



THE EPISCOPAL CHURCH OF
St. Paul & St. James

Holy Eucharist

March 16, 2025 | 10:30 a.m.

Second Sunday in Lent

WELCOME TO ST PJs!

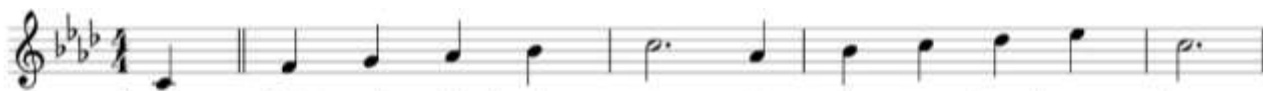
If you're visiting St. PJ'S for the first time, or for the first time in a while, we extend a special welcome to you. Whether you are joining us in the building or online, we're so fortunate to be together. Know that whoever you are, wherever you find yourself on life's journey, and whatever questions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

If you are worshipping with children today, welcome! And please don't worry - crying, laughter, and wandering little feet don't bother us! **Sunday School for 3 to 8 year olds** is available in the Guild Room on the second floor. Children will return during the Peace, before Communion.

OPENING HYMN

H401

The God of Abraham praise



1 The God of A - bra_ham praise, who reigns en - throned a - bove;
2 The great I AM has sworn; we on this oath de - pend.
3 There dwells the Lord, our King, the Lord, our Right - eous - ness,
4 The God who reigns on high the great arch - an - gels sing;
5 The whole tri - um - phant host give thanks to God on high;



1 An - cient of ev - er last - ing days, and God of love;
2 We shall, on ea - gle wings up - borne, to heaven a - scend;
3 tri - um - phant o'er the world and sin, the Prince of Peace;
4 and "Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly" cry "Al - might - y King!
5 "Hail, Fa - ther, Son, and Ho - ly Ghost!" they ev - er cry;



1 the Lord, the great I AM, by earth and heaven con - fessed;
2 We shall be - hold God's face; I shall God's power a - dore..
3 on Zi - on's sa - cred height his king - dom he main - tains..
4 Who was, and is, the same, and ev - er - more shall be:
5 hail, A - bra_ham's Lord di - vine! With heaven our songs we raise:.



1 we bow and bless the sa - cred Name for ev - er blest.
2 and sing the won - ders of God's Grace for ev - er - more.
3 and, glo - rious with his saints in light, for ev - er reigns.
4 Je - ho - vah, Lord, the great I AM, we wor - ship thee."
5 all might and ma - jes - ty are thine, and end - less praise.

OPENING ACCLAMATION

Celebrant: Blessed be the God of our salvation:

People: **Who bears our burdens and forgives our sins.**

Celebrant: If we say that we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. But if we confess our sins, God, who is faithful and just, will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

CONFESSION OF SIN

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

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.**

ABSOLUTION

Celebrant: Almighty God have mercy on you, forgive you all your sins through the grace of Jesus Christ, strengthen you in all goodness, and by the Holy Spirit keep you in eternal life. **Amen.**

TRISAGION

Ho - ly God, Ho - ly and Might - y,
Ho - ly Im - mor - tal One, Have mer - cy up - on us.

COLLECT OF THE DAY

Celebrant: God be with you.

People: **And also with you.**

Celebrant: Let us pray.

O God, whose glory it is always to have mercy: Be gracious to all who have gone astray from your ways, and bring them again with penitent hearts and steadfast faith to embrace and hold fast the unchangeable truth of your Word, Jesus Christ your Son; who with you and the Holy Spirit lives and reigns, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

FIRST READING Genesis 15:1-12, 17-18

The word of the Lord came to Abram in a vision, "Do not be afraid, Abram, I am your shield; your reward shall be very great." But Abram said, "O Lord God, what will you give me, for I continue childless, and the heir of my house is Eliezer of Damascus?" And Abram said, "You have given me no offspring, and so a slave born in my house is to be my heir." But the word of the Lord came to him, "This man shall not be your heir; no one but your very own issue shall be your heir." He brought him outside and said, "Look toward heaven and count the stars, if you are able to count them." Then he said to him, "So shall your descendants be." And he believed the Lord; and the Lord reckoned it to him as righteousness.

Then he said to him, "I am the Lord who brought you from Ur of the Chaldeans, to give you this land to possess." But he said, "O Lord God, how am I to know that I shall possess it?" He said to him, "Bring me a heifer three years old, a female goat three years old, a ram three years old, a turtledove, and a young pigeon." He brought him all these and cut them in two, laying each half over against the other; but he did not cut the birds in two. And when birds of prey came down on the carcasses, Abram drove them away.

