The Episcopal Church of St. James the Apostle Paso Robles, California

Our Mission

St. James is a community centered on the love of Jesus, focusing on inclusion, spiritual growth, and service.



The Second Sunday of Advent 7 December 2025

Holy Eucharist Rite Two

Prelude

Entrance Rite



THE LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT WREATH

The king and savior now draws near: Come let us adore him.

Candle-lighter lights 2 candles

Lord, grant us your light,

That being rid of the darkness of our hearts, We may come to the true light which is Christ. Let us pray:

Prepare the way! The promise is come!

The lion shall dwell with the lamb.

Prepare the way! The old with the young!

A child shall teach us to stand.

Prepare the way! Make the paths straight!

Earth shall fill her deep valleys!

Prepare the way! Break down walls of hate!

The way is approaching! Servants keep watch.

Soon we shall see the salvation of our god!

EL INCENDIADO DE LA CORONA DE ADVIENTO

El rey y salvador ahora se acerca:

O ven a adorarlo

El encendedor enciende 2 velas.

Señor, concédenos tu luz, para que,

Despojados de las tinieblas de nuestro corazón, Lleguemos a la verdadera luz que es cristo.

Oremos:

¡prepara el camino! ¡la promesa ha llegado!

El león habitará con el cordero.

¡prepara el camino! ¡los viejos con los jóvenes!

Un niño nos enseñará a pararnos.

¡prepara el camino! ¡enderezaras los caminos!

¡la tierra llenará sus profundos valles!

¡prepara el camino! ¡derrumbara los muros del

Odio!

¡el camino se acerca! Los sirvientes vigilan. ¡pronto veremos la salvación de nuestro dios!

OPENING ACCLAMATION

The people standing, the Presider says

Presider Blessed are you, holy and living One.

People You come to your people and set them free.

COLLECT FOR PURITY

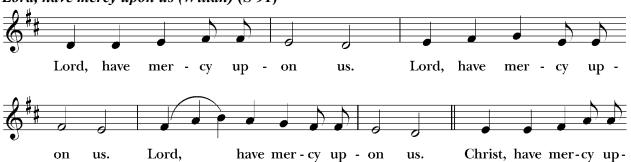
The Presider may say

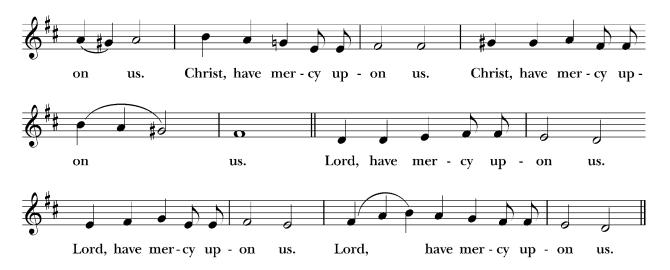
Almighty God, to you all hearts are open, all desires known, and from you no secrets are hid: Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you, and worthily magnify your holy Name; through Christ our Lord. *Amen*.

SONG OF PRAISE

The following is sung, all standing

Lord, have mercy upon us (Willan) (S 91)





THE COLLECT OF THE DAY

Presider The Lord be with you.

People And also with you.

Presider Let us pray.

Merciful God, who sent your messengers the prophets to preach repentance and prepare the way for our salvation: Give us grace to heed their warnings and forsake our sins, that we may greet with joy the coming of Jesus Christ our Redeemer; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. *Amen*.

The Lessons

FIRST READING: Isaiah 11:1-10

The people sit.

A Reading from the book of the prophet Isaiah.

¹A shoot shall come out from the stump of Jesse, and a branch shall grow out of his roots. ²The spirit of the LORD shall rest on him, the spirit of wisdom and understanding, the spirit of counsel and might, the spirit of knowledge and the fear of the LORD. ³His delight shall be in the fear of the LORD.

