



THE EPISCOPAL CHURCH OF
St. Paul & St. James

First Sunday in Lent
March 9, 2025 | 10:30 a.m.

WELCOME TO MORNING PRAYER AT ST. PJ'S!

If you're visiting St. PJ'S for the first time, or for the first time in a while, welcome! Whether you are joining us in the building or online, we're so fortunate to be together. Know that whoever you are, wherever you find yourself on life's journey, and whatever questions dwell in your heart, you are welcomed and wanted here. Whatever your race, class, sexuality, beliefs, or talents, we hope that you join us in the radical hospitality of God's table.

While we have Holy Eucharist most weeks, approximately once per month, we hold a Morning Prayer worship service from the Book of Common Prayer. Morning Prayer is led by a Lay Officiant and a Lector who reads the Lessons and Prayers. A sermon is delivered by one of our parishioners. Jazz is a special musical gift that expresses our joy and Spirit in worship. We invite you to pray, to sing, and to clap in worship with us!

And a special welcome to you if you are worshipping with children today! Please don't worry – crying, laughter, and wandering little feet don't bother us. There is a children's play area in the back of the church, as well as **Sunday School for 3-to 8-year-olds** in the Guild Room on the second floor.

PRELUDE

WELCOME

OPENING HYMN

The glory of these forty days



1 The glo - ry of these for - ty days we
2 A - lone and fast - ing Mo - ses saw the
3 So Dan - iel trained his mys - tic sight, de -
4 Then grant us, Lord, like them to be full
* 5 O Fa - ther, Son, and Spi - rit blest, to



1 ce - le - brate with songs of praise; for Christ, through whom all
2 lov - ing God who gave the law; and to E - li - jah,
3 liv - cred from the li - ons' might; and John, the Bride - groom's
4 oft in fast and prayer with thee; our spi - rits strength - en
5 thee be ev - ery prayer ad - dressed, who art in three - fold



1 things were made, him - self has fast - ed and has prayed.
2 fast - ing, came the steeds and char - i - ots of flame.
3 friend, be - came the her - ald of Mes - si - ah's name.
4 with thy grace, and give us joy to see thy face.
5 Name a - dored, from age to age, the on - ly Lord.

Officiant Rend your hearts and not your garments. Return to the Lord your God, for he is gracious and merciful, slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love, and repents of evil. **Amen.**

CONFESSION OF SIN

Officiant Dearly beloved, we have come together in the presence of Almighty God, our heavenly Father, to set forth his praise, to hear his holy Word, and to ask, for ourselves and on behalf of others, those things that are necessary for our life and our salvation. And so that we may prepare ourselves in heart and mind to worship God, let us kneel in silence, and with penitent and obedient hearts, confess our sins, that we may obtain forgiveness by God's infinite goodness and mercy.

Silence

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.**

Officiant Almighty God have mercy on us, forgive us all our 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.**

Officiant Lord, open our lips.

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

All **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.**

TRISAGION



Officiant The Lord is full of compassion and mercy:

People **Come let us adore him.**

FIRST READING Deuteronomy 26:1-11

When you have come into the land that the Lord your God is giving you as an inheritance to possess, and you possess it, and settle in it, you shall take some of the first of all the fruit of the ground, which you harvest from the land that the Lord your God is giving you, and you shall put it in a basket and go to the place that the Lord your God will choose as a dwelling for his name. You shall go to the priest who is in office at that time, and say to him, "Today I declare to the Lord your God that I have come into the land that the Lord swore to our ancestors to give us." When the priest takes the basket from your hand and sets it down before the altar of the Lord your God, you shall make this response before the Lord your God: "A wandering Aramean was my ancestor; he went down into Egypt and lived there as an alien, few in number, and there he became a great nation, mighty and populous.

When the Egyptians treated us harshly and afflicted us, by imposing hard labor on us, we cried to the Lord, the God of our ancestors; the Lord heard our voice and saw our affliction, our toil, and our oppression. The Lord brought us out of Egypt with a mighty hand and an outstretched arm, with a terrifying display of power, and with signs and wonders; and he brought us into this place and gave us this land, a land flowing with milk and honey. So now I bring the first of the fruit of the ground that you, O Lord, have given me." You shall set it down before the Lord your God and bow down before the Lord your God. Then you, together with the Levites and the aliens who reside among you, shall celebrate with all the bounty that the Lord your God has given to you and to your house.

Lector Bless our God.

People **O my soul.**

**1 He who dwells in the shelter of the Most High, *
abides under the shadow of the Almighty.**

**2 He shall say to the LORD,
"You are my refuge and my stronghold, *
my God in whom I put my trust."**

**9 Because you have made the LORD your refuge, *
and the Most High your habitation,**

**10 There shall no evil happen to you, *
neither shall any plague come near your dwelling.**

**11 For he shall give his angels charge over you, *
to keep you in all your ways.**

**12 They shall bear you in their hands, *
lest you dash your foot against a stone.**

**13 You shall tread upon the lion and adder; *
you shall trample the young lion and the serpent under your feet.**

**14 Because he is bound to me in love,
therefore will I deliver him; *
I will protect him, because he knows my Name.**

**15 He shall call upon me, and I will answer him; *
I am with him in trouble;
I will rescue him and bring him to honor.**

**16 With long life will I satisfy him, *
and show him my salvation.**

Glory be to God, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit;

As it was in the beginning, is now, and will be for ever. Amen.

