



St. James Parish

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The Rev. George C. Roberts, Rector

The Rev. Douglas Engwall, *Deacon*
Blake Hansen, *Director of Music*

Susan Deming, *Parish Administrator*
Anthony Nauss, *Sexton*
Laura Vacca, *Nursery Supervisor*

OFFICER

Kim Faubert & Anna Whilby, *Wardens*
EJ Ososki, *Treasurer*

Carol Kirkwood, *Clerk*
Jerry Hess, *Ass't Treasurer*

VESTRY

2023
Kim Faubert
Maina Rice
Anna Whilby

2024
Kathy Bullard
Bonnie Sudell
Bob Sudell

2025
Mary Lansing
Skip Mason
Kim Pereira

The Transfiguration

August 5, 2023, 9:30 a.m.

Morning Prayer

Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

The Lord is in his holy temple; let all the earth keep silence before him.

Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

Silence may be kept.

Officiant and People together, all kneeling

**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 Officiant stands and says

Almighty God have mercy on us, forgive us all your sins through our Lord Jesus Christ, strengthen us in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep us in eternal life. Amen.

HYMN

When morning gilds the skies

Hymnal 427

The Invitatory and Psalter (*all standing*)

Officiant Lord, open our lips.

People **And our mouth shall proclaim your praise.**

Officiant and People

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

Officiant The Lord is in his holy temple; let all the earth keep silence before him.

Officiant and people say the Jubilate (Psalm 100)

**Be joyful in the Lord, all you lands; *
serve the Lord with gladness
and come before his presence with a song.
Know this: The Lord himself is God; *
he himself has made us, and we are his;
we are his people and the sheep of his pasture.
Enter his gates with thanksgiving;
go into his courts with praise; *
give thanks to him and call upon his Name.**

**For the Lord is good;
his mercy is everlasting; *
and his faithfulness endures from age to age.**

Psalm 71:1–6

In you, O Lord, have I taken refuge; *
let me never be ashamed.

In your righteousness, deliver me and set me free; *
incline your ear to me and save me.

Be my strong rock, a castle to keep me safe; *
you are my crag and my stronghold.

Deliver me, my God, from the hand of the wicked, *
from the clutches of the evildoer and the oppressor.

For you are my hope, O Lord God, *
my confidence since I was young.

I have been sustained by you ever since I was born;
from my mother's womb you have been my strength; *
my praise shall be always of you.

The people may be seated.

The Lessons

Exodus 34:29–35

Moses came down from Mount Sinai. As he came down from the mountain with the two tablets of the covenant in his hand, Moses did not know that the skin of his face shone because he had been talking with God. When Aaron and all the Israelites saw Moses, the skin of his face was shining, and they were afraid to come near him. But Moses called to them; and Aaron and all the leaders of the congregation returned to him, and Moses spoke with them. Afterward all the Israelites came near, and he gave them in commandment all that the Lord had spoken with him on Mount Sinai. When Moses had finished speaking with them, he put a veil on his face; but whenever Moses went in before the Lord to speak with him, he would take the veil off, until he came out; and when he came out, and told the Israelites what he had been commanded, the Israelites would see the face of Moses, that the skin of his face was shining; and Moses would put the veil on his face again, until he went in to speak with him.

Psalm 99

The Lord is King; let the people tremble; *
he is enthroned upon the cherubim; let the earth shake.

The Lord is great in Zion; *
he is high above all peoples.

Let them confess his Name, which is great and awesome; *
he is the Holy One.

"O mighty King, lover of justice, you have established equity; *
you have executed justice and righteousness in Jacob."

Proclaim the greatness of the Lord our God and fall down before his footstool; *
he is the Holy One.

Moses and Aaron among his priests, and Samuel among those who call upon his Name, *
they called upon the Lord, and he answered them.

He spoke to them out of the pillar of cloud; *
they kept his testimonies and the decree that he gave them.

O Lord our God, you answered them indeed; *
you were a God who forgave them, yet punished them for their evil deeds.

Proclaim the greatness of the Lord our God and worship him upon his holy hill; *
for the Lord our God is the Holy One.

2 Peter 1:13–21

I think it right, as long as I am in this body, to refresh your memory, since I know that my death will come soon, as indeed our Lord Jesus Christ has made clear to me. And I will make every effort so that after my departure you may be able at any time to recall these things.

