

ST. JAMES EPISCOPAL CHURCH

December 1, 2024

The First Sunday in Advent

10:15am: Service of Holy Eucharist, Rite II with Holy Baptism

The Word of God

Voluntary

Sonata from *Die Bankelsangerlieder*
Played by the JAD3 Brass Quintet

Daniel Speer
(1636-1707)

Please stand

Processional Hymn

Rejoice! Rejoice believers

Hymn 68

The Greeting

BCP Page 299

Collect of the Day & Lighting of the Advent Wreath

Celebrant: The Lord be with you.

People: **And also with you.**

Celebrant: Let us pray:

Almighty God, give us grace to cast away the works of darkness, and put on the armor of light, now 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.**

Leader: Behold! Listen!

Congregation: **This is important!**

Collect for the Community (*Read together in unison*)

Gracious God, strengthen in us the two values that we hold central as a Christian Community. These values are inspired by Jesus' two great commandments. First, we love God or something greater than ourselves with all our hearts and mind, and second we commit to loving our neighbor as we love ourselves. There is no boundary or condition to our love and commitment to God or to our neighbor, no matter who they may be. All are welcome in this place. Amen.

Please be seated for the readings

The First Reading

Jeremiah 33:14-16

A reading from the Prophet Jeremiah

The days are surely coming, says the Lord, when I will fulfill the promise I made to the house of Israel and the house of Judah. In those days and at that time I will cause a righteous Branch to spring up for David; and he shall execute justice and righteousness in the land. In those days Judah will be saved and Jerusalem will live in safety. And this is the name by which it will be called: "The Lord is our righteousness."

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

The Psalm (*Read responsively by the whole verse*)

Psalm 25: 1-9

- 1 To you, O LORD, I lift up my soul; my God, I put my trust in you; * let me not be humiliated, nor let my enemies triumph over me.
- 2 **Let none who look to you be put to shame; * let the treacherous be disappointed in their schemes.**
- 3 Show me your ways, O LORD, * and teach me your paths.
- 4 **Lead me in your truth and teach me, * for you are the God of my salvation; in you have I trusted all the day long.**
- 5 Remember, O LORD, your compassion and love, * for they are from everlasting.
- 6 **Remember not the sins of my youth and my transgressions; * remember me according to your love and for the sake of your goodness, O LORD.**
- 7 Gracious and upright is the LORD; * therefore he teaches sinners in his way.
- 8 **He guides the humble in doing right * and teaches his way to the lowly.**
- 9 All the paths of the LORD are love and faithfulness * to those who keep his covenant and his testimonies.

The Epistle

1 Thessalonians 3:9-13

A reading from Paul's first letter to the Thessalonians

How can we thank God enough for you in return for all the joy that we feel before our God because of you? Night and day we pray most earnestly that we may see you face to face and restore whatever is lacking in your faith. Now may our God and Father himself and our Lord Jesus direct our way to you. And may the Lord make you increase and abound in love for one another and for all, just as we abound in love for you. And may he so strengthen your hearts in holiness that you may be blameless before our God and Father at the coming of our Lord Jesus with all his saints.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Please Stand

Sequence Hymn

Hark! The glad sound!

Hymn 72

The Holy Gospel

Luke 21:25-36

The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Luke

Glory to you, Lord Christ.

Jesus said, "There will be signs in the sun, the moon, and the stars, and on the earth distress among nations confused by the roaring of the sea and the waves. People will faint from fear and foreboding of what is coming upon the world, for the powers of the heavens will be shaken. Then they will see 'the Son of Man coming in a cloud' with power and great glory. Now when these things begin to take place, stand up and raise your heads, because your redemption is drawing near." Then he told them a parable: "Look at the fig tree and all the trees; as soon as they sprout leaves you can see for yourselves and know that summer is already near. So also, when you see these things taking place, you know that the kingdom of God is near. Truly I tell you, this generation will not pass away until all things have taken place. Heaven and earth will pass away, but my words will not pass away. "Be on guard so that your hearts are not weighed down with dissipation and drunkenness and the worries of this life, and that day catch you unexpectedly, like a trap. For it will come upon all who live on the face of the whole earth. Be alert at all times, praying that you may have the strength to escape all these things that will take place, and to stand before the Son of Man."

The Gospel of the Lord. **Praise to You, Lord Christ.**

Please be seated

The Sermon

The Rev. Audrey Hasselbrook

Voluntary

Herzlich thut mich verlangen
Nun komm, der Heiden Heiland
O Welt, ich muss dich lassen
Played by JAD3 Brass Quintet

