
The Weekly Parish Light

March 16, 2024

St. James Episcopal Church · 2 S Augustine St. · Wilmington DE 19804 · 302-994-2029

**SEE OUR HOLY WEEK
WORSHIP SCHEDULE
ON PAGE 5**

From the Rector – The Rev. Sarah Nelson



This week is the last Sunday of Lent. In reading and studying the Gospel of John, we have learned much about what it means to be a disciple of Jesus. Hopefully, through whatever Lenten discipline you have been practicing, you have had the opportunity to search your heart and your soul and have lived more fully into who God is calling you to be.

I wonder how faithfully you have been able to hold to your Lenten practice? Have you been consistent in the goal that you set before yourself? I wonder how gentle and forgiving you have been with yourself in those times and places where you have fallen short of your goal? I wonder what you have experienced about the divine in this world? I wonder what you have learned about the call to discipleship? I wonder what of this Lenten journey you will hold onto and what parts you will leave behind?

In my life, whenever I was away, I would search and seek some memento to take home with me. As if a token from the trip could magically transport me back to the journey. You know, sometimes it can. I have a stone from Shrinemont, a beloved childhood vacation place. When I come upon that stone, I hold it and can almost be transported back to the freezing cold pool, the hikes to the mountain top, the watermelon rind relish. I wonder what token you will take with you from this Lent?

Sometimes the journey takes an unexpected turn. I meant to read the Bible every morning. Then I missed a morning. I felt a pang of guilt but then returned. The journey took me to a place where I saw how hard I can be on myself and recognized the incredible gift of God's forgiveness and unconditional love. The journey of discipleship can indeed be difficult and can take me to unexpected learnings.

Perhaps as this holy season comes closer to Holy Week, you might sit and prayerfully recall your own journey. Perhaps you will reflect upon what token you will take from here. Perhaps you will seek to recognize the unexpected twists and turns. Perhaps you can identify what stood in the way of your Lenten practice.

The road to the resurrection goes through the passion and crucifixion. "Follow me," invites Jesus. "Follow me through this holy journey so that the joy of Easter might be yours."

Faithfully,

Sarah



THIS SUNDAY
THE FIFTH SUNDAY IN LENT
March 17, 2024

SUNDAY’S LITURGIES – *Old Testament:* Jeremiah 31:31-34; *Psalm:* 51:1-13;
Epistle: Hebrews 5:5-10; *Gospel:* John 12:20-33.

LAY MINISTERS –

Director of Music Ministry:	Dr. Michael Larkin	Greeter:	Penny Geist
Worship Leader:	Mary Hammond	Usher:	Denise Jarrell
Old Testament Reader:	Marti LaRue	Altar Guild:	Andi Bender
New Testament Reader:	Kenny Stafford	Counters:	Tom Reilly, Ike Hammond
Acolyte:	Tom Reilly		

Sunday, March 17

Choir Rehearsal – 9:00 a.m.
Worship Service – 10:00 a.m.
Cemetery Committee Meeting – in Lounge following 10am service
(Vestry Meeting – cancelled for today)



Sunday School is available for all children during the 10:00 am worship service. Sunday School Lessons are planned to match the Lectionary reading for the week. A discussion about the lesson and a craft or activity will follow. The children join their families in church for the Eucharist, or if Miss Tina is singing in the choir, the children will come in during the peace. All children are welcome to attend our class, even if they are not here every week or are just visiting. Please ask a Greeter to direct you to the classroom.



PARISH PRAYER LIST – Please see the last page of this newsletter and pray for those in need of our prayers for strength, guidance, or healing, especially *Linda White, Jessica Absher, Butch & Betty VanHekle, Penny Wilhelme, Sandy Grim, George Fischbach, Jim Bender, Patti, Penny, & David Edwards, Ann, Carmen Scott, Diane Geist, Lindsey, Kira, Preston, Cindy, Dave.*

– Pray for those who have died, especially Katherine.

THOSE CELEBRATING BIRTHDAYS THIS WEEK – Janice Fischbach, Aaron Brase-Davis.

FAMILY – We will be praying this week for the DeMaio-Temme family. Please remember to pray for Cassy, Sophia, and Savannah during the service on Sunday and keep them in your thoughts during the week.

A Prayer for Families: Heavenly Father, in whom we live and move and have our being, we humbly pray to you to guide and govern us by the Holy Spirit, that in all the cares and occupations of our daily life, we may never forget you, but remember that we are ever walking in your sight; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.



Coral Springs Nursing Home: On the First Sunday of the month during our worship service, Rev. Sarah will consecrate the Host that will be distributed to the residents of Coral Springs Nursing Home on every other Monday each month.

