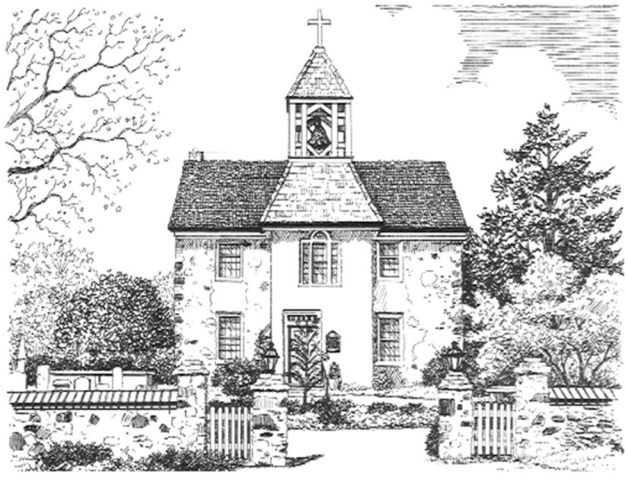
Saint James' Episcopal Church

Mill Creek Hundred

A Congregation of The Episcopal Church in Delaware



Established 1714

Holy Eucharist - Rite II

The Seventh Sunday after Epiphany

February 23, 2025

WELCOME TO ST. JAMES' EPISCOPAL CHURCH
MILLCREEK HUNDRED

St. James' Episcopal Church is a committed and vital community, and we hope a friendly and welcoming one.

On Sundays, we gather to "continue in the apostles' teaching and fellowship, in the breaking of bread and in the prayers". As we worship together, please also remember and hold in your prayers all the saints who have gone before us as they rest from their labors in the surrounding graveyard. Their work and ministry have helped bring us to this place.

St. James' Mill Creek Hundred
2106 St. James Church Road
Wilmington, DE 19808

Office Hours: Monday - Wednesday 9:00am - 1:00pm

Phone: (302) 994-1584

E-Mail: office@stjamesmillcreek.comcastbiz.net

Website: www.stjamesmillcreek.org

PARISH STAFF AND OFFICERS

Rector	The Rev. Ben Rockwell
Director of Music	Keith St. John
Office Administrator	
Sexton	Borden Adams, Blue Sky Maintenance
Vestry	David Niehaus (Sr. Warden), Carol Bruno (Jr. Warden), Ed Burdick, Cathy Coppol, Jim Craig, Val Hall, Chuck Haywood, Carolyn Joynt, David Perry, and Jenny Vrana
Clerk of the Vestry	Nancy Patterson
Treasurers	Steve Prescott - Parish Treasurer Allyson Heinold - Disbursing Treasurer Susan Winward - Receiving Treasurer

The Seventh Sunday after Epiphany

Prelude "Rosymedre" ("How Lovely") Ralph Vaughan Williams

Opening Hymn God is Love, let Heaven Adore Him **Hymn 379**

Celebrant Blessed be God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.
People **And blessed be his kingdom, now and for ever. Amen.**

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. **Amen.**

Gloria in excelsis **Hymnal S 280**

Glory to God in the highest,
and peace to his people on earth.
Lord God, heavenly King,
almighty God and Father,
we worship you, we give you thanks,
we praise you for your glory.
Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father,
Lord God, Lamb of God,
you take away the sin of the world:
have mercy on us;
you are seated at the right hand of the Father:
receive our prayer.
For you alone are the Holy One,

you alone are the Lord,
you alone are the Most High,
Jesus Christ,
with the Holy Spirit,
in the glory of God the Father. Amen.

Collect of the Day

Celebrant The Lord be with you.
People **And also with you.**
Celebrant Let us pray.

O Lord, you have taught us that without love whatever we do is worth nothing: Send your Holy Spirit and pour into our hearts your greatest gift, which is love, the true bond of peace and of all virtue, without which whoever lives is accounted dead before you. Grant this for the sake of your only Son Jesus Christ, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.. **Amen.**



The First Reading ~ Genesis 45:3-11, 15

Joseph said to his brothers, "I am Joseph. Is my father still alive?"
But his brothers could not answer him, so dismayed were they at his presence.
Then Joseph said to his brothers, "Come closer to me." And they came closer. He said, "I am your brother, Joseph, whom you sold into Egypt. And now do not be distressed, or angry with yourselves, because you sold me here; for God sent me before you to preserve life. For the famine has been in the land these two years;

and there are five more years in which there will be neither plowing nor harvest. God sent me before you to preserve for you a remnant on earth, and to keep alive for you many survivors. So it was not you who sent me here, but God; he has made me a father to Pharaoh, and lord of all his house and ruler over all the land of Egypt. Hurry and go up to my father and say to him, 'Thus says your son Joseph, God has made me lord of all Egypt; come down to me, do not delay. You shall settle in the land of Goshen, and you shall be near me, you and your children and your children's children, as well as your flocks, your herds, and all that you have. I will provide for you there--since there are five more years of famine to come--so that you and your household, and all that you have, will not come to poverty.'"
And he kissed all his brothers and wept upon them; and after that his brothers talked with him.

