



ST. JAMES EPISCOPAL CHURCH
A joyful, inclusive community

The Holy Eucharist

December 25, 2022 at 11 a.m.

Christmas Day

Visitors: We are delighted to welcome you today and look forward to getting to know you. Please sign our guest list in the entryway or complete a visitor card in the pew-back in front of you. Please indicate on the guest list or visitor card if you would like us to contact you about membership at St. James.

Holy Communion: All who are drawn by the love of Christ are welcome to receive Holy Communion. Come forward at the appointed time to receive the consecrated bread (in the palm of your hand) and wine (from the chalice). Please note that Communion in one kind is perfectly valid, if you do not wish to receive from the common cup. If you would prefer a blessing instead of Communion, come forward and cross your arms over your chest.

Healing: During Communion, healing ministers are available in the side chapel to anoint you and pray with you for healing of mind, body, or spirit.

Pastoral Care: If you have questions about St. James, pastoral concerns, or would like to speak with a priest, please contact The Rev. John Kirkley at john@stjamesf.org or (415)751-1198 ext. 3.

Worship with Children: Children of all ages are welcome to join us at both worship services. During the school year, we offer a Sunday School program at 10 a.m. in the Caldwell Room downstairs for children ages 4 - 9, and nursery care for infants and toddlers is available in the preschool classroom next door.

COVID-19 Prevention: Following the recommendation of the Diocese of California, we strongly recommend vaccination, including the new boosters that target the Omicron variant. Wearing masks is encouraged during worship, but not required. You may remove your mask while reading or when consuming Holy Communion. If you have not already done so, please show your proof of vaccination to the ushers, so that your name may be added to their confidential list. Thank you for doing your part to keep each other safe.

The Word of God

*Throughout the bulletin, the congregation shall say all **bolded** text aloud.*

Prelude

“Christmas Rhapsody”

Opening Hymn

“O Little Town of Bethlehem,” *The Hymnal 1982, #78*

The people stand, as they are able.

Opening Acclamation

Celebrant

Bless-ed be God: Father, Son, and Ho-ly Spi-rit.

People

And blessed be God's kingdom, now and for ev-er. A-men.

The musical notation consists of two staves. The first staff, labeled 'Celebrant', has a treble clef and a key signature of one flat. It contains a melodic line with notes for 'Bless-ed be God: Father, Son, and Ho-ly Spi-rit.' The second staff, labeled 'People', also has a treble clef and a key signature of one flat. It contains a shorter melodic line with notes for 'And blessed be God's kingdom, now and for ev-er. A-men.'

Hymn of Praise

“On This Day Earth Shall Ring,” *The Hymnal 1982, #92*

Collect of the Day

Christmas Day

God is with you.
And also with you.

Let us pray.

Almighty God, you have given your only-begotten Son to take our nature upon him, and to be born this day of a pure virgin: Grant that we, who have been born again and made your children by adoption and grace, may daily be renewed by your Holy Spirit; through our Lord Jesus Christ, to whom with you and the same Spirit be honor and glory, now and for ever.

Amen.

First Lesson

The people sit.

A Reading from the Book of Isaiah.

The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light; those who lived in a land of deep darkness—on them light has shined. You have multiplied the nation, you have increased its joy; they rejoice before you as with joy at the harvest, as people exult when dividing plunder. For the yoke of their burden, and the bar across their shoulders, the rod of their oppressor, you have broken as on the day of Midian. For all the boots of the tramping warriors and all the garments rolled in blood shall be burned as fuel for the fire. For a child has been born for us, a son given to us; authority rests upon his shoulders; and he is named Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace. His authority shall grow continually, and there shall be endless peace for the throne of David and his kingdom. He will establish and uphold it with justice and with righteousness from this time onward and forevermore. The zeal of the Lord of hosts will do this.

Hear what the Spirit is saying to God's people.

Thanks be to God.

