



St James Cathedral

CHICAGO

Forged in Fire: From Age to Age



"Baptism in the Wabash" by Tella Kitchen

Holy Eucharist
Second Sunday of Advent
December 2, 2025 at 8 a.m.



Choral Evensong for the Season of Advent

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 7 - 4 P.M.

Transcendent choral music from the English Tudor period, sung by the Cathedral Choir. A festive reception follows.



St James Cathedral
CHICAGO

Sunday, December 14, 4 p.m.

CAROLS & COCOA

Sing your favorite Christmas carols with festive refreshments
led by organists Stephen Buzard and Nico Tjoelker

ALL ARE WELCOME! Free Admission.

Proceeds to benefit the Cathedral Organ Project



THE FESTIVAL OF NINE LESSONS & CAROLS

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 21
4 P.M.



St James Cathedral
CHICAGO

Welcome to St. James Cathedral!

Whether you are visiting or are a regular worshipper, you're not just welcome at St. James – you belong! This booklet contains everything you need to worship with us today. If you would like to learn about the mission and ministry of the cathedral, please complete one of the visitor cards available in the pews and place it in the offering plate or hand it to a clergy person.

HOLY COMMUNION

We offer God's gracious gift of Holy Communion to anyone who wishes to receive it. If you prefer to receive a blessing, come forward and cross your arms over your chest. Let the priest know if you would need a gluten-free wafer or alcohol-free wine. We are also happy to bring Communion to you if you are unable to come to the altar rail. Please let an usher know if this would be helpful for you.

PARKING

On Sundays, reduced-rate parking is available at R.O.W. Parking Garage (50 E. Ohio) for \$2 for up to six hours from the time of entering the garage. Discounts are also available for all-day parking at Ohio Ontario Self Park (33 W. Ontario) for \$11. To receive a reduced-rate parking voucher, please go to the welcome table in the narthex or the reception desk in the Welcome Center.

FOR YOUR INFORMATION

Restrooms are in the Welcome Center connected to the east end of the cathedral and below the front entrance of the cathedral.

GET INVOLVED

There are a variety of ways to become involved, whether you are a committed follower of Christ, an occasional visitor who appreciates our programming, or fall somewhere in between.

Refreshments are available after the service, where we look forward to getting to know you and helping you connect with this vibrant and historic community!



The Very Rev. Lisa Hackney-James,
Dean of the Cathedral



THIS WEEK'S ENEWS

Gathering

OPENING ACCLAMATION

As the clergy enter the chapel, please stand.

Presider Blessed are you, holy and living One.

All **You come to your people and set them free.**

The presider welcomes the people to the service.

CONFESSION OF SIN

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

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 presider pronounces God's forgiveness.

KYRIE

Lord, have mercy upon us.

Christ, have mercy upon us.

Lord, have mercy upon us.

COLLECT OF THE DAY

Presider The Lord be with you.

All **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.**

Please be seated.

Liturgy of the Word

FIRST READING

A Reading from the Book of the Prophet Isaiah. (11:1-10)

A shoot shall come out from the stump of Jesse,
and a branch shall grow out of his roots.

The 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.

His 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,
but with righteousness he shall judge for the poor
and decide with equity for the oppressed 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.

Righteousness shall be the belt around his waist
and faithfulness the belt around his loins.

The wolf shall live with the lamb;
the leopard shall lie down with the kid;
the calf and the lion will feed together,
and a little child shall lead them.

The cow and the bear shall graze;
their young shall lie down together;
and the lion shall eat straw like the ox.

The nursing child shall play over the hole of the asp,
and the weaned child shall put its hand on the adder's den.

They 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.

On 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.

The Word of the Lord.

All **Thanks be to God.**

Read in response by the reader and all.

PSALM 72:1-7, 18-19

Give the King your justice, O God,

and your righteousness to the King's Son;

That he may rule your people righteously

and the poor with justice;

That the mountains may bring prosperity to the people,

and the little hills bring righteousness.

