

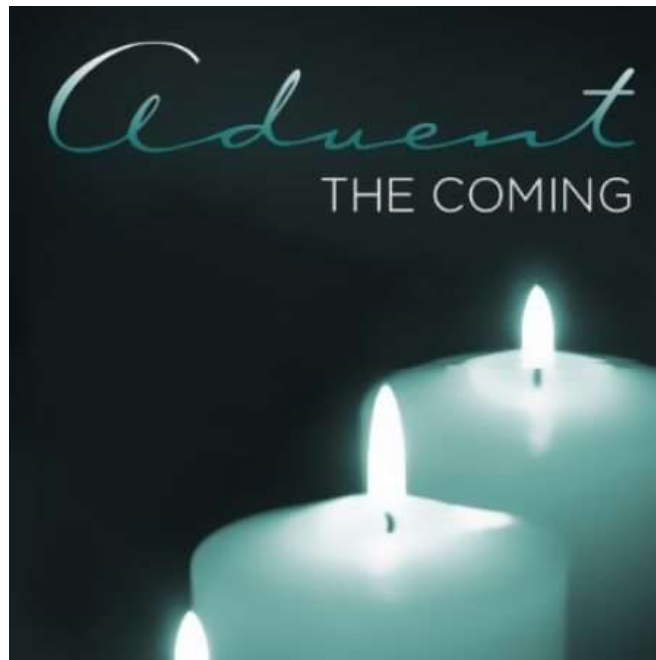
# Welcome to St James Episcopal Church...

## *We're glad that you chose to worship with us today!*

COVID guidelines-- out of love for others we'll continue to err on the side of caution.

- Please wear masks for all indoor church activities, including worship. **Masks are required when in the building for all over age 2** (or those with health restrictions). You may remove your mask briefly while receiving Communion. Clergy and Readers may remove masks when speaking.
- Please greet each other and share your love through verbal or other contact-less expressions.
- Please use the handicap-accessible restroom outside the sanctuary.
- Communion is provided for those who would like to consume bread and/or wine as directed. You may participate in spiritual communion if you prefer to not receive either physical element. (*This is sacramentally appropriate any time receiving bread and/or wine is not a possibility for any reason. The bread and wine are the outward and visible signs of the inward and spiritual grace in the communion sacrament*)

This Worship service will be live-streamed. If you have privacy concerns for yourself or your child(ren), please sit in the back left of the Sanctuary (the area closest to the Chapel). Nobody will be identifiably visible during Communion. Our videos may be viewed online live or any time: [go.mysjec.com/youtube](https://go.mysjec.com/youtube)



## **10AM Worship with Communion – December 12, 2021**

### **The Third Sunday of Advent**



#### Today's Worship leadership includes...

<i>Ministers</i>	Members of the Congregation
<i>Reader 1</i>	Skip Cole
<i>Reader 2</i>	Pat Hanson
<i>Rector (Pastor)</i>	The Rev'd Diane M Murray (Amma Diane)
<i>Worship/Music Coordinator</i>	Tony Karl
<i>Pianist</i>	Barb Cook

**We are an inclusive community of faith that welcomes and celebrates diversity in age, race, nation of origin, citizenship status, gender identity, sexual orientation, social status, political view, background, ability level, marital status, and anything else that makes us unique. Whatever your reason for coming, we are glad you are here!**

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 St James Episcopal Church, 434 North 8th Street, Manitowoc, WI 54220  
 mysjec.com — info@mysjec.com — Church Office: 920.684.8256  
 Amma Diane: 920.860.5152 (*cell/text*) — dianemarie.murray@gmail.com  
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If you would like to know more about the life, mission, or ministries of St James Episcopal Church, please talk to any member of our Vestry (church council):

*Rector (Pastor):* The Rev'd Diane M Murray      *Wardens:* Chris Dee Eggert-Rosenthal & Mary Green  
*Vestrypersons:* Nick Doszkewycz, Richard Hall, & Kim Kaufmann  
*Clerk:* Tony Karl      *Treasurer:* Linda Molitor  
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**All the words you will need are in this bulletin:** Text that the people say is prefaced with "People" or "All" and is in a **bold font**. All song lyrics are also in this bulletin. For those who prefer to read music, most song numbers are referenced for the blue *Hymnal 1982* and soft-cover *Renew!* books found in the pew racks.