He shall not judge by what his eyes see, or decide by what his ears hear; 4but with righteousness he shall judge the poor, and decide with equity for the meek of the earth; he shall strike the earth with the rod of his mouth, and with the breath of his lips he shall kill the wicked. 5Righteousness shall be the belt around his waist, and faithfulness the belt around his loins.

⁶The wolf shall live with the lamb, the leopard shall lie down with the kid, the calf and the lion and the fatling together, and a little child shall lead them. ⁷The cow and the bear shall graze, their young shall lie down together; and the lion shall eat straw like the ox. ⁸The nursing child shall play over the hole of the asp, and the weaned child shall put its hand on the adder's den. ⁹They will not hurt or destroy on all my holy mountain; for the earth will be full of the knowledge of the LORD as the waters cover the sea.

¹⁰On that day the root of Jesse shall stand as a signal to the peoples; the nations shall inquire of him, and his dwelling shall be glorious.

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

Silence may follow.

PSALM: Psalm 72:1-7, 18-19

Remain seated.

Give the king your justice, O God, * and your righteousness to the King's Son;

²That he may rule your people righteously * and the poor with justice;

³That the mountains may bring prosperity to the people, * and the little hills bring righteousness.

⁴He shall defend the needy among the people; *
he shall rescue the poor and crush the oppressor.

⁵He shall live as long as the sun and moon endure, * from one generation to another.

⁶He shall come down like rain upon the mown field, * like showers that water the earth.

⁷In his time shall the righteous flourish; * there shall be abundance of peace till the moon shall be no more.

¹⁸Blessed be the Lord GOD, the God of Israel, * who alone does wondrous deeds!

¹⁹And blessed be his glorious Name forever, * and may all the earth be filled with his glory. Amen. Amen.

SECOND READING: Romans 15:4-13

The people sit.

A Reading from Paul's letter to the Church in Rome.

⁴Whatever was written in former days was written for our instruction, so that by steadfastness and by the encouragement of the scriptures we might have hope. ⁵May the God of steadfastness and encouragement grant you to live in harmony with one another, in accordance with Christ Jesus, ⁶so that together you may with one voice glorify the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ.

Welcome one another, therefore, just as Christ has welcomed you, for the glory of God. ⁸For I tell you that Christ has become a servant of the circumcised on behalf of the truth of God in order that he might confirm the promises given to the patriarchs, ⁹and in order that the Gentiles might glorify God for his mercy. As it is written,

"Therefore I will confess you among the Gentiles, and sing praises to your name"; ¹⁰and again he says, "Rejoice, O Gentiles, with his people"; ¹¹and again, "Praise the Lord, all you Gentiles, and let all the peoples praise him"; ¹²and again Isaiah says, "The root of Jesse shall come, the one who rises to rule the Gentiles; in him the Gentiles shall hope."

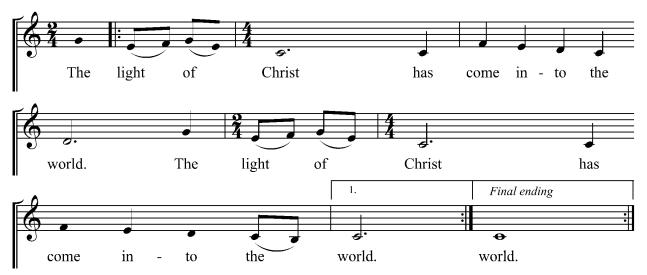
¹³May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, so that you may abound in hope by the power of the Holy Spirit.

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

Silence may follow.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION The light of Christ (My Heart Sings Out 80)

All stand.



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GOSPEL: Matthew 3:1-12

All stand.

Deacon The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew.

People Glory to you, Lord Christ.

¹In those days John the Baptist appeared in the wilderness of Judea, proclaiming, ²"Repent, for the kingdom of heaven has come near." ³This is the one of whom the prophet Isaiah spoke when he said,

"The voice of one crying out in the wilderness:

'Prepare the way of the Lord, make his paths straight.'"