For we did not follow cleverly devised myths when we made known to you the power and coming of our Lord Jesus Christ, but we had been eyewitnesses of his majesty. For he received honor and glory from God the Father when that voice was conveyed to him by the Majestic Glory, saying, “This is my Son, my Beloved, with whom I am well pleased.” We ourselves heard this voice come from heaven, while we were with him on the holy mountain.

So we have the prophetic message more fully confirmed. You will do well to be attentive to this as to a lamp shining in a dark place, until the day dawns and the morning star rises in your hearts. First of all you must understand this, that no prophecy of scripture is a matter of one's own interpretation, because no prophecy ever came by human will, but men and women moved by the Holy Spirit spoke from God.

Canticle 21 (*led by Officiant, in unison*)

You are God: we praise you;

You are the Lord: we acclaim you;

You are the eternal Father:

All creation worships you.

To you all angels, all the powers of heaven,

Cherubim and Seraphim, sing in endless praise:

**Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,
heaven and earth are full of your glory.**

The glorious company of apostles praise you.

The noble fellowship of prophets praise you.

The white-robed army of martyrs praise you.

Throughout the world the holy Church acclaims you;

**Father, of majesty unbounded,
your true and only Son, worthy of all worship,
and the Holy Spirit, advocate and guide.**

You, Christ, are the king of glory,

the eternal Son of the Father.

When you became man to set us free

you did not shun the Virgin's womb.

You overcame the sting of death

and opened the kingdom of heaven to all believers.

**You are seated at God's right hand in glory.
We believe that you will come and be our judge.
Come then, Lord, and help your people,
bought with the price of your own blood,
and bring us with your saints to glory everlasting.**

HYMN

Christ upon the mountain peak (vv. 1-2)

Hymnal 129

A reading from the Gospel of Luke 9:28–36

Jesus took with him Peter and John and James, and went up on the mountain to pray. And while he was praying, the appearance of his face changed, and his clothes became dazzling white. Suddenly they saw two men, Moses and Elijah, talking to him. They appeared in glory and were speaking of his departure, which he was about to accomplish at Jerusalem. Now Peter and his companions were weighed down with sleep; but since they had stayed awake, they saw his glory and the two men who stood with him. Just as they were leaving him, Peter said to Jesus, "Master, it is good for us to be here; let us make three dwellings, one for you, one for Moses, and one for Elijah" —not knowing what he said. While he was saying this, a cloud came and overshadowed them; and they were terrified as they entered the cloud. Then from the cloud came a voice that said, "This is my Son, my Chosen; listen to him!" When the voice had spoken, Jesus was found alone. And they kept silent and in those days told no one any of the things they had seen.

HYMN

Christ upon the mountain peak (vv. 3-4)

Hymnal 129

Homily

Mr. Stephen Hard

The Apostles' Creed (*in unison, all standing*)

**I believe in God, the Father almighty,
creator of heaven and earth.
I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord,
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,
born of the Virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died, and was buried;
he descended to the dead.
On the third day he rose again;
he ascended into heaven,
he is seated at the right hand of the Father,
and he will come again to judge the living and the dead.
I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy catholic Church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting. Amen.**

The Prayers

The people stand or kneel

Officiant The Lord be with you.

People **And also with you.**

Officiant Let us pray.

Officiant and People

**Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your Name,
your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven.
Give us today our daily bread.
Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us.
Save us from the time of trial, and deliver us from evil.
For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours,
now and forever. Amen.**

Suffrage A

V. Show us your mercy, O Lord;

R. **And grant us your salvation.**

V. Clothe your ministers with righteousness;

R. **Let your people sing with joy.**

V. Give peace, O Lord, in all the world;

R. **For only in you can we live in safety.**

V. Lord, keep this nation under your care;

R. **And guide us in the way of justice and truth.**

V. Let your way be known upon earth;

R. **Your saving health among all nations.**

V. Let not the needy, O Lord, be forgotten;

R. **Nor the hope of the poor be taken away.**

V. Create in us clean hearts, O God;

R. **And sustain us with your Holy Spirit.**

Collect of the Day (*in unison*)

**O God, who on the holy mount revealed to chosen witnesses your well-beloved Son,
wonderfully transfigured, in raiment white and glistening: Mercifully grant that we, being
delivered from the disquietude of this world, may by faith behold the King in his beauty;
who with you, O Father, and you, O Holy Spirit, lives and reigns, one God, for ever and
ever. Amen.**

A Collect for Sundays

O God, you make us glad with the weekly remembrance of the glorious resurrection of your Son our Lord: Give us this day such blessing through our worship of you, that the week to come may be spent in your favor; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