**Wi-Fi access:** Look for our network beginning with **CBCI-77B0** and enter password **build7443guitar**; we encourage you to share pictures and posts on social media.

**Worship/Liturgy Sources:** Our worship is based on the *Book of Common Prayer* (BCP--the red hardcover book in the pew rack), the *Book of Occasional Services*, the *Enriching Our Worship series*—the primary liturgical resources authorized by General Convention of The Episcopal Church—supplemented by occasional other resources. You may find additional prayers in the BCP on pages 832-834 helpful for personal devotion before, during, and after worship (especially prayers 64-69 and 57-61). If you'd like a BCP for your own use at home, the church can provide one for you—please talk to Amma Diane.

**Children:** Children of all ages are welcome in worship! Activity bags are available in the back of the church. A changing station is available in the restroom in the atrium just outside the sanctuary.

**Hearing Loop:** Our Hearing Loop system enables people with hearing loss to better hear sounds through our sound system. If you can set your hearing aid to a T or M/T setting, audio from our sound system will be received directly by your device (70% of aids have this feature). If your aid does not have this option, or you do not wear a hearing aid, there are a few portable headsets available in the back of the church.



**Please share your prayer requests with us:** All are invited to share their prayer requests so that the entire congregation may join in lifting up your needs and thanksgivings. Please add requests to the Prayers of the People clipboard (you can simply use first names on requests... God knows our needs). If you'd like a prayer lifted up for multiple weeks, please fill out a prayer request slip found at the back of the church.

**We worship with our bodies:** You'll notice that some of us may sit, stand, and kneel at various points in the service. Some of us may make the sign of the cross or bow now and then. Some may clap, raise their hands, or tap their feet. All of these movements are traditions from various parts of our Christian heritage—none are required, none are frowned upon. All are welcome to express whatever movements they might find meaningful in worship. Some instructions are printed throughout this bulletin—you may also observe what others do. None of these movements are a requirement: if you prefer not to use them, don't worry about it—God doesn't.

**Restrooms/Layout/Accessibility:** A handicapped-accessible restroom is located in the atrium just outside the sanctuary (next to the elevator.) Another restroom is located on the lower level. The atrium gives access to the lower level and upper level by stairs or elevator. The worship space and chapel are located on the upper level. The offices, fellowship hall, library, and classrooms are located on the lower level and marked by signs.

## Welcome!

*All who are able, please stand. Masks must be worn while singing.*

### ♪ **On Jordan's Bank the Baptist's Cry**

[Hymnal #76]

On Jordan's bank the Baptist's cry  
announces that the Lord is nigh;  
awake and hearken, for he brings  
glad tidings of the King of kings!

Then cleansed be every life from sin;  
make straight the way for God within,  
and let us all our hearts prepare  
for Christ to come and enter there.

We hail you as our Savior, Lord,  
our refuge and our great reward;  
without your grace we waste away  
like flowers that wither and decay.

Stretch forth your hand; our health restore,  
and make us rise to fall no more.

O let your face upon us shine  
and fill the world with love divine.

Words: Charles Coffin, 1736; trns John Chandler, 1837. Music: *WINCHESTER NEW*, B Crasselius, 1690; hrm W H Monk, 1847.

*Celebrant* Blessed are you, holy and living One.