⁴Now John wore clothing of camel's hair with a leather belt around his waist, and his food was locusts and wild honey. ⁵Then the people of Jerusalem and all Judea were going out to him, and all the region along the Jordan, ⁶and they were baptized by him in the river Jordan, confessing their sins.

⁷But when he saw many Pharisees and Sadducees coming for baptism, he said to them, "You brood of vipers! Who warned you to flee from the wrath to come? ⁸Bear fruit worthy of repentance. ⁹Do not presume 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. ¹⁰Even 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.

¹¹"I baptize you with water for repentance, but one who is more powerful than I is coming after me; I am not worthy to carry his sandals. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire. ¹²His winnowing fork is in his hand, and he will clear his threshing floor and will gather his wheat into the granary; but the chaff he will burn with unquenchable fire."

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

THE HOMILY THE REV. RUSSELL GORDON

"ADVENT PEACEMAKERS"

THE CREED

All stand.

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 worshiped 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.

El Credo Niceno

Creemos en un solo Dios, Padre todopoderoso, Creador de cielo y tierra,

de todo lo visible e invisible.

Creemos en un solo Señor, Jesucristo,

Hijo único de Dios,

nacido del Padre antes de todos los siglos: Dios de

Dios, Luz de Luz,

Dios verdadero de Dios verdadero, engendrado, no

creado,

de la misma naturaleza que el Padre,

por quien todo fue hecho;

que por nosotros y por nuestra salvación

bajó del cielo:

por obra del Espíritu Santo

se encarnó de María, la Virgen, y se hizo hombre.

Por nuestra causa fue crucificado

en tiempos de Poncio Pilato:

padeció y fue sepultado.

Resucitó al tercer día, según las Escrituras, subió al

cielo

y está sentado a la derecha del Padre. De nuevo

vendrá con gloria

para juzgar a vivos y muertos,

y su reino no tendrá fin.

Creemos en el Espíritu Santo,

Señor y dador de vida,

que procede del Padre y del Hijo,

que con el Padre y el Hijo

recibe una misma adoración y gloria,

y que habló por los profetas.

Creemos en la Iglesia,

que es una, santa, católica y apostólica.

Reconocemos un solo Bautismo

para el perdón de los pecados. Esperamos la

resurrección de los muertos y la vida del mundo

futuro. Amén.

THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

With all our heart and with all our mind, let us pray to the Lord, saying, "Lord, have mercy."

For the peace from above, for the loving kindness of God, and for the salvation of our souls, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

For the peace of the world, for the welfare of the holy Church of God, and for the unity of all peoples, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

For our Bishop, Lucinda and for all the clergy and people, let us pray to the Lord. *Lord, have mercy.*

For our President Donald, for the leaders of the nations, and for all in authority, let us pray to the Lord. *Lord, have mercy.*

For this city Paso Robles, for every city and community, and for those who live in them, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

For the good earth which God has given us, and for the wisdom and will to conserve it, let us pray to the Lord. *Lord, have mercy*.

For those who travel on land, on water, or in the air, let us pray to the Lord. *Lord, have mercy*.

For the aged and infirm, for the widowed and orphans, and for the sick and the suffering, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

For the poor and the oppressed, for the unemployed and the destitute, for prisoners and captives, and for all who remember and care for them, let us pray to the Lord. *Lord, have mercy.*

For those who volunteer in our church, strengthen and sustain them as they offer to you their gifts and talents, that with patience and understanding they may care for your people. *Lord, have mercy.*

For all who have died in the hope of the resurrection, and for all the departed, let us pray to the Lord. *Lord, have mercy*.

In the communion of James and John and of all the saints, let us commend ourselves, and one another, and all our life, to Christ our God.

To thee, O Lord our God.

The Presider and the People say together

O God, you made us in your own image and redeemed us through Jesus your Son: Look with compassion on the whole human family; take away the arrogance and hatred which infect our hearts; break down the walls that separate us; unite us in bonds of love; and work through our struggle and confusion to accomplish your purposes on earth; that, in your good time, all nations and races may serve you in harmony around your heavenly throne; through Jesus Christ our Savior. Amen

CONFESSION OF SIN

The Deacon or Presider says

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 of 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*.

