

Holy Communion

First Sunday in Advent

November 29, 2026

Welcome to Saint James!

We're so glad you're here. Everything you need for worship is printed in this bulletin. Join in as you're comfortable- listening, reading, praying, and singing.

If you need to step away at any time, you can reenter through the main doors in the back of the sanctuary. Other exterior doors are locked during the service. Restrooms can be found near those main doors, in the narthex (the back foyer of the worship space).

We love kids in our services, noises and all! The **Family Den** (in the back) is a space for nursing or wrangling as desired. **Children's activity bags** are available in the narthex (foyer). **Nursery** is available during the service for children ages 0-3k (an Usher can show you where). During the gospel reading, children aged 4k-5th grade are invited to come to the center and then to follow the cross to **Children's Chapel**. They return during the announcements.

We'd love to give you a welcome bag on your way out. And please join us for coffee and snacks in the Parish Hall after the service.

Learn more and connect further on our website (Saint-James.org), or by dropping a Visitor Card in the offering plate.

Parking note: Extra parking spaces are available around Town Hall. We ask that you avoid parking in the shopping center across the street–they've asked us not to.

About the Season of Advent

The season of Advent is made up of the four weeks before Christmas. It is a penitential season, full of expectation, a time of preparing our hearts to consider the two comings (or 'advents') of Jesus. Jesus came as an infant, two thousand years ago- but He also promised to come again to restore all things. Thus we live between His advents, remembering the one and eagerly awaiting the other. The season of Advent is therefore when the church's annual calendar begins, because in His first coming has begun a new era- even a new creation- and in His second will begin perfect life with Him.

Holy Communion

Quiet Contemplation

The Processional — "Come Thou Fount of Every Blessing"

Come Thou fount of ev'ry blessing
Tune my heart to sing Thy grace
Streams of mercy never ceasing
Call for songs of loudest praise
Teach me some melodious sonnet
Sung by flaming tongues above
Praise the mount I'm fixed upon it
Mount of Thy redeeming love

Here I raise mine Ebenezer
Hither by Thy help I'm come
And I hope by Thy good pleasure
Safely to arrive at home
Jesus sought me when a stranger
Wand'ring from the fold of God
He to rescue me from danger
Interposed His precious blood

O to grace how great a debtor
Daily I'm constrained to be
Let Thy grace Lord like a fetter
Bind my wand'ring heart to Thee
Prone to wander Lord I feel it
Prone to leave the God I love
Here's my heart Lord take and seal it
Seal it for Thy courts above

John Wyeth, Robert Robinson
© Words: Public Domain; Music: Public Domain

The Acclamation — BCP p. 145

Celebrant Surely the Lord is coming soon.
People **Amen, Lord Jesus!**

The Collect for Purity — BCP p. 124

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.

The Summary of the Law

Hear what our Lord Jesus Christ says:

You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind. This is the first and great commandment. And the second is like it: You shall love your neighbor as yourself. On these two commandments depend all the Law and the Prophets. *Matthew 22:37-40*

The Trisagion

Holy God,
Holy and Mighty,
Holy Immortal One,
Have mercy upon us.

"Come Thou Long Expected Jesus"

Come Thou long expected Jesus
Born to set Thy people free
From our fears and sins release us
Let us find our rest in Thee
Israel's strength and consolation
Hope of all the earth Thou art
Dear desire of every nation
Joy of every longing heart

Born Thy people to deliver
Born a child and yet a King
Born to reign in us forever
Now Thy gracious Kingdom bring
By Thine own eternal Spirit
Rule in all our hearts alone
By Thine all sufficient merit
Raise us to Thy glorious throne

© Words: Public Domain; Music: Public Domain

The Collect of the Day

Celebrant The Lord be with you.
People **And with your spirit.**
Celebrant Let us pray.

Almighty God, give us grace to cast away the works of darkness, and put on the armor of light, ow in the time of this mortal life in which your Son Jesus Christ came to visit us in great humility; that in the last day, when he shall come again in his glorious majesty to judge both the living and the dead, we may rise to the life immortal; through him who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen**.

The Lesson Isaiah 64:1-9 ESV

1 Oh that you would rend the heavens and come down,
that the mountains might quake at your presence
—
2 as when fire kindles brushwood
and the fire causes water to boil—
to make your name known to your adversaries,
and that the nations might tremble at your
presence!
3 When you did awesome things that we did not
look for,
you came down, the mountains quaked at your
presence.
4 From of old no one has heard
or perceived by the ear,
no eye has seen a God besides you,
who acts for those who wait for him.
5 You meet him who joyfully works righteousness,
those who remember you in your ways.
Behold, you were angry, and we sinned;
in our sins we have been a long time, and shall we be
saved?
6 We have all become like one who is unclean,
and all our righteous deeds are like a polluted garment.
We all fade like a leaf,
and our iniquities, like the wind, take us away.
7 There is no one who calls upon your name,
who rouses himself to take hold of you;
for you have hidden your face from us,
and have made us melt in the hand of our iniquities.
8 But now, O Lord, you are our Father;
we are the clay, and you are our potter;
we are all the work of your hand.
9 Be not so terribly angry, O Lord,
and remember not iniquity forever.
Behold, please look, we are all your people.