A Collect for Peace

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

A Collect for Grace

Lord God, almighty and everlasting Father, you have brought us in safety to this new day: Preserve us with your mighty power, that we may not fall into sin, nor be overcome by adversity; and in all we do, direct us to the fulfilling of our purpose; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

O God, you have made of one blood all the peoples of the earth, and sent your blessed Son to preach peace to those who are far off and to those who are near: Grant that people everywhere may seek after you and find you; bring the nations into your fold; pour out your Spirit upon all flesh; and hasten the coming of your kingdom; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

The Prayers of the People

God of consuming fire, stoke in us the purifying flame of Your holiness that we might share that fire with our families, communities, and the wide world. As we burn with the righteous blessing of Jesus Christ, give us guidance and wisdom, as we pray, responding, Lord, hear our prayer.

For the church that She might model the courageous action of Jesus in Luke today, speaking Your Gospel truth and offering Your powerful, healing love, even when some “religious” people and “leaders” of the Church tell us we are wrong. We pray, **Lord, hear our prayer.**

For all who would call themselves leaders – political, institutional, educational, communal, or tribal – to catch the all-consuming fire of Your truth and wisdom in Christ and use that reality to inform their choices, work, and actions. We pray, **Lord, hear our prayer.**

For all students, teachers, administrators, school nurses, social workers, and parents, as children and young adults prepare to begin another school year. May they be guided with Your strength, wisdom, and patience for all that they may face this year. We pray, **Lord, hear our prayer.**

For all who have asked for our prayers, especially Dr. (Rusty) Camp, Fr. Ben Brockman, Luisa, Teresa, baby Wilder, Glenn, Dick, Steve, Veronica Solomon, Krystal, Dante, Tom, Kevin, Ginny Holian, Alan, William, Teri, Michael, Henry, Marlene, and Kim, and all others for whom we pray, silently or aloud [*pause here*] ... We pray, **Lord, hear our prayer.**

For all who have died, for all who mourn, and anyone we now name, silently or aloud [*pause here*] ... We pray, **Lord, hear our prayer.**

Officiant: All-powerful God, God of a fire that would consume us in its holy blaze of hope, bring us to a place of greater unity in the world, together in unfettered peace, and make us more perfectly the disciple of Your never-failing light, Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Offertory Anthem

Be Thou My Vision
Julie Rumbold, *soloist*

Bob Chilcott

The General Thanksgiving

Officiant and People

**Almighty God, Father of all mercies,
we your unworthy servants give you humble thanks
for all your goodness and loving-kindness
to us and to all whom you have made.
We bless you for our creation, preservation,
and all the blessings of this life;
but above all for your immeasurable love
in the redemption of the world by our Lord Jesus Christ;
for the means of grace, and for the hope of glory.
And, we pray, give us such an awareness of your mercies,
that with truly thankful hearts we may show forth your praise,
not only with our lips, but in our lives,
by giving up ourselves to your service,
and by walking before you
in holiness and righteousness all our days;
through Jesus Christ our Lord,
to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit,
be honor and glory throughout all ages. Amen.**

A Prayer of St. Chrysostom

Almighty God, you have given us grace at this time with one accord to make our common supplication to you; and you have promised through your well-beloved Son that when two or three are gathered together in his Name you will be in the midst of them: Fulfill now, O Lord, our desires and petitions as may be best for us; granting us in this world knowledge of your truth, and in the age to come life everlasting. **Amen.**

HYMN

Christ is the world's true light

Hymnal 542

Let us bless the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

May the God of hope fill us with all joy and peace in believing through the power of the Holy Spirit.

Amen.

Serving this week

Altar Guild	Barbara Hess & Elizabeth McBride
Lector	Elizabeth McBride
Usher	Evan Lapointe
Junior Usher	Jake Lapointe
Lemonade on the Lawn Host	Janet LaPierre-Green
Care Ministry/Altar flower delivery	Dona Waugh

Today's altar flowers are given in thanksgiving
for family, friends & all the blessings I have received
since joining the St. James community.

~ Janet LaPierre-Green



Our thanks to Stephen Hard for leading Morning Prayer with us today. Stephen is Senior Warden and worship leader at St. Mark's, New Britain. His background includes both a Master of Divinity and another in Psychology. He has an extensive background in arts administration and is adjunct faculty with the Department of Psychology at Central Connecticut State University. Most recently he joined the St. James mission trip to the DR.

