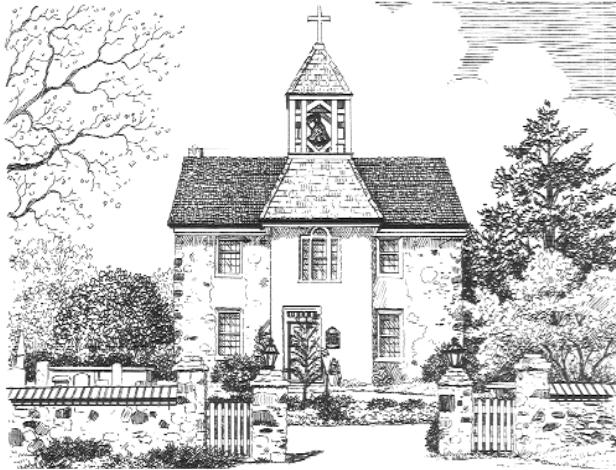


Saint James' Episcopal Church

Mill Creek Hundred

A Congregation of The Episcopal Church in Delaware



Established 1714

The Second Sunday in Lent

March 5th, 2023

9:30am

Holy Eucharist, Rite II

WELCOME TO ST. JAMES' EPISCOPAL CHURCH

MILLCREEK HUNDRED

We are very pleased that you have joined us for worship today. St. James' 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". This we do in the Communion service -- the *Holy Eucharist*. All are welcome at the Lord's table.

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

E-Mail: office@stjamesmillcreek.comcastbiz.net

Website: www.stjamesmillcreek.org

PARISH STAFF AND OFFICERS

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

THE HOLY EUCHARIST: RITE II

9:30AM

THE SECOND SUNDAY IN LENT

Prelude Voluntary on the tune "Leoni" *arr. by David Giardinieri*

Opening Hymn The God of Abraham praise **Hymn 401**

Celebrant Blessed the Lord who forgives all our sins.

People **His mercy endures for ever.**

The Celebrant says

Jesus said, "The first commandment is this: Hear, O Israel: The Lord our God is the only Lord. Love the Lord you God with all your heart, with all you soul, with all your mind, and with all your strength. The second is this: Love you neighbor as yourself. There is no other commandment greater than these."

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.**

Kyrie

Hymnal S 96

Lord, have mercy. Lord, have mercy.
Christ, have mercy. Christ, have mercy.
Lord, have mercy. Lord, have mercy.
Lord, have mercy, have mercy.

Collect of the Day

Celebrant The Lord be with you.

People **And also with you.**

Celebrant Let us pray.

O God, whose glory it is always to have mercy: Be gracious to all who have gone astray from your ways, and bring them again with penitent hearts and steadfast faith to embrace and hold fast the unchangeable truth of your Word, Jesus Christ your Son; who with you and the Holy Spirit lives and reigns, one God, for ever and ever. *Amen.*



The First Reading ~ Genesis 12:1-4a

The LORD said to Abram, “Go from your country and your kindred and your father’s house to the land that I will show you. I will make of you a great nation, and I will bless you, and make your name great, so that you will be a blessing. I will bless those who bless

you, and the one who curses you I will curse; and in you all the families of the earth shall be blessed."

So Abram went, as the LORD had told him; and Lot went with him.

Reader The Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

The Gradual ~ Psalm 121

Levavi oculos

1 I lift up my eyes to the hills; *
from where is my help to come?

2 My help comes from the LORD, *
the maker of heaven and earth.

3 He will not let your foot be moved *
and he who watches over you will not fall asleep.

4 Behold, he who keeps watch over Israel *
shall neither slumber nor sleep;

5 The LORD himself watches over you; *
the LORD is your shade at your right hand,

6 So that the sun shall not strike you by day, *
nor the moon by night.

7 The LORD shall preserve you from all evil; *
it is he who shall keep you safe.

8 The LORD shall watch over your going out and your coming
in, *
from this time forth for evermore.

The Second Reading ~ Romans 4:1-5, 13-17

What then are we to say was gained by Abraham, our ancestor according to the flesh? For if Abraham was justified by works, he has something to boast about, but not before God. For what does the scripture say? "Abraham believed God, and it was reckoned to him as righteousness." Now to one who works, wages are not reckoned as a gift but as something due. But to one who without works trusts him who justifies the ungodly, such faith is reckoned as righteousness.

