

ST. JAMES HOUSE OF PRAYER EPISCOPAL CHURCH

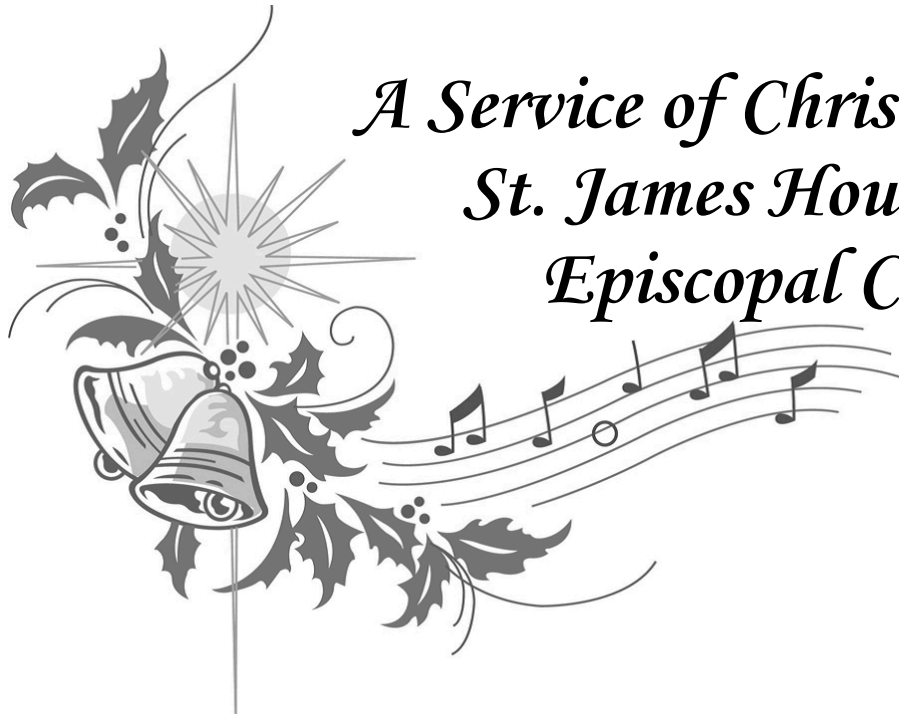
TAMPA, FL

December 24, 2024

Christmas Eve



The Gathering of God's People



*A Service of Christmas Carols
St. James House of Prayer
Episcopal Church Choir*

O Come, O Come Emmanuel (verses 6,7,8)

Hymnal #56

Hark! The Herald Angels Sing

Hymnal #87

Sing We Now Of Christmas

Duet: Sharon Brant and Kristie Sokinas

The First Noel

Hymnal #109

O Holy Night

Solo: Maisie Reddy

It Came Upon The Midnight Clear

Hymnal #89

One Small Child

Duet Sharon Brant and Kristie Sokinas

Prelude

O Holy Night

Arr. Zachary Damm

****Bells ring announcing the beginning of worship****

Lighting of the Advent Candles Advent Reading

Navita Cummings-James and Deirdre Joseph

Opening Hymn

O come all ye faithful

Hymnal #83

1 O come, all ye faithful, joyful and triumphant,
O come ye, O come ye to Bethlehem;
come, and behold him, born the King of angels;

Refrain:

*O come, let us adore him, O come, let us adore him,
O come, let us adore him, Christ the Lord.*

2 God from God, Light from Light eternal,
lo! he abhors not the Virgin's womb;
Only-begotten Son of the Father; *[Refrain]*

3 Sing, choirs of angels, sing in exultation;
sing, all ye citizens of heaven above;
glory to God, glory in the highest; *[Refrain]*

4 See how the shepherds, summoned to his cradle,
leaving their flocks, draw nigh to gaze;
we too will thither bend our joyful footsteps; *[Refrain]*

5 Child, for us sinners poor and in the manger,
we would embrace thee, with love and awe;
who would not love thee, loving us so dearly? *[Refrain]*

6 Yea, Lord, we greet thee, born this happy morning;
Jesus, to thee be glory given;
Word of the Father, now in flesh appearing; *[Refrain]*

Opening Acclamation

Book of Common Prayer, 355

Officiant Blessed be God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

People **And blessed be his kingdom, now and forever. Amen.**

The Collect for Purity (*in unison*)

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.

