Morning Prayer
The Twenty-Third Sunday after Pentecost
THE FEAST OF ALL SAINTS' DAY

November 1, 2026
10:00 a.m.

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.

In our services we use the Book of Common Prayer (BCP) and two hymnals, Lift Every Voice and Sing (LEVAS) and The Hymnal 1982, all located in your pews.

Sunday Morning Prayer: Rite II

Book of Common Prayer, p. 75

Please hold silence during the Prelude as we gather to worship.

Prelude I Sing a Song of the Saints of God
by John Henry Hopkins/Arranged by Robert J. Powell

Welcome and Announcements

All stand as able.

Opening Hymn For All the Saints, Stanzas 1-4 #287

Opening Acclamation BCP 77

We give thanks to the Father, who has made us worthy to share in the inheritance of the saints in light. ~ *Colossians 1:12*

Confession of Sin BCP 79

Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

Silence may be kept.
Leader and People together, all kneeling or standing as able.

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.

Leader
Almighty God have mercy on us, forgive us all your 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.**

The Invitatory and Psalter BCP 80-81

Officiant Lord, open our lips.
People **And our mouth shall proclaim your praise.**

Officiant and People
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. Alleluia.

Venite BCP 82

Read in unison.

Come, let us sing to the Lord;
let us shout for joy to the Rock of our salvation.
Let us come before his presence with thanksgiving
and raise a loud shout to him with psalms.
For the Lord is a great God,
and a great King above all gods.
In his hand are the caverns of the earth,
and the heights of the hills are his also.
The sea is his, for he made it,
and his hands have molded the dry land.
Come, let us bow down, and bend the knee,
and kneel before the Lord our Maker.
For he is our God,
and we are the people of his pasture and the sheep of his hand.
Oh, that today you would hearken to his voice!

All are seated from the Psalm to the end of the sermon, except for the Hymn of Praise.

The Psalm **34:1-10,22**
Read responsively by whole verse. Lector begins.

1 I will bless the Lord at all times;
his praise shall ever be in my mouth.
2 I will glory in the Lord;
let the humble hear and rejoice.
3 Proclaim with me the greatness of the Lord;
let us exalt his Name together.
4 I sought the Lord, and he answered me
and delivered me out of all my terror.
5 Look upon him and be radiant,
and let not your faces be ashamed.
6 I called in my affliction and the Lord heard me
and saved me from all my troubles.
7 The angel of the Lord encompasses those who fear him,
and he will deliver them.
8 Taste and see that the Lord is good;
happy are they who trust in him!
9 Fear the Lord, you that are his saints,
for those who fear him lack nothing.
10 The young lions lack and suffer hunger,
but those who seek the Lord lack nothing that is good.
22 The Lord ransoms the life of his servants,
and none will be punished who trust in him.

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

A Reading from the Revelation to John **7:9-17**

After this I, John, looked, and there was a great multitude that no one could count, from every nation, from all tribes and peoples and languages, standing before the throne and before the Lamb, robed in white, with palm branches in their hands. They cried out in a loud voice, saying,

"Salvation belongs to our God who is seated on the throne, and to the Lamb!" And all the angels stood around the throne and around the elders and the four living creatures, and they fell on their faces before the throne and worshiped God, singing,

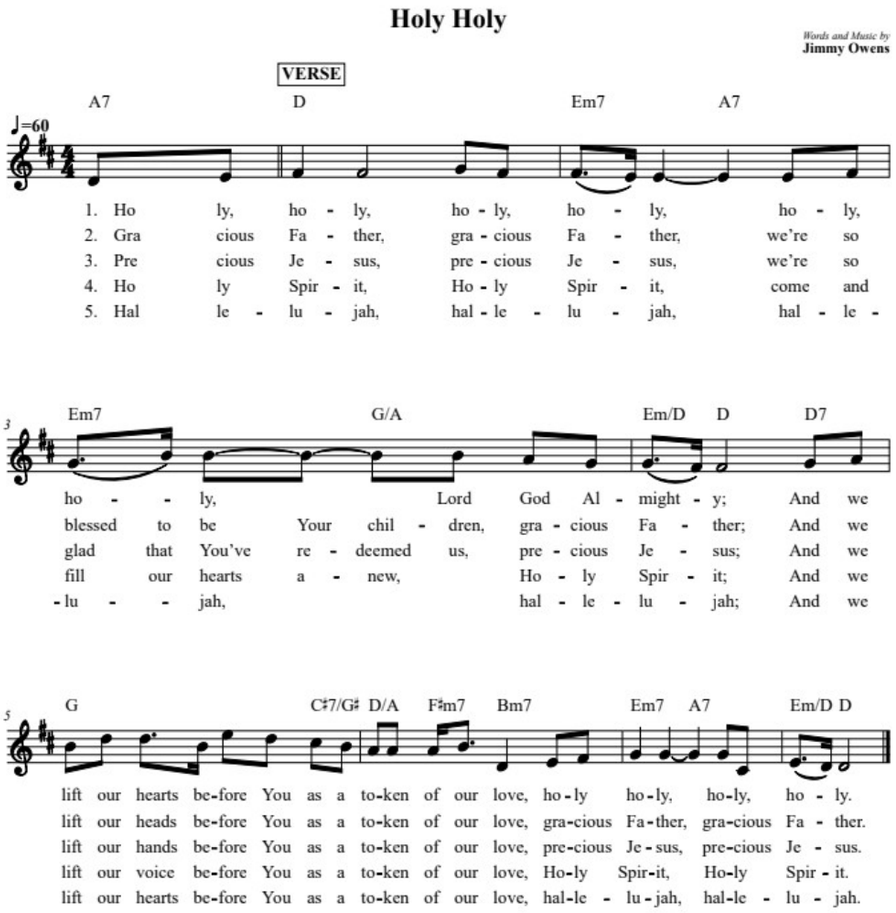
"Amen! Blessing and glory and wisdom
and thanksgiving and honor
and power and might
be to our God forever and ever! Amen."