Reader The Word of the Lord.
People **Thanks be to God.**

THE PSALM PSALM 80:1-7 *(BCP)*

1 Hear, O Shepherd of Israel, you that lead Joseph like a sheep; *
show yourself also, you that sit upon the cherubim.
2 Before Ephraim, Benjamin, and Manasseh, *
stir up your strength and come to help us.
3 Restore us again, O God; *
show the light of your countenance, and we shall be whole.
4 O Lord God of hosts, *
how long will you be angry with your people that pray?
5 You feed them with the bread of tears *
and give them plenteous tears to drink.
6 You have made us the derision of our neighbors, *
and our enemies laugh us to scorn.
7 Restore us again, O God of hosts; *
show the light of your countenance, and we shall be whole.

Children ages 4k to 5th grade are invited to join the cross in the center aisle for the reading of the Gospel. After the reading, they may follow the cross to Children's Chapel. Children return during the Announcements.

THE GOSPEL HYMN "O COME, O COME, EMMANUEL"

O come O come Emmanuel
And ransom captive Israel
That mourns in lonely exile here
Until the Son of God appear.

Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel
shall come to thee, O Israel

THE HOLY GOSPEL JOHN 1:1-13 ESV

Celebrant The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew.
People **Glory to you, Lord Christ.**

1 In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. 2 He was in the beginning with God. 3 All things were made through him, and without him was not any thing made that was made. 4 In him was life, and the life was the light of men. 5 The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it. 6 There was a man sent from God, whose name was John. 7 He came as a witness, to bear witness about the light, that all might believe through him. 8 He was not the light, but came to bear witness about the light. 9 The true light, which gives light to everyone, was coming into the world. 10 He was in the world, and the world was made through him, yet the world did not know him. 11 He came to his own, and his own people[c] did not receive him. 12 But to all who did receive him, who believed in his name, he gave the right to become children of God, 13 who were born, not of blood nor of the will of the flesh nor of the will of man, but of God.

Celebrant The Gospel of the Lord.
People **Praise to you, Lord Christ.**

"O Come, O Come, Emmanuel"

O come, Thou Wisdom from on high,
who orderest all things far and nigh;
to us the path of knowledge show
and cause us in her ways to go

Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel
shall come to thee, O Israel

John Mason Neale | Thomas Helmore
© Words: Public Domain; Music: Public Domain

The Sermon

Quiet Contemplation

The Nicene Creed BCP p. 127

Celebrant Let us confess our faith in the words of the Nicene Creed:

We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, visible and invisible.

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only-begotten 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 from the Holy Spirit and 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, 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 kneel as able. After each bidding, the congregation offers their own short prayers on the theme, silently or aloud. Each concludes:

Leader Lord, in your mercy:
People **Hear our prayer.**

The Celebrant says

Heavenly Father, grant these our prayers for the sake of Jesus Christ, our only Mediator and Advocate, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen**.

THE CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION OF SIN

The Celebrant says

Let us humbly confess our sins to Almighty God.

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 your Son 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 Celebrant stands and says

Almighty God, our heavenly Father, who in his great mercy has promised forgiveness of sins to all those who sincerely repent and with true faith turn to him, have mercy upon you, pardon and deliver you from all your sins, confirm and strengthen you in all goodness, and bring you to everlasting life; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen**.

THE COMFORTABLE WORDS

The Celebrant may then say one or more of the following sentences, first saying

Hear the Word of God to all who truly turn to him.

Come to me, all who labor and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest. *Matthew 11:28*

God so loved the world, that he gave his only-begotten Son,
that whoever believes in him should not perish but have eternal life. *John 3:16*

The saying is trustworthy and deserving of full acceptance,
that Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners. *1 Timothy 1:15*

If anyone sins, we have an advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ the righteous.
He is the propitiation for our sins, and not for ours only, but also
for the sins of the whole world. *1 John 2:1-2*

THE PEACE

Celebrant The peace of the Lord be always with you.
People **And with your spirit.**

The Ministers and People greet one another with the peace of the Lord.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

THE OFFERTORY

Online giving is available at saint-james.org/give

"Reckless Love"

Before I spoke a word You were singing over me
You have been so so good to me
Before I took a breath You breathed Your life in me
You have been so so kind to me

