



FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT

SUNDAY SERVICE 9:30AM DECEMBER 22ND, 2024

HOLY EUCHARIST RITE II - 9:30 A.M.

Please be aware that Services at St. James in-the-Hills are live streamed and published online.

PROCESSIONAL HYMN

O come, O come, Emmanuel (verse 7, 8) Hymnal 56

The Service for the Advent Wreath, the Advent Prayers of the People, and the Blessing come from Planning for Rites and Rituals: A Resource for Episcopal Worship Year C

LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT CANDLE

Leader: In those days Mary set out and went with haste to a Judean town in the hill country, where she entered the house of Zechariah and greeted Elizabeth.

When Elizabeth heard Mary's greeting, the child leaped in her womb. And Elizabeth was filled with the Holy Spirit and exclaimed with a loud cry, "Blessed are you among women, and blessed is the fruit of your womb." (Luke 1:39–42)

The Word of God

OPENING SENTENCE AND PRAYER

Lord,

have mer - cy, have

From Enriching our Worship 1

S 96

Priest: Blessed are you, holy and living One.

People: You come to your people and set them free.

Almighty God, to you all hearts are open, all desires known, and from you no secrets are hid: Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you, and worthily magnify your holy Name; through Christ our Lord. *Amen*.



cy.

COLLECT OF THE DAY

Priest: The Lord be with you. People: And also with you.

Priest: Let us pray.

Silence is kept.

Purify our conscience, Almighty God, by your daily visitation, that your Son Jesus Christ, at his coming, may find in us a mansion prepared for himself; who lives and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

THE OLD TESTAMENT MICAH 5:2-5a

A Reading from the prophet Micah.

You, O Bethlehem of Ephrathah, who are one of the little clans of Judah,

from you shall come forth for me one who is to rule in Israel, whose origin is from of old, from ancient days.

Therefore he shall give them up until the time when she who is in labor has brought forth; then the rest of his kindred shall return to the people of Israel.

And he shall stand and feed his flock in the strength of the LORD, in the majesty of the name of the LORD his God.

And they shall live secure, for now he shall be great to the ends of the earth; and he shall be the one of peace.

The Word of the Lord. Thanks be to God.

THE SONG OF MARY (in unison)

CANTICLE 15, BCP p. 91

My soul proclaims the greatness of the Lord,

my spirit rejoices in God my Savior; *
for he has looked with favor on his lowly servant.

From this day all generations will call me blessed: * the Almighty has done great things for me, and holy is his Name.

He has mercy on those who fear him * in every generation.

He has shown the strength of his arm, * he has scattered the proud in their conceit.

He has cast down the mighty from their thrones, * and has lifted up the lowly.

He has filled the hungry with good things, * and the rich he has sent away empty.

He has come to the help of his servant Israel, * for he has remembered his promise of mercy,

The promise he made to our fathers, *
to Abraham and his children for ever.

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit: *
as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be for ever. Amen.

THE NEW TESTAMENT HEBREWS 10:5-10

A Reading from the letter to the Hebrews.

When Christ came into the world, he said,

"Sacrifices and offerings you have not desired, but a body you have prepared for me; in burnt offerings and sin offerings you have taken no pleasure.

Then I said, 'See, God, I have come to do your will, O God' (in the scroll of the book it is written of me)."

When he said above, "You have neither desired nor taken pleasure in sacrifices and offerings and burnt offerings and sin offerings" (these are offered according to the law), then he added, "See, I have come to do your will." He abolishes the first in order to establish the second. And it is by God's will that we have been sanctified through the offering of the body of Jesus Christ once for all.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

GRADUAL HYMN

Tell out, my soul, the greatness of the Lord Hymnal 438

THE HOLY GOSPEL LUKE 1:39-45 (46-55)

The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Luke. Glory to you, Lord Christ.

In those days Mary set out and went with haste to a Judean town in the hill country, where she entered the house of Zechariah and greeted Elizabeth.

When Elizabeth heard Mary's greeting, the child leaped in her womb. And Elizabeth was filled with the Holy Spirit and exclaimed with a loud cry, "Blessed are you among women, and blessed is the fruit of your womb. And why has this happened to me, that the mother of my Lord comes to me? For as soon as I heard the sound of your greeting, the child in my womb leaped for joy. And blessed is she who believed that there would be a fulfillment of what was spoken to her by the Lord."

