



ST JAMES
IN THE HILLS

EPISCOPAL CHURCH

ESTABLISHED 1961



SECOND SUNDAY AFTER CHRISTMAS

SUNDAY SERVICE 9:30AM
JANUARY 4TH, 2026

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

PROCESSIONAL HYMN

We three kings of Orient are **Hymnal 128**

The Word of God

OPENING SENTENCE AND PRAYER

BCP 355

Priest: Blessed be God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

People: And blessed be his kingdom, now and for ever. **Amen.**

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.***

GLORIA (*spoken*)

**Glory to God in the highest,
and peace to his 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.**

COLLECT OF THE DAY

Priest: The Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

Priest: Let us pray.

Silence is kept.

O God, who wonderfully created, and yet more wonderfully restored, the dignity of human nature: Grant that we may share the divine life of him who humbled himself to share our humanity, your Son Jesus Christ; who lives and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

THE OLD TESTAMENT

JEREMIAH 31:7-14

A Reading from the prophet Jeremiah.

Thus says the LORD:

Sing aloud with gladness for Jacob,
and raise shouts for the chief of the nations;
proclaim, give praise, and say,
"Save, O LORD, your people,
the remnant of Israel."

See, I am going to bring them from the land of the north,
and gather them from the farthest parts of the earth,
among them the blind and the lame, those with child and
those in labor, together;
a great company, they shall return here.

With weeping they shall come,
and with consolations I will lead them back,

I will let them walk by brooks of water,
in a straight path in which they shall not stumble;
for I have become a father to Israel,
and Ephraim is my firstborn.

Hear the word of the LORD, O nations,
and declare it in the coastlands far away;
say, "He who scattered Israel will gather him,
and will keep him as a shepherd a flock."

For the LORD has ransomed Jacob,
and has redeemed him from hands too strong for him.

They shall come and sing aloud on the height of Zion,
and they shall be radiant over the goodness of the LORD,
over the grain, the wine, and the oil,
and over the young of the flock and the herd;
their life shall become like a watered garden,
and they shall never languish again.

Then shall the young women rejoice in the dance,
and the young men and the old shall be merry.

I will turn their mourning into joy,
I will comfort them, and give them gladness for sorrow.

I will give the priests their fill of fatness,
and my people shall be satisfied with my bounty,

says the LORD.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

THE PSALM (*read responsively*)

PSALM 84

1 How dear to me is your dwelling, O LORD of hosts! *

My soul has a desire and longing for the courts of the LORD;
my heart and my flesh rejoice in the living God.

2 The sparrow has found her a house

and the swallow a nest where she may lay her young; *
by the side of your altars, O LORD of hosts,
my King and my God.

3 Happy are they who dwell in your house! *

they will always be praising you.

4 Happy are the people whose strength is in you! *

whose hearts are set on the pilgrims' way.

5 Those who go through the desolate valley will find it a place of springs, *

for the early rains have covered it with pools of water.

6 They will climb from height to height, *

and the God of gods will reveal himself in Zion.

7 LORD God of hosts, hear my prayer; *

hearken, O God of Jacob.

8 Behold our defender, O God; *

and look upon the face of your Anointed.

[9 For one day in your courts is better than a thousand in my own room, *

and to stand at the threshold of the house of my God
than to dwell in the tents of the wicked.

10 For the LORD God is both sun and shield; *

he will give grace and glory;

11 No good thing will the LORD withhold *

from those who walk with integrity.

12 O LORD of hosts, *

happy are they who put their trust in you!

*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

EPHESIANS 1:3-6, 15-19a

A Reading from Paul's letter to the Ephesians.

Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us in Christ with every spiritual blessing in the heavenly places, just as he chose us in Christ before the founda-

tion of the world to be holy and blameless before him in love. He destined us for adoption as his children through Jesus Christ, according to the good pleasure of his will, to the praise of his glorious grace that he freely bestowed on us in the Beloved.

I have heard of your faith in the Lord Jesus and your love toward all the saints, and for this reason I do not cease to give thanks for you as I remember you in my prayers. I pray that the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory, may give you a spirit of wisdom and revelation as you come to know him, so that, with the eyes of your heart enlightened, you may know what is the hope to which he has called you, what are the riches of his glorious inheritance among the saints, and what is the immeasurable greatness of his power for us who believe.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

GRADUAL HYMN

As with gladness men of old (verse 1 & 2) Hymnal 119

THE HOLY GOSPEL

MATTHEW 2:1-12

The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew.

Glory to you, Lord Christ.

