

Second
SUNDAY OF
LENT



Morning Prayer and Holy Communion
The Second Sunday of Lent
March 1st, 2026
10:00 AM

St. James' Episcopal Church
Danbury, CT

WELCOME

A Warm Welcome to All! St. James' is especially delighted and blessed to welcome you to our beloved church today. Assisted Listening Devices are available from an usher. Restrooms are located in the hallway through the exit at the front left corner of the sanctuary. Visitors are invited to fill out a Welcome Card located in each pew, drop it with an usher or put it in the collection basket. All are welcome to receive Holy Communion in our church

Before the service begins, we encourage you to use the following for meditation.

Lent is upon us. For Jesus, the forty days in the wilderness were a time to re-align himself to why God had given him life: to claim the right purpose, power, and voice God had given him. For us, the focus of Lent can create space anew for the light, and life, and love of Jesus to teem in us and through us to our desperately broken world.

~ Curtis Almquist, SSJE

Be joyful in the Lord, all you lands; *

serve the Lord with gladness and come before his presence with a song.

Know this: The Lord himself is God; *

he himself has made us, and we are his; we are his people and the sheep of his pasture.

Enter his gates with thanksgiving; go into his courts with praise; *

give thanks to him and call upon his Name.

For the Lord is good; his mercy is everlasting; *

and his faithfulness endures from age to age.

All are seated from the reading of the Psalm to the end of the sermon.

Psalm 121 *Please refer to the insert.*

Officiant

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit

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

The Lessons

Please see insert.

A reading from the Book of Genesis

12:1-4

After the reading

Reader The Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

Canticle 2 Benedictus es, Domine

BCP 49

Blessed art thou, O Lord God of our fathers; *

praised and exalted above all for ever.

Blessed art thou for the Name of thy Majesty; *

praised and exalted above all for ever.

Blessed art thou in the temple of thy holiness; *

praised and exalted above all for ever.

Blessed art thou that beholdest the depths, and dwellest between the Cherubim; *
praised and exalted above all for ever.
Blessed art thou on the glorious throne of thy kingdom; *
praised and exalted above all for ever.
Blessed art thou in the firmament of heaven; *
praised and exalted above all for ever.
Blessed art thou, O Father, Son, and Holy Spirit; *
praised and exalted above all for ever.

A reading from Paul's Letter to the Romans

4:1-5, 13-17

After the reading

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

Canticle 3 Magnificat

BCP 50

My soul doth magnify the Lord, *
and my spirit hath rejoiced in God my Savior.
For he hath regarded *
the lowliness of his handmaiden.
For behold from henceforth *
all generations shall call me blessed.
For he that is mighty hath magnified me, *
and holy is his Name.
And his mercy is on them that fear him *
throughout all generations.
He hath showed strength with his arm; *
he hath scattered the proud in the imagination of their hearts.
He hath put down the mighty from their seat, *
and hath exalted the humble and meek.
He hath filled the hungry with good things, *
and the rich he hath sent empty away.
He remembering his mercy hath holpen his servant Israel, *
as he promised to our forefathers, Abraham and his seed for ever.
Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit: *
as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be for ever. Amen.

A reading from the Gospel of St. John

3:1-17

After the reading

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

Sermon

Judy Griemsmann

A period of silence is kept.

All stand as able.

The Apostles' Creed

BCP 96

**I believe in God, the Father almighty,
creator of heaven and earth;
I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.
He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit
and born of the Virgin Mary.
He 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,
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.
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.**

The Prayers

Officiant The Lord be with you.
People **And also with you.**

Officiant Let us pray.

Suffrages A

BCP 98

- V. Show us your mercy, O Lord;
R. **And grant us your salvation.**
V. Clothe your ministers with righteousness;
R. **Let your people sing with joy.**
V. Give peace, O Lord, in all the world;
R. **For only in you can we live in safety.**
- V. Lord, keep this nation under your care;
R. **And guide us in the way of justice and truth.**
V. Let your way be known upon earth;
R. **Your saving health among all nations.**
V. Let not the needy, O Lord, be forgotten;
R. **Nor the hope of the poor be taken away.**
V. Create in us clean hearts, O God;
R. **And sustain us with your Holy Spirit.**