Join us online for worship this morning! Join us at 9:30 a.m. on Facebook Live (you do NOT need to have a Facebook account) – <https://bit.ly/StJamesLive>.

Sunday Bible Study: We've just begun our Bible Study of the Book of Daniel. Many of us remember from childhood the story of Daniel being cast into the "den of lions" and surviving. Yet Daniel is a book that has much to speak to us in our own day. Full of visions and the interpreting of dreams, Daniel also shows what it means to be faithful to God, even when the world seems to align against you. Set against the backdrop of the exile in Babylon, the Book of Daniel is a story of courage and faith, empire, and God's power. Join us, using Todd Wilson's study guide, as we explore the mysteries of the Old Testament Book of Daniel. Please note that during the summer, the Bible Study group meets at 11:30 a.m. after 9:30 service and all gatherings are via Zoom – *Meeting ID:* 815 4332 7235; *Passcode:* 982548.



Nursery supervisor needed! After many years of faithful, kind, and generous service supervising our nursery, loving, and caring for our littlest ones, Laura Vacca is stepping away from this ministry in the fall. Laura is also a member of St. James, so she is not leaving us, merely looking for new ways to be involved. So, we are seeking a new person to supervise our nursery and to look after our little ones there. If you are interested (it is possible to attend the 8 am service and stay to serve in the nursery, if anyone who attends at 8 is interested) or, perhaps, know someone who may be, please let Fr. George know. We pay \$25 an hour and it is usually 1.5–2 hours on a Sunday with the possibility of helping on special occasions as well, like during the Annual Meeting. If you have any interest or know someone who may, please let Fr. George know. We hope to hear from you soon!



Education for Ministry group now registering for 2023–24: EfM

(*Education for Ministry*) is a program for lay people that covers Old and New Testaments, church history and theology in a small setting. Discussions focus on weekly assignments and the personal faith and life experiences of group members as we share what we have learned and reflect on how God has been known to his people through history and in our own lives. Every baptized person is called to ministry. For thousands of people, completing the EfM program has given them the confidence to claim and express their ministry at their workplace or school, in their community, in volunteer work, at home with family and friends, and at their local church. Wherever they are, whomever they're with, at whatever place in life they're at right now. Could this be for you? **A new group is forming in September for the 2023-24 academic year. The group meets on Monday nights at St. James's Church in West Hartford Center.** For more information, please contact Ron Ward at 860 463 8057 or rtwtmr@comcast.net

Summer Worship Schedule: We hold a single Sunday worship service at 9:30 a.m.

throughout the summer. This service is open to in-person attendance and available online as well. Nursery childcare will be available during the summer. Weekday services continue: Morning Prayer on Monday at 9:30 a.m., Evening Prayer on Wednesday at 5 p.m., and Compline on Friday at 7:30 p.m. Friday's Compline is Facebook livestreamed only on St. James Parish's Facebook page: <https://bit.ly/StJamesLive>.



The lectionary readings for next Sunday, August 13th are:

Genesis 37:1–4, 12–28; Psalm 105:1–6, 16–22, 45b; Romans 10:5–15; Matthew 14:22–33

GIFTS OF LOVE provides a backpack of food for clients' families for the weekend, when school lunches are not available, including throughout the summer. Outreach is continuing to supply them with peanut butter & jelly year-round. Peanut butter & jelly must be in *plastic* jars as they won't send glass jars home in children's backpacks. Please, bring in PB & J, leaving the jars in the labeled basket at the top of the parish hall stairs to the church. If you can pick up small containers of fruit or applesauce, those would be great additions to the backpacks!

MISSION STATEMENT

*We welcome all to worship and nurture spiritual growth through faith, grace and reason.
We reach out to those in need as a caring community &
live Christ's teaching to love one another.*

COMMUNION IN THIS CHURCH

All baptized Christians are welcome at the Lord's table in the Episcopal Church. If you are visiting, and have received Communion in your own parish, then please share in the sacrament with our parish. Gluten-free hosts are available. If you are not baptized, you are welcome to ask for a blessing.

GUESTS

A cordial welcome to St. James Parish. Please fill out a Welcome Card in the narthex and place it in the collection box or hand it to an usher. We invite you to sign our guest book as you leave the church.

THE CHURCH IS ALWAYS OPEN FOR PRAYER AND MEDITATION

The Parish Office is open Monday–Thursday, 9 am–2 pm.
Our Summer Sunday worship service is held at 9:30 am.