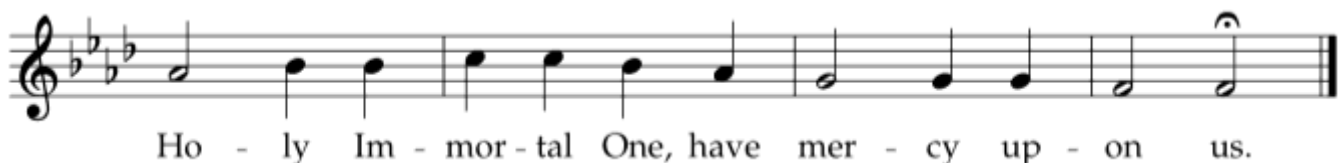
*People* **You come to your people and set them free. AMEN!**

*Celebrant* Almighty God, to you all hearts are open, all desires known, and from you no secrets are hid: Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you, and worthily magnify your holy Name; through Christ our Lord.

*People* **AMEN!**

### ♪ **Trisagion (Thrice-Holy)**

[Hymnal #S102; sung 3 times]



*Trisagion*, from the Greek meaning "thrice holy". Setting: version *Hymnal 1982*, after Alexander Archangelsky (1846-1924).

*Celebrant* God be with you.

*People* **And also with you.**

*Celebrant* Let us pray. 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.

*People* **AMEN!**

*Please be seated.*

## **First Lesson**

*Reader 1* A reading of Zephaniah chapter 3, verses 14 through 20.

Sing aloud, O daughter Zion; shout, O Israel! Rejoice and exult with all your heart, O daughter Jerusalem! The Lord has taken away the judgments against you, he has turned away your enemies. The king of Israel, the Lord, is in your midst; you shall fear disaster no more. On that day it shall be said to Jerusalem: Do not fear, O Zion; do not let your hands grow weak. The Lord, your God, is in your midst, a warrior who gives victory; he will rejoice over you with gladness, he will renew you in his love; he will exult over you with loud singing as on a day of festival. I will remove disaster from you, so that you will not bear reproach for it. I will deal with all your oppressors at that time. And I will save the lame and gather the outcast, and I will change their shame into praise and renown in all the earth. At that time I will bring you home, at the time when I gather you; for I will make you renowned and praised among all the peoples of the earth, when I restore your fortunes before your eyes, says the Lord.

*Reader* Hear what the Spirit is saying to God's people.

*People* **Thanks be to God.**

## **Unison Reading**

*Reader 1* Let us read in unison *Canticle 9, The First Song of Isaiah*, from Isaiah chapter 12, verses 2 through 6.

*All* Surely, it is God who saves me; I will trust in God and not be afraid. For the Lord is my stronghold and my sure defense, the Lord God will be my Savior. Therefore you shall draw water with rejoicing from the springs of salvation. And on that day you shall say, Give thanks to the Lord and call upon the holy Name; Make God's wonderful deeds known among the peoples; see that they remember that the Name of the Lord is exalted. Sing the praises of the Lord, who has done great things, and this is known in all the world. Cry aloud, inhabitants of Zion, ring out your joy, for the great one in the midst of you is the Holy One of Israel.

Praise to the holy and undivided Trinity, one God: as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be for ever. AMEN!

## **New Testament**

*Reader 1* A reading of Philippians chapter 4, verses 4 through 7.

Rejoice in the Lord always; again I will say, Rejoice. Let your gentleness be known to everyone. The Lord is near. Do not worry about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.

*Reader* Hear what the Spirit is saying to God's people.

*People* **Thanks be to God.**

*All who are able, please stand.*

## **Gospel**

Luke 3. 7-18

*Celebrant* The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Luke.