Hymn of Praise *Angels we have heard on high* *Hymnal #96*

1. Angels we have heard on high sweetly singing through the night,
and the mountains in reply echoing their brave delight.

Refrain:

Gloria in excelsis Deo. Gloria in excelsis Deo.

2. Shepherds, why this jubilee? Why these songs of happy cheer?
What great brightness did you see? What glad tidings did you hear?

[Refrain]

3. Come to Bethlehem and seem him whose birth the angels sing;
come, adore on bended knee

Christ, the Lord, the newborn King. *[Refrain]*

4. See him in a manger laid, whom the angels praise above;
Mary, Joseph, lend your aid, while we raise our hearts in love. *[Refrain]*

The Collect of the Day (*in unison*)

Celebrant The Lord be with you.

People **And also with you.**

Celebrant Let us pray.

O God, you make us glad by the yearly festival of the birth of your only Son Jesus Christ: Grant that we, who joyfully receive him as our Redeemer, may with sure confidence behold him when he comes to be our Judge; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. *Amen.*

THE LITURGY OF THE WORD

The First Reading

Isaiah 9:2-7

The people who walked in darkness
have seen a great light;
those who lived in a land of deep darkness--
on them light has shined.
You have multiplied the nation,
you have increased its joy;
they rejoice before you
as with joy at the harvest,
as people exult when dividing plunder.
For the yoke of their burden,
and the bar across their shoulders,
the rod of their oppressor,
you have broken as on the day of Midian.
For all the boots of the tramping warriors
and all the garments rolled in blood
shall be burned as fuel for the fire.
For a child has been born for us,
a son given to us;
authority rests upon his shoulders;
and he is named
Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God,
Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.
His authority shall grow continually,
and there shall be endless peace
for the throne of David and his kingdom.
He will establish and uphold it

with justice and with righteousness
from this time onward and forevermore.
The zeal of the LORD of hosts will do this.

To end, the Lector says The Word of the Lord.
People **Thanks be to God.**

Psalm 96

Cantate Domino

- 1 Sing to the LORD a new song; *
sing to the LORD, all the whole earth.
- 2 Sing to the LORD and bless his Name; *
proclaim the good news of his salvation from day to day.
- 3 Declare his glory among the nations *
and his wonders among all peoples.
- 4 For great is the LORD and greatly to be praised; *
he is more to be feared than all gods.
- 5 As for all the gods of the nations, they are but idols; *
but it is the LORD who made the heavens.
- 6 Oh, the majesty and magnificence of his presence! *
Oh, the power and the splendor of his sanctuary!
- 7 Ascribe to the LORD, you families of the peoples; *
ascribe to the LORD honor and power.
- 8 Ascribe to the LORD the honor due his Name; *
bring offerings and come into his courts.
- 9 Worship the LORD in the beauty of holiness; *
let the whole earth tremble before him.
- 10 Tell it out among the nations: "The LORD is King! *
he has made the world so firm that it cannot be moved;
he will judge the peoples with equity."
- 11 Let the heavens rejoice, and let the earth be glad;
let the sea thunder and all that is in it; *
let the field be joyful and all that is therein.

12 Then shall all the trees of the wood shout for joy
before the LORD when he comes, *
when he comes to judge the earth.

13 He will judge the world with righteousness *
and the peoples with his truth.

The Epistle Reading

Titus 2:11-14

For the grace of God has appeared, bringing salvation to all, training us to renounce impiety and worldly passions, and in the present age to live lives that are self-controlled, upright, and godly, while we wait for the blessed hope and the manifestation of the glory of our great God and Savior, Jesus Christ. He it is who gave himself for us that he might redeem us from all iniquity and purify for himself a people of his own who are zealous for good deeds.

Lector The Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

Sequence Hymn

What child is this

Hymnal #115

1. What child is this, who, laid to rest, on Mary's lap is sleeping?
Whom angels greet with anthems sweet,
while shepherds watch are keeping?