Collect of the Day

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.**

A Collect for Sundays

BCP 56

O God, who makest us glad with the weekly remembrance of the glorious resurrection of thy Son our Lord: Grant us this day such blessing through our worship of thee, that the days to come may be spent in thy favor; through the same Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

A Prayer for Guidance

BCP 832

Direct us, O Lord, in all our doings with *thy* most gracious favor, and further us with *thy* continual help; that in all our works begun, continued, and ended in *thee*, we may glorify *thy* holy Name, and finally, by *thy* mercy, obtain everlasting life; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Together, in unison

Release your Holy Spirit, o God, to put our full faith and trust in you. Let Your peace which passes all understanding direct us to be peacemakers in time of anguish and sorrow. Bless us and sustain us now, and in every time of challenge, through Jesus Christ, the King of peace. Amen.

Parish Intercessions

The Peace

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

All may greet one another in the name of the Lord.

The Holy Communion, Rite 2

Offertory Sentence

Celebrant Return to the Lord your God, for he is gracious and merciful, slow to anger,
and abounding in steadfast love. Joel 2:13

All are seated.

Offertory Anthem God So Loved the World by John Stainer

Arranged by John Leavitt
Chancel Choir

All stand as able.

Presentation Hymn How Firm a Foundation

Blue Hymnal #636

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

Eucharistic Prayer A

BCP 361

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 God thanks and praise.**

It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth. [*Celebrant adds a Proper Preface.*]

Therefore we praise you, joining our voices with Angels and Archangels and with all the company of heaven, who forever sing this hymn to proclaim the glory of your Name:

Sanctus

Blue Hymnal S-124

**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 may kneel, as the Celebrant continues.

Holy and gracious Father: In your infinite love you made us for yourself, and, when we had fallen into sin and become subject to evil and death, you, in your mercy, sent Jesus Christ, your only and eternal Son, to share our human nature, to live and die as one of us, to reconcile us to you, the God and Father of all.

He stretched out his arms upon the cross, and offered himself, in obedience to your will, a perfect sacrifice for the whole world. On the night he was handed over to suffering and death, 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 we proclaim the mystery of faith:

Celebrant and People

Christ has died.

Christ is risen.

Christ will come again.

The Celebrant continues

We celebrate the memorial of our redemption, O Father, in this sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving. Recalling his death, resurrection, and ascension, we offer you these gifts.

Sanctify them by your Holy Spirit to be for your people the Body and Blood of your Son, the holy food and drink of new and unending life in him. Sanctify us also that we may faithfully receive this holy Sacrament, and serve you in unity, constancy, and peace; and at the last day bring us with all your saints into the joy of your eternal kingdom.

All this we ask through your Son Jesus Christ: 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:

Celebrant and People

The Lord's Prayer

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.

After the breaking of the bread

Celebrant The Gifts of God for the People of God.

All are invited to come forward for Communion. To receive a priestly blessing instead, please come forward and cross your arms over your chest. Gluten-free hosts are available by request.

Celebrant Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us;
People **Therefore let us keep the feast.**

Fraction Anthem Agnus Dei Blue Hymnal S-161

Celebrant The Gifts of God for the People of God.

All are invited to come forward for Communion. To receive a priestly blessing instead, please come forward and cross your arms over your chest. Gluten-free hosts are available by request.

Communion Hymn When I Survey the Wondrous Cross Blue Hymnal #474
Glory Be to Jesus Blue Hymnal #479

A Prayer for Spiritual Communion for those worshipping online

Celebrant Holy Jesus, Redeemer of the World, we believe that you are present in the Blessed Sacrament of this altar. Even while some of us are unable to receive you in the elements of bread and wine, we invite you to enter our hearts, fill us with hope, be present in every moment of our lives and never leave us comfortless. In your holy name we pray.
Amen.

[If the Sacrament is to be shared with homebound parishioners, the following form is used:]

Sending Forth of the Eucharistic Visitors

Celebrant In the name of this congregation, I send you forth bearing these holy gifts, that those to whom you go may share with us in the communion of Christ's body and blood.

People **We who are many are one body, because we all share one bread, one cup.**

Celebrant and People

Closing Prayer

BCP 366

All stand as able.

Celebrant Let us pray.

