

## THIS WEEK AT ST. JAMES

### MON.- FRI., DECEMBER 12-16

- MORNING PRAYER  
8:00-8:30 AM | Zoom

### MONDAY, DECEMBER 12

- VESTRY MEETING  
5:15 PM | Graham Parlor
- FELLOWSHIP AA  
7:00 PM | Great Hall

### TUESDAY, DECEMBER 13

- MEN'S AL ANON MEETING  
5:15 PM | TBA

### WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 14

- STARBUCKS YOUTH BIBLE STUDY  
7:00 AM | 16th St. Starbucks
- HOLY EUCHARIST  
12:10 PM | St. James Chapel
- CHILDREN'S CHOIR PRACTICE  
5:45 PM | Children's Chapel

### THURSDAY, DECEMBER 15

- EDUCATION FOR MINISTRY  
6:30 PM | Graham Parlor or Zoom
- ST. JAMES CHOIR REHEARSAL  
7:00 PM | Choir Room

### FRIDAY, DECEMBER 16

- NO EVENTS PLANNED

### SATURDAY, DECEMBER 17

- SUNRISE SERENITY AL-ANON  
7:45 AM | Bishop Wright Room
- WILMINGTON VOICES: SONGS OF  
THE SEASON PERFORMANCE  
7:30 PM | St. James

### SUNDAY, DECEMBER 18

#### **FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT**

- HOLY EUCHARIST RITE I  
8:00 AM | St. James Parish
- FAMILY BREAKFAST  
8:30-9:30 AM | Great Hall
- HOLY EUCHARIST RITE II &  
CHRISTMAS PAGEANT  
9:00AM | St. James Parish & Online
- FAITH FORMATION HOUR  
10:10 AM | Parish House & Milton Hall
- HOLY EUCHARIST RITE II  
11:15 AM | St. James Parish



# THE THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT

SUNDAY 11 DECEMBER 2022

THE HOLY EUCHARIST, RITE II

11:15 A.M.

### Prelude

### Welcome and Announcements

### The Lighting of the Advent Candles

Almighty God, we light these candles of Advent as symbols of the king who is coming into our world. Help us to be rescued from our sins and repent in your great mercy, through Jesus Christ who lives and reigns for ever and ever. **Amen.**

### Processional Hymn 444

“Blessed be the God of Israel”

*Thornbury*

## THE WORD OF GOD

### Opening Acclamation

The Book of Common Prayer, p. 355

### Collect for Purity

p. 355

### Hymn 56

“O come, O come, Emmanuel”  
*Sts. 5-6*

*Veni, veni, Emmanuel*

### Collect of the Day

p. 212

Stir up your power, O Lord, and with great might come among us; and, because we are sorely hindered by our sins, let your bountiful grace and mercy speedily help and deliver us; through Jesus Christ our Lord, to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit, be honor and glory, now and for ever. **Amen.**

EDITORIAL DEADLINES: The deadline for the December 19<sup>th</sup> Digital Grapevine is December 16<sup>th</sup>.  
The deadline for the December Grapevine Magazine is December 28<sup>th</sup>.  
Email [communications@stjamesp.org](mailto:communications@stjamesp.org).

*To all who are weary and seek rest; to all who mourn and long for comfort;  
to all who struggle and desire victory; to all who sin and need a Saviour;  
to all who are idle and look for service; to all who are strangers  
and want fellowship; to all who hunger and thirst after righteousness;  
and to whosoever will come—this church opens wide her doors.*

## ST. JAMES PARISH

THE REVEREND C. PHILLIP CRAIG, JR., RECTOR

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**The First Reading: Isaiah 35:1–10**

The Holy Bible; *NRSV*, p. 649

*Commentary: Because of Isaiah's emphasis on salvation, he has been called 'the evangelist of the Old Testament'. Chapter 35 of Isaiah, only ten verses long, is full of joy and rejoicing as God transforms a desert into a garden. References to joy and gladness begin and end this poem, while hope and restoration are themes of the central verses. A highway will run through this garden, on which God's people will stream to Zion. The highway will be marked by holiness. Only the redeemed will travel on it and nothing will endanger or threaten those on the holy highway to the holy city. Isaiah foresaw a perfect world under the perfect kingship of God's Messiah.*