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

*Celebrant* John said to the crowds that came out to be baptized by him, "You brood of vipers! Who warned you to flee from the wrath to come? Bear fruits worthy of repentance. Do not begin to say to yourselves, 'We have Abraham as our ancestor'; for I tell you, God is able from these stones to raise up children to Abraham. Even now the ax is lying at the

root of the trees; every tree therefore that does not bear good fruit is cut down and thrown into the fire." And the crowds asked him, "What then should we do?" In reply he said to them, "Whoever has two coats must share with anyone who has none; and whoever has food must do likewise." Even tax collectors came to be baptized, and they asked him, "Teacher, what should we do?" He said to them, "Collect no more than the amount prescribed for you." Soldiers also asked him, "And we, what should we do?" He said to them, "Do not extort money from anyone by threats or false accusation, and be satisfied with your wages." As the people were filled with expectation, and all were questioning in their hearts concerning John, whether he might be the Messiah, John answered all of them by saying, "I baptize you with water; but one who is more powerful than I is coming; I am not worthy to untie the thong of his sandals. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire. His winnowing fork is in his hand, to clear his threshing floor and to gather the wheat into his granary; but the chaff he will burn with unquenchable fire." So, with many other exhortations, he proclaimed the good news to the people."

*Celebrant* The Gospel of the Lord.

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

*Please be seated.*

**Sermon** *Amma Diane*

*All who are able, please stand.*

## **Nicene Creed**

*Celebrant* Let us join in the words of the Nicene Creed.

*All* **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,**



*Reader 2* You bring your people safety and comfort. We pray for the sick, the suffering, and those in distress of any kind, that you would heal all injuries, comfort all grief, and settle all wrongs. Come, Lord God.

*All* **♪ Jesus, come to us, lead us to your light.**

*Reader 2* Your great works of redemption, O God, span the ages. We pray for those who rejoice this week that they might be filled with joy and gladness. Come, Lord God.

*All* **♪ Jesus, come to us, lead us to your light.**

*Reader 2* We thank you for your presence with us, and we pray that you might be always present with those whom we love but see no longer. Come, Lord God.

*All* **♪ Jesus, come to us, lead us to your light.**

*Reader 2* We lift up the special needs and concerns of this congregation, including those on our prayer lists and those we remember now silently or aloud... *The people offer additional prayers at this time.*  
...Come, Lord God.

*All* **♪ Jesus, come to us, lead us to your light.**

*Reader 2* Come, Lord God: change us and we shall be changed. Come, increase our awareness of your presence, strengthen our love for you, and fill our hearts with holiness. Come, awaken us to be ready and watchful for your coming. Come, Lord God: change us and we shall be changed; through him who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

*All* **AMEN!**

*Reader 2* Let us confess our sins to God.

*All* **God of all mercy, we confess that we have sinned against you, opposing your will in our lives. We have denied your goodness in each other, in ourselves, and in the world you have created. We repent of the evil that enslaves us, the evil we have done, and the evil done on our behalf. Forgive, restore, and strengthen us through our Savior Jesus Christ, that we may abide in your love and serve only your will. AMEN!**



*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 power of the Holy Spirit keep you in eternal life.

**All AMEN!**

*Please be seated. Those with birthdays or anniversaries, please stand at this time. If you would like a prayer for healing, travel, or any other needs, please let Amma Diane know.*

*Celebrant* Let us join in prayer for all those who have celebrated or will be celebrating their birthdays.

**All O God, our times are in your hand: Look with favor, we pray, on your servants as they begin another year. Grant that they may grow in wisdom and grace, and strengthen their trust in your goodness all the days of their life; through Jesus Christ our Lord. AMEN!**

*Celebrant* Let us join in prayer for all those who have celebrated or will be celebrating their anniversaries.

**All O God, you teach us through the example of Jesus that love is the fulfilment of the Law; help those couples celebrating anniversaries to persevere in love, to grow in mutual understanding, and to deepen their trust in each other; that in wisdom, patience and courage, their life together may be a source of happiness to all with whom they share it. AMEN!**

*Celebrant* To all of you celebrating milestones: May the blessing of God Almighty, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, be upon you to guide and protect you and all those you love, today and always!

**All AMEN!**

*All who are able, please stand.*

## **Passing the Peace**

*Celebrant* The peace of Christ be always with you.