THE PEACE

All stand.

Presider The peace of the Lord be

always with you.

People And also with you.

Then the Ministers and the People may greet one another in the name of the Lord.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

LA CONFESIÓN DE PECADO

El diácono, o quien preside, dice:

Confesemos nuestros pecados contra Dios y nuestro prójimo.

Se puede guardar un período de silencio.

Dios de misericordia, confesamos que hemos pecado contra ti de pensamiento, palabra y obra, por lo que hemos hecho y por lo que hemos dejado sin hacer. No te hemos amado de todo corazón; no hemos amado al prójimo como a nosotros mismos. Sincera y humildemente nos arrepentimos. Por tu Hijo Jesucristo, ten piedad de nosotros y perdónanos; así tu voluntad será nuestra alegría y caminaremos en tus sendas para gloria de tu nombre. Amén.

Quien preside declara:

Dios Todopoderoso tenga misericordia de ustedes, perdone todos sus pecados por Jesucristo nuestro Señor, los fortalezca en toda bondad y por el poder del Espíritu Santo los guarde en la vida eterna. Amén

LA PAZ

De pie.

Preside La paz del Señor sea siempre con ustedes.

Pueblo Y también contigo.

El pueblo puede saludarse en nombre del Señor.

BIRTHDAYS/ANNIVERSARIES (*Please refer to the back page*)

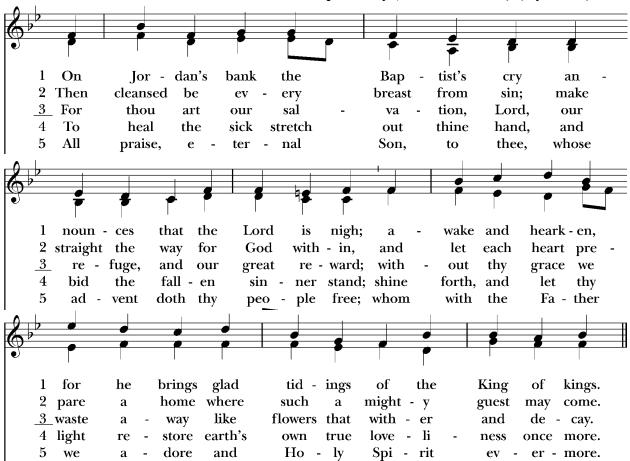
The Holy Communion

OFFERTORY SENTENCE

The Presider says

Offer to God a sacrifice of thanksgiving, and make good your vows to the Most High. Psalm 50:14

OFFERTORY HYMN On Jordan's bank the Baptist's cry (Winchester New) (Hymn 76)



The Great Thanksgiving

The People remain standing.

Presider The Lord be with you.
People And also with you.

Presider Lift up your hearts.
People We lift them to the Lord.

Presider Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
People It is right to give him thanks and praise.

The Presider proceeds

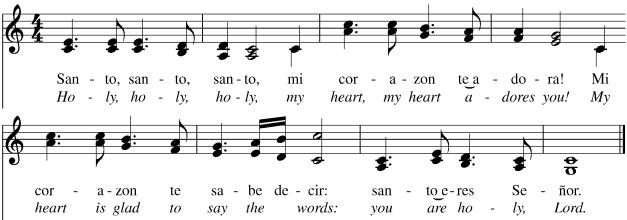
It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth.

Because you sent your beloved Son to redeem us from sin and death, and to make us heirs in him of everlasting life; that when he shall come again in power and great triumph to judge the world, we may without shame or fear rejoice to behold his appearing.

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:

Presider and People

Santo, santo, santo [Holy, holy, holy] (Wonder, Love, and Praise 785)



The People stand or kneel.

The Presider 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:

Presider and People

Christ has died. Christ is risen.

Christ will come again.

The Presider 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 for ever. *AMEN*.

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

People and Presider

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 forever. Amen. Oremos como nuestro Salvador Cristo nos enseñó.