*Johann Sebastian Bach
(1685-1750)*

The Baptism

Baptismal Booklet or BCP Page 301

*We welcome into the family of God:
Zola Patreece Colbert*

The Sharing of the Peace

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

Announcements & Words of Welcome

The Holy Communion

Offertory Anthem	Christ is the World's True Light <i>Sung by the Saint James Choir</i>	Walter Kendall Stanton (1891-1978)
Doxology <i>(Please stand)</i>		Hymn 380, Vs. 3
	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.	
Eucharistic Prayer B		BCP Page 367
Sanctus & Benedictus		Hymnal S-127
The Fraction Anthem		Hymnal S-166
A Prayer for Spiritual Communion		
Almighty God, we believe that you are truly present in this Holy Sacrament. Whether we can be at your table or not, we unite ourselves with you and embrace you with all our hearts, our souls, and our minds. Let nothing separate us from you; let us serve you in this life until, by your grace, we come to your glorious kingdom and unending peace. Amen.		
A Moment of Contemplation and Remembrance <i>(Lighting of the candles)</i>		
Communion Hymn	O God, unseen yet ever near	Hymn 332
Communion Motet	Father, Long your people waited <i>Sung by the Saint James Choir</i>	Keaton Lee Scott (b. 1950)
Post-Communion Prayer		BCP Page 365
The Blessing and Benediction		
Recessional Hymn	O come, O come, Emmanuel	Hymn 56, Vs. 1-2
Dismissal		
Voluntary	Silent Night O Come, All Ye Faithful <i>Played by the JAD3 Brass Quintet</i>	

Today's coffee hour is offered by the Bylancik Family in celebration of the birthdays of Mark Bylancik and the late James DiMarco

ST. JAMES EPISCOPAL CHURCH

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OFFICE HOURS: MONDAY—FRIDAY: 10AM—3PM

LINK TO WEBSITE



The Rev. C. Melissa Hall, Rector

The Rev. Audrey Hasselbrook, Assistant Rector

Sean Price, Director of Music Ministries

The Rev. Deacon Jill Singleton, Parish Secretary

Zachary Zembower, Videographer

Stephen Sutton, Building & Grounds

The Rev. Dr. Walter Lewis, Assisting Priest

Martha Boughner, Verger

Bettylou O'Dell, Business Manager

Cathlyn Robinson, MSN, RN, Parish Nurse

Bruce Tomo, Building & Grounds

The St. James Vestry

Michael Porcelli (Senior Warden)

John Rollo (Treasurer)

Martha Boughner

Kerri McMahon

Joanne Torrasi

Karen Mingo-Campbell

Romesh Sukhdeo

Angela Bylancik (Junior Warden)

Susan Cancelosi (Assistant Treasurer)

Tara Lewis

Phil Delp

Richard Schmermund

Enver Acevedo

Angela Pagliaro

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- * **Prayer Requests:** Call or e-mail Rev. Audrey with prayer requests.
- * **Church Office Hours:** We are open from 10am–3pm Monday–Friday
- * **Holiday Brass Concert:** Please join us TONIGHT at 7pm for our annual holiday tradition of hosting the John J. Cali School of Music at Montclair State University's brass department in a spirited program of music for brass. Free admission and all are welcome!
- * **St. James Tree Lighting and Messiah-Sing- Tuesday, Dec. 3 from 5 to 7 p.m.** The Messiah Sing follows after the tree lighting beginning at 7:30 p.m. in the church.
- * **Advent Fair - NEXT Sunday, Dec. 8** in the Parish Hall following the 10:15 a.m. service. Come, work on a craft to welcome the season. Advent Wreath candles are available for your home wreath.
- * **Coat Drive:** Our annual coat drive is in full swing; please bring clean and lightly used/new coats to the church.
- * **St. James Preschool Enrollment:** Call Bettylou O'Dell, registrar at (973) 744-0105. Enrollment for 2025/2026 begins December 1st. Tell your neighbors; spaces fill up quickly. We continue to accept enrollments for 2024/2025.
- * **Diocesan Ministry Opportunities:** Our Bishop has identified 7 proactive in ministry areas for our Diocese: (1) Creation-Care/Climate Work, (2) Supporting Immigrants/Refugees/Asylum-Seekers, (3) Racial Justice Work, (4) Support and Inclusion of LGBTQ+ folks, (5) Supporting Libraries and Literacy Programs, (6) Supporting Women's Reproductive Health and Women in Leadership, and (7) Supporting and Promoting Youth Ministry and Youth in Leadership. Where is God calling you to help? Contact the clergy for more information.
- * **PATCH Holiday Party -** Volunteers needed Saturday, Dec. 7 from 1-3 p.m. Volunteers arrive by 12:15. Contact Rev. Audrey - ahasselbrook@gmail.com
- * **Pilgrimage to the South -** Led by Bishop Carlye Hughes - June 18-22. [dioceseofnewark.org / pilgrimage2025](http://dioceseofnewark.org/pilgrimage2025).
- * **Our thanks** to our Star placement team for refreshing the tower star in time for the holiday season.

**Pageant Music Rehearsal Sunday, December 8th BEFORE and AFTER Service at
10am and from 11:30-11:45am 'round the piano**



Save the date
December 15th
and sign-up for the
Christmas Pageant 2024

All children are welcome!
Mary, Joseph, Kings, Angels, Animals, Shepherds
and Faithful Followers Arrive for costumes by 9am
Rehearsal at 9:15 am

Participants, Readers and Parent Volunteers for
adult roles, costume dressing and guiding groups
should **signup** by email or text

Fran Lapinski flapinski@gmail.com
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or
Rev Audrey ahasselbrook@gmail.com
862-596-9292