

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



10AM Worship with Communion – December 19, 2021

The Fourth Sunday of Advent



ST JAMES
EPISCOPAL CHURCH, MANITOWOC
An inviting safe community for all

Today's Worship leadership includes...

<i>Ministers</i>	Members of the Congregation
<i>Eucharistic Minister</i>	Dave Dillman
<i>Reader 1</i>	Eleanor Agnew
<i>Reader 2</i>	Chris Eggert-Rosenthal
<i>Reader 3</i>	Glenn Davidowich
<i>Rector (Pastor)</i>	The Rev'd Diane M Murray (Amma Diane)
<i>Worship/Music Coordinator</i>	Tony Karl

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!

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

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

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 networks 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.

♪ **Blest Be the King Whose Coming**

[Hymnal #74]

Blest be the King whose coming is in the name of God!
 For him let doors be opened, no hearts against him barred!
 Not robed in royal splendor, in power and pomp comes he:
 but clad as are the poorest, such his humility!
 Blest be the King whose coming is in the name of God!
 By those who truly listen his voice is truly heard;
 pity the proud and haughty, who have not learned to heed
 the Christ, who is the Promise, who has atonement made.
 Blest be the King whose coming is in the name of God!

He only to the humble reveals the face of God.
 All power is his, all glory! All things are in his hand,
 all ages and all people, till time itself shall end!

Blest be the King whose coming is in the name of God!
 He offers to the burdened the rest and grace they need.
 Gentle is he and humble! And light his yoke shall be,
 for he would have us bear it so he can make us free!

Words: Frederico J Pagura; tr F Pratt Green ©1974 Hope Publishing. Music: *ST THEODULPH*, Melchior Teschner, 1613.

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]

Ho - ly God, ho - ly and might - y,
 Ho - ly Im - mor - tal One, have mer - cy up - on us.

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. Purify our conscience, Almighty God, by your daily visitation, that your Son Jesus Christ, at his coming, may find in us a mansion prepared for himself; who lives and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.

People AMEN!

Please be seated.

First Lesson

Reader 1 A reading of Micah chapter 5, verses 2 through 5.

You, O Bethlehem of Ephrathah, who are one of the little clans of Judah, from you shall come forth for me one who is to rule in Israel, whose origin is from of old, from ancient days. Therefore he shall give them up until the time when she who is in labor has brought forth; then the rest of his kindred shall return to the people of Israel. And he shall stand and feed his flock in the strength of the Lord, in the majesty of the name of the Lord his God. And they shall live secure, for now he shall be great to the ends of the earth; and he shall be the one of peace.

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 15, The Song of Mary*, from Luke chapter 1, verses 46 through 55.

All My soul proclaims the greatness of the Lord, my spirit rejoices in you, O God my Savior, for you have looked with favor on your lowly servant. From this day all generations will call me blessed: you, the Almighty, have done great things for me, and holy is your name. You have mercy on those who fear you from generation to generation. You have shown strength with your arm and scattered the proud in their conceit, casting down the mighty from their thrones and lifting up the lowly. You have filled the hungry with good things and sent the rich away empty.

You have come to the help of your servant Israel, for you have remembered your promise of mercy, the promise made to our forebears, to Abraham and his children for ever.

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 Hebrews chapter 10, verses 5 through 10.

When Christ came into the world, he said, "Sacrifices and offerings you have not desired, but a body you have prepared for me; in burnt offerings and sin offerings you have taken no pleasure. Then I said, 'See, God, I have come to do your will, O God' (in the scroll of the book it is written of me)." When he said above, "You have neither desired nor taken pleasure in sacrifices and offerings and burnt offerings and sin offerings" (these are offered according to the law), then he added, "See, I have come to do your will." He abolishes the first in order to establish the second. And it is by God's will that we have been sanctified through the offering of the body of Jesus Christ once for all.

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

People **Thanks be to God.**

All who are able, please stand.

Gospel

Luke 1. 39-45

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

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

Celebrant In those days Mary set out and went with haste to a Judean town in the hill country, where she entered the house of Zechariah and greeted Elizabeth. When Elizabeth heard Mary's greeting, the child leaped in her womb. And Elizabeth was filled with the Holy Spirit and exclaimed with a loud cry, "Blessed are you among women, and blessed is the fruit of your womb. And why has this happened to me, that the mother of my Lord comes to me? For as soon as I heard the sound of your greeting, the child in my womb leaped for joy. And

blessed is she who believed that there would be a fulfillment of what was spoken to her by the Lord."

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, 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

This musical response is sung once after each petition

Je - sus, come - to - us, lead us to your light.

Reader 2 Stirred to keep watch and keep awake, that we may see the coming of the Lord, let us call all of God's people to watchful and wakeful prayer.

For the holy churches of God in every place, especially for Michael our Presiding Bishop, for Matt our Bishop, for Diane our Rector, for all lay leaders and clergy, and for the unity of all, we pray:

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

Reader 2 O God, the days are surely coming when all your promises will be fulfilled. We pray for the church, that we might fulfill our promises to you, and be forgiven for all our failures. Come, Lord God.

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

Reader 2 In your time, O Lord, a righteous branch sprang up and you brought justice and righteousness in every land. We pray for our nation and all nations, that your peace would be manifest in every corner of the earth. Come, Lord God.

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

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 come forward. If you would like a prayer for healing, travel, or any other needs, please come forward and 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. 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.

♪ The Lowly Will Be Lifted Up

The lowly will be lifted up, the humble will arise,
And hungry homes will overflow with all that God supplies.

O God, we sing of blessedness as we await Christ's birth;
May we who know abundant love reach out to love your earth.

As Mary sang her thanks and praise, we sing of living Bread.
May we reach out to share Christ's life till all the world is fed.

It's living Bread we gladly share, and bread for bodies, too.
Remind us, when we feed the poor, we're giving food to you.

God, you uphold the cause of those who hunger, long-oppressed.
May we your church seek justice here, and share your blessedness.

In many ways, you bless your world with good and wondrous things;
And so with Mary, we proclaim, "With joy my spirit sings."

Words: ref Luke 1, Psalm 146, Matt 25, ©2015 Carolyn Winfrey Gillette. All rights reserved. Music: *STANNE* (O God, Our Help in Ages Past), 1708.

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.

♪ **O Come, O Come, Emmanuel**

O come, O come, Emmanuel, and ransom captive Israel
that mourns in lowly exile here until the Son of God appear.
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel!

O come, thou Branch of Jesse's tree, free them from Satan's tyranny
that trust thy mighty power to save, and give them vict'ry o'er the grave.
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel!

O come, O Dayspring, from on high, and cheer us by thy drawing nigh;
disperse the gloomy clouds of night, and death's dark shadow put to flight.
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel!

O come, Desire of nations, bind in one the hearts of all mankind;
bid thou our sad divisions cease, and be thyself our King of Peace.
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel!

Words: Latin, 12th century; trans John Mason Neale. Music: *VENI EMMANUEL*, 15th century plainsong

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 after worship to help decorate the church for the Christmas season.

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.

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

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Tuesday 12/21 at 5:30PM – Blue Christmas

Friday 12/24 at 7PM – Christmas Eve (music starts at 6:30PM)

Sunday 12/26 at 10AM – Christmas Hymn Sing