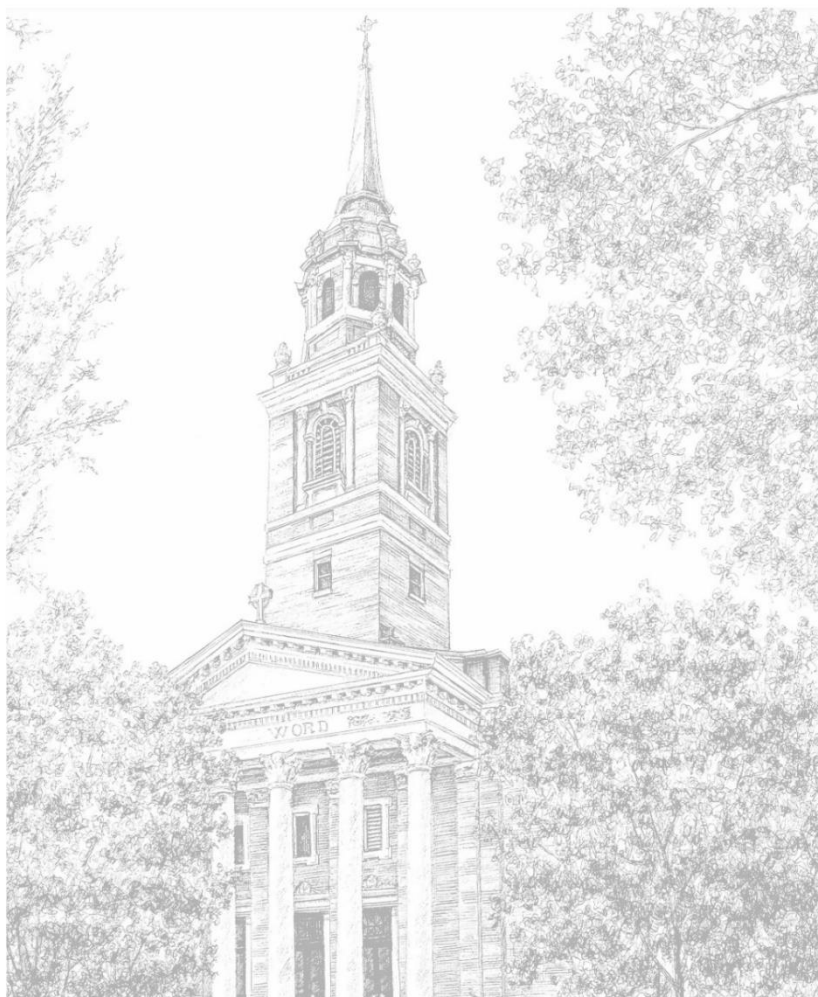




St. James's Episcopal Church

November 30, 2025

10:00 am

Welcome!

We're delighted you have joined us for worship today. St. James's is a community drawn together by our love of God and our desire to serve as "doers of the word," as our patron St. James wrote in his letter, and which is inscribed on our building and over our altar, too.

We especially welcome you if you are new or visiting among us. Please sit where you like, wear what you like, and join us in prayer and singing if you like. Some folks who are new to the Episcopal tradition just sit and let the beauty of our worship wash over them for a while. Some of us prefer to stand for prayers while others kneel. God is not picky about this.

If you receive communion at your home church, you're welcome to receive it at St. James's, too. We will bring communion to you in your seat if you need us to—just let one of the ushers know. After the services, one of the clergy will be in the chapel (on the left side of the sanctuary) for prayer and blessings.

There are many opportunities here for worship, education, service, and fellowship. We'd like to include you in our life together, so there is a card in your pew that you can fill out and drop in the offering plate, or hand it to one of the clergy, to let us know a little about you and what you are looking for at St. James's. We also encourage you to visit our website (www.doers.org) to learn more about us and to sign up for our eChimes weekly newsletter.