As the sun was going down, a deep sleep fell upon Abram, and a deep and terrifying darkness descended upon him.

When the sun had gone down and it was dark, a smoking fire pot and a flaming torch passed between these pieces. On that day the Lord made a covenant with Abram, saying, "To your descendants I give this land, from the river of Egypt to the great river, the river Euphrates."

Reader: Hear what the Spirit is saying to God's People.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

THE PSALM 27

**1 The Lord is my light and my salvation;
whom then shall I fear? *
the Lord is the strength of my life;
of whom then shall I be afraid?**

2 When evildoers came upon me to eat up my flesh, *
it was they, my foes and my adversaries, who
stumbled and fell.

3 Though an army should encamp against me, *
yet my heart shall not be afraid;

4 And though war should rise up against me, *
yet will I put my trust in him.

5 One thing have I asked of the Lord;
one thing I seek; *
that I may dwell in the house of the Lord all the days of my life;

6 To behold the fair beauty of the Lord *
and to seek him in his temple.

7 For in the day of trouble he shall keep me safe
in his shelter; *
he shall hide me in the secrecy of his dwelling
and set me high upon a rock.

8 Even now he lifts up my head *
above my enemies round about me.

9 Therefore I will offer in his dwelling an oblation
with sounds of great gladness; *
I will sing and make music to the Lord.

10 Hearken to my voice, O Lord, when I call; *
have mercy on me and answer me.

11 You speak in my heart and say, "Seek my face." *
Your face, Lord, will I seek.

12 Hide not your face from me, *
nor turn away your servant in displeasure.

13 You have been my helper;
cast me not away; *
do not forsake me, O God of my salvation.

14 Though my father and my mother forsake me, *
the Lord will sustain me.

15 Show me your way, O Lord; *
lead me on a level path, because of my enemies.

16 Deliver me not into the hand of my adversaries, *

**for false witnesses have risen up against me,
and also those who speak malice.**

**17 What if I had not believed
that I should see the goodness of the Lord *
in the land of the living!**

**18 O tarry and await the Lord's pleasure;
be strong, and he shall comfort your heart; *
wait patiently for the Lord.**

SECOND READING Philippians 3:17-4:1

Brothers and sisters, join in imitating me, and observe those who live according to the example you have in us. For many live as enemies of the cross of Christ; I have often told you of them, and now I tell you even with tears. Their end is destruction; their god is the belly; and their glory is in their shame; their minds are set on earthly things. But our citizenship is in heaven, and it is from there that we are expecting a Savior, the Lord Jesus Christ. He will transform the body of our humiliation that it may be conformed to the body of his glory, by the power that also enables him to make all things subject to himself. Therefore, my brothers and sisters, whom I love and long for, my joy and crown, stand firm in the Lord in this way, my beloved.

Reader: Hear what the Spirit is saying to God's People.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

Please rise in body or spirit.

GOSPEL HYMN

I want Jesus to walk with me

The musical score is written on four staves in a treble clef, with a key signature of two flats (B-flat and E-flat) and a 4/4 time signature. The lyrics are: "In my tri - als, Lord, walk with me; in my tri - als, Lord, walk with me; when my heart is al - most break - ing, Lord, I want Je - sus to walk with me." The melody is simple and hymn-like, with a mix of quarter, eighth, and half notes, and some rests.

THE HOLY GOSPEL

Luke 3:17-4:1

Celebrant: The Holy Gospel of our Savior Jesus Christ according to Mark.

People: **Glory to you, Lord Christ.**

Some Pharisees came and said to Jesus, "Get away from here, for Herod wants to kill you." He said to them, "Go and tell that fox for me, 'Listen, I am casting out demons and performing cures today and tomorrow, and on the third day I finish my work. Yet today, tomorrow, and the next day I must be on my way, because it is impossible for a prophet to be killed outside of Jerusalem.' Jerusalem, Jerusalem, the city that kills the prophets and stones those who are sent to it! How often have I desired to gather your children together as a hen gathers her brood under her wings, and you were not willing! See, your house is left to you. And I tell you, you will not see me until the time comes when you say, 'Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord.'"

Reader: The Gospel of the Lord.

People: **Praise to you, Lord Christ.**

SERMON

The Rev. Nathan Empsall

JAZZ RESPONSE

A musical response to the sermon

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, was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the Virgin Mary and became truly human. 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, who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified, who 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.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Bless our Faithful God,
O my soul.

