
TO ST. JAMES**



*Have you remembered the work of St. James in your planned giving?*