The Psalm

Psalm 96- *St. Helena Psalter*

Sing to God a new song; *
sing to God all the whole earth.
Sing and bless God's holy Name; *
proclaim the good news of salvation from day to day.
Declare God's glory among the nations, *
God's wonders among all peoples.
For God is great and greatly to be praised, *
more to be feared than all gods.
As for all the gods of the nations, they are but idols, *
but it is God who made the heavens.
Oh, the majesty and magnificence of God's presence! *
Oh, the power and the splendor of God's sanctuary!
Ascribe to God, you families of the peoples, *
ascribe to God honor and power.
Ascribe due honor to God's holy Name; *
bring offerings and come into God's courts.
Worship the Most High in the beauty of holiness; *
let the whole earth tremble before God.
Tell it out among the nations that God reigns! *
God has made the world so firm that it cannot be moved
and will judge the peoples with equity.
Let the heavens rejoice, and let the earth be glad;
let the sea thunder and all that is in it; *
let the field be joyful and all that is therein.
Then shall all the trees of the wood shout for joy
before God, who will come, *
who will come to judge the earth.
God will judge the world with righteousness *
and the peoples with truth.

A Reading from Letter to Titus.

The grace of God has appeared, bringing salvation to all, training us to renounce impiety and worldly passions, and in the present age to live lives that are self-controlled, upright, and godly, while we wait for the blessed hope and the manifestation of the glory of our great God and Savior, Jesus Christ. He it is who gave himself for us that he might redeem us from all iniquity and purify for himself a people of his own who are zealous for good deeds.

Hear what the Spirit is saying to God's people.

Thanks be to God.

Gradual Hymn

The people stand, as they are able.

“Of the Father's Love Begotten,” *The Hymnal 1982*, #82

(Verses 1-3 before the Holy Gospel; Verse 4 after the Holy Gospel.)

The Holy Gospel

Luke 2:1-20

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

Glorify 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 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.

The Gospel of our Savior.

Praise to you, Lord Christ.

The Sermon

The people sit.

A period of silence follows the Sermon.

Nicene Creed

The people stand, as they are able.

Enriching our Worship

**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 and the Son,
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.**

Prayers of the People

The people stand or kneel, as they are able.

Christmas

Let us pray to God, who came among us in the birth of Jesus:

Bidder: Gracious God, as a star rose, and drew people from great distances to Bethlehem that they might greet the Christ-child; draw us, your Church, and all your people to you.

Lord, in your mercy,
Hear our prayer.

Continued on the next page.

Bidder: As you gave Mary your Holy Spirit, filling her with the delight of your Presence; fill us with your Spirit, and renew our lives.

Lord, in your mercy,

Hear our prayer.

Bidder: As Gentiles streamed to Jesus' Light, and kings to the brightness of his rising; draw our nation and all in authority to His brightness.

Lord, in your mercy,

Hear our prayer.

Bidder: As angels sang 'glorias' to you and proclaimed peace on earth, and goodwill among all peoples; bring us your peace, and bring an end to terror and strife.

Lord, in your mercy,

Hear our prayer.

Bidder: As shepherds were drawn away from their flocks by night; draw those who do not know you yet to the knowledge and love of you.

Lord, in your mercy,

Hear our prayer.

Bidder: As Jesus was born in a manger, because there was no room for them in the inn; be especially present with those who have nowhere to lay their head, those who are vulnerable, and all who suffer any need or trouble, especially Judith, Paul, Rosemary, Marganna, Jared, Angel, Juan, Aniya, Lila, Bill, Bonnie, Mikki, Dennis, Pam, Joanna, Joe, Kristina, Alexei Navalny, the people of Ukraine, Russia, for refugees and the hungry worldwide, and all those who care for them.

Lord, in your mercy,

Hear our prayer.

Bidder: As the Holy Family gathered together in Bethlehem, and traveled together to far off lands; bless all migrants and refugees and protect those who travel.

Lord, in your mercy,

Hear our prayer.

Bidder: As your Son came to proclaim the forgiveness of sins, and the gift of Life Eternal; give to the departed eternal rest and let Light perpetual shine on them, especially Irving Rothstein, Katie L, and Sergio S,

Lord, in your mercy,

Hear our prayer.

O Lord our God, may the Light and Hope of this season, and of your Son's Incarnation, reassure our hearts that you are among us, that you hear our prayer, and that you will be with us always, even to the end of the age. In the name of Jesus of Nazareth we pray.

Amen.

It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and every where to give thanks to you, Almighty God, Creator of heaven and earth.

Because, in the incarnation of the Word, a new light has dawned upon the world; you have become one with us that we might become one with you in your glorious kingdom.

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 the glory of your Name:

Sanctus

S128

Ho - ly, ho - ly,
 ho - ly Lord, God of power and might,
 heaven and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho-san-na in the
 high - est. Bless - ed is he who
 comes in the name of the Lord. Ho-san-na in the high-est.

