



St. James' Episcopal Church  
Skaneateles

December 24, 2025  
7 P.M.

## Prelude

*O Come All Ye Faithful (His Name Shall Be)*

## Welcome

## First Opening Song

*Christmas Offering*

Over the skies of Bethlehem appeared a star  
While angels sang to lowly shepherds  
Three wise men seeking truth traveled from afar  
Hoping to find the child from Heaven  
Falling on their knees  
They bowed before the humble Prince of Peace

I bring an offering of worship to my King  
No one on earth deserves the praises that I sing  
Jesus may You receive the honor that  
You're due  
Oh Lord I bring an offering to You  
I bring an offering to You

The sun cannot compare to the glory of  
Your love  
There is no shadow in Your presence  
No mortal man would dare to stand before  
Your throne  
Before the Holy One of Heaven  
It's only by Your blood it's only through Your  
mercy  
Lord I come

I bring an offering of worship to my King  
No one on earth deserves the praises that I sing  
Jesus may You receive the honor that  
You're due  
Oh Lord I bring an offering to You

## Second Opening Song

*Angels (Glory to God)*

Angels we have heard on high  
Sweetly singing o'er the plains  
And the mountains in reply  
Echoing their joyous strains, eh  
Gloria, in excelsis Deo

Shepherds, why this jubilee?  
Why your joyous strains prolong?  
What the gladsome tidings be  
Which inspire your heavenly song? C'mon  
Gloria, in excelsis Deo  
Gloria, in excelsis Deo

Glory to God, glory to God  
Glory to God in the highest, forever  
For all He has done  
His unfailing love  
Glory to God in the highest, forever

Come to Bethlehem and see  
Him whose birth the angels sing  
Come, adore on bended knee  
Christ the Lord, the new-born King  
Gloria, in excelsis Deo  
Gloria, in excelsis Deo

Glory to God, glory to God  
Glory to God in the highest, forever  
For all He has done  
His unfailing love  
Glory to God in the highest, forever  
Gloria, gloria  
Glory to God in the highest  
Gloria, gloria  
Glory to God in the highest

## Opening Acclamation

*Clergy* Blessed be God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.  
*People* **And blessed be God's kingdom, now and forever. Amen.**

## Collect of the Day

*Clergy* The Lord be with you.  
*People* **And also with you.**  
*Clergy* 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.*

## 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.  
³You 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.

*Reader* Hear what the Spirit is saying to God's people.  
*People* **Thanks be to God.**

## Psalm 96

- <sup>1</sup> Sing to the Lord a new song; \*  
sing to the Lord, all the whole earth.
- <sup>2</sup> Sing to the Lord and bless his Name; \*  
proclaim the good news of his salvation from day to day.
- <sup>3</sup> Declare his glory among the nations \*  
and his wonders among all peoples.
- <sup>4</sup> For great is the Lord and greatly to be praised; \*  
he is more to be feared than all gods.
- <sup>5</sup> As for all the gods of the nations, they are but idols; \*  
but it is the Lord who made the heavens.
- <sup>6</sup> Oh, the majesty and magnificence of his presence! \*  
Oh, the power and the splendor of his sanctuary!
- <sup>7</sup> Ascribe to the Lord, you families of the peoples; \*  
ascribe to the Lord honor and power.
- <sup>8</sup> Ascribe to the Lord the honor due his Name; \*  
bring offerings and come into his courts.
- <sup>9</sup> Worship the Lord in the beauty of holiness; \*  
let the whole earth tremble before him.
- <sup>10</sup> 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."
- <sup>11</sup> 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.
- <sup>12</sup> Then shall all the trees of the wood shout for joy  
before the Lord when he comes, \*  
when he comes to judge the earth.
- <sup>13</sup> He will judge the world with righteousness \*  
and the peoples with his truth.

## Second Reading

*Titus 2:11-14*

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.

*Reader* Hear what the Spirit is saying to God's people.