Refrain:

*This, this is Christ the King,
whom shepherds guard and angels sing;
haste, haste to bring him laud,
the babe, the son of Mary.*

2. Why lies he in such mean estate where ox and ass are feeding?
Good Christian, fear: for sinners here the silent Word is pleading.

[Refrain]

3. So bring him incense, gold, and myrrh,
come, peasant, king, to own him;
the King of kings salvation brings, let loving hearts enthrone him.

[Refrain]

The Holy Gospel

Luke 2:1-14(15-20)

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

In those days a decree went out from Emperor Augustus that all the world should be registered. This was the first registration and was taken while Quirinius was governor of Syria. All went to their own towns to be registered. Joseph also went from the town of Nazareth in Galilee to Judea, to the city of David called Bethlehem, because he was descended from the house and family of David. He went to be registered with Mary, to whom he was engaged and who was expecting a child. While they were there, the time came for her to deliver her child. And she gave birth to her firstborn son and wrapped him in bands of cloth, and laid him in a manger, because there was no place for them in the inn.

In that region there were shepherds living in the fields, keeping watch over their flock by night. Then an angel of the Lord stood before them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were terrified. But the angel said to them, "Do not be afraid; for see-- I am bringing you good news of great joy for all the people: to you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is the Messiah, the Lord. This will be a sign for you: you will find a child wrapped in bands of cloth and lying in a manger." And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host, praising God and saying,

"Glory to God in the highest heaven,
and on earth peace among those whom he favors!"

[When the angels had left them and gone into heaven, the shepherds said to one another, "Let us go now to Bethlehem and see this thing that has taken place, which the Lord has made known to us." So they went with haste and found Mary and Joseph, and the child lying in the manger. When they saw this, they made known what had been told them about this child; and all who heard it were amazed at what the shepherds told them. But Mary treasured all these words and pondered them in her heart. The shepherds returned, glorifying and

praising God for all they had heard and seen, as it had been told them.]

To end, the Deacon says The Gospel of the Lord.
People **Praise to you, Lord Christ.**

The Sermon

The Rev. Ed Henley

After the Sermon, we take a few moments to reflect on God's word to us.

The Nicene Creed (*in unison*)

BCP, 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 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.**

The Prayers of the People

At the end of each petition, the Deacon says

The people respond

At the close of the Prayers, the People respond

We pray to you, O Lord:

Lord, hear our prayer.

Amen

The Confession of Sin and Absolution

BCP, 360

Deacon Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

Deacon 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.

Priest

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.

The Peace

Celebrant The Peace of the Lord be always with you.

People **And also with you.**

The Celebrant says a sentence from Scripture to begin the Offertory.

All are encouraged to make an offering in thanksgiving for all the blessings God has bestowed.

Gifts may be made on the parish website, sjhoptpa.org,

*or by texting **sjhop** to 73256, or by postal mail to:*

St. James House of Prayer Episcopal Church / 2708 N. Central Ave. / Tampa FL 33602

Offertory Anthem

Amen! Tell It On The Mountain

SJHOP CHOIR

Presentation Hymn

Hymnal #380 (v.3)

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

THE HOLY COMMUNION

The Great Thanksgiving (Eucharistic Prayer B)

BCP, 367

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.**

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 sung or 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 (sung)

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.

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.

At the following words concerning the bread, the Celebrant is to hold it, or to lay a hand upon it; and at the words concerning the cup, to hold or place a hand upon the cup and any other vessel containing wine to be consecrated.

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 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.**

The Lord's Prayer (*spoken*)

Celebrant

And now, as our Savior Christ has taught us, we are bold to sing:

**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, forever and ever.

Amen.

The Breaking of the Bread

The Celebrant breaks the consecrated Bread. A period of silence is kept. Then the Celebrant says

Celebrant Alleluia! Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us;

People **Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia!**

The Celebrant invites the People to Communion, in these or similar words

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.