For the promise that he would inherit the world did not come to Abraham or to his descendants through the law but through the righteousness of faith. If it is the adherents of the law who are to be the heirs, faith is null and the promise is void. For the law brings wrath; but where there is no law, neither is there violation.

For this reason it depends on faith, in order that the promise may rest on grace and be guaranteed to all his descendants, not only to the adherents of the law but also to those who share the faith of Abraham (for he is the father of all of us, as it is written, "I have made you the father of many nations") – in the presence of the God in whom he believed, who gives life to the dead and calls into existence the things that do not exist.

Reader The Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

Sequence Hymn

Blessed Jesus, at thy word

Hymn 440

The Gospel ~ John 3:1-17

The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to John.

There was a Pharisee named Nicodemus, a leader of the Jews. He came to Jesus by night and said to him, "Rabbi, we know that you are a teacher who has come from God; for no one can do these signs that you do apart from the presence of God." Jesus answered him, "Very truly, I tell you, no one can see the kingdom of God without being born from above." Nicodemus said to him, "How can anyone be born after having grown old? Can one enter a second time into the mother's womb and be born?" Jesus answered, "Very truly, I tell you, no one can enter the kingdom of God without being born of water and Spirit. What is born of the flesh is flesh, and what is born of the Spirit is spirit. Do not be astonished that I said to you, 'You must be born from above.' The wind blows where it chooses, and you hear the sound of it, but you do not know where it comes from or where it goes. So it is with everyone who is born of the Spirit." Nicodemus said to him, "How can these things be?" Jesus answered him, "Are you a teacher of Israel, and yet you do not understand these things?

"Very truly, I tell you, we speak of what we know and testify to what we have seen; yet you do not receive our testimony. If I have told you about earthly things and you do not believe, how can you believe if I tell you about heavenly things? No one has ascended into heaven except the one who descended from heaven, the Son of Man. And 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.”

Reader The Gospel of the Lord.
People **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

Behold, children of God, it is the Lord who watches over you. As
people sent forth into the world, let us pray, saying, “Lord, bless us, **so
that we may bless others.**”

Lord, preserve your Church from all evil. May we, who have been born
of water and the Spirit, proclaim the kingdom of God in all the world.

Invite the congregation to add their thanksgiving, followed by silence.

Lord, bless us,

So that we may bless others.

O God, may the leaders of the nations ever seek the truth. Open their
hearts to true conversion and divine guidance.

Lord, bless us,

So that we may bless others.

Maker of heaven and earth, you have blessed us with a wondrous and dynamic creation. Protect us from its rage; comfort us by its tranquility. Give us eyes to see your handiwork in the world around us.

Lord, bless us,

So that we may bless others.

Lord, your eyes never close on your people. We thank you for your mindfulness of us and our community. Be our help and our safety.

Lord, bless us,

So that we may bless others.

You did not send your Son into the world to condemn the world, but in order that the world may see and experience your salvation. Bring wholeness to those who look to your Son for their help.

Invite the congregation to add their petitions, followed by silence.

Lord, bless us,

So that we may bless others.

O God, who gives life to the dead and calls into existence the things that do not exist, keep the dying and the dead from this time forth and for evermore. Give eternal life to all those who trust in you.

Lord, bless us,

So that we may bless others.

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 God so loved the world (The Crucifixion) John Stainer
Copyright 1954, Oliver Ditson Company/Theodore Presser Co. distributors

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

<i>Celebrant</i>	Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us;
<i>People</i>	Therefore let us keep the feast.

Fraction Anthem

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 Hymn My faith looks up to thee

Hymn 691

Post Communion Prayer

BCP pg 365

After Communion, the Celebrant says

Let us pray.

Celebrant and People

Eternal God, heavenly Father,
you have graciously accepted us as living members
of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ,
and you have fed us with spiritual food
in the Sacrament of his Body and Blood.
Send us now into the world in peace,
and grant us strength and courage
to love and serve you
with gladness and singleness of heart;
through Christ our Lord. Amen.

The Celebrant continues

Keep this your family, Lord, with your never-failing mercy, that relying solely on the help of your heavenly grace, they may be upheld by your divine protection; through Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Dismissal

Let us go forth in the name of Christ.

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 Church of the Province of South East Asia.
- In The Episcopal Church in Delaware: Province III.
- In our parish cycle of prayer, we pray for Worship Ministries: Acolytes, Altar Guild, St. James Choir, Flower Guild, Greeters, Lay Readers, Prayer Team, Pastoral Care Team, Ushers, Worship Ministry Team, and Counters.