*People* **Thanks be to God.**

Thy Word is a lamp unto my feet  
 And a light unto my path  
 Thy Word is a lamp unto my feet  
 And a light unto my path

When I feel afraid  
 And I think I've lost my way  
 Still You're there right beside me  
 Nothing will I fear  
 As long as You are near  
 Please be near me to the end

Thy Word is a lamp unto my feet  
 And a light unto my path  
 Thy Word is a lamp unto my feet  
 And a light unto my path

## Holy Gospel

Luke 2:1-20

*Clergy* 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. <sup>19</sup>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.

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

## 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 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.

## Prayers of the People

*Reader* In peace, we pray to you, Lord God.

*Silence*

*Reader* For all people in their daily life and work;

*People* **For our families, friends, and neighbors, and for those who are alone.**

*Reader* For this community, the nation, and the world;

*People* **For all who work for justice, freedom, and peace.**

*Reader* For the just and proper use of your creation;

*People* **For the victims of hunger, fear, injustice, and oppression.**

*Reader* For all who are in danger, sorrow, or any kind of trouble;

*People* **For those who minister to the sick, the friendless, and the needy.**

*Reader* For the peace and unity of the Church of God;

*People* **For all who proclaim the Gospel, and all who seek the Truth.**

*Reader* For Sean our Presiding Bishop, and DeDe our Bishop; and for all bishops and other ministers;

*People* **For all who serve God in his Church.**

*Reader* For the special needs and concerns of this congregation.

*Silence*

*The People may add their own petitions*

*Reader* Hear us, Lord;  
*People* **For your mercy is great.**

The Celebrant adds a concluding Collect.

O Lord our God, accept the fervent prayers of your people; in the multitude of your mercies, look with compassion upon us and all who turn to you for help; for you are gracious, O lover of souls, and to you we give glory, Holy Trinity, one God, now and for ever. Amen.

### **Confession of Sin**

*Celebrant*  
Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

Silence may be kept.

*All*  
**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.**

### **Absolution**

*Clergy*  
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**

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

### **Announcements**

*An offering is collected to help support St. James' mission of sharing Christ's love in with the world. You can donate by scanning or tapping the QR code or visiting [www.stjameskan.org/support-stjames](http://www.stjamesskan.org/support-stjames).*



### **Offertory**

*Your Name (Christmas Version)*

## The Great Thanksgiving

*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 God thanks and praise.**

It is truly right to glorify you, Father, and to give you thanks; for you alone are God, living and true, dwelling in light inaccessible from before time and for ever.

Fountain of life and source of all goodness, you made all things and fill them with your blessing; you created them to rejoice in the splendor of your radiance.

Countless throngs of angels stand before you to serve you night and day; and, beholding the glory of your presence, they offer you unceasing praise. Joining with them, and giving voice to every creature under heaven, we acclaim you, and glorify your Name, as we sing (say),

*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.**

*The people stand or kneel*

*Then the Celebrant continues*

We acclaim you, holy Lord, glorious in power. Your mighty works reveal your wisdom and love. You formed us in your own image, giving the whole world into our care, so that, in obedience to you, our Creator, we might rule and serve all your creatures. When our disobedience took us far from you, you did not abandon us to the power of death. In your mercy you came to our help, so that in seeking you we might find you. Again and again you called us into covenant with you, and through the prophets you taught us to hope for salvation. Father, you loved the world so much that in the fullness of time you sent your only Son to be our Savior. Incarnate by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, he lived as one of us, yet without sin. To the poor he proclaimed the good news of salvation; to prisoners, freedom; to the sorrowful, joy. To fulfill your purpose he gave himself up to death; and, rising from the grave, destroyed death, and made the whole creation new.

And, that we might live no longer for ourselves, but for him who died and rose for us, he sent the Holy Spirit, his own first gift for those who believe, to complete his work in the world, and to bring to fulfillment the sanctification of all.

*At the following words concerning the bread, the Celebrant is to hold it, or 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.*

When the hour had come for him to be glorified by you, his heavenly Father, having loved his own who were in the world, he loved them to the end; at supper with them he 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."