*People* **And also with you.**

*We share God's love with others from a distance with verbal greetings, waving, peace sign, etc.*

*Please be seated.*

**Announcements** *All giving announcements: please use a mic for our friends online.*

## Offering Our Gifts

*Celebrant* Gifts and offerings may be left in the offering plate, mailed to the church, dropped off in the church mail slot, or sent through your bank. There are also online giving options on our web site at [mySJEC.com/donate](http://mySJEC.com/donate). We are grateful for your continued financial support of our ministry and mission.

*All who are able, please stand. Masks must be worn while singing.*

### ♪ **If I Have Two Coats**

Lord, If I have two coats, God calls me to share;  
 There's someone nearby with no coat to wear.  
 And if I don't know who that person might be,  
 It's to a new friendship that God's calling me.  
 If I have some bread — and soup, all the more —  
 I'm called to reach out to someone who's poor.  
 And if I don't know who that person might be,  
 It's to a new table that God's calling me.  
 If money is mine, God calls me to live  
 As someone who loves to generously give;  
 And if I don't know someone suffering near me,  
 It's to a new neighbor that God's calling me.  
 O God of great truth, John's call to obey  
 Prepared us for Christ, who shows us your Way.  
 May we have the courage to try something new,  
 To reach to new neighbors and so welcome you..

Words: ref Luke 3.7-18, ©2015 Carolyn Winfrey Gillette. All rights reserved. Music: LYONS, "O Worship the King, All Glorious Above" 1784.

*Celebrant* Inspire us to always share your love through action, O God:

*People* **Strengthen us to always be an inviting safe community for all.**

## Invitation to Communion

*from the Iona Community, Scotland*

*Celebrant* The table of bread and wine is now to be made ready. It is the table of company with Jesus, and all who love him. It is the table of sharing with the poor of the world, with whom Jesus identified himself. It is the table of communion with the earth, in which Christ became incarnate. So come to this table, you who have much faith and you who would like to have more;

you who have been here often and you who have not been for a long time;  
you who have tried to follow Jesus, and you who have failed; come.

## Great Thanksgiving

*Eucharistic Prayer 3*

*Celebrant* The Lord be with you.

*All* **And also with you.**

*Celebrant* Lift up your hearts.

*All* **We lift them to the Lord.**

*Celebrant* Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

*All* **It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

*Celebrant* All thanks and praise are yours at all times and in all places, our true and loving God; through Jesus Christ, your eternal Word, the Wisdom from on high by whom you created all things. You laid the foundations of the world and enclosed the sea when it burst out from the womb; you brought forth all creatures of the earth and gave breath to humankind. Wondrous are you, Holy One of Blessing, all you create is a sign of hope for our journey; and so as the morning stars sing your praises we join the heavenly beings and all creation as we shout with joy:

♪ **Holy, Holy, Holy Lord** Setting: from *A Community Mass*, Richard Proulx (b 1937). [Hymnal #S125]

**Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,  
heaven and earth are full of your glory.**

**Hosanna in the highest. Hosanna in the highest.**

**Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.**

**Hosanna in the highest. Hosanna in the highest.**

*Celebrant* Glory and honor are yours, Creator of all, your Word has never been silent; you called a people to yourself, as a light to the nations, you delivered them from bondage and led them to a land of promise. Of your grace, you gave Jesus to be human, to share our life, to proclaim the coming of your holy reign and give himself for us, a fragrant offering. Through Jesus Christ our Redeemer, you have freed us from sin, brought us into your life, reconciled us to you, and restored us to the glory you intend for us.

We thank you that on the night before he died for us Jesus took bread, and when he had given thanks to you, he broke it, gave it to his friends and said: "Take... Eat... this is my Body, broken for you. Do this for the remembrance of me."

After supper Jesus took the cup of wine, said the blessing, gave it to his friends and said: "Drink this, all of you: this cup is the new Covenant in my Blood, poured out for you and for all for the forgiveness of sin. Do this for the remembrance of me."