A Prayer of Spiritual Communion for those unable to worship with us in person

(if you are watching the live stream, please feel free to say this prayer during the sharing of Communion)

My Jesus, I believe that you are truly present in the Blessed Sacrament of the Altar. I love you above all things, and long for you in my soul. Since I cannot now receive you sacramentally, come at least spiritually into my heart. As though you have already come, I embrace you and unite myself entirely to you; never permit me to be separated from you. Amen. (St. Alphonsus de Liguori, 1696-1787)

Communion Songs

O Little Town of Bethlehem

Hymnal # 79

1. O little town of Bethlehem,
how still we see thee lie!
Above thy deep and dreamless sleep
the silent stars go by;
yet in thy dark streets shineth
the everlasting Light;
the hopes and fears of all the years
are met in thee tonight.

2. For Christ is born of Mary;
and gathered all above,
while mortals sleep, the angels keep
their watch of wondering love.
O morning stars, together
proclaim the holy birth!
and praises sing to God the King,
and peace to men on earth.

3. How silently, how silently,
the wondrous Gift is given!
So God imparts to human hearts
the blessings of his heaven.
No ear may hear his coming,
but in this world of sin,
where meek souls will receive him, still
the dear Christ enters in.

4. Where children pure and happy
pray to the blessed Child,
where misery cries out to thee,
Son of the mother mild;
where charity stand watching
and faith holds wide the door,
the dark night wakes, the glory breaks,
and Christmas comes once more.

5. O holy Child of Bethlehem,
descend to us, we pray;
cast out our sin and enter in,
be born in us today.
We hear the Christmas angels
the great glad tidings tell;
O come to us, abide with us,
our Lord Emmanuel!



Away in a Manger

LEVAS #27

1. Away in a manger, no crib for his bed,
the little Lord Jesus laid down his sweet head.
The stars in the bright sky looked down where he lay,
the little Lord Jesus asleep on the hay.

2. The cattle are lowing, the baby awakes,
but little Lord Jesus, no crying he makes.
I love thee, Lord Jesus! Look down from the sky,
and stay by my side until morning is nigh.

3. Be near me, Lord Jesus; I ask thee to stay
close by me forever, and love me I pray.
Bless all the dear children in thy tender care,
and fit us for heaven to live with thee there.

Silent Night (and candle lighting) Hymnal #111

1. Silent night, holy night,
all is calm, all is bright
round yon virgin mother and child.
Holy infant, so tender and mild,
sleep in heavenly peace.
Sleep in heavenly peace.

2. Silent night, holy night,
shepherds quake at the sight,
glories stream from heaven afar,
heavenly hosts sing alleluia;
Christ, the Savior, is born!
Christ, the Savior, is born!

3. Silent night, holy night,
Son of God, love's pure light
radiant beams from thy holy face,
with the dawn of redeeming grace,
Jesus, Lord at thy birth.
Jesus, Lord at thy birth.

After Communion, the Celebrant says Let us pray.

**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 Blessing (pronounced by the Priest; the People respond, Amen.)

THE SENDING OUT OF THE LORD'S PEOPLE

Closing Hymn

Joy to the World

Hymnal #100

1. Joy to the world! the Lord is come:
let earth receive her King;
let every heart prepare him room,
and heaven and nature sing,
and heaven and nature sing,
and heaven, and heaven and nature sing.
2. Joy to the world! the Savior reigns;
let us our songs employ,
while fields and floods, rocks, hills, and plains,
repeat the sounding joy,
repeat the sounding joy,
repeat, repeat the sounding joy.

3. No more let sins and sorrows grow,
nor thorns infest the ground;
he comes to make his blessings flow
far as the curse is found,
far as the curse is found,
far as, far as the curse is found.
4. He rules the world with truth and grace,
and makes the nations prove
the glories of his righteousness,
and wonders of his love,
and wonders of his love,
and wonders, wonders of his love.

The Dismissal

Deacon Let us go forth in the Name of the Risen Christ. Alleluia,
alleluia, alleluia!

People **Thanks be to God. Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!**

Postlude *Do You Hear What I Hear* *Music by Gloria Shayne*



*May our Christmas season be a time of
reconciliation and peace.*

May the love of Christ be with us.

