

Saint James' Episcopal Church

Mill Creek Hundred

A Congregation of The Episcopal Church in Delaware



Established 1714

Holy Eucharist: Rite II

The Fourth Sunday in Lent

March 10th, 2024

WELCOME TO ST. JAMES' EPISCOPAL CHURCH

MILLCREEK HUNDRED

We are very pleased that you have joined us today. St. James' Episcopal Church is a committed and vital community, and we hope a friendly and welcoming one. If you have any questions, please don't be afraid to ask.

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 has helped bring us to this place.

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

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

Phone: (302) 994-1584

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PARISH STAFF AND OFFICERS

Rector	The Rev. Ben Rockwell	
Director of Music	Keith St. John	
Office Manager	Liz Lichtenstein	Office: (302) 994-1584
Sexton	Borden Adams, Blue Sky Maintenance	
Vestry	Carolyn Joynt (Sr. Warden), Jenny Vrana (Jr. Warden), Carol Bruno, Ed Burdick, Cathy Coppol, Jim Craig, Val Hall, Chuck Haywood, David Niehaus, and David Perry	
Clerk of the Vestry	Nancy Patterson	
Treasurers	Steve Prescott - Parish Treasurer	
	Allyson Heinold - Disbursing Treasurer	
	Susan Winward - Receiving Treasurer	

THE HOLY EUCHARIST: RITE II

THE FOURTH SUNDAY IN LENT

Prelude Rosymedre ("Lovely") R. Vaughan Williams

Opening Hymn O for a thousand tongues to sing **Hymn 493**

Celebrant Blessed the Lord who forgives all our sins.

People **His mercy endures for ever.**

The Decalogue

Hear the commandments of God to his people:

I am the Lord your God who brought you out of bondage.

You shall have no other gods but me.

Amen. Lord have mercy.

You shall not make for yourself any idol.

Amen. Lord have mercy.

You shall not invoke with malice the Name of the Lord your God.

Amen. Lord have mercy.

Remember the Sabbath day and keep it holy.

Amen. Lord have mercy.

Honor your father and your mother.

Amen. Lord have mercy.

You shall not commit murder.

Amen. Lord have mercy.

You shall not commit adultery.

Amen. Lord have mercy.

You shall not steal.

Amen. Lord have mercy.

You shall not be a false witness.

Amen. Lord have mercy.

You shall not covet anything that belongs to your neighbor.

Amen. Lord have mercy.

Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

Silence may be kept.

Minister and People

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 for 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.

The Priest stands and says,

Almighty God have mercy on you, forgive you all your sins through our Lord Jesus Christ, strengthen you in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep you in eternal life. **Amen.**

Holy God, Holy and Mighty,
Holy Immortal One, Have mercy upon us.

(Sung three times)

Collect of the Day

Celebrant The Lord be with you.

People **And also with you.**

Celebrant Let us pray.

Gracious Father, whose blessed Son Jesus Christ came down from heaven to be the true bread which gives life to the world: Evermore give us this bread, that he may live in us, and we in him; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**



The First Reading ~ Numbers 21:4-9

From Mount Hor the Israelites set out by the way to the Red Sea, to go around the land of Edom; but the people became impatient on the way. The people spoke against God and against Moses, "Why have you brought us up out of Egypt to die in the wilderness? For there is no food and no water, and we detest this miserable food." Then the LORD sent poisonous serpents among the people, and they bit the people, so that many Israelites died. The people came to Moses and said, "We have sinned by speaking against

the LORD and against you; pray to the LORD to take away the serpents from us.” So Moses prayed for the people. And the LORD said to Moses, “Make a poisonous serpent, and set it on a pole; and everyone who is bitten shall look at it and live.” So Moses made a serpent of bronze, and put it upon a pole; and whenever a serpent bit someone, that person would look at the serpent of bronze and live.