Prayer for Coral Springs

Jesus, I ask for comfort and hope for those who are in nursing homes. May they feel your presence and know you see them as precious and having your love in their hearts. May they be treated with dignity. I also pray for the caregivers. They have such a hard job and many times don't receive acknowledgement for what they do. May they know the importance and beauty of their job and realize they are bringing you to the people they are serving. Please give them strength when they become tired and when the job becomes very stressful. May the people who make decisions regarding the money that nursing homes receive know they too will be older one day and to be sensitive to the needs and challenges of these wonderful people. Amen.

ANGLICAN CYCLE OF PRAYER – Pray for the Church in Wales.

DIOCESE OF DELAWARE – Pray for St. Peter's Church, Lewes – The Rev. Jeffrey A. Ross, Rector; The Rev. Douglas Culton, Rector Emeritus; The Rev. J. Carlyle Gill, Associate Priest; The Rev. Canon Mark Harris, Associate Priest; The Rev. Ray Michener, Associate Priest; The Rev. Deacon Laurence Norfleet, Deacon; and The Rev. Theodore Olson, Associate Priest.

MEETINGS

COME JOIN OUR BIBLE Study **WEDNESDAY BIBLE STUDY** – You are invited to join in a study of scripture with others seeking to know God. Each Wednesday we will gather at 10:00 a.m. in the Lounge to consider the words of the Gospel for the coming Sunday. While we will be meeting in person, if you would like to join us by Zoom, please let the office know. I hope that you will join us. Sarah

(MEETINGS cont'd)

MEETINGS *(continued)*



CEMETERY COMMITTEE MEETING: The next meeting is scheduled for this Sunday, March 17 in the Lounge following the 10:00 am service.



VESTRY MEETINGS: Vestry meetings are scheduled on the following dates:
March 17 (cancelled); April 21; May 19; June 16.



WORSHIP MEETING: The Worship meetings are usually scheduled on the fourth Sunday of the month.



HEALING SERVICES are generally held on the first Sunday of each month in the Chapel immediately following the 10am worship service. They have been scheduled on the following dates: Apr. 7; May 5; and June 2.

FUNDRAISER EVENT




williams syndrome
williams-syndrome.org

WILLIAMS SYNDROME ASSOCIATION: Check out the *Bender Twins' Team fundraising page!* Click on the link below for more information. They are still accepting donations to this wonderful Association on behalf of Samantha and Autumn! (If you are unable to open the link below, copy and paste into your URL.)

<https://events.williams-syndrome.org/team/500609>

BIRTHDAYS CALENDAR

<p><u>MARCH BIRTHDAYS</u></p> 	5	– Autumn Bender
	5	– Samantha Bender
	8	– Brian Pennock
	9	– Michael Dunnigan
	10	– Richard Scott
	18	– Janice Fischbach
	22	– Aaron Brase-Davis
	24	– Maren Nelson
	27	– Ron Pierce

HOLY WEEK 2024 WORSHIP SCHEDULE

	<p style="text-align: center;">PALM / PASSION SUNDAY - March 24</p> <p>10:00 a.m. - Worship Service</p>
	<p style="text-align: center;">MAUNDY THURSDAY - March 28</p> <p>5:00 p.m. - Seder Meal * - Gather in Parish Hall (*See NOTE at bottom of page)</p> <p>7:00 p.m. - Maundy Thursday Service; Stripping of Altar</p>
	<p style="text-align: center;">GOOD FRIDAY - March 29</p> <p>12:00 Noon - Service will be at: St. James Church--Mill Creek 2106 St. James Church Road Wilmington, DE 19808</p>
	<p style="text-align: center;">HOLY SATURDAY - March 30</p> <p>10:00 a.m. - Worship Service</p> <p>7:00 p.m. - The Great Vigil of Easter</p>
	<p style="text-align: center;">EASTER SUNDAY - March 31 ALLELUIA! THE LORD IS RISEN INDEED!</p> <p>10:00 a.m. - Easter Service</p>

* **Seder Meal – Sign-Up!** Please look for the sign-up sheet in the lobby for items to bring. We are specifically looking for casseroles, pasta dishes (without pork), tea sandwiches, salads, or other dishes you’d like to bring in to share the meal and help “feed the masses”!

'TIS A GIFT

During this season of Lent, as we move towards stillness and listening to God, we look around us to see the many gifts and blessings God has bestowed upon us. During these Lenten days as our scriptures tell us, "to those with ears let them hear." As we hear God calling, may our eyes be opened to see the gifts in one another.



We need everyone's help to share OUR special gifts with EACH OTHER a success! It's giving us the opportunity to let our fellow parishioners (men, women, and children!) know that we recognize and appreciate their gifts!