He shall defend the needy among the people;

he shall rescue the poor and crush the oppressor.

He shall live as long as the sun and moon endure,

from one generation to another.

He shall come down like rain upon the mown field,

like showers that water the earth.

In his time shall the righteous flourish;

there shall be abundance of peace till the moon shall be no more.

Blessed be the Lord GOD, the God of Israel,

who alone does wondrous deeds!

And blessed be his glorious Name for ever!

and may all the earth be filled with glory.

Amen. Amen.

HOLY GOSPEL

Deacon The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew. (3:1-12)

All **Glory to you, Lord Christ.**

In those days John the Baptist appeared in the wilderness of Judea, proclaiming, "Repent, for the kingdom of heaven has come near." This 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.' "

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

But when he saw many of the Pharisees and Sadducees coming for his baptism, he said to them, "You brood of vipers! Who warned you to flee from the coming wrath?

Therefore, bear fruit worthy of repentance, and do 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. Even now the ax is lying at the root of the trees; therefore every tree that does not bear good fruit will be cut down and thrown into the fire.

"I baptize you with water for repentance, but the one who is coming after me is more powerful than I, and I am not worthy to carry his sandals. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire. His 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."

The Gospel of the Lord.

All Praise to you, Lord Christ.

SERMON

The Rev. Rick Incorvati
Deacon

In 325, the first ecumenical council of the Church established the Nicene Creed as a universal statement of faith for every Christian. Through the 20th century, international ecumenical councils, biblical scholars, and language experts worked together to achieve the most accurate English translation. In 2018, The Episcopal Church voted to include this version in our prayer book to reclaim the original meaning of the Nicene Creed.

Notice, for example, that "he" pronouns for the Holy Spirit were not in the Creed as originally written, therefore this version also does not include them.

Please stand.

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, was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the Virgin Mary and became truly human. 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, *who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified, who 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.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

After each prayer, the response is

Reader Lord, in your mercy,
All **Hear our prayer.**

The presider concludes, praying

Almighty God, as your blessed Son Jesus Christ first came to seek and to save the lost; so may he come again to find in us the completion of his redeeming work; for he is now alive and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, God for ever and ever. **Amen.**

PEACE

The presider says

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

The people greet each other in the name of the Lord.

Holy Communion

OFFERTORY



Your offering supports the ongoing mission of St. James Cathedral, including the St. James Meals, Meals Among Us, and Summer in the City. Contributions are welcome online at SaintJamesCathedral.org/give, by texting “SJC” to 73256, or you may place checks and cash in the collection plate.

GREAT THANKSGIVING

Presider The Lord be with you.
All **And also with you.**

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

Presider Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
All **It is right to give God 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. 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:

Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might, heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest. Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.

Glory and honor and praise to you, holy and living God. To deliver us from the power of sin and death and to reveal the riches of your grace, you looked with favor upon Mary, your willing servant, that she might conceive and bear a son, Jesus the holy child of God. Living among us, Jesus loved us. He broke bread with outcasts and sinners, healed the sick, and proclaimed good news to the poor. He yearned to draw all the world to himself yet we were heedless of his call to walk in love. Then, the time came for him to complete upon the cross the sacrifice of his life, and to be glorified by you.

On the night before he died for us, Jesus was at table with his friends. He took bread, gave thanks to you, broke it, and gave it to them, and said: "Take, eat: This is my Body, which is given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me." As supper was ending, Jesus took the cup of wine. Again, he gave thanks to you, gave it to them, and said: "Drink this, all of you: This is my Blood of the new Covenant, which is poured out for you and for all for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me."

Now gathered at your table, O God of all creation, and remembering Christ, crucified and risen, who was and is and is to come, we offer to you our gifts of bread and wine, and ourselves, a living sacrifice.

Pour out your Spirit upon these gifts that they may be the Body and Blood of Christ. Breathe your Spirit over the whole earth and make us your new creation, the Body of Christ given for the world you have made.