**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 Lenten Blessing* *(All bow or kneel as able.)*

Bow down before the Lord. Grant, most merciful Lord, to your faithful people pardon and peace, that they may be cleansed from their sins, and serve you with a quiet mind; through Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Closing Hymn

Lift High the Cross

Blue Hymnal #473

The Dismissal

Celebrant Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.
People **Thanks be to God.**

There are no postludes during Lent. Please leave the worship space quietly.

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If you are visiting us for the first time, WELCOME! We hope you will join us again soon.
Please feel free to introduce yourself to us or fill out a welcome card.

LENTEN MUSIC NOTES Submitted by Joanne F. Archibald, Director of Music Ministries

There will be a few changes in our music during the season of Lent.

- 1) We will sing the Kyrie (S-96) at the beginning of the service where we normally sing the Gloria.
- 2) The Sanctus will be changed to S-124.
- 3) The Fraction Anthem (Agnus Dei S-161) will return.
- 4) The Lord's Prayer will be spoken throughout Lent rather than singing it on alternate Sundays.
- 5) There will be no organ postludes so that you may have quiet reflective time at the close of the service if you wish.

Assisting in Worship | March 1st, 2026 • 10:00 am
Celebrant & Preacher: The Rev. Dr. Jim Wheeler
Music Director: Joanne F. Archibald
Ushers: Carolyn Flynn, Michelle Cummings
Lectors: Jana Draper, Perry Downs
Intercessor: Deb Kaufmann
Altar Servers: Dan Cox, Richard Arthur
Financial Stewards: Dan Cox, Janet Brown
Audio Tech: Lew Westfall

Parish Intercessions

Let us pray for all who are ill, in danger, or in sorrow, especially Jana, Judy, the Morgado family, the Eynon family, Jim & Jamie, Ginny, Claire, Gabby, Cady, Freddie, the Beaudry Family, Ernie, Janet, Shirley, Jean, Mark, Dan, Jane, Skip, Bruce, Ricky, John and Vivien.

We pray for peace for the people of the United States, and in the regions of South American, Middle East, Iran, Europe, Ukraine, and Russia.

For the intentions on our prayer wall.

For Good Shepherd, Grace and Haven Communities in Hartford; Prison Ministry & Chaplains; ECCT Faith Behind Bars and Beyond Ministry Network; The Anglican Church of Japan: The Nippon Sei Ko Kai.

For those celebrating birthdays this week: Dave Parille, Steven Paul Immarigeon, Deborah Kaufman

Pastoral Care Support

Prayer Chain

To add your name to the prayer chain contact Kathy Sabbagh at 203-748-4042 or email kathysabba48@gmail.com.

Prayer List

To add your name to the weekly bulletin prayer list, please call or email the office at 203-748-3561, or welcome@saintjamesdanbury.org.

Healing Prayer

Healing ministers are available for healing prayer after Sunday services weekly. Please ask an usher to direct you to one.

Pastoral Support or a pastoral emergency, contact Rev. Gina Gore at 203-748-3561 x 14 to leave a confidential message or email ggore@saintjamesdanbury.org.

Notes

In Case of an Emergency:

If there is a pastoral emergency, please reach out to our Rector, Rev. Gina at 203-748-3561, ext. 14 (office)

St. James' Episcopal Church
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welcome@saintjamesdanbury.org • www.saintjamesdanbury.org

Worship Schedule

Sundays **Holy Eucharist: 8:00 am in (Chapel)**
 Choral Holy Eucharist: 10:00 am (Church & live-streamed)
Wednesdays **Holy Eucharist: 9:30 am (Chapel)**

Office Hours

Tuesdays and Wednesdays (Amy): 9:30-3:30

Clergy, Wardens, & Staff

The Rev. Gina Gore, Rector
The Rev. Dr. Carole Johannsen, Affiliate Priest
The Rev. Dr. Michael Plekon, Affiliate Priest
The Rev. Dr. Jim Wheeler, Affiliate Priest
Joanne F. Archibald, Director of Music
Amy Maloof, Parish Administrator
Garry Riordan, Sexton
Wardens: Russ Griemsmann, Jim Beschle

Please note: Our main Church has an accessibility ramp. However, our smaller Chapel (used at 8:00 a.m. on Sundays and 9:30 a.m. on Wednesdays), is not wheelchair accessible.