Reader The Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

The Gradual ~ Psalm 107:1-3,17-22

BCP 746

Confitemini Domino

1 Give thanks to the LORD, for he is good, *
and his mercy endures for ever.

**2 Let all those whom the LORD has redeemed proclaim *
that he redeemed them from the hand of the foe.**

3 He gathered them out of the lands; *
from the east and from the west,
from the north and from the south.

**17 Some were fools and took to rebellious ways; *
they were afflicted because of their sins.**

18 They abhorred all manner of food *
and drew near to death's door.

**19 Then they cried to the LORD in their trouble, *
and he delivered them from their distress.**

20 He sent forth his word and healed them *
and saved them from the grave.

**21 Let them give thanks to the LORD for his mercy *
and the wonders he does for his children.**

**22 Let them offer a sacrifice of thanksgiving *
and tell of his acts with shouts of joy.**

The Second Reading ~ Ephesians 2:1-10

You were dead through the trespasses and sins in which you once lived, following the course of this world, following the ruler of the power of the air, the spirit that is now at work among those who are disobedient. All of us once lived among them in the passions of our flesh, following the desires of flesh and senses, and we were by nature children of wrath, like everyone else. But God, who is rich in mercy, out of the great love with which he loved us even when we were dead through our trespasses, made us alive together with Christ-- by grace you have been saved-- and raised us up with him and seated us with him in the heavenly places in Christ Jesus, so that in the ages to come he might show the immeasurable riches of his grace in kindness toward us in Christ Jesus. For by grace you have been saved through faith, and this is not your own doing; it is the gift of God-- not the result of works, so that no one may boast. For we are what he has made us, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand to be our way of life.

Reader **The Word of the Lord.**

People **Thanks be to God.**

Sequence Hymn I want to walk as a child of the light **Hymn 490**

The Gospel ~ John 3:14-21

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

Jesus said, "Just as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, so must the Son of Man be lifted up, that whoever believes in him may have eternal life.

"For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may not perish but may have eternal life.

"Indeed, God did not send the Son into the world to condemn the world, but in order that the world might be saved through him. Those who believe in him are not condemned; but those who do not believe are condemned already, because they have not believed in the name of the only Son of God. And this is the judgment, that the light has come into the world, and people loved darkness rather than light because their deeds were evil. For all who do evil hate the light and do not come to the light, so that their deeds may not be exposed. But those who do what is true come to the light, so that it may be clearly seen that their deeds have been done in God."

People The Gospel of the Lord.
Praise to you, Lord Christ.

The Sermon

The Rev. Ben Rockwell



The Nicene Creed

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.

The Prayers of the People

Let us pray for the Church and for the world.

Grant, Almighty God, that all who confess your Name may be united in your truth, live together in your love, and reveal your glory in the world.

- In the Anglican Cycle of Prayer, we pray for The Episcopal Church.
- In The Episcopal Church in Delaware: St. Nicholas Church, Newark; The Very Rev. William B. Lane, Pastor.
- In our parish cycle of prayer, we pray for our Service Ministries: Bazaar Group, Mission/outreach ministry, Meals on Wheels, Parish Life Ministry, Emmanuel Dining Room, Family Promise, Pastoral Care Team, Hope Center, and Brandywine Nursing & Rehabilitation Center.

Lord, in your mercy
Hear our prayer.

Guide the people of this land, and of all the nations, in the ways of justice and peace; that we may honor one another and serve the common good.

Lord, in your mercy
Hear our prayer.

Give us all a reverence for the earth as your own creation, that we may use its resources rightly in the service of others and to your honor and glory.

Lord, in your mercy
Hear our prayer.

Bless all whose lives are closely linked with ours, and grant that we may serve Christ in them, and love one another as he loves us.

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

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

Lord, in your mercy
Hear our prayer.

Comfort and heal all those who suffer in body, mind, or spirit; give them courage and hope in their troubles and bring them the joy of your salvation. For those in the parish who have special concerns, especially...

Lord, in your mercy
Hear our prayer.

We commend to your mercy all who have died, that your will for them may be fulfilled; and that the souls of the faithful departed, through your mercy, may rest in peace, especially...

Lord, in your mercy
Hear our prayer.

The celebrant adds a concluding collect.

The Peace

All stand. The Celebrant says to the people

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

Announcements

Offertory Anthem The Lord bless you and keep you John Rutter
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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 Great Thanksgiving: Eucharistic Prayer A BCP pg 361

Celebrant The Lord be with you.

People **And also with you.**

Celebrant Lift up your hearts.

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

Celebrant Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People **It is right to give him thanks and praise.**

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

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

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

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

He stretched out his arms upon the cross, and offered himself, in obedience to your will, a perfect sacrifice for the whole world.

On the night he was handed over to suffering and death, our Lord Jesus Christ took bread; and when he had given thanks to you, he broke it, and gave it to his disciples, and said, "Take, eat: This is my Body, which is given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me."

After supper he took the cup of wine; and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, and said, "Drink this, all of you: This is my Blood of the new Covenant, which is shed for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me."

Therefore we proclaim the mystery of faith:

Celebrant and People

Christ has died.