In the fullness of time bring us, with all your saints, from every tribe and language and people and nation, to feast at the banquet prepared from the foundation of the world.

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.**

LORD'S PRAYER

The presider introduces the Lord's Prayer.

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.

BREAKING OF THE BREAD

Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world: have mercy on us.

Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world: have mercy on us.

Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world: grant us peace.

The presider says

The Gifts of God for the People of God.

We offer God's gracious gift of Holy Communion to anyone who wishes to receive it.

If you prefer to receive a blessing, come forward and cross your arms over your chest.

Let the chalice minister know if you would prefer a gluten-free wafer or alcohol-free wine.

THE ST. JAMES CAPITAL CAMPAIGN PRAYER

The presider says

Let us pray.

Faithful God,

you call us to be living stones in a spiritual temple.

Bless the mission and outreach of this cathedral church.

By the power of your Holy Spirit,

enable us confidently to restore its fabric,

trustfully to reimagine our vocation,

and boldly to renew our ministries in your name.

Make this place a house in which your love dwells

and in which all your people find welcome.

Grant this, we pray, through the One who leads us ever onwards in your service,

Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

BLESSING

The presider prays for God's blessing on the gathered people, saying

May the Sun of Righteousness shine upon you and scatter the darkness from before your path;
and the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be among you, and
remain with you always. **Amen.**

DISMISSAL

Deacon Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

All **Thanks be to God.**

IN OUR PRAYERS THIS WEEK

FOR THOSE COMMENDED TO THE PRAYER OF THE CATHEDRAL COMMUNITY: Ginger, Jane, Loya, Andronica, Ibukun, Ted, Lois, Mary, Yvonne, Lee, John, Rachael, Bill, Felicia, Nat, Steve, Jonah, Katie, Cynthia, Patricia, Charlotte and Richard, Joan, Lizzy and Ben, Chris, Marianne

FOR THOSE WHO HAVE DIED AND HAVE BEEN COMMENDED TO THE PRAYERS OF THE CATHEDRAL COMMUNITY: Brian Hall, John Netherby

FOR ALL THOSE WHO DIED BY GUN VIOLENCE IN CHICAGO IN THE PAST WEEK INCLUDING: Aaliyah, D'Angelo, Mario, Carolyn, Paul, Oliver, Howard

DIOCESAN PRAYER CYCLE: For our bishop, Paula, and our Presiding Bishop, Sean; Episcopal Charities, ReVive Center for Housing and Healing, Lawrence Hall, Montgomery Place, Primo Center for Women & Children

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Sign up for our weekly newsletter at SaintJamesCathedral.org/enews.

CHRISTMAS AT THE CATHEDRAL Spend your Christmas at the Cathedral! See the graphic at the end of this bulletin or visit www.SaintJamesCathedral.org/Christmas for all the Cathedral has to offer this Christmas season.



THIS WEEK'S ENEWS

ADULT FORMATION AT ST. JAMES **Sundays at 10 a.m. in Kyle's Place:** **TODAY:** St. James Cathedral member and attorney Richard Hoskins shares insights on the balance of Christian duty and civic duty as we take action to care for people in need in the community. **Wednesdays at 6:30 p.m. in Meeting Room 1:** All are welcome to join in after Wednesday night 5:45 p.m. evensong and dinner.

THERE IS STILL TIME TO PLEDGE FOR 2026 Thank you to everyone who has made a pledge to support St. James financially in 2026. We're almost at our goal and **we can exceed it with your help.** If you haven't yet made your pledge, there's still time to join in. Make your pledge online at SaintJamesCathedral.org/pledge. Thank you for supporting our shared ministry.

CAROLS & COCOA NEXT SUNDAY AT 4 P.M. Cathedral musicians Stephen Buzard and Nico Tjoelker lead a fun, informal Christmas carol sing to ring in the holiday season. Carolers of all ages and abilities are welcome! **If you have a favorite Christmas carol you would like to sing, please request it by TODAY** by scanning the QR code to the right. We cannot guarantee that every carol requested will be sung, but we will do our best to include as many requests as possible.