And so, remembering all that was done for us: the cross, the tomb, the resurrection, and ascension, longing for Christ's coming in glory, and presenting to you these gifts your earth has formed and human hands have made, we acclaim you, O Christ:

*All* **Dying, you destroyed our death. Rising, you restored our life. Christ Jesus, come in glory!**

*Celebrant* Send your Holy Spirit upon us and upon these gifts of bread and wine that they may be to us the Body and Blood of your Christ. Grant that we, burning with your Spirit's power, may be a people of hope, justice and love. Giver of Life, draw us together in the Body of Christ, and in the fullness of time gather us with all your people into the joy of our true eternal home. Through Christ and with Christ and in Christ, by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, we worship you our God and Creator in voices of unending praise.

*All* **Blessed are you now and for ever. AMEN!**

*Celebrant* As our Savior Christ has taught us, we now pray,

*All* **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!**

## Breaking Bread

*Celebrant* We break this bread to share in the Body of Christ.

*All* We who are many are one body, for we all share in the one bread.

## ♪ Lamb of God

Setting: from *New Plainsong*, David Hurd (b 1950). [Hymnal #S161]

Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world: have mercy on us.

Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world: have mercy on us.

Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world: grant us peace.

*Celebrant* The Gifts of God for the People of God. Take them in remembrance that Christ died for you, and feed on him in your hearts by faith, with thanksgiving.

*At this time, the Celebrant will extend the invitation to communion to all present and give instructions as needed. Visitors are welcome to receive communion or a blessing.*

*All who are able, please stand.*

*Celebrant* Let us pray.

*All* Loving God, we give you thanks for restoring us in your image and nourishing us with spiritual food in the Sacrament of Christ's Body and Blood. Now send us forth a people, forgiven, healed, renewed; that we may proclaim your love to the world and continue in the risen life of Christ our Savior. AMEN!

## Seasonal Blessing for Advent

*Celebrant* May Almighty God, by whose providence our Savior Christ came among us in great humility, sanctify you with the light of his blessing and set you free from all sin.

*All* AMEN!

*Celebrant* May he whose second Coming in power and great glory we await, make you steadfast in faith, joyful in hope, and constant in love.

*All* AMEN!

*Celebrant* May you, who rejoice in the first Advent of our Redeemer, at his second Advent be rewarded with unending life.

*All* AMEN!

*Celebrant* And may the blessing of God Almighty, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, be upon you and remain with you for ever.

*All* **AMEN!**

*Masks must be worn while singing.*

♪ **Prepare the Way, O Zion**

[Hymnal #65]

Prepare the way, O Zion, your Christ is drawing near!

Let every hill and valley a level way appear.

Greet One who comes in glory, foretold in sacred story.

Oh, blest is Christ that came in God's most holy name.

He brings God's rule, O Zion; he comes from heaven above.

His rule is peace and freedom, and justice, truth, and love.

Lift high your praise resounding, for grace and joy abounding.

Oh, blest is Christ that came in God's most holy name.

Fling wide your gates, O Zion; your Savior's rule embrace.

His tidings of salvation proclaim in every place.

All lands will bow before him, their voices will adore him.

Oh, blest is Christ that came in God's most holy name.

Words: Frans M Franzen, 1819; Charles Price, 1980, alt. Music: *BEREDEN VÄG FÖR HERRAN*, 1697.

**Sending**

*Celebrant* Go in peace to love and serve the Lord! Alleluia, alleluia!

*People* Thanks be to God! Alleluia, alleluia!

Thank you for celebrating with us today! Please join us in the fellowship hall after worship to help put together our special Advent deliveries for every household (*you can take yours with you*).

*Thank you for your support! Gifts may be mailed to the church or sent through your bank.*

*There are also online giving options on our web site at [mySJEC.com/donate](http://mySJEC.com/donate).*

*December's special offering supports the Rector's discretionary fund—please label accordingly.*