In the time of King Herod, after Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judea, wise men from the East came to Jerusalem, asking, "Where is the child who has been born king of the Jews? For we observed his star at its rising, and have come to pay him homage." When King Herod heard this, he was frightened, and all Jerusalem with him; and calling together all the chief priests and scribes of the people, he inquired of them where the Messiah was to be born. They told him, "In Bethlehem of Judea; for so it has been written by the prophet:

'And you, Bethlehem, in the land of Judah,
are by no means least among the rulers of Judah;
for from you shall come a ruler
who is to shepherd my people Israel.'"

Then Herod secretly called for the wise men and learned from them the exact time when the star had appeared. Then he sent them to Bethlehem, saying, "Go and search diligently for the child; and when you have found him, bring me word so that I may also go and pay him homage." When they had heard the king, they set out; and there, ahead of them, went the star that they had seen at its rising, until it stopped over the place where the child was. When they saw that the star had stopped, they were overwhelmed with joy. On entering the house, they saw the child with Mary his mother; and they knelt down and paid him homage. Then, opening their treasure chests, they offered him gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh. And having been warned in a dream not to return to Herod, they left for their own country by another road.

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, Lord Christ.

GRADUAL HYMN

As with gladness men of old (verse 3 & 4) Hymnal 119

CHILDREN'S DIALOG

THE SERMON

Silence is kept.

Rev. David Potter

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.

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

Intercessor: Father, we pray for your holy catholic Church;

People: That we all may be one.

Intercessor: Grant that every member of the Church may truly and humbly serve you;

People: That your Name may be glorified by all people.

Intercessor: We pray for all bishops, priests and deacons; especially Sarah of Canterbury, our Presiding Bishop Sean Rowe, our Bishop Peter Eaton, and our priest Reverend David; In the Anglican Cycle of Prayer, we pray for The Church of the Province of Central Africa. In the Diocesan Cycle of Prayer, we pray for the clergy and people of The Bishop's staff.

People: That they may be faithful ministers of your Word and Sacraments.

Intercessor: We pray for all who govern and hold authority in the nations of the world;

People: That there may be justice and peace on the earth.

Intercessor: Protect all innocent lives at risk across the Middle East, in Sudan, and bring peace in Israel and Palestine, peace in the Ukraine, and to all affected by gun violence, especially in Bondi Beach, Australia;

People: That a spirit of respect and reconciliation may grow.

Intercessor: Give us grace to do your will in all that we undertake;

People: That our works may find favor in your sight.

Intercessor: For all who are ill, injured, or suffering from despair or anxiety, especially for those on our parish prayer list... and for those who offer skilled, tender care for them;

People: That they may have strength for today and for tomorrow.

Intercessor: For those struggling financially and find their future uncertain;

People: That they may discover resources and support for the days, weeks, and months ahead.

Intercessor: For those celebrating a birthday this week, especially... and those celebrating an anniversary this week, including... and for all those we name silently or aloud;

People: That they may see the blessings of the past and the blessings you provide in the present.

Intercessor: We praise you for your saints who have entered into joy;

People: May we also come to share in your heavenly kingdom.

CONCLUDING PRAYER

Priest: Shepherd of Israel and Light of all Nations, made known in the gifts of those who call to other names and walk on different ways: may unjust powers and the hatred within us be dismayed by your friendship and dethroned by your love; through Jesus Christ, the open arms of grace. **Amen.**

CONFession OF SIN

BCP 359

Priest: Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

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 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.

Priest: Almighty God have mercy on you, forgive you all your sins through our Lord 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

Lully, lullay Hymnal 247

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.*

PRESENTATION OF ALMS & OBLATIONS

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 God 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 gave Jesus Christ, your only Son, to be born for us; who, by the mighty power of the Holy Spirit, was made perfect Man 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 the glory of your Name:

SANCTUS

S 130

Holy, Holy, Holy Lord, God of power and might,

heaven and earth are full of your glory.

Hosanna in the highest.

Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.

Hosanna in the highest.

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 before he died for us, 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."

Therefore, we proclaim the mystery of faith:

Christ has died.

Christ is risen.

Christ will come again.

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 pray,

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.

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

The first Nowell (verses 1, 2, 4, 5) Hymnal 109

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.

LAY EUCHARISTIC VISITOR COMMISSIONING

(if the licensed LEVs are bringing communion to shut-ins, the following is said)

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.

THE BLESSING

Priest: May God, who in the Word made flesh joined heaven to earth and earth to heaven, give you his peace and favor.

People: Amen.

RECESSATIONAL HYMN

What star is this, with beams so bright (verses 1, 3, 5) Hymnal 124

DISMISSAL

Priest: Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

NOTICES

Sisters and brothers in Christ,

We pray that you are well on this the second Sunday after Christmas.