For those in our parish who have special concerns, especially: Pat, Phil and family, Ginny, Kathy, Mallory, Wes, Sherry C., Les, Leslie Ann, Dylan C, Ann, Carole, Dylan, Ralph, Claire, Pablo Sr., Ivan, Katie, Lexie, Darrel, Sr. Jane Elizabeth, Betty R., Sister Toni, Anne Marie, Jimmy, Ethel, Jerry and Michele, Randy, Steve, Tom, Rich, Alaina, Karen B., James, Gail, Tammy, Christine, Carolyn A., Julianna, Debbie M., Daniel, Ellie, May, Diane, Barbara B., Sandy, Geri, Judy, Jean, and those we serve and care for through our outreach ministries.

And we pray for all those who are celebrating their birthdays this week, especially: Jillian, John, Karen, Barbara, and Justin.

And we pray for all those celebrating their anniversaries this week, especially: Nancy and Dick Prettyman.

MILLCREEK ECUMENICAL LENTEN LUNCHESES

Continuing a longstanding Lenten tradition, St. Philip's Lutheran Church will be hosting this year's Lenten lunches. This is a wonderful opportunity to join together with our fellow churches during this holy season.

Our worship service will begin at 12 PM on Wednesdays at St. Philip's during the season of Lent. Our worship will be followed by a lunch of soup and bread at 12:30 PM. St. James' will provide the homily, music, and lunch on March 15, and if you'd like to volunteer, please contact the Church Office for more details.

GARDEN COMMITTEE ANNOUNCEMENT

Come and join us for our start up 2023 Gardening Committee meeting, Saturday March 25th at 9:30 at the parish house. We will be discussing gardening ideas, things to be done this spring, and setting up future group weeding times, watering schedule etc. We would love to have more "hands" join us. Weeding can be done in groups or just whenever you have the time and it fits your schedule. We have very few actual meetings. We converse via email or while working to keep St. James attractive. Our current members are Barbara Anzilotti, Carol Bruno, Jim Craig, Chuck Haywood, Kathy and Marlene Jackson, Pat Minor, Nancy Prettyman, and Susan Winward. Hope to see you March 25th!! Any questions, contact one of us.

** The two Lenten Roses (hellebores) are blooming already...plants are to the right of the parish house steps. Blooms are under the leaves (one purple and other cream colored). Stop and take a peek!!

2023 FLEA MARKET

There will be a Flea Market again this year. Kathy Jackson is organizing it. A date hasn't been set yet. You may drop off items to be sold at the Flea Market. Please leave them downstairs in the room to the right of the stairs.

We Will Accept:

Gently Used Household Items, Appliances, Toys, Jewelry, Hardback & Paperback Books.

We WILL NOT Accept Any of the Following:

Encyclopedias, Computers, TVs, Electronics, Clothes or Stuffed Animals.

Please do not bring in any of the unacceptable items. They can be donated to various local charitable agencies.

Electronic Items are accepted at the following Delaware Solid Waste Recycle Locations:

Delaware Recycling Center

1101 Lambson Lane

New Castle, DE 19720

Monday-Saturday: 8:30am-3:30pm

Newark Recycling Center

470 Corporate Blvd.

Newark, DE 19702

Monday-Saturday: 8:30am-3:30pm

Please contact Kathy Jackson (302-690-3513) if you have any questions or would like to help prior to, or during the Flea Market.

ST. JAMES' PASTORAL CARE TEAM

St. James' Pastoral Care Team continues to support our parish family and our community.

If you or someone you know is in need, we:

- Send cards, make phone calls, and pray with you and/or for you.
- Make home, hospital, and Eucharistic visits.

Please call the office (302-994-1584) and leave a message. Someone will get back to you. Messages are retrieved daily, seven days a week.

Please let us know if you need us or if someone you know needs us. We will not know if you do not tell us.

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

SERVING TODAY

Celebrant:	The Rev. Ben Rockwell
Eucharistic Minister:	Deb Nuss
Lector:	Gail Coverdale
Director of Music:	Keith St. John
Videographer	Bruce Vrana
Usher:	Dave Perry
	Chuck Haywood
Vestry Greeters:	Valerie Hall
Counters:	Dave Perry
	Susan Winward