Christ is risen.

Christ will come again.

The Celebrant continues

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

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

All this we ask through your Son Jesus Christ. By him, and with him, and in him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit all honor and glory is yours, Almighty Father, now and forever. **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

Agnus Dei

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.

Facing the people, the Celebrant says

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.

All are welcome to join us around God's table. If you wish to receive communion, place one hand on top of the other with your palms extended to receive the bread. There is a chalice for intinction (dipping the bread) and a chalice for consuming (drinking the wine). If you wish to come forward and not receive the bread or the wine, cross your arms across your chest to receive a blessing. If you have a need for a gluten free wafer, let the priest know.

Communion Hymn The King of love my shepherd is Hymn 645

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 prays over the people

Look down in mercy, Lord, on your people who kneel before you; and
grant that those whom you have nourished by your Word and
Sacraments may bring forth fruit worthy of repentance; through Christ
our Lord. **Amen.**

Closing Hymn

Come labor on

Hymn 541

Choral Benediction God be in my head (Sarum primer, 1528)

Public Domain

Henry Walford Davies

Dismissal

Let us bless the Lord.

People

Thanks be to God.

Please be aware that we are recording this service in its entirety. Any talking can be picked up by the microphones, so please save your conversations for outside the church or after the completion of the music after the Dismissal. Thank you.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

- In the Anglican Cycle of Prayer, we pray for The Episcopal Church.
- In The Episcopal Church in Delaware: St. Nicholas Church, Newark; The Very Rev. William B. Lane, Pastor.
- In our parish cycle of prayer, we pray for our Service Ministries: Bazaar Group, Mission/outreach ministry, Meals on Wheels, Parish Life Ministry, Emmanuel Dining Room, Family Promise, Pastoral Care Team, Hope Center, and Brandywine Nursing & Rehabilitation Center.

For those in the parish who have special concerns, especially: Alice, Sandy, Faye, Sheron H. and Don, Jean, John Z. and Gayle's other brothers, Bob D., Andy, Gary, Lisa, Mallorie and family, Bishop Curry, Peter and family, Debbie M, Jack, A.B., Catherine, TJ and his dad Todd, Val, Amber, Carole L., Kevin, Tara, Lucy and Olivia, Robert, Claire, Dan and family, Phil and Patty, Jerry, William, Dottie, Donna, Laura A., Carolyn A., Gary, Adrian, Betsy and Merlel and family, Steve, Pat, Marion P., Carl, Patrick, Dave C., Gail and family, Christie, Cherisse, John, Mary, Lexi, Daniel, May, Darryl, Keith A., Pam, Nancy A., Marlene, Ed, Ginny, Kathy, Randy, Steve, Tome, Rich, Alaina, Karen B., James, Gail, Tammy, Christine, Debbie M., Diane, Barbara B., Geri, Judy, and those we serve and care for through our outreach ministries.

Welcome Laken Riley into your loving care and comfort her family and friends.

And we pray for all those who are celebrating their birthdays this week, especially: Laura, Elizabeth, Kaley, Rowyn, John, Natalie, Jenny, Ann, and Kayleigh.

PRAYER TEAM UPDATES

The prayer team continues to lift up prayer requests shared by parishioners through emails or calls to the church office at 302-994-1584, 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. They are compiled weekly and then these requests are lifted up in the daily prayers of the team members. 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

GARDEN COMMITTEE

Please join the Garden Committee on Tuesday, March 12th at the Crossroads Restaurant, 12:00 noon. We will be having our initial start-up meeting to go over an agenda for this year's gardening around the church and parish house. We are always looking for new members to volunteer. New ideas or suggestions can be provided to any of the garden members or attend the lunch meeting and have your voice heard.

Thank you, Carol Bruno

EMMANUEL DINING ROOM

Special Date for March!

St. James' will be serving lunch at Emmanuel Dining Room on **Friday, March 15th**.

And, we hope you will join us in the parish hall kitchen **Thursday, March 14th** 9am-11am making peanut butter and jelly sandwiches.

SERVING TODAY

Celebrant: The Rev. Ben Rockwell

Eucharistic Minister/Intercessor: Pam Smith

Eucharistic Minister/

Chalice Bearer: Deb Nuss

Lector: Dave Perry

Director of Music: Keith St. John

Videographer Bruce Vrana

Usher: Steve Prescott

Ian Prescott

Vestry Greeters: David Perry

Counters: Dick Prettyman

Dave Perry