Children are an important part of our community. We do offer a nursery for infants and toddlers (four and under) but children of all ages are always welcome to be with their parents in church. After the Gospel, young children can follow the cross to the Children's Chapel (they'll return during the passing of the peace), and we invite children to come to the altar rail for a closer view during the Eucharistic prayers.

Restrooms are located downstairs from the narthex (where the front doors are). Any of our ushers will be happy to direct you.

The eChimes

If you would like to subscribe to the eChimes and our other online communications, please visit the QR code on the right.



St. James's Episcopal Church

The First Sunday of Advent

November 30, 2025

10 am

Holy Eucharist, Rite II

Before the liturgy, in silence, talk to God. During the liturgy, let God speak to you.

After the liturgy, speak to one another. Please silence all electronic devices.

Prelude: Wachet auf

Max Reger

Introit: O Sapientia

plainchant

O Wisdom, coming forth from the mouth of the Most High,
reaching from one end to the other,
mightily and sweetly ordering all things:
Come and teach us the way of prudence.

The people stand as able.

Hymn 56 (vs. 1-4): *Veni, veni, Emmanuel*, “O come, O come Emmanuel”

Advent Lighting Prayer

Celebrant

Lord God, let your blessing come upon us as we light the candles of this Advent wreath. May the wreath and its light be a sign of Christ's promise to bring us salvation. May he come quickly and not delay. We ask this through Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

The Word of God

Opening Acclamation

The Book of Common Prayer 355

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

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

Collect for Purity

Celebrant

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.*

Kyrie S91 (*Each petition is sung three times.*)

Lord, have mercy upon us.

Christ, have mercy upon us.

Lord, have mercy upon us.

Collect of the Day

BCP 211

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.*

The people sit.

Epistle: Romans 13:11-14

You know what time it is, how it is now the moment for you to wake from sleep. For salvation is nearer to us now than when we became believers; the night is far gone, the day is near. Let us then lay aside the works of darkness and put on the armor of light; let us live honorably as in the day, not in reveling and drunkenness, not in debauchery and licentiousness, not in quarreling and jealousy. Instead, put on the Lord Jesus Christ, and make no provision for the flesh, to gratify its desires.

Reader The Word of the Lord.

People Thanks be to God.

The Antiphon is introduced by the Cantor, repeated by the people, and sung at the designated times.

I was glad when they said to me,
 “Let us go to the house of the LORD.”
 Now our feet are standing
 within your gates, O Jerusalem.
 Jerusalem is built as a city
 That is at unity with itself;
 To which the tribes go up, the tribes of the LORD,
 the assembly of Israel, to praise the Name of the LORD.
 For there are the thrones of judgment,
 the thrones of the house of David. *Antiphon*

Pray for the peace of Jerusalem:
 “May they prosper who love you.
 Peace be within your walls
 and quietness within your towers.
 For my brethren and companions’ sake,
 I pray for your prosperity
 Because of the house of the LORD our God,
 I will seek to do you good.” *Antiphon*

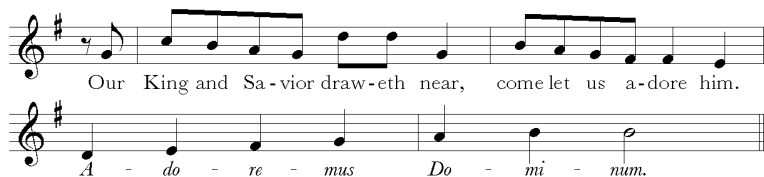
The people stand as able.

Hymn 73: St. Stephen, “The King shall come when morning dawns”

Gospel: Matthew 24:36-44

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

On the Mount of Olives, Jesus said to his disciples privately about his coming, “But about that day and hour no one knows, neither the angels of heaven, nor the Son, but only the Father. For as the days of Noah were, so will be the coming of the Son of Man. For as in those days before the flood they were eating and drinking, marrying and giving in marriage, until the



day Noah entered the ark, and they knew nothing until the flood came and swept them all away, so too will be the coming of the Son of Man. Then two will be in the field; one will be taken and one will be left. Two women will be grinding meal together; one will be taken and one will be left. Keep awake therefore, for you do not know on what day your Lord is coming. But understand this: if the owner of the house had known in what part of the night the thief was coming, he would have stayed awake and would not have let his house be broken into. Therefore you also must be ready, for the Son of Man is coming at an unexpected hour.”