DONATIONS FOR CHRISTMAS FLOWERS We welcome donations for the flowers that will adorn the Cathedral for our Christmas celebrations. Donate online at

SaintJamesCathedral.org/ChristmasFlowers or by using one of the special envelopes in the narthex. If you would like to have your gift in honor or memory of a loved one, add their names on the envelope or fill out the form at **SaintJamesCathedral.org/ChristmasFlowers**. Contributions must be received by Monday, December 15 to be included in Christmas bulletins.

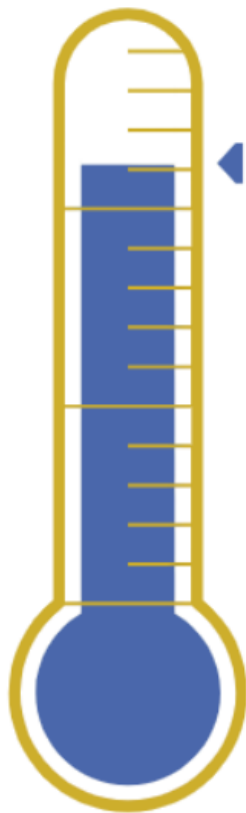
WINTER CLOTHING DRIVE FOR THE TASKFORCE Our partners at St. Martin's have asked us to participate in a winter wear clothing drive for the youth at the TaskForce. The TaskForce (who serves vulnerable LGBT youth) maintains a "clothes closet" for the community throughout the year but they have shared that winter hits them the hardest. Thus, we are asking for donations of gently used (or new) coats, jackets, sweaters, pants, gloves, shoes, scarves, or any items you may find useful. All sizes are appreciated. **Items may be brought to St. James and put in the box in the Welcome Center.**

SMALL GROUPS AT ST. JAMES

- **60's and 70's Group Tuesday, December 16 at 6:30 p.m. in Kyle's Place:** Visit **SaintJamesCathedral.org/67** for more information.
- **Scripture Reflection Group Mondays at 6 p.m. in Room 212:** Contact Jacob Perkins (admin@saintjamescathedral.org) for more information.

Season of Faith

STEWARDSHIP 2026

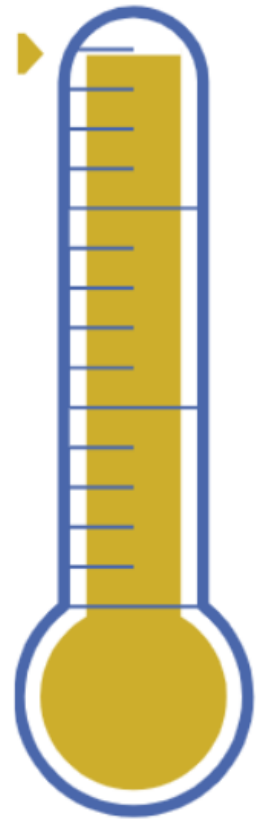


220 PLEDGES
2026 PLEDGE
DRIVE GOAL

174
PLEDGES
RECORDED
TO DATE

\$850,000
2026 PLEDGE
DRIVE GOAL

\$837,579
AMOUNT
PLEDGED
TO DATE



mark your calendars and join us in celebrating 150 years since
the rededication of St James rebuilt from the ruins of the Great Chicago Fire of 1871

NOW thru
DECEMBER

A Sweep of History — on view in Kyle's Place

meander through time and discover the threads that bind St James with the very founding and fabric of modern-day Chicago in this spatial installation by the St James Arts Council

01 / 18
SUNDAY
2pm

The Organ Music of Leo Sowerby

Canon Director of Music Stephen Buzard offers a recital of organ music by his most esteemed predecessor, Leo Sowerby, who served at St James from 1927 through 1962, with a talk by Dr Joseph Sargent, Associate Professor of Musicology, University of Alabama, and author of *Leo Sowerby* (2024)