O the overwhelming never-ending reckless Love of God
O it chases me down fights 'til I'm found, leaves the ninety-nine
I couldn't earn it I don't deserve it
Still You give Yourself away
O the overwhelming never-ending reckless Love of God

When I was Your foe still Your love fought for me
You have been so so good to me
When I felt no worth You paid it all for me
You have been so so kind to me

O the overwhelming never-ending reckless Love of God
O it chases me down fights 'til I'm found, leaves the ninety-nine
I couldn't earn it I don't deserve it
Still You give Yourself away
O the overwhelming never-ending reckless Love of God

There's no shadow You won't light up
Mountain You won't climb up
Coming after me
There's no wall You won't kick down
Lie You won't tear down
Coming after me

O the overwhelming never-ending reckless Love of God
O it chases me down fights 'til I'm found, leaves the ninety-nine
I couldn't earn it I don't deserve it
Still You give Yourself away
O the overwhelming never-ending reckless Love of God

Caleb Culver, Cory Asbury, Ran Jackson
© 2017 Cory Asbury Publishing; Richmond Park Publishing; Watershed Publishing Group; Bethel Music Publishing

The 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. Amen.

The Great Thanksgiving BCP p. 132

Celebrant The Lord be with you.
People **And with your spirit.**
Celebrant Lift up your hearts.
People **We lift them up to the Lord.**
Celebrant Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
People **It is right to give him thanks and praise.**

The Celebrant continues

It is right, our duty and our joy, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth….

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:

The Sanctus

Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might. Heaven and earth are full of your glory.
Lord, we sing Your praise: Hosanna in the highest, hosanna in the highest, hosanna in the highest!
Lord, we sing Your praise!

Please kneel as able

Holy and gracious Father: In your infinite love you made us for yourself; and when we had sinned against you and become subject to evil and death, you, in your mercy, sent your only Son Jesus Christ into the world for our salvation. By the Holy Spirit and the Virgin Mary he became flesh and dwelt among us. In obedience to your will, he stretched out his arms upon the Cross and offered himself once for all, that by his suffering and death we might be saved. By his resurrection he broke the bonds of death, trampling Hell and Satan under his feet. As our great high priest, he ascended to your right hand in glory, that we might come with confidence before the throne of grace.

On the night that he was betrayed, our Lord Jesus Christ took bread; and when he had given thanks, he broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying, "Take, eat; this is my Body, which is given for you: Do this in remembrance of me."

Likewise, after supper, Jesus took the cup, and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, saying, "Drink this, all of you; for 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 in remembrance of me."

Therefore we proclaim the mystery of faith:

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

We celebrate the memorial of our redemption, O Father, in this sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving, and we offer you these gifts.

Sanctify them by your Word and Holy Spirit to be for your people the Body and Blood of your Son Jesus Christ. Sanctify us also, that we may worthily receive this holy Sacrament, and be made one body with him, that he may dwell in us and we in him. In the fullness of time, put all things in subjection under your Christ, and bring us with all your saints into the joy of your heavenly kingdom, where we shall see our Lord face to face.

All this we ask through your Son Jesus Christ: 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**.

THE LORD'S PRAYER BCP P. 134

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 AGNUS DEI BCP P. 119

Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world;
have mercy on us.
Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world;
have mercy on us.
Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world;
grant us your peace.

THE MINISTRATION OF COMMUNION

All baptized Christians in good standing in their home churches are welcome to receive Communion.
Prayer teams, positioned near the front on either side of the room, are available to pray with you during communion or after the service.

"OF THE FATHER'S LOVE BEGOTTEN"

Of the Father's love begotten
Ere the world began to be
He is Alpha and Omega
He the source the ending He
Of the things that are that have been
And that future years shall see
Evermore and evermore

O that birth forever blessed
When the Virgin full of grace
By the Holy Ghost conceiving
Bore the Savior of our race
And the Babe the world's Redeemer
First revealed His sacred face
Evermore and evermore

Christ to Thee with God the Father
And O Holy Ghost to Thee
Hymn and chant and high thanksgiving
And unwearied praises be
Honor glory and dominion and eternal victory
Evermore and evermore
Hallelujah

Aurelius Clemens Prudentius, Henry Williams Baker, John Mason Neale
© Words: Public Domain; Music: Public Domain

"HOW GREAT IS OUR GOD"

The splendor of the King
Clothed in majesty
Let all the earth rejoice
All the earth rejoice
He wraps Himself in light
And darkness tries to hide
And trembles at His voice
And trembles at His voice

How great is our God
Sing with me
How great is our God
And all will see how great
How great is our God

And age to age He stands
And time is in His hands
Beginning and the End
Beginning and the End
The Godhead three in one
Father Spirit Son
The Lion and the Lamb
The Lion and the Lamb