Priest The Gospel of the Lord.

People Praise to you, Lord Christ.

Children’s Procession (*The children may follow the cross into the Children’s Chapel at this time if they wish.*)

Sermon: The Reverend Beth Franklin

The people stand as able.

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 Leader and People pray responsively, standing or kneeling

In peace, we pray to you, Lord God.

Silence

For all people in their daily life and work;
For our families, friends, and neighbors, and for those who are alone.

For this community, the nation, and the world;
For all who work for justice, freedom, and peace.

For the just and proper use of your creation;
For the victims of hunger, fear, injustice, and oppression.

For all who are in danger, sorrow, or any kind of trouble;
For those who minister to the sick, the friendless, and the needy.

For the peace and unity of the Church of God;
For all who proclaim the Gospel, and all who seek the Truth.

For Sarah, the appointed Archbishop of Canterbury, for Sean, our Presiding Bishop, and Mark, Gayle, and Mark, our Bishops, and for all bishops and other ministers;
For all who serve God in his Church.

For the special needs and concerns of this congregation, especially:

Leader and People

Robbie and family, Denise, Parker, Carlton, John, Dave, Walter, Schnucki, Bunky, Jeanette, Zinzi, Bill, Hudnall, Doug, Mike, Bob, Jonathan, Andrew, Katie, Amelia, and Frances

Silence

The People may add their own petitions.

Hear us, Lord;
For your mercy is great.

We thank you, Lord, for all the blessings of this life.

Silence

The People may add their own thanksgivings.

We will exalt you, O God our King;
And praise your Name for ever and ever.

We pray for all who have died, that they may have a place in your eternal kingdom.

Silence

The People may add their own petitions.

Lord, let your loving-kindness be upon them;
Who put their trust in you.

Celebrant

O Lord our God, accept the fervent prayers of your people; in the multitude of your mercies, look with compassion upon us and all who turn to you for help; for you are gracious, O lover of souls, and to you we give glory, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, now and for ever. *Amen.*

Confession of Sin

BCP 360

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

Silence.

Priest and People

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.*

Celebrant

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. *Amen.*

The people stand as able.

Peace

Celebrant

The peace of the Lord be always with you.

People And also with you.

The people sit.

Greeting and Announcements

The Holy Communion

Offertory



To make a gift online, you may use the QR code on the right.

Anthem: Wachtet auf

Johann Sebastian Bach

Zion hears the watchmen's voices,
with gladness all her heart rejoices,
she eager wakes to greet the day.

See, her Lord from heaven descending,
with grace and truth and power unending;
her daystar dawns with brightest ray.

O come, thou blessed One,
Lord Jesus, God's own Son, Hosanna!
We follow there thy feast to share,
and taste the joys beyond compare.

At this time the children may come forward to the altar or the rug for a closer view of the celebration of Holy Communion.

The people stand as able.

Hymn 60 (v. 6): *Conditor, alme siderum*, "To God the Father"

To God the Father, God the Son, and God the Spirit, Three in One,
Praise, honor, night, and glory be from age to age eternally.

Great Thanksgiving, Eucharistic Prayer B

BCP 367

Celebrant The Lord be with you.

People And also with you.

Celebrant Lift up your hearts.

People We lift them to the Lord.

Celebrant Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People It is right to give him thanks and praise.

Celebrant

It is right, and a good and joyful thing, 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:

Sanctus S125

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.

The people stand or kneel as able.

Celebrant

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, according to his command, O Father,

Celebrant and People

We remember his death, we proclaim his resurrection,
we await his coming in glory;

Celebrant

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 the Blessed Virgin Mary, Blessed James, our patron and all the 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,

People and Celebrant

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.