So ... as you are sitting in your pew on Sunday, first, take special notice that our "Circle of Blessings" in the front of our Sanctuary has become our **Circle of "GIFTS."** Then, as you look around, begin recognizing those gifts you see in one another! There will be "ornaments" that you can write a name on one side and on the other side, the gift you know that person has. In ways both great and small, recognize those gifts which abound. For example Penny – You always extend such a warm welcome to those who come through our doors! Betty – Your exuberance of faith in your final amen warms my heart!

On the Sunday following Easter (April 7th), you will receive all your ornaments that others have recognized your gifts! So please pick up some ornaments over the next few weeks, write a few words, and hang them on the Circle of Gifts!

THOUGHT FOR THE WEEK :

Difficult roads often lead to beautiful destinations.

2024 STEWARDSHIP

OFFERING ENVELOPES are available if you would like to use them.

PLEDGE CARDS received will be linked to your envelope, if you desire to use the envelopes.

As each has received a gift,
use it to **serve one another**,
as good stewards
of God's varied grace:
1 Peter 4:10 (ESV)

OUR YOUNG PEOPLE

To submit exciting details about achievements about your Young Person, please email information (and if you desire, a picture) to: martilarue828@gmail.com . Please know that by sending us a picture, you will be authorizing and agreeing to having your youth's picture appear in our newsletter.

MISCELLANEOUS



Altar Flowers: If you would like to place flowers on the altar in thanksgiving or in memory of a loved one, flower forms are available on the table in the church foyer, or you may contact the church office. The cost for flowers is \$30.00. Checks should be made payable to: St. James Church. Please write "Altar Flowers" on the memo line of your check. The check can be placed in the Offering plate or dropped off at the office. **NOTE: There are No Altar Flowers during Lent.**

Altar Easter Flowers – If you would like to place a lily on the altar for Easter, please fill out the inserted form in Sunday's bulletin OR you may contact the office (302-994-2029). Please return the form **no later than THIS Sunday, March 17th.** The cost for each plant will be \$14.00. Make your check payable to: **St. James Church, Newport** and include the wording "Easter Lilies" in the memo line of your check.

Announcements for the Ladies!

Are there any St. James women who would be interested in starting or joining a new Group or Ministry? (Bring your friends & family, too!) There have been two activities that have been recently mentioned and want some feedback, please! Look for sheets in the foyer to sign up if you're interested in either or both! Email Marti LaRue (martilarue828@gmail.com) or Carol Hall (teegunner@aol.com) if you have any questions.

- **Knitting, Crocheting, Quilting Group** – The idea has been mentioned of getting together (perhaps weekly) at church to make hand-made shawls and, upon completion, deliver them to parishioners in the hospital, rehab, or home; other ideas, to make: hats, scarves, etc. Perhaps knit some hats for Margy's Tree that we fill up at Christmas time!
- **Ladies Luncheons** – Anyone interested in meeting for lunch once a month? We could pick different restaurants and alternate, or just choose one.

Look for sheets in the foyer after Easter. If you're interested in either or both, please sign up!

ST. JAMES VESTRY

Sr. Warden: George McDowell

Jr. Warden: Tina Geist

Christian Education Chair: Tina Geist

Finance: George McDowell/Tina Geist

Outreach Chairs: Dawn Martinez and Janice Fischbach

Pastoral Care Chairs: Dawn Martinez and Marti LaRue

Property Chairs: Tom Reilly and Andi Bender

Hospitality/Fellowship Chairs: Carol Hall and Marti LaRue

Worship Chairs: John Grim and Dawn Martinez

Recording Secretary: Marti LaRue

Clerk of the Vestry: Janice Fischbach



A Prayer for Ukraine

God of peace and justice,
we pray for the people of Ukraine today.
We pray for peace and the laying down of weapons.
We pray for all those who fear for tomorrow,
that your Spirit of comfort would draw near to them.
We pray for those with power over war or peace,
for wisdom, discernment and compassion to guide their decisions.
Above all, we pray for all your precious children, at risk and in fear,
that you would hold and protect them.
We pray in the name of Jesus, the Prince of Peace.
Amen.

*Archbishop of Canterbury, Justin Welby
Archbishop of York, Stephen Cottrell*

Prayer in the Midst of Violence

Lord, in our shock and confusion, we come before you
in our grief and despair in the midst of hate,
in our sense of helplessness in the face of violence,
We lean on you.

For the families of those who have been killed, we pray.
For the shooters – *help* us to pray, Lord.
For the communities that have lost members, their anger, grief, fear,
We pray.

For the churches striving to be your light in darkness
beyond comprehension,
We pray.

Lord of all, gather us up – your creatures, your world –
and bring an end to the violence.
Come, Lord Jesus.
Amen.