Then one of the elders addressed me, saying, "Who are these, robed in white, and where have they come from?" I said to him, "Sir, you are the one that knows." Then he said to me, "These are they who have come out of the great ordeal; they have washed their robes and made them white in the blood of the Lamb.

"For this reason they are before the throne of God,
and worship him day and night within his temple,
and the one who is seated on the throne will shelter them.
They will hunger no more, and thirst no more;
the sun will not strike them,
nor any scorching heat;
for the Lamb at the center of the throne will be their shepherd,
and he will guide them to springs of the water of life,
and God will wipe away every tear from their eyes."

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

All stand as able.

Hymn of Praise Holy, Holy by Jimmy Owens

All are seated.

A Reading from the first letter of John **1 John 3: 1-3**

See what love the Father has given us, that we should be called children of God; and that is what we are. The reason the world does not know us is that it did not know him. Beloved, we are God's children now; what we will be has not yet been revealed. What we do know is this: when he is revealed, we will be like him, for we will see him as he is. And all who have this hope in him purify themselves, just as he is pure.

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

The Gospel

A reading from the Gospel according to Matthew **5:1-12**

When Jesus saw the crowds, he went up the mountain; and after he sat down, his disciples came to him. Then he began to speak, and taught them, saying:
"Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.
"Blessed are those who mourn, for they will be comforted.
"Blessed are the meek, for they will inherit the earth.
"Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they will be filled.
"Blessed are the merciful, for they will receive mercy.
"Blessed are the pure in heart, for they will see God.
"Blessed are the peacemakers, for they will be called children of God.
"Blessed are those who are persecuted for righteousness' sake, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.
"Blessed are you when people revile you and persecute you and utter all kinds of evil against you falsely on my account. Rejoice and be glad, for your reward is great in heaven, for in the same way they persecuted the prophets who were before you."

After the reading

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

Sermon Russ Griemsmann

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 97**

Read responsively. Leader begins.

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

Leader: Almighty God, you have knit together your elect in one communion and fellowship in the mystical body of your Son Christ our Lord: Give us grace so to follow your blessed saints in all virtuous and godly living, that we may come to those ineffable joys that you have prepared for those who truly love you; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who with you and the Holy Spirit lives and reigns, one God, in glory everlasting. **Amen.**

A Collect for Sundays BCP 99

All, in unison.

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.

A Collect for Mission BCP 101

Leader: Lord Jesus Christ, you stretched out your arms of love on the hard wood of the cross that everyone might come within the reach of your saving embrace: So clothe us in your Spirit that we, reaching forth our hands in love, may bring those who do not know you to the knowledge and love of you; for the honor of your Name. **Amen.**

Prayers and Thanksgivings
Intercessor shares the parish intercessions
[Note: Please see page 14 for information on requesting prayers.]

Hymn By All Your Saints Still Striving #232
(All Saints' Day 2nd verse is on the right hand page of your blue hymnal)

A Prayer for All Souls' with Ringing of the Bell
This is the day where we read the names aloud of all those who have passed and had a memorial service in this church within the last year.

All, in unison.
Loving and merciful Father, today we remember and pray for all souls who have departed from this life. We trust into your care our loved ones, friends, and all those who have gone before us. Grant them eternal rest and let perpetual light shine upon them.

Please be seated for reading of the names by the Leader

Robert L. Johnson
Raymond Beaudry
George Bogart
LaMorn Lagarto
Virginia Benton

Leader: Please share the names of those you would like to include either silently or aloud.

Offertory Anthem Blest Are They by David Haas
Chancel Choir

A collection will take place at this time.

Leader: O God, the Maker and Redeemer of all believers: Grant to the faithful departed the unsearchable benefits of the passion of your Son; that on the day of his appearing they may be manifested as your children; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

All stand, as able.

The Peace

Leader 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.

All are seated.