SECOND READING *Romans 10:8b-13*

“The word is near you, on your lips and in your heart”

(that is, the word of faith that we proclaim); because if you confess with your lips that Jesus is Lord and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved. For one believes with the heart and so is justified, and one confesses with the mouth and so is saved. The scripture says, "No one who believes in him will be put to shame." For there is no distinction between Jew and Greek; the same Lord is Lord of all and is generous to all who call on him. For, "Everyone who calls on the name of the Lord shall be saved."

Lector Bless our God.

People **O my soul.**

CANTICLE 14 *A Song of Penitence*
(Prayer of Manasseh 1-2, 4, 6-7, 11-15)

**O Lord and Ruler of the hosts of heaven,
God of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob,
and of all their righteous offspring:
You made the heavens and the earth,
with all their vast array.
All things quake with fear at your presence;
they tremble because of your power.
But your merciful promise is beyond all measure;
it surpasses all that our minds can fathom.
O Lord, you are full of compassion,
long-suffering, and abounding in mercy.
You hold back your hand;
you do not punish as we deserve.
In your great goodness, Lord,
you have promised forgiveness to sinners,
that they may repent of their sin and be saved.
And now, O Lord, I bend the knee of my heart,
and make my appeal, sure of your gracious goodness.
I have sinned, O Lord, I have sinned,
and I know my wickedness only too well.**

Therefore I make this prayer to you:

Forgive me, Lord, forgive me.

Do not let me perish in my sin,

nor condemn me to the depths of the earth.

For you, O Lord, are the God of those who repent,

and in me you will show forth your goodness.

Unworthy as I am, you will save me,

in accordance with your great mercy,

and I will praise you without ceasing all the days of my life.

For all the powers of heaven sing your praises,

and yours is the glory to ages of ages. Amen.

THE GOSPEL

Luke 4:1-13

After his baptism, Jesus, full of the Holy Spirit, returned from the Jordan and was led by the Spirit in the wilderness, where for forty days he was tempted by the devil. He ate nothing at all during those days, and when they were over, he was famished. The devil said to him, "If you are the Son of God, command this stone to become a loaf of bread." Jesus answered him, "It is written, 'One does not live by bread alone.'"

Then the devil led him up and showed him in an instant all the kingdoms of the world. And the devil said to him, "To you I will give their glory and all this authority; for it has been given over to me, and I give it to anyone I please. If you, then, will worship me, it will all be yours." Jesus answered him, "It is written,

'Worship the Lord your God, and serve only him.'"

Then the devil took him to Jerusalem, and placed him on the pinnacle of the temple, saying to him, "If you are the Son of God, throw yourself down from here, for it is written, 'He will command his angels concerning you, to protect you,' and 'On their hands they will bear you up, so that you will not dash your foot against a stone.'"

Jesus answered him, "It is said, 'Do not put the Lord your God to the test.'" When the devil had finished every test, he departed from him until an opportune time.

Lector Here ends the reading.

***People* Renew and strengthen us, eternal God.**

REFLECTION

Amanda Ozment

JAZZ RESPONSE

THE APOSTLES' CREED

Please rise, in body or spirit

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.

COLLECT OF THE DAY

Almighty God, whose blessed Son was led by the Spirit to be tempted by Satan: Come quickly to help us who are assaulted by many temptations; and, as you know the weaknesses of each of us, let each one find you mighty to save; through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for 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.

Prayer for our Enemies

O God, the Father of all, whose Son commanded us to love our enemies: Lead them and us from prejudice to truth; deliver them and us from hatred, cruelty, and revenge; and in your good time enable us all to stand reconciled before you; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Prayer for Mission

Almighty and everlasting God, by whose Spirit the whole body of your faithful people is governed and sanctified: Receive our supplications and prayers which we offer before you for all members of your holy Church, that in their vocation and ministry they may truly and devoutly serve you; through our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. Amen.

Prayers of the People

With all our heart and mind, let us pray to God, saying,
For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son,
so that everyone who believes in him may not perish but may have eternal life.

We pray for God's people throughout the world. We pray for our leaders in the Episcopal Church: Presiding Bishop Sean Rowe, Jeffrey and Laura our Bishops, and Nathan, our Priest-in-Charge. In the Episcopal Church of Connecticut, we lift up: St Monica's, Hartford; Trinity, Hartford; St Peter's, Hebron; St James', Higganum. We pray for the Anglican Church of Canada in the worldwide Anglican Communion.

For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son,
so that everyone who believes in him may not perish but may have eternal life.

As we begin this season of Lent, we pray for the vision and mission of our church, that in faithful witness we share your love and justice in all that we do. May we bear the fruit of repentance, so that we too may be a people of forgiveness and mercy.

For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son,
so that everyone who believes in him may not perish but may have eternal life.