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

The Gradual ~ Psalm 37:1-12, 41-42 **BCP pg. 633-636**

Noli aemulari

1 Do not fret yourself because of evildoers; *
do not be jealous of those who do wrong.

2 For they shall soon wither like the grass, *
and like the green grass fade away.

3 Put your trust in the Lord and do good; *
dwell in the land and feed on its riches.

4 Take delight in the Lord, *
and he shall give you your heart's desire.

5 Commit your way to the Lord and put your trust in him, *
and he will bring it to pass.

**6 He will make your righteousness as clear as the light *
and your just dealing as the noonday.**

7 Be still before the Lord *
and wait patiently for him.

**8 Do not fret yourself over the one who prospers, *
the one who succeeds in evil schemes.**

9 Refrain from anger, leave rage alone; *
do not fret yourself; it leads only to evil.

**10 For evildoers shall be cut off, *
but those who wait upon the Lord shall possess the land.**

11 In a little while the wicked shall be no more; *
you shall search out their place, but they will not be there.

**12 But the lowly shall possess the land; *
they will delight in abundance of peace.**

41 But the deliverance of the righteous comes from the Lord; *
he is their stronghold in time of trouble.

**42 The Lord will help them and rescue them; *
he will rescue them from the wicked and deliver them,
because they seek refuge in him.**

The Second Reading ~ 1 Corinthians 15:35-38,42-50

Someone will ask, "How are the dead raised? With what kind of body do they come?" Fool! What you sow does not come to life unless it dies. And as for what you sow, you do not sow the body that is to be, but a bare seed, perhaps of wheat or of some other

grain. But God gives it a body as he has chosen, and to each kind of seed its own body.

So it is with the resurrection of the dead. What is sown is perishable, what is raised is imperishable. It is sown in dishonor, it is raised in glory. It is sown in weakness, it is raised in power. It is sown a physical body, it is raised a spiritual body. If there is a physical body, there is also a spiritual body. Thus it is written, "The first man, Adam, became a living being"; the last Adam became a life-giving spirit. But it is not the spiritual that is first, but the physical, and then the spiritual. The first man was from the earth, a man of dust; the second man is from heaven. As was the man of dust, so are those who are of the dust; and as is the man of heaven, so are those who are of heaven. Just as we have borne the image of the man of dust, we will also bear the image of the man of heaven.

What I am saying, brothers and sisters, is this: flesh and blood cannot inherit the kingdom of God, nor does the perishable inherit the imperishable.

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

Sequence Hymn God is Love, and Where True Love Is **Hymn 577**

The Gospel ~ Luke 6:27-38

The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Luke.
People **Glory to you, Lord Christ.**

Jesus said, "I say to you that listen, Love your enemies, do good to those who hate you, bless those who curse you, pray for those who abuse you. If anyone strikes you on the cheek, offer the other also; and from anyone who takes away your coat do not withhold even your shirt. Give to everyone who begs from you; and if anyone takes away your goods, do not ask for them again. Do to others as you would have them do to you.

"If you love those who love you, what credit is that to you? For even sinners love those who love them. If you do good to those who do good to you, what credit is that to you? For even sinners do the same. If you lend to those from whom you hope to receive, what credit is that to you? Even sinners lend to sinners, to receive as much again. But love your enemies, do good, and lend, expecting nothing in return. Your reward will be great, and you will be children of the Most High; for he is kind to the ungrateful and the wicked. Be merciful, just as your Father is merciful.

"Do not judge, and you will not be judged; do not condemn, and you will not be condemned. Forgive, and you will be forgiven; give, and it will be given to you. A good measure, pressed down, shaken together, running over, will be put into your lap; for the measure you give will be the measure you get back."

The Gospel of the Lord.