02 / 15
SUNDAY
4pm

Joy Rogers: Dean Emerita

a special diocesan Evensong celebrating the designation of the Very Rev Joy Rogers, Dean of the Cathedral (2006–14), as Dean Emerita

03 / 27
FRIDAY
7:30pm

Leo Sowerby: Forsaken of Man

the Cathedral Choir sings *Forsaken of Man* — a poignant oratorio based on St Matthew's Passion and noted for its profound expressive depth and intricate choral writing, composed in 1939 by Leo Sowerby, St James Organist & Choirmaster (1927–62)

04 / 17
FRIDAY

Cathedral Gala at the Driehaus Museum

celebrating 150 years and benefiting St James's outreach and service ministries

07 / 25
SATURDAY

Camino en Chicago

for centuries, people have made physical pilgrimages to places of spiritual significance — on the feast day of Saint James the Apostle, we undertake a Camino de Santiago en Chicago, following a route between church, civic, and cultural institutions around the city that trace their founding to St James Cathedral, Chicago

SaintJamesCathedral.org/150
FOR MORE DETAILS & THE FULL CALENDAR OF EVENTS

forged in fire:
150 FROM AGE TO AGE
YEARS OF RESILIENCE & VISION





CHRISTMAS

— AT THE —
CATHEDRAL

NINE LESSONS & CAROLS

Sunday, Dec. 21 at 4 p.m.

FAMILY EUCHARIST & CHILDREN'S PAGEANT

Wednesday, Dec. 24 at 4 p.m.

LESSONS & CAROLS FOR CHRISTMAS EVE

Wednesday, Dec. 24 at 7 p.m.

SOLEMN EUCHARIST

Wednesday, Dec. 24 at 10 p.m.

CHRISTMAS DAY

Thursday, Dec. 25 at 10 a.m.

EVENSONG FOR CHRISTMAS

Sunday, Jan. 4 at 4 p.m.



St James Cathedral
CHICAGO



LITURGICAL MINISTERS

PREACHER & DEACON: The Rev. Rick Incorvati

PRESIDER: The Very Rev. Lisa Hackney-James

WORSHIP SCHEDULE

SUNDAYS	8 a.m.	Holy Eucharist (<i>Spoken</i>)	Chapel
	9 a.m.	Holy Eucharist (<i>Family</i>)	Cathedral
	11 a.m.	Holy Eucharist (<i>Choral</i>)	Cathedral
		Live-Stream Service (<i>see enews, website, or YouTube</i>)	
FIRST SUNDAYS	4 p.m.	Choral Evensong (<i>Oct–June</i>)	Cathedral
WEEKDAYS	9 a.m.	Morning Prayer (<i>see enews, or website</i>)	Zoom
	12:10 p.m.	Holy Eucharist	Cathedral
	5:45 p.m.	Choral Evensong (<i>Wednesdays, Sept–June</i>)	Cathedral

CLERGY & STAFF

The Very Rev. Lisa Hackney-James, <i>Dean</i>	lhj@saintjamescathedral.org
The Rev. Canon Steven Balke, <i>Canon Vicar</i>	sbalke@saintjamescathedral.org
The Rev. Canon Christopher Griffin, <i>Community Partnerships</i>	cgriffin@saintjamescathedral.org
The Rev. Rick Incorvati, <i>Deacon</i>	rincorvati@saintjamescathedral.org
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Jacob Perkins, <i>Intern for Administration</i>	admin@saintjamescathedral.org

CATHEDRAL CHAPTER

Susan Fickling, *Senior Warden*, Allen Moye, *Junior Warden*, Erin Maus, *Chancellor*, Paul Thompson, *Treasurer*, Elizabeth Wakefield-Connell, *Secretary*, Lisa Ahmad, The Rev. Maurice Charles, Phil Debush, John Fischer, Greg Gerber, Ryan Middlebrook, Michelle Mitchell, Maria Price, Keith Schmidt, The Rev. Eileen Shanley-Roberts, and Eric Weddle



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