May His Peace surround us.

*May our Christmas be a time of healing, giving,
and sharing.*

*May the Spirit be with us as we share in Jesus'
blessed birth.*

Merry Christmas



Christmas Poinsettias

Given By: Olatha Leggett

In memory of: Frank McIntosh,
Sylvia Butler, Jerry Butler, Donzel Leggett, Janice Leggett, Mitchell
Leggett

In thanksgiving for: Micaela and Madison

Given By: John and Sandra Thomas

In memory of: Clara Nell Gaines, Jacquelyn Lovett Cannon, Jason D.
Cannon

Given By: Arlene Aranha

In thanksgiving for: The blessings of this life.

Given By: Patrick Thomas

In memory of: Pauline Thomas Simmons, Clemmie James, Alphonso
Simmons, Charles Simmons, Jacqueline Simmons, Hattie B. Simmons,
Doris Reddick

Given By: Leila Mizer

In thanksgiving for: God's grace and mercy

Given By: Barbara Scotland

In thanksgiving for: My children, grandchildren and God's many blessings

Given By: Lorraine Williams-Nunn

In memory of: Hazel Pittman, Beulah O'Cain

In thanksgiving for: Family always

Given By: Mary Blackwell

In memory of: James Blackwell, Sandra Barthelemy

In thanksgiving for: All God's blessings

Given By: The Grinnells

In memory of: Robin

In thanksgiving for: Lynn's brother and sister in laws recovery

Given By: Phyllis R. Lee

In memory of: Clarence Lee, Rose P. Thrash and other departed family and friends

In thanksgiving for: Relatives and friends

Given By: Isolde Petrie

In memory of: Zephaniah Ashmael, Earl Ashmael, Esthaner Gardner

Given By: Patrick Thomas

In memory of: Herbert Curry Sr

Given By: Maisie Reddy

In memory of: Fr. Lee Maur Benefee, Margie Jefferson, Ollie S. H. Hunter

In thanksgiving for: My church family. My family and good health.

Given By: Cosmas and Karla Edwards

In thanksgiving for: Family and Friends

Given By: The Glicksbergs

In memory of: Audrey and Carlton Samuels

In thanksgiving for: The family

Given By: Diane Reece-King and Family

In memory of: Edgar and Enid Reece, Matthew-Kyle Nugent, Franklin Coombs, Joyce Mair, Doris Gray, Blanche Planter, Phillip Coombs, Eric Coombs, Phyliss McMorrin, Esee Stone, Clarice Coombs

In thanksgiving for: Family, friends and peace in the world.





Remember In Your Prayers for healing, guidance, comfort, or strength

Camden Agboglo	Lydia Williams	Janelle Goodwin
Charnell Williams	Carol Moorehead	Denise Andretta
Lejoan Franklin	Olivia Whittiker	Michael Carter
Margaret Booth	Mozelle Rhodes	Arsenta Sibilly
Jacquelyn Brown Reeder	Joe Buczek	Clare Kennedy
Victor Ferguson	Dorothy Batson	Gina Norris
Delores Thomas	Mac Alexander	Ruby Lockhart
Eleanor Solomon	Stella Jacob	Ernest Reese
Richard Grinnell	Deborah Blanchett	Warren Nunn
Morris Kennedy	Virginia McKinney	Rick Cybulski
Maureen Cybulski	Roderick James	Errol Kirk
Denise Moore Contreras	Anna Valdes	Cory McIntosh
Denise Morris	Yvonne Thomas	

SERVING IN OUR WORSHIP TODAY

Celebrant and Preacher	The Rev. Ed Henley
Deacon	The Rev. Dr. Lynn Grinnell
Musicians	Julius James, Sharon Brant, Kristie Sokinas & SJHOP Choir
Lector	Navita Cummings-James and Deirdre Joseph
Thurifer	Cosmas Edwards
Crucifer	Robert Reeder
Usher	Barbara Scotland and Lorraine Williams-Nunn
Camera Operator	Karla Edwards



St. James House of Prayer Episcopal Church

Priest-In-Charge: The Reverend Ed Henley

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