[And Mary said,

"My soul magnifies the Lord, and my spirit rejoices in God my Savior, for he has looked with favor on the lowliness of his servant. Surely, from now on all generations will call me blessed; for the Mighty One has done great things for me, and holy is his name. His mercy is for those who fear him from generation to generation. He has

shown strength with his arm; he has scattered the proud in the thoughts of their hearts. He has brought down the powerful from their thrones, and lifted up the lowly; he has filled the hungry with good things, and sent the rich away empty. He has helped his servant Israel, in remembrance of his mercy, according to the promise he made to our ancestors, to Abraham and to his descendants forever."]

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, Lord Christ.

THE SERMON

Rev. Dr. Joseph A. Krasinski

THE NICENE CREED BCP 358

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: by the power of the Holy Spirit he became incarnate from the Virgin Mary, and was made man. 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.

With the Father and the Son he is worshiped and glorified. He has spoken through the Prophets.

(continued...)

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

Priest: The Mighty One has done great things for us. And so, we appeal to God once again, praying "Stir up your strength, O Lord; and come to help us."

Intercessor: Prepare in us a mansion for yourself, O Christ.

Silence

Stir up your strength, O Lord.

People: And come to help us.

Restore us, O God of hosts. May we know security. May we know peace. May we know the benefits of the reign of your Christ.

Silence

Stir up your strength, O Lord.

People: And come to help us.

Show the strength of your arm, O God: lift up the lowly. Fill the hungry with good things. Look on your children with favor.

Silence

Stir up your strength, O Lord.

People: And come to help us.

Have mercy on all captives and prisoners, O God. Remember them and come to their aid. Fill our hearts with mercy. May we learn to forgive even as you forgive us.

Silence

Stir up your strength, O Lord.

People: And come to help us.

Hear the prayers of your people, O God of hosts. May those who have fed on the bread of tears, feed instead on your strength, O Lord. Show them the light of your countenance and be their salvation.

The congregation is invited to add their petitions, followed by silence

For those on our parish prayer list...

Stir up your strength, O Lord.

People: And come to help us.

Great Shepherd, gather your flock into your eternal kingdom. Bless the dying, embrace the

dead, and comfort those who mourn.

Silence

Stir up your strength, O Lord.

People: And come to help us.

Priest: O Root of Jesse, who arises as a sign among all peoples, in whose presence kings stand silent and nations bow in worship, come, and deliver us, and tarry not. Glory to you forever.

People: Amen.

Silence

CONCLUDING PRAYER

Priest: God made known in the friendship of women, the word of greeting and unseen life enwombed: give us the courage of the teenage mother who brings into the world a song of joyful revolt and a God who needs her love; through Jesus Christ, the one who is to come. **Amen.**

CONFESSION OF SIN

From Enriching our Worship 1

Priest: Let us confess our sins to God.

Silence may be kept.

ALL: God of all mercy, we confess that we have sinned against you, opposing your will in our lives. We have denied your goodness in each other, in ourselves, and in the world you have created. We repent of the evil that enslaves us, the evil we have done, and the evil done on our behalf. Forgive, restore, and strengthen us through our Savior Jesus Christ, that we may abide in your love and serve only your will. Amen.

Priest: 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.

People: Amen.

THE PEACE BCP 360

Priest: The peace of the Lord be always with you.

People: And also with you.

Notices & Announcements

WELCOME OF VISITORS, BIRTHDAYS & ANNIVERSARIES

OFFERTORY HYMN

Comfort, comfort ye my people Hymnal 67

PRESENTATION OF ALMS & OBLATIONS

Doxology

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;
Praise him, all creatures here below;
Praise him above, ye heavenly host:
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.

Priest: All things come of Thee, O Lord,

People: And of Thine own have we given Thee.

HOLY COMMUNION

Priest: The Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

Priest: Lift up your hearts.

People: We lift them to the Lord.