Name above all names
Worthy of all praise
My heart will sing
How great is our God

Chris Tomlin, Ed Cash, Jesse Reeves
© 2004 Rising Springs Music; Vamos Publishing; worshiptogether.com songs; Wondrously Made Songs

QUIET CONTEMPLATION

THE POST COMMUNION PRAYER BCP P. 137

Heavenly Father, We thank you for feeding us with the spiritual food of the most precious Body and Blood of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ; and for assuring us in these holy mysteries that we are living members of the body of your Son, and heirs of your eternal Kingdom. And now, Father, send us out to do the work you have given us to do, to love and serve you as faithful witnesses of Christ our Lord. To him, to you, and to the Holy Spirit, be honor and glory, now and for ever. Amen.

THE BLESSING

THE RECESSIONAL "CROWN HIM MANY CROWNS"

Crown Him the Lord of love
Behold His hands and side
Rich wounds yet visible above
In beauty glorified
No angel in the sky
Can fully bear that sight
But downward bends each burning eye
At mysteries so bright

Crown Him the Lord of life
Who triumphed o'er the grave
And rose victorious in the strife
For those He came to save
His glories now we sing
Who died and rose on high
Who died eternal life to bring
And lives that death may die

Crown Him with many crowns
The Lamb upon His throne
Hark how the heavenly anthem drowns
All music but its own
Awake my soul and sing
Of Him who died for thee
And hail Him as thy matchless King
Through all eternity

George Job Elvey, Godfrey Thring, Matthew Bridges
© Words: Public Domain; Music: Public Domain

THE DISMISSAL

Celebrant Let us bless the Lord. Alleluia, alleluia.
People **Thanks be to God. Alleluia, alleluia!**

Prayer teams are available to pray with you and are positioned in the front of the room on the right side.

Announcements

See full details and more at saint-james.org

- **Advent Wreath Making- This Sunday: 4:00- 6:00pm.** Make a wreath to take home for the Advent season. Wreath forms, candles, and hot chocolate provided. Please bring greenery and your best cookies to share! Register on our website or Contact Claire Buxton at CBuxton@saint-james.org.
- **Arts & Faith Group- December 7: 6:00pm.** Creatives are invited to share and discuss various mediums of art they may be exploring. Meet in the Family Den (located near front entrance of the Sanctuary) Contact Jane Read at Jane@billread.me.
- **Christmas Pageant and Reception- December 20: 4:00pm** with live animals and carols. Contact Sam English at SEnglish@Saint-James.org if you would like your child to participate. Soup & sourdough will be served in the Parish Hall directly afterwards. Contact Claire Buxton at CBuxton@Saint-James.org if you would like to sign up to bring soup and/or sourdough.
- **Christmas Eve Services: 4:00pm and 10:00pm**

Prayer

- **For Healing:** David Agee, Lois Bouknight, Amarylis Cranwell, Jack Cranwell, Ernie Droze, Art Field, Rebecca Flood, Mary Forbes, Carl Green, Erin Stockwell Grimm, Tim Harrelson, George Haynsworth, Heckmann Family, Bill Huff, Matthew Lehman, Debi Myers, Rob Pierce, Bill Porcher, Michael Rutherford, Jon Scot, Carol Shue, Jeff Switzer, Sondra Switzer, Charles Watts, Vivian Watts, Hanna Debruhl, Robert Doscher, Nicole Henn, Sharon Willis
- **For Protection:** Aiden Burgess, Bradon Malasky, Brittany Swafford, Trey Thompson, Thomas Tilson, Rylea Swafford
- **Request Prayer:** You are invited to request prayer via the **prayer box** in the narthex. It is checked regularly by clergy. Daughters of the Holy Cross members also pray for our parish daily and will pray for anyone who would like to be added to their prayer list. All prayers are kept confidential.

Today's Servers

Acolyte Team: Charlie Cope, Edmund Cope, Aubrie Nichols, Aurelia Nichols, Lila Smithson, Eliza Cate Volousky, Lenox Williams
Children's Chapel: Debbie Morillo
Nursery: Maureen Lehman, Sue Morrison
Audio Visual: Bill Read
Flower Guild: Teena Martindale
Altar Guild: Larry Owens, Francie Egleston
Lay Readers: Melah Dockendorf, Bill Edlund
Greeters: David & Francie Egleston, Wayne & Rosie Colson
Prayer Team: Maxine Swafford, Paula Huff, Carol Galvan, Jackie Miller

email@saint-james.org
www.saint-james.org

Office Hours:
Mon- Thurs: 9-3, Fri: 9-1
843.795.1623

PO Box 14456
Charleston, SC 29422