For the holy Church of God, that it may be filled with truth and love, and be found without fault at the day of your coming. We pray for the Episcopal churches in Connecticut: All Saints', Ivoryton; St Andrew's, Kent; Emmanuel, Killingworth; Trinity, Lyme Rock. We pray for the worldwide Anglican Communion, especially The Church of the Province of Central Africa. We pray to you, O God.

Lord, have mercy.

For Sean, our Presiding Bishop, for Ian and Laura, our own Bishops, for Nathan, Our Priest-in-Charge, for our vestry, and for all the holy people of God.

We pray to you, O God.

Lord, have mercy.

For all who fear God and believe in you, Jesus Christ, that our divisions may cease, and that all may be one as you and the Father are one.

We pray to you, O God. Lord, have mercy. For the peace of the world, that a spirit of respect and forbearance may grow among nations and peoples.

We pray to you, O God.

Lord, have mercy.

For all who live and work in this community, especially students, teachers, and those who keep our cities and towns clean and safe.

We pray to you, O God.

Lord, have mercy.

For our enemies and those who wish us harm; and for all we have injured or offended. We pray to you, O God.

Lord, have mercy.

“Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord.”

We pray God’s healing for those on our prayer list, for those who live with violence and poverty, and for those we love, either silently, or aloud...

We pray for those who have died; may they rest in that place where there is no pain or grief, but life eternal. Comfort those who mourn.

And we pray for those who have birthdays or anniversaries this week, especially Sarah Hill.

We pray to you, O God.

Lord, have mercy.

Celebrant: God of heaven and earth, your wisdom stretches around the world, Ordering all things for good: Free us from anxiety and understand us like a friend, that we might share the good news of your friendship with all people; through the Word made flesh, Jesus Christ, our Lord. **Amen.**

MUSIC AFTER PRAYERS

O Lord hear my pray'r O Lord hear my pray'r When I call, ans - wer me. O

Lord hear my pray'r. O Lord hear my pray'r Come and lis-ten to me. O

THE PEACE

Celebrant: La paz del Señor sea siempre con ustedes. **People:** **Y con tu espíritu.**

Celebrant: 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 SENTENCE *Ephesians 5:2*

Celebrant: Walk in love, as Christ loved us, and gave himself for us,
an offering and sacrifice to God.

OFFERTORY ANTHEM

PRESENTATION HYMN *Ubi caritas*

Please rise in body or spirit.

The image shows two staves of musical notation in 4/4 time. The first staff begins with a treble clef and a key signature of one flat (B-flat). The melody consists of quarter notes for 'U - bi ca - ri - tas' and 'et a - mor,'. The second staff continues the melody with quarter notes for 'u - bi ca - ri - tas' and 'De - us i - bi est.' A triplet of eighth notes is marked with a '3' above the notes for 'i - bi'.

*Live in charity and steadfast love.
Live in charity; God will dwell with you.*

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING Eucharistic Prayer C

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 our thanks and praise.**

God of all power, Ruler of the Universe, you are worthy of glory and praise. At your command, all things came to be: the vast expanse of interstellar space, galaxies, suns, the planets in their courses, and this fragile earth, our island home.

From the primal elements, you brought forth the human race, and blessed us with memory, reason, and skill. You made us the rulers of creation. But we turned against you, and betrayed your trust; and we turned against one another. Again and again, you called us to return.

Through prophets and sages, you revealed your righteous Law. And in the fullness of time you sent your only Son, born of a woman, to fulfill your Law, to open for us the way of freedom and peace. And therefore we praise you, joining with the heavenly chorus, with prophets, apostles, and martyrs, and with all those in every generation who have looked to you in hope, to proclaim with them your glory, in their unending hymn:

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow - er and
might, hea - ven and earth are full of your glo - ry, Ho -
san - na in the high - est Bless - ed is he who
comes in the name of the Lord Ho - san - na in the high - est.

And so, Father, we who have been redeemed by him, and made a new people by water and the Spirit, now bring before you these gifts. Sanctify them by your Holy Spirit to be the Body and Blood of Jesus Christ our Lord.

On the night he was betrayed he took bread, said the blessing, broke the bread, and gave it to his friends, 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, gave thanks, 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."

Remembering now his work of redemption, and offering to you this sacrifice of thanksgiving,

We celebrate his death and resurrection, as we await the day of his coming.

As our Savior Christ has taught us, we now pray, in the language of our 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 líbranos del mal.
Porque tuyo es el reino,
tuyo es el poder, y tuya es la gloria,
ahora y por siempre. Amen.**

THE BREAKING OF THE BREAD

The Celebrant breaks the consecrated Bread. A period of silence is kept.