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

The Sermon The Rev. Ben Rockwell

The Nicene Creed **BCP pg. 358**

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:
by the power of the Holy Spirit
he became incarnate from the Virgin Mary,
and was made man.
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 and the Son.

With the Father and the Son he is worshipped and glorified.
He 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 – Form VI **BCP 392**

The Leader and People pray responsively

In peace, we pray to you, Lord God.

Silence

For all people in their daily life and work;
For our families, friends, and neighbors, and for those who are alone.

For this community, the nation, and the world;
For all who work for justice, freedom, and peace.

For the just and proper use of your creation;
For the victims of hunger, fear, injustice, and oppression.

For all who are in danger, sorrow, or any kind of trouble;
For those who minister to the sick, the friendless, and the needy.

For the peace and unity of the Church of God;
For all who proclaim the Gospel, and all who seek the Truth.

For Sean, our Presiding Bishop; Kevin, our Bishop; and in the … and all other ministers.
For all who serve God in his Church.

For the special needs and concerns of this congregation.

The People may add their own petitions

Hear us, Lord;
For your mercy is great.

We thank you, Lord, for all the blessings of this life.

The People may add their own thanksgivings

We will exalt you, O God our King;
And praise your Name for ever and ever.

We pray for all who have died, that they may have a place in your eternal kingdom.

Silence

The People may add their own petitions

Lord, let your loving-kindness be upon them;
Who put their trust in you.

We pray to you also for the forgiveness of our sins.

Silence may be kept.

Leader and People

Have mercy upon us, most merciful Father;
in your compassion forgive us our sins,
known and unknown,
things done and left undone;
and so uphold us by your Spirit
that we may live and serve you in newness of life,
to the honor and glory of your Name;
through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

The Celebrant concludes with an absolution or a suitable Collect.

The Peace

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

Announcements



Offertory Anthem "What Wonderous Love Is This, O My Soul"
American Folk Hymn, ca. 1835.

Presentation of the Alms (*Old 100th Psalm tune*)

Praise God from whom all blessings flow;
Praise Him, all creatures here below;
Praise Him above, ye heavenly host;
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

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 him thanks and praise.**

Then, facing the Holy Table, the Celebrant proceeds.

It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth.

Here a Proper Preface is said on all Sundays, and on other occasions as appointed.

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

Celebrant and People

Sanctus **Hymnal S 128**

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.

Then the Celebrant continues

We give thanks to you, O God, for the goodness and love which you have made known to us in creation; in the calling of Israel to be your people; in your Word spoken through the prophets; and above all in the Word made flesh, Jesus, your Son. For in these last days you sent him to

be incarnate from the Virgin Mary, to be the Savior and Redeemer of the world. In him, you have delivered us from evil, and made us worthy to stand before you. In him, you have brought us out of error into truth, out of sin into righteousness, out of death into life.

On the night before he died for us, 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, according to his command, O Father,

Celebrant and People

We remember his death,
We proclaim his resurrection,
We await his coming in glory;

The Celebrant continues

And we offer our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving to you, O Lord of all; presenting to you, from your creation, this bread and this wine.

We pray you, gracious God, to send your Holy Spirit upon these gifts that they may be the Sacrament of the Body of Christ and his Blood of the new Covenant. Unite us to your Son in his sacrifice, that we may be acceptable through him, being sanctified by the Holy Spirit. In the fullness of time, put all things in subjection under your Christ, and bring us to that heavenly country where, with blessed James all your

saints, we may enter the everlasting heritage of your sons and daughters; through Jesus Christ our Lord, the firstborn of all creation, the head of the Church, and the author of our salvation.

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,

People and Celebrant

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.

The Breaking of the Bread

Fraction Anthem: Jesus, Lamb of God **Hymnal S 164**

Jesus, Lamb of God: Have mercy on us.
Jesus, Bearer of our sins: Have mercy on us.
Jesus, Redeemer, redeemer of the world:
Give us your peace, give us your peace.

Communion Anthem Jesu, Jesu, Fill Us With Your Love **Hymn 602**

Post Communion Prayer **BCP pg. 366**

Let us pray.

Celebrant and People

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 Celebrant blesses the people.

Closing Hymn Love Divine, All Loves Excelling **Hymn 657**

Dismissal

Let us go forth in the name of Christ.
People **Thanks be to God.**

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

We pray for all leaders of our Church, O God, especially Sean, our Presiding Bishop; Kevin, our bishop; and Ben, our priest.

In the Anglican cycle of prayer, we pray for The Igreja Episcopal Anglicana do Brasil.