We pray for continued blessings on all peacemakers, on leaders who value peace, and on everyone who promotes nonviolent solutions to conflict.

For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son,
so that everyone who believes in him may not perish but may have eternal life.

Creator God, we pray for the harvests of your world, that they may not be hoarded or squandered, and that the land may be respected and cared for.

For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son,
so that everyone who believes in him may not perish but may have eternal life.

We pray for the sick, the aged and the infirm; for those with physical or mental disabilities; that all may have access to proper health care; and that God's loving embrace may be felt by all who suffer. We lift up all on our prayer list, and we think of those whom we love, either aloud or in our heart...

We celebrate with those having birthdays, especially Edwina Johnson, Kate Galambos, Alec Pedersen, and Charles Amore.

We remember those who have died, and we pray for comfort and peace to all who mourn.

For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son,
so that everyone who believes in him may not perish but may have eternal life.

Officiant May God light in us a holy fire: Light a fire that is worthy of our ancestors. Light a fire that is worthy of our children. Light a fire that is worthy of our fathers. Light a fire that is worthy of our mothers. Light a fire that is worthy of God. **Amen.**

(Officiant's prayer by Anne Rowthorn, inspired by an anonymous Masai prayer)

THE LORD'S PRAYER

Officiant The Lord be with you.

People And also with you.

Officiant Let us pray, in the languages of our own hearts:

**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 for ever. Amen.**

**Padre nuestro que estás en los cielos,
santificado sea tu Nombre;
venga tu reino;
hágase tu voluntad
en la tierra como en el cielo.
Danos hoy el pan de este día, y
Perdona nuestras deudas,
como nosotros perdonamos
nuestros deudores,
y no nos dejes caer en al tentación
sino que libranos del mal.
Porque tuyo es el reino,
tuyo es el poder, y tuya es la gloria,
ahora y por siempre. Amen.**

THE PEACE

Officiant The peace of Christ be always with you.

People And also with you.

Please greet one another with a sign of God's peace and then be seated.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

OFFERTORY

Psalm 96:8

Officiant Ascribe to the LORD the honor due his name; bring offerings and come into his courts.

OFFERTORY ANTHEM

CLOSING PRAYER

The General Thanksgiving

**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 our selves 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.**

CLOSING HYMN

O love, how deep, how broad, how high

1 O love, how deep, how broad, how high, how pass - ing
 2 For us bap - tized, for us he bore his ho - ly
 3 For us he prayed; for us he taught; for us his
 4 All glo - ry to our Lord and God for love so

1 thought and fan - ta - sy, that God, the Son of
 2 fast and hun - gered sore; for us temp - ta - tions
 3 dai - ly works he wrought; by words and signs and
 4 deep, so high, so broad; the Trin - i - ty whom

1 God, should take our mor - tal form for mor - tals' sake.
 2 sharp he knew; for us the tempt - er ov - er - threw.
 3 ac - tions, thus still seek - ing not him - self, but us.
 4 we a - dore for ev - er and for ev - er - more.

DISMISSAL

Officiant Let us bless the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

Officiant Glory be to God whose power, working in us, can do infinitely more than we can ask or imagine: Glory to God from generation to generation in the Church, and in Christ Jesus for ever and ever.

Amen.

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— YOU ARE WELCOME HERE —

Sunday Worship | 10:30 a.m.

In person and livestreamed

Wednesday Noonday Prayer | 12:30 p.m.

In person in the Chapel

Thursday Zoom Compline | 8:00 p.m.

Link available on our website

Office Hours

Mon-Fri (8 a.m.– Noon) | Fri (5:30 p.m.–8:30p.m.)

— OUR STAFF —

The Rev. Nathan Empsall, Priest in Charge
William Cleary, Director of Music
Dylan Rowland, Associate Music Director
Molly Clayton, Sunday School Director
The Rev. Steve Crowson, Priest Associate
Samuel Rodriguez, Sexton

Monifa Atkinson, Program Director
office@stpaulstjames.org
(203) 562-2143 (office)

— OUR VESTRY —

Bill Evans and Juhani Jaske, Co-Wardens
David Hill, Treasurer
Maggie King, Clerk

Steve Crowson
Maurice Harris
Roni Holcomb
Vanetta Lloyd
Pam Sayre
Lynne Severance

SERVING TODAY

First Sunday in Lent

March 9, 2025

Officiant

Tudy Hill

Preacher

Amanda Ozment

Lector

George Moore

Musicians

Will Cleary

Dylan Rowland

PRAYER LIST

Kathleen
Rachel
Betty Hill
Tim Barnes
Rev. Walter Macnutt
Cynthia King
Tiras Jaske
Susan Thomas
Susan Carrano
Kevin Gerbe
Gwen Chapin
Paul D'agostino
Tom Caffelle
Uli Mackert
Richard Holcomb
Edwina Johnson
Alice, Judy, Tom
Leslie, Andrew, Pam

BIRTHDAYS & ANNIVERSARIES

Charles Amore (March 15.)
Kate Galambos (March 13.)
Edwina Johnson (March 9.)
Alec Pedersen (March 13.)

FAITHFUL DEPARTED