The wilderness and the dry land shall be glad, the desert shall rejoice and blossom; like the crocus it shall blossom abundantly, and rejoice with joy and singing. The glory of Lebanon shall be given to it, the majesty of Carmel and Sharon. They shall see the glory of the LORD, the majesty of our God. Strengthen the weak hands, and make firm the feeble knees. Say to those who are of a fearful heart, "Be strong, do not fear! Here is your God. He will come with vengeance, with terrible recompense. He will come and save you." Then the eyes of the blind shall be opened, and the ears of the deaf unstopped; then the lame shall leap like a deer, and the tongue of the speechless sing for joy. For waters shall break forth in the wilderness, and streams in the desert; the burning sand shall become a pool, and the thirsty ground springs of water; the haunt of jackals shall become a swamp, the grass shall become reeds and rushes. A highway shall be there, and it shall be called the Holy Way; the unclean shall not travel on it, but it shall be for God's people; no traveler, not even fools, shall go astray. No lion shall be there, nor shall any ravenous beast come up on it; they shall not be found there, but the redeemed shall walk there. And the ransomed of the LORD shall return, and come to Zion with singing; everlasting joy shall be upon their heads; they shall obtain joy and gladness, and sorrow and sighing shall flee away.

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

**Canticle 15**      "The Song of Mary"

*Magnificat*

**Antiphon** *(The antiphon is first sung by the Cantor, then repeated by all)*



My soul pro-claims the great-ness of \_\_\_ the Lord, and my spi - rit re-joic-es in God my Sa - vior.

**Psalm chant**



For he has looked with / **favor**  
on his lowly / **servant.**  
From this day all generations will call me / **blessed:** \*  
the Almighty has done great things for me, and holy is his / **Name.**

**Antiphon**

# ADVENT AT ST. JAMES

## JOIN US FOR THE SEASON OF ADVENT

*Advent is a time of joy and anticipation. Come join online and in-person opportunities to worship and engage with your St. James family. Please refer to the schedule below to see what offerings and services best fit your family!*

### SUNDAY MORNINGS

- December 11: 10:10 a.m. Faith Formation Hour - Disciples Class: Waiting together in Song: Exploring the Hymns of Advent, Faith Discussions: Serving Our Neighbors, Jubilate Round Table, St. James Children are invited to gather in preparation for the Christmas Pageant.
- December 18: CHRISTMAS PAGEANT during the 9:00 a.m. Service. 10:10 a.m. Faith Formation Hour - Disciples Class: Waiting together in Song: Advent and Beyond—how can we prepare for the difficult future ahead?, Faith Discussions: Serving Our Neighbors, Jubilate Round Table, Children's Pageant Day Celebration

### CHRISTMAS EVE AND CHRISTMAS DAY

- December 24: 4:00 p.m., 6:00 p.m., & 10:30 p.m.
- December 25: 10:30 a.m.

### ADVENT OPPORTUNITIES

- Sunday, December 11: Youth Wrap'N'Yap
- Saturday, December 17: Songs of the Season - Wilmington Voices Concert - 7:30 PM
- Sunday, December 18: Breadbreakers Event
- Monday, December 19: A Classical Christmas - A St. James Concert - 7:30 PM
- Tuesday, December 20: Baroque Christmas - Tallis Chamber Orchestra Concert - 7:30 PM
- Thursday, December 22: Gloria! - Unchambered Concert - 6:30 PM

### CHRISTMAS FLOWERS AND MUSIC

You are invited to participate in sharing the joy of tradition with the St. James Christmas Music & Flower Honorarium. You may submit your names online at [stjamesp.org/poinsettia](http://stjamesp.org/poinsettia) or by completing the form below and returning it to the church office prior to the end of the day on **December 18th.**

**Names submitted after this date may not appear in the bulletin.**

One dedication per \$25 donation. Please PRINT clearly. Check one on each row:

- |  |                                       |
|--|---------------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Christmas Flowers | <input type="checkbox"/> Music        |
| <input type="checkbox"/> In Honor of       | <input type="checkbox"/> In Memory of |

Name of Person Remembered: \_\_\_\_\_

Given by: \_\_\_\_\_

Please return your completed form with your check marked "Christmas Flowers: or "Christmas Music"

<b>The Blessing</b>		p. 366
<b>Closing Hymn 57</b>	“Lo! he comes, with clouds decending”	<i>Helmsley</i>
<b>The Dismissal</b>		p. 366
<b>Postlude</b>		



*Celebrant: The Reverend C. Phillip Craig, Jr.      Preacher: The Reverend Gray Hodsdon  
Organist & Choir Director: John Sullivan*

*The flowers at the altar are given to the glory of God and in loving memory of  
Jane Miller Metts, Edwin Anderson Metts, Elizabeth Cotchett Metts  
Elizabeth Metts Brown, James Fred Rippy III, Michael Corbett Brown, Sr.*

## FAITH FORMATION TODAY

- **DISCIPLE’S CLASS & SUNDAY BIBLE STUDY-** Waiting together in Song: Exploring the Hymns of Advent - *Great Hall or via Zoom*
- **FAITH DISCUSSIONS-** Serving Our Neighbors - *Stephen Ministry Room*
- **JUBL-LATTE ROUND TABLE** (6th-12th grades) - *Cookie’s Office*
- **FAITH ADVENTURERS** (4th & 5th grades): *Children’s Chapel*
- **FAITH BUILDERS** (2nd and 3rd graders): *Children’s Chapel*
- **FAITH FOUNDATIONS** (K-5 & 1st grade): *Children’s Chapel*
- **FAITH BUILT THROUGH WONDER** (3’s & 4’s): *Children’s Chapel*

He has mercy on those who / **fear him** \*  
in every gener-/ation.  
He has shown the strength of his / **arm**, \*  
he has scattered the proud in their con-/ceit.