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

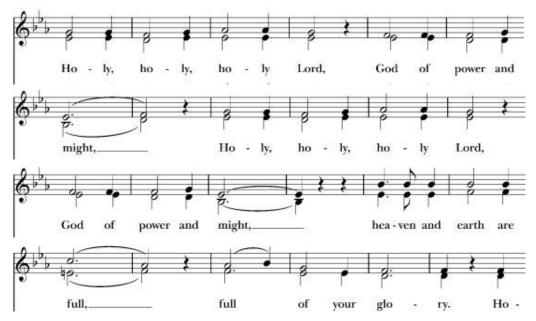
People: It is right to give him thanks and praise.

Priest: It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth.

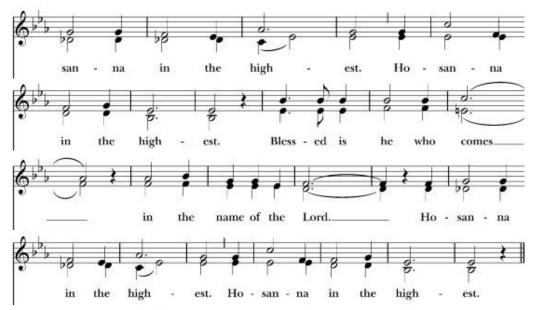
Because you sent your beloved Son to redeem us from sin and death, and to make us heirs in him of everlasting life; that when he shall come again in power and great triumph to judge the world, we may without shame or fear rejoice to behold his appearing.

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 S 130



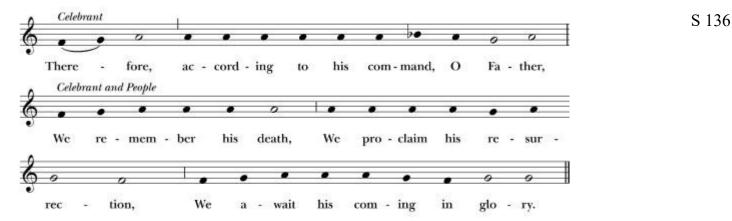
(continued...)



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, Jesus, your Son. For in these last days you sent him to be incarnate from the Virgin Mary, to be the Savior and Redeemer of the world. In him, you have delivered us from evil, and made us worthy to stand before you. In him, you have brought us out of error into truth, out of sin into righteousness, out of death into life.

On the night he was handed over to suffering and death, our Lord 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."



And we offer our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving to you, O Lord 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 to your Son in his sacrifice, that we may be acceptable through him, 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 James and all your saints, we may enter the everlasting heritage of your sons and

daughters; through Jesus Christ our Lord, the firstborn of all creation, the head of the Church, and the author of our salvation.

By him, and with him, and in him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit all honor and glory is yours, Almighty Father, now and for ever. **Amen.**

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

THE LORD'S PRAYER BCP 364

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.

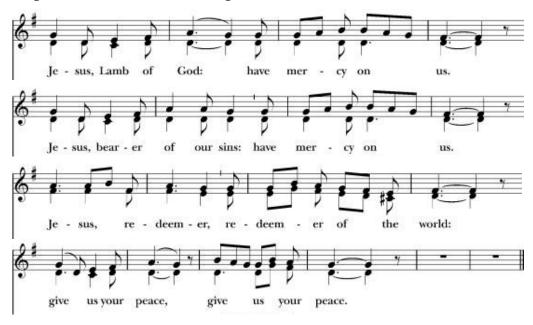
THE BREAKING OF THE BREAD

BCP 364

Priest: Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us;

People: Therefore let us keep the feast.

S 164



Invitation to Communion

Priest: The Gifts of God for the People of God. Take them in remembrance that Christ died for you, and feed on him in your hearts by faith, with thanksgiving.

COMMUNION HYMN

Come, thou long-expected Jesus Hymnal 66

A Prayer for Spiritual Communion Said by Those Not Present at Holy Communion

Priest: In union, O Lord, with the faithful of your Church where the Holy Eucharist is now being celebrated, we desire to offer you praise and thanksgiving. We present to you our souls and bodies with the earnest wish that we may always be united to you. And since we cannot now receive you sacramentally, we beseech you to come spiritually into our hearts. We unite ourselves with you

and embrace you with all the love of our souls. Let nothing ever separate you from us. May we live in you, and may you live in us, both in this life and in the life to come. Amen.