Father, we now celebrate this memorial of our redemption. Recalling Christ's death and his descent among the dead, proclaiming his resurrection and ascension to your right hand, awaiting his coming in glory; and offering to you, from the gifts you have given us, this bread and this cup, we praise you and we bless you.

*Celebrant and People*

**We praise you, we bless you,  
we give thanks to you,  
and we pray to you, Lord our God.**

*The Celebrant continues*

Lord, we pray that in your goodness and mercy your Holy Spirit may descend upon us, and upon these gifts, sanctifying them and showing them to be holy gifts for your holy people, the bread of life and the cup of salvation, the Body and Blood of your Son Jesus Christ.

Grant that all who share this bread and cup may become one body and one spirit, a living sacrifice in Christ, to the praise of your Name.

Remember, Lord, your one holy catholic and apostolic Church, redeemed by the blood of your Christ. Reveal its unity, guard its faith, and preserve it in peace.

And grant that we may find our inheritance with the Blessed Virgin Mary, with patriarchs, prophets, apostles, and martyrs, with St. James' and all the saints who have found favor with you in ages past. We praise you in union with them and give you glory through your Son Jesus Christ our Lord.

Through Christ, and with Christ, and in Christ, all honor and glory are yours, Almighty God and Father, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, for ever and for ever. **AMEN.**

*Celebrant*

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

*All*

**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**

*The Celebrant breaks the consecrated Bread.*

A period of silence is kept.

*Celebrant* Alleluia. Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us;  
*People* **Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia.**

## The Communion

*The sacrament is given to the people.*

## Music at Communion

*Noel*

## The Postcommunion Prayer

God of abundance you have fed us with the bread of life and the cup of salvation; you have united us with Christ and one another, and you have made us one with all your people in heaven and on earth. Now send us forth in the power of the Spirit, that we may proclaim your redeeming love to the world and continue forever in the risen life of Christ our Savior. Amen.

## Silent Night

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

Silent night, holy night  
Shepherds quake at the sight  
Glories stream from heaven afar  
Heavenly hosts sing Alleluia  
Christ, the Saviour is born  
Christ, the Saviour is born

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

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

## The Christmas Blessing

May Almighty God, who sent his Son to take our nature upon him, bless you in this holy season, scatter the darkness of sin, and brighten your heart with the light of his holiness. And the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be upon you and remain with you for ever. **Amen.**

## Closing Song

*Joy to the World (Unspeakable Joy)*

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.

Joy to the world! the Savior reigns;  
Let all their songs employ.  
While fields and floods, rocks, hills and plains  
repeat the sounding joy,  
repeat the sounding joy,  
repeat, repeat the sounding joy.

Joy, unspeakable joy!  
An overflowing well;

No tongue can tell!  
Joy, unspeakable joy!  
It rises in my soul, never lets me go!

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!

Joy, unspeakable joy!  
And overflowing well;  
No tongue can tell.  
Joy, unspeakable joy!  
Rises in my soul, never let's me go!

The Dismissal is given by the Clergy, and the People respond, 'Thanks be to God! Alleluia! Alleluia!'

### *St. James' Church Skaneateles Staff*

The Rev. Pilar F. Padrón Parnell, Rector  
Pilar@stjameskan.org

John Gillmeister, Seminarian Intern  
John@stjameskan.org

Laura Posecznick, Operations & Communications Director  
laura@stjameskan.org

Nicole Bova, Parish Administrator  
nicole@stjameskan.org

Dr. Nick Kilkenny, Director of Music & Technology  
nick@stjameskan.org

Robbie Padilla, Organist  
robbie@stjameskan.org

Sarah Jones, Director of Children, Youth & Families  
sarah@stjameskan.org

Nancy Graham, Pastoral Care Coordinator  
Nancymgraham4@gmail.com

Copyrighted hymn texts and music reprinted and streamed with permission under OneLicense #A-735321, CCLI Church Copyright License #2417358, and CCLI Streaming License #20564297. All rights reserved.



St. James' Episcopal Church \* 96. E. Genesee St. Skaneateles, NY 13152 \* 315-685-7600 \* [www.StJamesSkan.org](http://www.StJamesSkan.org)