We give thanks to you, O God, for the goodness and love which you have made known to us in creation; in the calling of Israel to be your people; in your Word spoken through the prophets; and above all in the Word made flesh. For in these last days you sent Jesus to be incarnate from the Virgin Mary, to be the Savior and Redeemer of the world. In Christ, you have delivered us from evil, and made us worthy to stand before you. In Christ, you have brought us out of error into truth, out of sin into righteousness, out of death into life.

On the night before he died for us, 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."

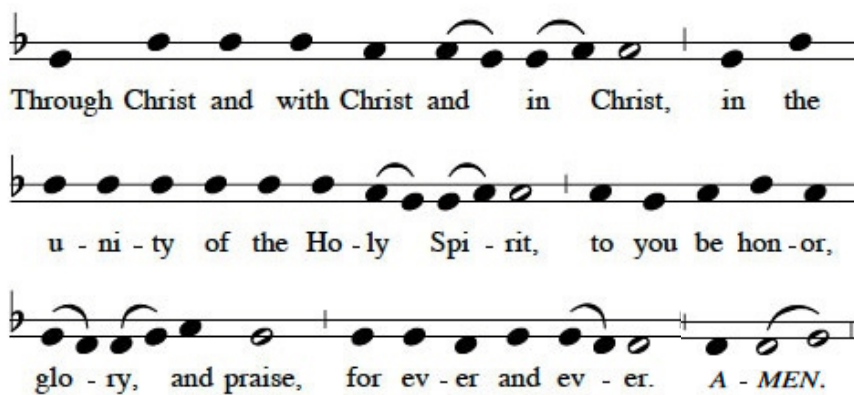
After supper he took the cup of wine; and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, and said, "Drink this, all of you: This is my Blood of the new Covenant, which is shed for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me."

Therefore, according to his command, O God,

**We remember his death,
We proclaim his resurrection,
We await his coming in glory;**

And we offer our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving to you, O Savior of all; presenting to you, from your creation, this bread and this wine.

We pray you, gracious God, to send your Holy Spirit upon these gifts that they may be the Sacrament of the Body of Christ and his Blood of the new Covenant. Unite us in the sacrifice of Jesus Christ, through whom we are acceptable to you, being sanctified by the Holy Spirit. In the fullness of time, put all things in subjection under your Christ, and bring us to that heavenly country where, with the Ever-Blessed Virgin Mary, Saint James, and all your saints, we may enter the everlasting heritage of your children; through Jesus Christ our Savior, the firstborn of all creation, the head of the Church, and the author of our salvation.



Chant adaptation by Bruce E. Ford, 1992.

The Lord's Prayer

The people stand or kneel, as they are able.

And now, as our Savior Christ has taught us, we are bold to say,

**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

“Fraction Anthem,” S152

*Silence is kept as the Presider breaks the consecrated bread,
then all sing the Fraction Anthem.*

Al - le - lu - ia. Christ our Pass - o - ver is sac - ri - ficed for us;
There-fore let us keep the feast. Al - le - lu - ia.

The Gifts of God for the People of God.

*All who are drawn by the love of Christ are welcome to receive Holy Communion.
Come forward at the appointed time to receive the consecrated bread (in the palm of your hand) and wine (from the common cup). If you would prefer a blessing instead, come forward and cross your arms over your chest.*

Also, during and after you receive Communion, healing ministers will be available in the side chapel to anoint you and pray with you for healing of mind, body, or spirit.

Communion Hymn

“What Child is This,” *The Hymnal 1982*, #115

Postcommunion Prayer

The people stand or kneel, as they are able.

Let us pray.

**God our Creator,
whose Word has come among us
in the Holy Child of Bethlehem:
may the light of faith illumine our hearts
and shine in our words and deeds;
through him who is Christ the Lord. Amen.**

The Christmas Blessing

May Christ, who by his Incarnation gathered into one things earthly and heavenly, fill you with his joy and peace; and the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be among you, and remain with you always.

Amen.

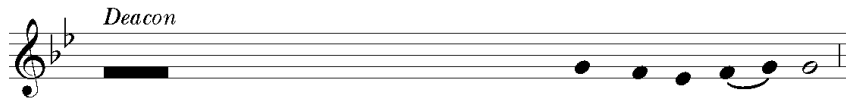
Closing Hymn

The people stand, as they are able.


“Joy to the World!,” *The Hymnal 1982*, #100

Dismissal

Deacon




Go in peace to love and serve the Lord, al - le - lu - ia,



al - le - lu - ia.