POST-COMMUNION PRAYER

BCP 365

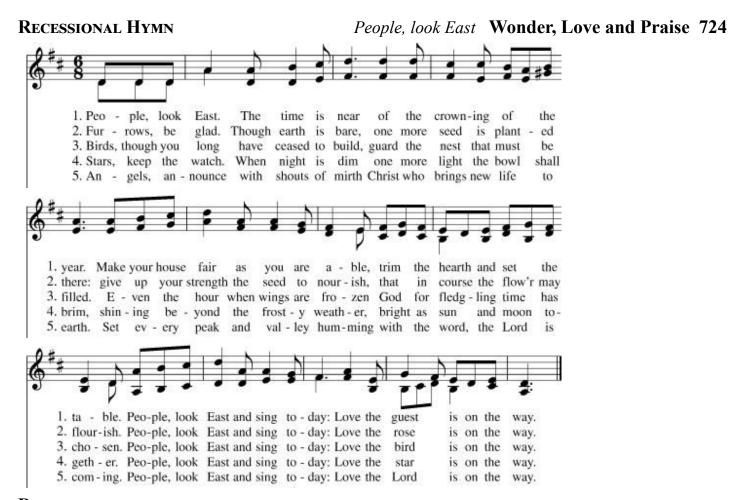
Priest: Let us pray.

ALL: Eternal God, heavenly Father, you have graciously accepted us as living members of your Son 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 Lord. Amen.

THE BLESSING

Priest: May the Sun of Righteousness shine upon you and scatter the darkness from before your path; and the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be among you, and remain with you always.

People: Amen.



DISMISSAL

Priest: Let us go forth in the name of Christ.

People: Thanks be to God.

NOTICES

Sisters and brothers in Christ,

We pray that you are well on this the fourth Sunday of Advent.

Please join us after the Service in Feaster Hall for our fellowship hour hosted by Rev. Joel Slotnick. We thank him for his kindness!

ADVENT REFLECTIONS

The Advent education course will follow a study by Barbara Cawthorne Crafton, an Episcopal priest, called Let Every Heart Prepare: Meditations for Advent and Christmas. Please join us following coffee hour.





POINSETTIA DEDICATIONS

POINSETTIA Donation envelopes are available at the entrance of the church to dedicate in honor of or in thanksgiving of loved ones. Today is the last day to turn in to the Office!

2025 OFFERINGS

Offering Envelopes are here! Please be sure to take your box home today.

New parishioners who wish to receive personal offering envelopes for the year 2025, please contact the Office and we will designate a numbered envelope box to record a future offering statement. Online Zelle payments may also be received by our email



address: stjameshollywood@gmail.com

Thank you to all who returned their pledge cards. We will still be collecting future pledge cards.

WHITE SOCKS MINISTRY COLLECTION

We will be collecting Men's, Women's and Children's sizes of white socks for those in need until the Christmas Eve Service.

JOIN OUR VESTRY

Requirements to join our Vestry include: being a confirmed member of the Episcopal Church, enrolled as a member of St. James in-the-Hills, 16 years of age or older, have been regular in attendance at Worship Services and have maintained a financial commitment to the parish, known to the treasurer, in the year preceding the election. To learn more please grab a Vestry requirement form/sign-up sheet by the welcome station.

MARK YOUR CALENDARS:

Our Annual Parish Meeting will be held on Sunday, January 19th, 2025 immediately following the 9:30am Worship Service, in Feaster Hall. Ministries please begin the 2024 Ministry Reports and deliver via email to the Parish Office no later than Friday, January 10th.

Bishop Visitation

Our Diocesan Bishop, Bishop Peter Eaton will join us in worship during his visit to St. James on Sunday, January 26th, 2025. Please attend!

HIDDEN TREASURES: Discovering The Hymnal

Hymn 66- Come Thou Long-Expected Jesus, was written by Charles Wesley and it was first published in 1744. For countless Christians around the world, "Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus" signals the beginning of Advent. This hymn has the quality of a petition—a prayer that implores Christ to be among us. The cumulative effect of these petitions is a tone of supplication. Wesley succeeds in recalling the deep longing of ancient Israel for the Messiah—the Promised One. Although we live in a different time than Charles Wesley, the longings of people's hearts are just as deep. We long for security, love, relationships, meaning. To those who open themselves up to its message, this hymn identifies with that longing at the deepest levels of our existence. Where there is no longing, there can be little meaning. Hope is central to Christian experience. And where will our longing, our hopeful waiting lead us? Where is the ultimate home of our hope? In the final line Wesley takes us there: "Raise us to thy glorious throne."