### Antiphon

He has cast down the mighty  
from their / **thrones**, \*  
and has lifted up the / **lowly**.  
He has filled the hungry with / **good things**, \*  
and the rich he has sent away / **empty**.

### Antiphon

### The Epistle: James 5:7–10

*NRSV*, p. 1104

*Commentary: The author of this letter was a respected leader in the Jerusalem church (see Acts 15). The recipients of this letter were Jewish Christians who had fled persecution in Palestine following the death of Stephen, the first Christian martyr. James wrote to instruct and encourage his scattered flock. This letter is full of practical advice. In these verses, James urged his readers, rich and poor, to practice patience, knowing that their reward awaited at the judgment seat of Christ. Even now, the knowledge that Christ could return at any moment is motivation for His followers to live patiently and sacrificially every day.*

Be patient, therefore, beloved, until the coming of the LORD. The farmer waits for the precious crop from the earth, being patient with it until it receives the early and the late rains. You also must be patient. Strengthen your hearts, for the coming of the Lord is near. Beloved, do not grumble against one another, so that you may not be judged. See, the Judge is standing at the doors! As an example of suffering and patience, beloved, take the prophets who spoke in the name of the LORD.

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

**Sequence Hymn 72**      “Hark! the glad sound! the Savior comes”      *Richmond*

### The Holy Gospel: Matthew 11:2–11

*NRSV*, p. 889

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

When John heard in prison what the Messiah was doing, he sent word by his disciples and said to him, “Are you the one who is to come, or are we to wait for another?” Jesus answered them, “Go and tell John what you hear and see: the blind receive their sight, the lame walk, the lepers are cleansed, the deaf hear, the dead are raised, and the poor have good news brought to them. And blessed is anyone who takes no offense at me.” As they went away, Jesus began to

Speak to the crowds about John: “What did you go out into the wilderness to look at? A reed shaken by the wind? What then did you go out to see? Someone dressed in soft robes? Look, those who wear soft robes are in royal palaces. What then did you go out to see? A prophet? Yes, I tell you, and more than a prophet. This is the one about whom it is written, ‘See, I am sending my messenger ahead of you, who will prepare your way before you.’ “Truly I tell you, among those born of women no one has arisen greater than John the Baptist; yet the least in the kingdom of heaven is greater than he.”

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

**The Sermon** The Reverend Gray Hodsdon

**The Nicene Creed** p. 358

**Prayers of the People**

*The response to each petition:*  
 ...Lord, in your mercy **Hear our prayer.**

**The Confession of Sin and Absolution** p. 360

**The Peace** p. 360

**THE HOLY COMMUNION**

**Offertory Anthem** Paul Manz

Peace be to you and grace from him who freed us from our sins, who loved us all and shed his blood that we might be saved. Sing Holy, Holy to our Lord, the Lord, Almighty God, who was and is and is to come; sing Holy, Holy, Lord! Rejoice in heaven, all ye that dwell therein, rejoice on earth, ye saints below, for Christ is coming, is coming soon, for Christ is coming soon! E'en so, Lord Jesus, quickly come, and night shall be no more; they need no light nor lamp nor sun, for Christ will be their All!

*~Revelation 22; Adapted by Ruth Manz*

**Presentation Hymn 380** “Praise God, from whom all blessings flow” *Old 100th stanza 3*

**The Great Thanksgiving:** Eucharistic Prayer B p. 367

**Sanctus S-124** “Holy, holy, holy Lord” David Hurd

**The Lord’s Prayer** p. 364

**The Breaking of the Bread** p. 364

**The Fraction Anthem S-152** “Christ our Passover” *Ambrosian chant*

*Cantor* Alleluia. Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us.

*People* There-fore let us keep the feast. Al - le - lu - ia.

*Gluten-free wafers are available at the main altar, upon request*

**Communion Hymns**

**Hymn 314** “Humbly I adore thee” *Adoro devote*

**Hymn 60** “Creator of the stars of night” *Conditor alme siderum*

**Hymn 462** “The Lord will come and not be slow” *York*

**The Postcommunion Prayer** p. 365