Breaking of the Bread

Celebrant Alleluia. Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us.

People Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia.

Celebrant 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.

As the children return to their parents, the people sing.

Refrain: This is the feast of victory for our God.
Alleluia. Alleluia. Alleluia.

Verse 3 Sing with all the people of God
and join in the hymn of all creation. *Refrain*

Music at Communion

Anthem: Daughter of Zion (*Judas Maccabeus*)

G. F. Handel

Daughter of Zion, shout for joy!
Shout aloud, Jerusalem!
Lo, thy King now comes to thee,
yea, he comes the Prince of Peace.

Hail, hosanna, David's son,
Be thou by thy people blest!
Thine eternal kingdom come!
Praise be sung to thee on high!

Hymn: *Marsh Chapel*, "Awake O sleeper, rise from death"

The people stand or kneel as able.

Postcommunion Prayer

BCP 366

Celebrant and People

Almighty and everliving God, 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 people stand as able.

Advent Blessing

May the Son 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 upon you and remain with you for ever.
Amen.

Hymn 57: *Helmsley*, "Lo! He comes, with clouds descending"

Dismissal

People Thanks be to God.

Postlude: Improvisation of Wachtet auf

Charles Lindsey

Special Celebrations and Prayers

People with birthdays or anniversaries during the week and any with special prayer requests may come to the Chapel after the Dismissal to receive a blessing.

Service Participants

Preacher: The Reverend Beth Franklin

Celebrant: The Reverend Blake Singer

Lector: Ronald Crutcher

Lay Eucharistic Ministers: Sally Curran, Jane Dowrick

Acolyte Team 6: Sam Carter, James Cox, Sophia Cox, Henry Mattox, Rhett Raigins; *Crucifers:* Lucy Arthur, Tyndall Hopper, Everett McCoy; *Adult Leaders:* Cerise Cox, Cynthia Hopper; *Acolyte Coordinators:* Mary Beth Abplanalp, Katie Reed

Altar Guild Team 5: Mary Fox, Elizabeth Harvard, Anita Towell, Betsy Trow; *Leader:* Kitsie Garland; *Co-Chairs:* Lucy Meade, Debbie Meigs

Flower Guild Co-Chairs: Jeanette McKittrick, Loretta Miller

Usher Team 6: Adam Carter, Katie Evans, Ron Evans, John Fitzgerald, Paige Fitzgerald, Clinker Moss, Bob Taylor, Brooke Taylor; *Team Leader:* Scott Fitzgerald; *Chief Usher:* Brink Brinkley

Musicians: West Gallery and Parish Choirs

Psalmist: John Tyndall

Organist: Charles Lindsey

Prayers of the People

Please lift up to God those who have asked for our prayers:

In the Diocesan Cycle of Prayer: in thanksgiving for God's Creation and those who care for it

For all celebrating their birthdays this week, especially those who celebrate their birthdays today: Ross Allen, Caroline Boyd, Ginny Bragaw, Laura Inscoe, Bryce Jewett, Elsie Mazzenga, Jonathan Morton, Lucy Poindexter, Molly Revere, Gary Smith, Michael Smith

Weekly Announcements

The 2025 Children's Center Christmas Cross is Here!

The cross is a wonderful St. James's Christmas tradition and annual work of love by Children's Center board members and friends. This year's Christmas Cross features a white tri-petal blossom set on a natural wood Byzantine cross with green velvet ribbon. The cross comes in a gift box with a card noting support for the Children's Center.

Crosses are available for a donation of \$30 each. This donation



will cover the cost of one week’s breakfast, lunch, and daily snacks for one of the children. To order, scan the QR code.