People



Thanks be to God, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

Postlude

“Bach to Brubeck”

You are invited to stay seated and enjoy the Postlude, or you are welcome to leave quietly.

Serving Today

Presider	The Rev. John Kirkley
Preacher	The Rev. Ron Willis
Music Director	Mark Wanless
Eucharistic Minister	Warren Wong
Crucifer	Ryszard Pochron
Altar Guild	Tracey Thomas
Readers	Ann Alpers, Jim Dycus
Ushers	Barbara Webb, Sandra Dratler
Prayer Bidder	Eleanor Scott
Flower Guild	Mary Balmana, Heather Davies, Rebecca Wrangham, Noreen Huey

Please pray for these recent additions to the St. James Prayer List:

**Judith, Paul, Rosemary, Marganna, Jared, Angel, Juan, Aniya, Lila, Bill, Bonnie, Mikki,
Dennis, Pam, Joanna, Joe, Kristina, and their families**

**The People of Ukraine, Russia and Russian activist Alexei Navalny, for refugees and the
hungry worldwide**

Please pray for the repose of the soul of

Irving Rothstein, Katie L. and Sergio S.

Flowers Donated by Barbara Webb

Christmas Honor and Memorial Gifts

Thank you for your generosity!

Barbara Webb

Grant and Laurel Paul

Roger Wickstrom and Petrina Grube

Ed Wilcox

Susanna Rodriguez - In memory of Kathryn Anderson

John and Gwen Buehrens - For the Parish Rector

Tom and Ann Matthews - In memory of Marjorie and Richard Matthews

Joan Butler - In memory of Jay Butler and Bill Olund

Oi Yun Chow - In memory of loved ones

Margaret Stark-Roberts - In memory of Bill and Nancy Newmeyer

Prayers for Peace and Justice.

Every Sunday right after the 10 a.m. service please meet in
the front rows to briefly share concerns and pray together.

Take a minute to help change the world and then go
downstairs for coffee! All are welcome.

St. James News

Faith in Action Evening Prayer: Join us at the Faith in Action Evening Prayer on **Wednesday, December 28 at 6:30pm** where we will remember the Holy Innocents with the telling of the true story of Christmas in the words and songs of children.

Gift Drive: The Episcopal Community Services Holiday Gift Drive supports over 2,000 single adults, families, and children experiencing homelessness or poverty. The ask this year is simple — \$25 Target gift cards for neighbors who are experiencing homelessness or poverty or a gift from our Amazon wish list. Visit this site to support today <https://ecs-sf.org/holiday-gift-drive/>

The Mystical Way of Christ: This six session, Lenten program explores the teachings of the historical Jesus and the mystical Way of union with Christ. The program begins and ends with Saturday morning (9:30 am – Noon) in-person retreats on February 25 and March 25. In between, we gather on Zoom Wednesday evenings from 7:30 pm to 8:45 pm. Each session is devoted to an aspect of the Way, beginning with the historical Jesus, the four-fold path of spiritual growth, and concluding with Jesus and the Blessed Mother Mary. Each session also introduces a different prayer practice to support us on the Way. More than an introduction to the life and teaching of Jesus, this program is designed to support the development of conscious spiritual growth in the participants. Participants must commit to all six sessions, as they are progressive and cumulative. For more information and to RSVP contact Pastor John at john@stjamesf.org.

Silent Meditation: Please join us on **Sunday evenings** at St. James as we sit for 20 minutes of silent meditation and prayer. Find a quiet space to end your weekend, take a break from the busyness of your life, and feel the power of meditating with a group. All are encouraged to come together, celebrating our inner strength and insight. Gathering and preparation begins at **5:30pm** and at **5:45pm** we commence 20 minutes of silence.

Bible Study: Please join us on **Tuesdays from Noon-1pm** for an online, weekly, midday reflection on sacred scripture. We are continuing a study of St. Paul's letters to the churches in Corinth. All are welcome and no previous experience is required. A link to the zoom room can be found in the eNewsletter.

*Looking to Support St. James?
Scan the QR code to reach our donation page!
Click on "General Donations to make a contribution
or "Pledge 2022" to make a pledge payment.*



Are you receiving St. James' weekly eNewsletter? If not, please contact Jack in the parish office.



St. James Mission Statement

To bring an ever increasing number of people into an ever closer relationship with Jesus Christ so that God's love may be a transforming force for the communities in which we live.



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A joyful, inclusive community

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