Convention Report Richard Arthur and Jewell Smith-Thornton

All stand, as able.

The General Thanksgiving BCP 101

Leader and People

**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.**

A Prayer for Spiritual Communion for all & those worshipping online
Leader: Holy Jesus, Redeemer of the world, we believe that you are present in the Blessed Sacrament of this altar. Even when we 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.**

A Prayer of St. Chrysostom BCP 102
All, in unison.

Almighty God, you have given us grace at this time with one accord to make our common supplication to you; and you have promised through your well-beloved Son that when two or three are gathered together in his Name you will be in the midst of them: Fulfill now, O Lord, our desires and petitions as may be best for us; granting us in this world knowledge of your truth, and in the age to come life everlasting. Amen.

Leader: Glory to God whose power, working in us, can do infinitely more than we can ask or imagine: Glory to him from generation to generation in the Church, and in Christ Jesus for ever and ever. **Amen.** *Ephesians 3:20,21*

Closing Hymn Jerusalem, My Happy Home #620

The Dismissal

Leader Let us bless the Lord. Alleluia, alleluia.
People **Thanks be to God. Alleluia, alleluia.**

All are invited to remain seated and hold silence during the Postlude concludes our worship.

Postlude Sortie by Auguste Larriu (1840-1925)

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"Holy Holy"

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MUSIC NOTES
Reminder! Children's Choir (K-6th grade) rehearses from 11:15-11:30 today to prepare for singing at church on November 15th. Please meet with Miss Joanne and Miss Betsy at the sanctuary piano following the 10am service.

Thank you to Ann Stephenson for ringing the bell this morning as the names for the All Saints' Day liturgy were read.

If you are visiting us for the first time, WELCOME!
Please feel free to introduce yourself to us.
Coffee Hour in the Parish Hall follows both services. Please join us!

Assisting in Worship
November 1, 2026 – 10:00 a.m.
Morning Prayer Leader: Judy Griemsmann
Morning Prayer Preacher: Russ Griemsmann
Music Director and Organist: Joanne F. Archibald
Ushers: Jim Beschle and Lew Westfall
Altar Servers: Richard Arthur and Jewell Smith-Thornton
Lectors: Linda Harrison and Jean Hassen
Intercessor: Dan Cox
Financial Stewards: Dan Cox and Susan Parille
Flower Arranger: Janet Brown
Flower Deliverer: Perry Downs
Audio Tech: Drew Satterfield

Parish Intercessions

Let us pray for all who are ill, in danger, in sorrow, or in any need of our prayers, sharing names silently or aloud. (Pause)

Lord, we pray for Becky and Sean Fanning, and Sean's mother Janine Pitts for the passing of her husband, Jack Pitts who died peacefully and comfortably on October 9th in Mirimar Beach, FL.

We pray for peace, protection, and comfort for those affected by conflict in the Middle East, asking for wisdom for leaders, safety for civilians, and a swift end to violence.

St. Paul's, Westbrook; Emmanuel, Weston; Christ & Holy Trinity, Westport. Persons employed by the Episcopal Church. For the presiding Bishop & the President of the House of Deputies. Iglesia Anglicana de la Region Central de Americana.

For the intentions on our prayer wall: That children can be safe in school. I hope that I can learn some things good in school.

For those celebrating birthdays last week: Karen Davidson, Claire Flynn, Nancy Lorenz

The flowers on the altar this morning are in memory of Rev. Gina's father, "Grandpa Beans" and all who we remember today.

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. Names remain on for 2 months.

Prayer List
To add a name to the weekly bulletin prayer list, please call or email the office at 203-748-3561, or welcome@saintjamesdanbury.org. Names remain on for 2 months. Please assure that the person's name being added welcomes this gesture.

Healing Prayer
Healing ministers are available for healing prayer after Sunday services weekly. Please ask an usher to direct you to one. Also, the first Wednesdays at 9:30 and the third Sundays at 8:00 and 10:00 a.m. are Healing Prayer services.

Pastoral Support or a pastoral emergency, contact Rev. Gina Gore at 203-748-3562 to leave a confidential message or email ggore@saintjamesdanbury.org.

In Case of an Emergency:
If there is a pastoral emergency, please reach out to our Rector, Rev. Gina at

203-748-3562. This is a secure line.

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

Worship Schedule

Sundays	**Holy Eucharist:**	8:00 a.m. in the Chapel	
	Choral Eucharist:	10:00 a.m. in Church	(Live-streamed)
Wednesdays	**Holy Eucharist**:	9:30 am in the Chapel	
	Evening Prayer:	6:00 pm in the Chapel.	
		(Bimonthly, see Announcements)	

Office Hours

Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday 9:00 a.m.-1:00 p.m.

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
Chris Basso, Parish Administrator
Garry Riordan, Sexton
Carol Hughes, Bookkeeper
Russ Griemsmann & Jim Beschle, Wardens
Lyn Meyers, Treasurer

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.

Scan this QR code to reach our website and to make a donation.