Source: umcdiscipleship. By Dr. Hawn

<u>ATTENTION PARISHIONERS</u>: Following the tragedy at St. Stephen's Episcopal in Alabama, the Diocese encourages churches to remain vigilant in the safety and security of its congregants during Worship Services. St. James will continue to keep the outer doors locked once the Service has begun. In the case of late arrivals, an usher/greeter will be present to open the doors for you.

COFFEE HOUR VOLUNTEERS

Those who have signed up to volunteer as host for coffee hours, please contact the Office for any inquiries on supplies and procedures, and to collect the keys if needed. For any Sundays not chosen by volunteers, simply the **coffee station only** will be provided. Please check out the sign-up sheet on the blue bulletin board

located outside the Parish Office for 2025.

DAILY DEVOTIONALS

Forward Movement's Day-by-Day devotionals for NOV-DEC-JAN are available in the sanctuary and from the Church Office during the week for you to take home or to share with others.

CHRISTMAS CARD MAILBOX

Those who wish to share warm wishes with Christmas cards are welcome to use the red mailbox in Feaster Hall, organized by parishioners' last names, now through Epiphany.





Please Pray for...

Our Anglican Community:

The Church of the Province of Uganda

Those in our Parish:

Jan Pushkar, Deb Terzino, Loretta Steward, Paul Crosta, Tom Krasinski, Sarah Allen, Karron Bacchus, Sonia Fiederick, Riley Rupert-Richendollar, Alan Demascus, Bisan Owda, Julia Smith, Tom Jackson, Cynthia Cone, Cheryl-Ann Edward, Arthur Bilotti, Sandra Hoyle

We pray for the members of our parish family who are celebrating their birthday this week:

Jada Prescott, Matteo Saunders, Philip Cooke, Juliana Prescott, Maud Fernander



We pray for the members of our parish family who are celebrating their anniversary this week:

Joan & Errol Kennedy

ANNIVERSARY

We pray for the protection of all innocent lives at risk across the Middle East, for peace in Israel and in Palestine, for peace in Ukraine, for all those affected by gun violence, and we continue to pray for continued protection and healing for all those dealing with the COVID-19 pandemic.



Lay Eucharistic Visitor Commissioning

Please come forward those who are commended by the Bishop for this ministry and will be visiting this week.

Priest: I send you forth bearing these holy gifts, that those to whom you go, may share with us in the communion of Christ's body and blood.

Congregation: We who are many are one body, because we all share one bread, one cup.

MEETINGS & EVENTS

Sunday, December 22nd

Fellowship Hour Advent Reflections Course

Tuesday, December 24th

Christmas Eve Service - 5:00 p.m.

Wednesday, December 25th

Merry Christmas!
Office Closed

Sunday, January 19th Annual Parish Meeting

Sunday, January 26th Visitation from Bishop Eaton





REV. DR. JOSEPH A. KRASINSKI, PRIEST-IN-RESIDENCE

MEMBERS OF THE VESTRY

CLAUDETTE CROWDER-FOWLER - SENIOR WARDEN
YVONNE PAICELY - JUNIOR WARDEN

ROBERT WHITEHEAD - TREASURER, BARBARA BECKER - CLERK TO THE VESTRY, PAUL CIZEK, ROBERTA GRIMMER, JULIANA PRESCOTT, CLOVIA RUSH-BARNETT, PHILMORE SMITH, NICKISHA WILLIAMS

HIMMLER ALEMÁN, DIRECTOR OF MUSIC FRANK JIMENEZ, FLAUTIST

Amanda Groome, our Administrative Assistant, is available in our Parish Office Monday through Friday from 10:00 a.m. until 3:00 p.m. and via Office Email:

office@stjameshollywood.com stjameshollywood@gmail.com

MISSION STATEMENT

The mission of St. James in-the-Hills Episcopal Church is to spread the Gospel of Jesus Christ through the power of the Holy Spirit and to invite all of God's diverse community into a personal relationship with our Lord.



St. James in-the-Hills Episcopal Church

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