Join us for Fellowship Hour in Feaster Hall provided by Rosemary Saunders, Lorna Smith, & Joan Kennedy. We thank them for their kindness!



BIBLE STUDY: MATTHEW

Join us for the Bible Study of the Gospel according to Matthew, beginning January 8th, Thursdays at 7pm via Zoom. Invite your friends!

2026 OFFERING ENVELOPES

New parishioners who wish to receive personal offering envelopes for the year 2026, please contact the Office and we will designate a numbered envelope box to record a future offering statement. Please take home your box for 2026 available now. Also, please remember to return your pledge card in the offering plate, to the Office, or by mail. This helps the Vestry create a responsible budget.

CHRISTMAS CARD MAILBOX

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

MARK YOUR CALENDARS:

Annual Parish Meeting

Our Annual Parish Meeting will be held on Sunday, January 25th, 2026 following the 9:30am Worship Service in Feaster Hall. Ministry leaders please begin the 2025 Ministry Reports and deliver via email to the Parish Office no later than Friday, January 16th for the Annual Parish Meeting Report Bulletin.



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 by the Church. Please check out the sign-up sheet on the blue bulletin board located outside the Parish Office for upcoming dates. 2026 dates are available now.

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. Please take a copy to share with friends or loved ones.

Are you interested in serving on our Vestry?

Seeking faithful and dedicated members to serve on the Vestry: The Vestry is the elected leadership responsible for the spiritual well-being and temporal affairs of the Parish and contributes to the Church's Mission and Growth. If you feel called to contribute time, talent, and commitment, you are invited to learn more about the responsibilities and rewards from this ministry. For more information or to express interest, please contact the Parish Administrator, with contact information and see our Vestry requirements listed next to the sanctuary doors.

Blessings,
Claudette Crowder-Fowler
Senior Warden



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St James In The Hills



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Members, please include your envelope #
in the memo.

Please Pray for...

Our Anglican Community:

The Church of the Province of Central Africa

Our Diocesan Community:

The Bishop's staff

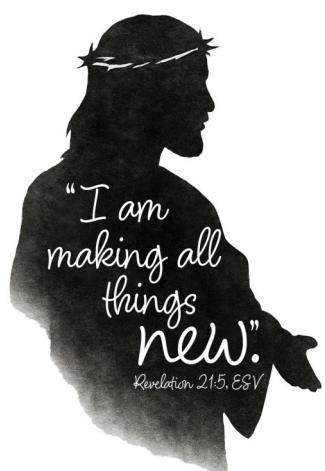
Those in our Parish:

Jan Pushkar, Loretta Steward, Paul Crosta, Sarah Allen, Karron Bacchus, Sonia Fiederick, Riley Rupert-Richendollar, Alan Demascus, Julia Smith, Cheryl-Ann Edwards, Brantley Williams, Andrea Holmes, Douglas Saunders, Frank Bautista, Pat Miller, Nancy Savino, Pat Whipple, Rolando Mantilla, Gwen Evans, Phil Smith, Richard Sutherland, Rick Sanford, Arthur Bilotti.



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

Philmore Smith, Joseph Muñoz



O Lord, let my
New Year's resolution
be to  **follow you more closely**
and to **trust in your loving guidance.**

Joyful **MERRY & BLESSED**



MEETINGS & EVENTS

Sunday, January 4th

Fellowship Hour

Tuesday, January 6th

Epiphany

Wednesdays 10:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.

Rev. David Potter's Office Hours

Thursdays on Zoom - 7:00 p.m.

Bible Study on Matthew

Tuesday, January 13th

Vestry Meeting via Zoom - 7:00 p.m.

Sunday, January 25th

Annual Parish Meeting

START THE new year WITH prayer



REV. DAVID POTTER, PRIEST-IN-RESIDENCE

MEMBERS OF THE VESTRY

CLAUDETTE CROWDER-FOWLER - SENIOR WARDEN

YVONNE PAICELY - JUNIOR WARDEN

ROBERT WHITEHEAD - TREASURER, LORNA SMITH - CLERK TO THE VESTRY,

PAUL CIZEK, CLOVIA RUSH-BARNETT, NICKISHA WILLIAMS

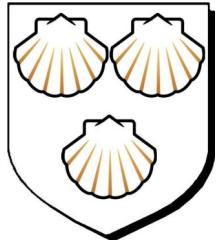
Amanda Groome, our Parish Administrator, is available in our Parish Office Monday through Friday from 10:00 a.m. until 3:00 p.m. and via Office Email:

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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