Celebrant: Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us.

People: **Therefore let us keep the feast.**

DISTRIBUTION OF COMMUNION

Celebrant: The Gifts of God for you, the People of God.

and may add

Take them in remembrance that Christ died for you, and feed on him in your hearts by faith, with thanksgiving. All baptized Christians (you don't have to be Episcopalian) are welcome to receive Holy Communion here at St. PJ's. We have a gluten-free option for those that need it.

In order to protect the health of our community, we are refraining from intinction (dipping the Bread into the Wine) at this time. You are welcome to drink from the chalice or to receive only the Bread if you prefer.

Day by day, dear Lord, of thee three things I pray:

to see thee more clear - ly, love thee more dear - ly,

fol - low thee more near - ly, day by day.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Please rise, in body or in spirit.

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.

THE BLESSING



1 O Je - sus Christ, may grate - ful hymns be ris - ing, _____
 2 Grant us new cour - age, sac - ri - fi - cial, hum - ble, _____
 3 Show us your Spi - rit, brood - ing o'er each ci - ty, _____



in ev - ery ci - ty for your love and care; _____
 strong in your strength to ven - ture and to dare; _____
 as you once wept a - bove Je - ru - sa - lem, _____



in - spire our wor - ship, grant the glad sur - pris - ing _____
 to lift the fall - en, guide the feet that stum - ble, _____
 seek - ing to gath - er all in love and pi - ty, _____



that your blest Spi - rit rous - es ev - ery - where.
 seek out the lone - ly and God's mer - cy share.
 and heal - ing those who touch your gar - ment's hem.

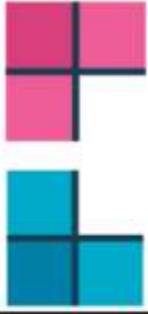
DISMISSAL

Celebrant: Let us go forth in the name of Christ.

People: Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE

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GRACE NOTES



— 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 (5:30p.m.–8:30p.m.)

SERVING TODAY

Second Sunday in Lent

March 16, 2025

Celebrant

The Rev. Nathan Empsall

Preacher

The Rev. Nathan Empsall

Liturgical Assistant

Tudy Hill

Lector

Agatha Evans

Bread Baker

Agatha Evans

OUR STAFF

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(203) 278-9199

The Rev. Steve Crowson, Priest Asso
Samuel Rodriguez, Sexton

OUR VESTRY

Co-Wardens: Bill Evans and
Juhani Jaske

Treasurer: David Hill

Clerk: Maggie King

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

We acknowledge the Quinnipiac, Paugussett, and Wappinger people, the traditional custodians of the land on which St. PJs is located. We pay respect to their elders, past and present. We respect their people and traditions as a continued call to live out the ministry of reconciliation to which we are called.

— ANNOUNCEMENTS —

PRAYER LIST

The Rev. Nathan Empsall five-part Lenten adult education (March 16-April 13)

A five –part adult education series on historical church figures who used their faith in Christ to resist Fascism, Authoritarianism and Totalitarianism will begin in the chapel each **Sunday** after worship for approximately 50 min.

**No Sunday School on
March 23.2025**

There will be no sunday school next Sunday, March 23. Class will resume the following week on March 30.

Polishing Party!

Please join on Saturday, April 12, for our polishing party with Altar Guild members, as they clean communion vessels and etc. Please see Janie Lang for more information.

2025 Stewardship Campaign

Pledge cards are available for our 2025 Stewardship Campaign, in which we are invited to prayerfully consider how we will pledge our support of God’s mission at St. PJs in the next year. You can place completed cards in the offering plate or send them to the office via the mail.

- Kathleen
- Rachel
- Betty Hill
- Tim Barnes
- Rev. Walter Macnutt
- Tom Caffelle
- Susan Thomas
- Kevin Gerbe
- Leota Tucker
- Edwina Johnson
- David Obser
- Cynthia King
- Paul D’agostino
- Richard Holcomb
- Tiras Jaske
- Gwen Chapin
- Susan Carrano
- Uli Mackert
- Alyce, Judi, Tom
- Leslie, Andrew, and Pam

BIRTHDAYS & ANNIVERSARIES

Sarah Hill (March. 20)

FAITHFUL DEPARTED

THANK YOU FOR JOINING US TODAY

Please be aware that by attending church, you are participating in our live stream, which means you may appear in a video which is streamed and archived on our YouTube or Facebook page.

Give to St. PJs
Online




THE EPISCOPAL CHURCH OF
St. Paul & St. James

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