*Taken from “**Prayer for mass violence**” by Grace Claus
written for faithward*

Prayer for Refugees

O Lord God, you led your people through the wilderness and brought them to the promised land.
Guide us now so that, following your Son, we may walk alongside vulnerable refugee families as
they build a new life in the county of your love and mercy. Amen.

ST. JAMES PRAYER LIST – Please use this Prayer List and include the following people in your daily prayers. Names will remain on the prayer list for one month. If you want to keep someone on the list, add, or remove anyone, please email (stjamesnew@verizon.net) or call the church office (302-994-2029). **(Those newly added BOLDED)**

Abigail	Frank Dean	Joshua John	Reese
Jessica Absher	Diana and Pevan	Sister Julian	Neil Reilly
Alan	Rose DelliGatti	Carolyn Karney & Family	Aaron Richers
Alethia	Henry Diaz	Juanita Kavanaugh	The Roche Family
Alex	John DiOrio	Kathy	The Family of
Allysa	Ross Donovan	Melvin Kessler	Fr. Ruben Rodriguez
Amy	Deborah Earley	Kiara	Roy
Andrienne	Vern Earley	Ritchie Kinlaw	Emily Ruggieri
Anna	Patti Edwards & Family	Kira	Henry Saffer
Anne	Penny Edwards	Sara Kirk	Sally
Christina Azwol	Carol Edwards & Family	Susan Kriznuski	Daniel Sanchez
Tony Andres	Ellie Rose	Marti & Ron LaRue	Gabriela Santiago
Sage Andrews	Eli	Laura	Mike Scarpetti
Barbara	Eric	John Lewis	Scott
Scott Battaglia	Janice Fischbach	Liam	Carmen Scott
Seth Bayless	George Fischbach	Lilly	Richard Scott
Jim Bender	Mary Ellen	Lois	The Francis Scott Family
Trish Bender Bayless	Kira Fix	Allen Luckey	Maria Perdikis
Jeff Biscoe	John & Harriet Flynn	Cindy & Dave Mahoney	Mike Pierce
Bobbie Blevins	John	Mallory	Seth
Eileen Borders	Joan Frati	Marie Marcinkowski	Linda Sheesley
Barry Boulden	Ginny	The Martinez Family	The Slocomb Family
Paula Boulden	Diane Geist	Mary Helen	Earlene Smith
Myrle Bowe	Fred Geist	Jude Matejkovic	Dan Sommers
Ronald Boyce	Gerike Family: Adam,	Melvin	Kenny Stafford
Doris Brown	Lindsey, & Oliver	Missy	Dorothy Stephens
Charles Brown	Glenn	Carmen Moore	Steve
Eleanor Buchanan	The Gracie Family	Shirley Moore	Gavin Stiteler
Crystal Bush	Brittney Griffin	Ann Moses	The Family of
Douglas Bush	Sandy Grim	Jay Muckle	Paula Szczuka
David Butters	Scott Gunn	Randy Murray	The Sotkiewicz Family:
Fran Pearlman-Butters	Carolyn Halfen	Sara Musselman	Joanna, Michael,
Cameryn	Tom & Carol Hall	Natalie	Hannah, Charles
Caroleen	Ike Hammond	Maren Nelson	In Thanksgiving for the
Carolyn	Lindsey Hammond	The Rev. Sarah Nelson	Birth of Maxwell
KayMaire Castro	Amy & Rick Harra	Sue Nelson	Thomas
Cathy	Major Scott M. Harra	Nicholas	Lorayne Titter
Wayne Chapman, Jr.	Rick Harvey	Noah	Jack Tucker
Chris	Nancy Hoffman	Cassandra Norsworthy	Shon Tucker
Cindy	Travis Hoffman	Paula Orty	Tyler
The Clapp Family	Holly	Mark Parton	Jack
Linda Clark	Eileen Hughes	Terri Parton	Butch & Betty VanHekle
Clint	Peter Huiner and Family	Debbie Papa	Preston VanHekle III
Bill Cole	Kaylee Jackson	Madeline Pepe & Children	Mary Wade
Brittany Collins	Jennifer	Pat	Family of Nancy Walls
Christina Conaway	Jenna & John	The Pease Family	Valerie Warrington
Presiding Bishop	Jeremy	Maria Perdikis	Linda White
Michael Curry	Jim	Mike Pierce	Missy Wieland
Daisy	Joan	John Pumphrey & Family	Penny Wilhelme
Dave Cullen	Joe	The Pat Purdy Family	Andy & Linda Wolf
Kate Deal			

For those serving our country: National Guard: Terron Barnes, Brad Pastore, Christina Pastore; U.S. Army: Maj. Scott M. Harra. *Give grace, O Lord, to our brothers and sisters in Christ who suffer physically and emotionally, that may be healed. Grant them trust and love that their prayers may be answered and that they may be relieved from their suffering. Amen.*
Rev. 03/02/24