Christmas Pageant



The St. James's Christmas Pageant will take place on Sunday, December 21, at 4:00 pm in the sanctuary. All children—3 years through 5th Grade—are invited to participate. Please sign up through the QR code. Any Youth interested in participating should reach out to Katie Ricard at youth@doers.org. We are also providing a pizza dinner in Valentine Hall

Coming Up at St. James’s

Tues 12/02	7:30 am	Men’s Breakfast & Bible Study
Wed 12/03	10:00 am	Living Faith Bible Study
	4:00 pm	Cherub Choir Rehearsal
	5:00 pm	Children’s Choir Rehearsal
	5:00 pm	Community Class
	6:00 pm	Community Dinner
	7:00 pm	West Gallery Choir Rehearsal
	8:30 pm	Guitar Ensemble Rehearsal
Thurs 12/04	12:00 pm	Brown Bag Book Group
	7:30 pm	Parish Choir Rehearsal
Sat 12/06	9:30 am	Young Family Social at the Christmas Parade
Sun 12/07	8:00 am	Holy Eucharist Rite I
	9:00 am	Formation & Sunday School
	10:00 am	Holy Eucharist Rite II
	11:00 am	Coffee & Fellowship
	11:30 am	Youth Choir Rehearsal
	5:00 pm	Advent Lessons & Carols

*Scan for More
Event Info*

after the Pageant. When you sign up, please let us know if you plan to join us!

Giving to St. James’s

We believe St. James’s is worthy of an incredibly bold and courageous investment from everyone who considers this community their spiritual home. If you have not yet given, we invite you to prayerfully consider doing so. Every gift matters—each one is a vital part of the whole—and helps us faithfully and responsibly serve the people of St. James’s and the people of Richmond. You can give online via the QR code.



Thank you for being a vital part of our parish family. Your presence, prayers, and financial commitments mean more than words can say.

Music Notes



O Sapientia is from the seven “O Antiphons.” The “O Antiphons” are prayers that come from the service of Vespers during the week before Christmas Eve. Each antiphon begins with “O” and addresses Jesus with a unique title which comes from the prophecies of Isaiah and Micah, and whose initials, when read backwards, form an acrostic for the Latin “Ero Cras” which means “Tomorrow I come.” The titles for Christ are: *O Sapientia*, Wisdom (Dec.17); *O Adonai*, Lord (Dec. 18); *O Radix Jesse*, Root of Jesse (Dec. 19); *O Clavis David*, Key of David (Dec. 20); *O Oriens*, Morning Star (Dec. 21); *O Rex Gentium*, King of Nations (Dec. 22) and *O Emmanuel*, Emmanuel (Dec. 23); The seven “O Antiphons” appear in the hymn “O come, O come Emmanuel” (Hymn 56).

Wachet Auf is a setting by J. S. Bach (1685-1720) of the well-known Reformation chorale tune. The text is based in Jesus’ words on a reading from the Gospel of Mark: “Keep awake — for you do not know when the master of the house will come.”

Daughter of Zion is my arrangement of music from George Frideric Handel’s *Judas Maccabeus*. The oratorio tells the story recorded in the First Book of Maccabees in the Apocrypha. I have paired the music with a text from the prophet Zephaniah.

Sunday, December 7 at 5 pm: Advent Lessons and Carols

In the season of Advent we sing, “O come, o come Emmanuel” and we await joyfully, if not impatiently, to hear the story of the baby Jesus. And yet, our hope is in His second coming. In candlelight and quietness, reflect upon the return of our Savior and the faithfulness of God. Sung by the West Gallery Choir and Youth Choir.

Sunday, December 14, at 4:30 pm: Evensong and Social Hour

Evensong is a perfect way to prepare the heart and soul for the coming week. Music by Herbert Howells and Benjamin Britten. The Rev. Blake Singer will be the Officiant. All are invited to the Social Hour that follows in Valentine Hall.

Monday, December 15, at 7 pm: Our Christmas Hope

In the midst of the preparations and festivities, some find the holidays to be

long, dark nights of the soul, full of struggle with life challenges, grief, and loss of years past and present. This service of healing prayer and reflection includes Irish carols accompanied by accordion, piano and guitar.

St. James's Episcopal Church

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