Padre nuestro que estás en el cielo, santificado sea tu Nombre, venga tu reino, hágase tu voluntad, en la tierra como en el cielo.

Danos hoy nuestro pan de cada día.

Perdona nuestras ofensas,

como también nosotros perdonamos a los que nos ofenden.

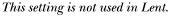
No nos dejes caer en tentación y líbranos del mal. Porque tuyo es el reino, tuyo es el poder,

y tuya es la gloria,

ahora y por siempre. Amén

The Breaking of the Bread

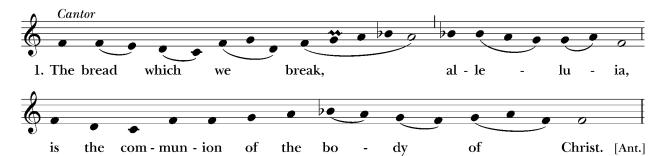
Be known to us (James) (Wonder, Love, and Praise 875)



Antiphon



The dis-ci-ples knew the Lord Je - sus in the break - ing of the bread.







The Presider says

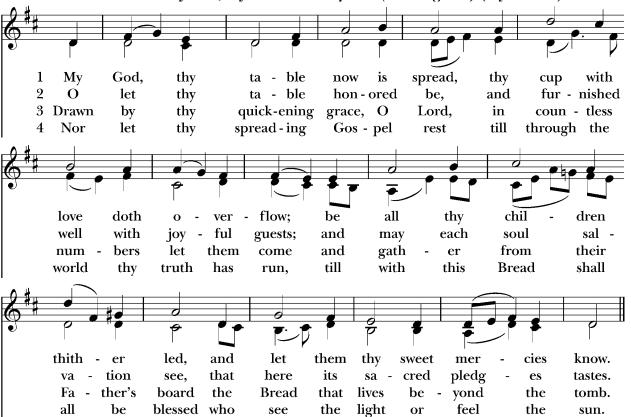
The Gifts of God for the People of God. Take them in remembrance that Christ died for you, and feed on him in your hearts by faith, with thanksgiving.

The Bread and the Cup are given to the communicants with these words

The Body of Christ, the bread of heaven. *Amen*.

The Blood of Christ, the cup of salvation. Amen.

COMMUNION HYMN My God, thy table now is spread (Rockingham) (Hymn 321)



POST-COMMUNION PRAYER

After Communion, the Presider says

Let us pray.

Presider 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.

BLESSING

The Priest blesses the people, saying

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



DISMISSAL

Go in peace to love and serve the

Lord

People Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE

Ministers of the Liturgy

Presider The Rev. Russ Gordon
Eucharistic Minister Lucy Simola
Chalice Bearer Marilyn Gerber
Lector Laura Learned
Spanish Gospeler Peggy Beemer

Ushers Laura Learned & Jeanne Marsh

MusicianJosh TaricaTechPaul DrasilVestry on DutyPeggy BeemerAltar GuildTeam ACoffee HourBecky Hewatt

Counters Janet & Paul Drasil



Birthdays

Watch over your child, O Lord, as *her* days increase; bless and guide *her* wherever *she* may be. Strengthen *her* when *she* stands; comfort *her* when discouraged or sorrowful; raise *her* up when *she* falls; and in *her* heart may your peace which passes understanding abide all the days of *her* life; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen*

Anniversaries

O God, you have called us into faithful friendship with you and each other: Send therefore your blessing upon these your servants, that they may so love, honor, and cherish each other in faithfulness and patience, in wisdom and true godliness, that their home may be a haven of blessing and peace; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. *Amen*

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THE EPISCOPAL CHURCH OF SAINT JAMES THE APOSTLE

1335 Oak Street, office: 514 14th Street, Paso Robles, CA 93446 805-238-0819 Email: office@saintjamespr.org Website: www.saintjamespr.org Facebook: stjamespasorobles

The Rev. James Arnold, Deacon

Laura Learned, Senior Warden Cynthia Mosely, Junior Warden