In the Episcopal Church in Delaware Cycle of Prayer we pray for St. Thomas Parish, Newark; The Rev. Howell C. Sasser, Jr., Rector; The Rev. Kevin Clay Brown, Curate; and The Rev. Deacon Sheila Brigid Sharpe, Anamchara Fellowship.

In our parish cycle of prayer, we pray for our St. James' Staff: Keith St. John, Director of Music; Borden Adams, Sexton; and the volunteers supporting the office during our search for our new parish administrator.

For the special needs and concerns of this congregation. We pray for healing for those in our community, especially Tippy, Andy, Dan S. and family, Lynne and family, Liz L., Christine, Paul and family, Geri, Roberta, Sharen and Don, Jodi, Dave, Al and family, Nancy Z., Selena M., John Z., Kitty, Bill, Wes, Olliver C., Scottie Marie and family, Cara S., Paula P., Judy S., Lucy and family; Carolyn A., Linda, Donna, Joe M., Susan, Penelope and family, Diane and family, Nancy, John H., Barry,

Ginny, those we serve and care for through our outreach ministries and those who are without adequate housing. And, we pray for those whose needs are known to you alone.

And, for all who serve in the military at home and abroad, especially Chase, Ed, Moriah, Austin R., Hugh, Noella, and Zach S.

And we pray for all those who are celebrating their birthdays this week, especially Liz.

PRAYER TEAM UPDATES

Sunday Prayers of the People. If you would like someone to be lifted in prayer at our Sunday service, please call the church office at 302-994-1584. The person's name will remain on the list for three weeks. If at that time you would like the person's name to remain on the list, please call the office again.

The parish prayer team continues to lift up prayer requests shared by parishioners through emails or calls to the church office, to individual members of the prayer team, or requests left in the prayer basket in the church foyer. We collect the prayer requests and other concerns of the parish, community, and world. All are welcome and encouraged to share their prayers.

For those who have an immediate prayer need, we invite you to email your prayer needs and request to Carolyn Mack at cdmack37@gmail.com or call 302-565-8675.

2025 Bazaar Update
The 2025 Bazaar will be held November 7th & 8th
10:00AM till 3:00PM Both Days

Weather permitting, the Bazaar Ladies returned to their weekly meetings on February 18th at 10:00AM for their Start-Up meeting and Potluck Luncheon.

Their regular Tuesday morning meetings will start at 9:00AM and end at 11:30AM. The ladies are looking forward to gathering with their friends and making new and familiar creations for this year's Bazaar.

The group welcomes new members. If interested, please stop by any Tuesday morning. We meet in the room at the bottom of the stairs in the Parish House. It is a morning filled with fellowship and creativity. No skills are required. There are a variety of tasks that need to be done.

If you have any questions, Please Contact
Nancy Patterson (302) 239-7649 or Shirley Alexander (302) 738-5331



Everyone Flips for the Pancake Supper!

The men of St. James will be hosting the annual Pancake Super on Tuesday, March 4th at 6 PM. If

you have any questions, speak to Dick Prettyman or Dave Perry, and we hope you'll join us this year!



Ash Wednesday –
Holy Eucharist and Imposition of Ashes

The holy season of Lent begins on **Wednesday, March 5th.** This is a season of penitence and fasting, and in our tradition we mark this day with a service of Holy Eucharist and an imposition of ashes. This year we will have two services:

10:00 AM - Holy Eucharist and Imposition of Ashes
7:00 PM - Holy Eucharist and Imposition of Ashes with Choir

We invite you to the observance of a holy Lent, and we hope that you will join us as we begin this formative season of the Church year.

Wednesday Evenings at 6 PM During Lent

Beginning March 12 at 6 PM, we'll join together to read through

Life in Christ - Practicing Christian Spirituality by Julia Gatta

This book studies the spiritual wisdom of the past while exploring common Christian practices and their underlying theology through an Episcopal lens.

Books are available through CHURCH PUBLISHING and BOOKSHOP.ORG

SERVING TODAY

Celebrant:	The Rev. Ben Rockwell
Eucharistic Minister/Intercessor:	Deb Nuss
Eucharistic Minister	Aly Hall
Lector:	Dave Perry
Director of Music:	Keith St. John
Videographer	Bruce Vrana
Usher:	Shirley Alexander
	Kemp Windhorst
Vestry Greeters:	David Niehaus
Counters:	Susan Winward
	Dick Prettyman