



Straight Talk

A newsletter of life and ministries at St. James Episcopal Church

December 22, 2017

A Joyful Christmas!

*In this
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Christmas Services

Sunday, Dec 24: Advent 4 - One morning service at 9 am

Christmas Eve - Family Service at 5 pm

Christmas Eve - Festive Eucharist, Hymn singing 10 pm;

Worship at 10:30 pm

Monday, Dec 25: Christmas Day - One service at 9 am

Dec 25-Jan 1 the office will be closed. Call [801.566.1311](tel:801.566.1311) for pastoral needs. Feel free to email or text for all other questions or concerns.

This is the poem read by Rev. Shoop last Sunday. Many requested a copy.

When I say, "I am a Christian" Carol Wimmer.

When I say that "I am a Christian" I am not shouting that "I am clean living." I'm whispering "I was lost but now I'm found and forgiven."

When I say "I am a Christian." I don't speak of this with pride. I'm confessing that I stumble and need Christ to be my guide.

When I say "I am a Christian." I'm not trying to be strong. I'm professing that I'm weak and need His strength to carry on.

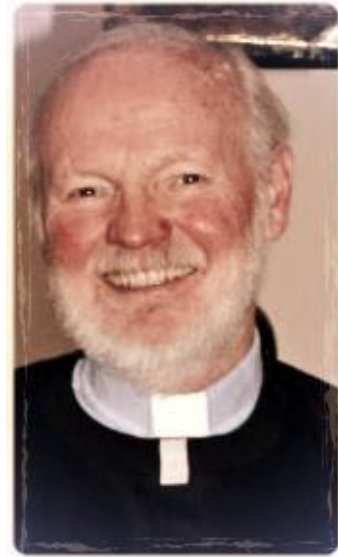
When I say "I am a Christian." I am not bragging of success. I'm admitting I have failed and need God to clean my mess.

When I say "I am a Christian." I'm not claiming to be perfect. My flaws are far too visible, but God believes I am worth it.

When I say "I am a Christian." I still feel the sting of pain. I have my share of heartaches, so I call upon His name.

When I say "I am a Christian." I'm not holier than thou. I'm just a simple sinner who received God's good grace somehow.

When I say "I am a Christian." I do not wish to judge. I have no authority, I only know I'm loved.



Bishop Curry's Christmas Message

<https://www.episcopalchurch.org/posts/publicaffairs/presiding-bishop-currys-christmas-message-2017>



Bishop Hayashi's Advent Message

<http://www.episcopal-ut.org/bishops-advent-message/>

Search Committee

Prayer for the search for our next Rector

*Almighty God, look graciously on the people of St. James.
Be with us and lead us as we seek the next rector for our parish.
May our new spiritual leader be one who is an upright
and faithful pastor who will care for your people and equip us for our ministries.
We ask your direction and guidance for the Search Committee,
our vestry and wardens who shall choose candidates and our next rector.
Grant them perception, faithfulness and joy,
so that they may hear your voice in all their deliberations.
And, grant us all the desire and the ability to truly hear each other
and those to whom we have entrusted this process.
Give us courage to respond and act as you lead us.
Come Holy Spirit.
We pray this through Jesus Christ our Lord.*

The Week Ahead at St. James

Dec 24	Sunday- Christmas Eve	9 am	Worship-4th Advent (only one worship service today)
		5 pm	Worship-Family Service
		10 pm	Hymn Sing & Festive Eucharist Worship
Dec 25	Monday- Christmas Day	9 am	Worship
Dec 26	Tuesday		Office Closed
		8 am	Men's Coffee-Common Room
Dec 27	Wednesday		Office Closed

		9 am	Women's Coffee-Ft. Union Target
Dec 28	Thursday		Office Closed
		7 pm	Choir Rehearsal

The Following Week

Dec 31	Sunday	8 & 10 am	Worship-Christmas 1
		9 am	Church School & Teen Forum
		11:15 am	Coffee Hour
Jan 1	Monday		Office Closed for Holiday
		5:30 pm	EFM Group - Common Room
Jan 2	Tuesday	8 am	Men's Coffee- Common Room
Jan 3	Wednesday	9 am	Women's Coffee-Ft. Union Target
Jan 4	Thursday	7 pm	Choir Rehearsal



Click the links below:

[St. James Website](#)
[National Episcopal Church Website](#)
[Utah Episcopal Diocese Website](#)
[Utah Diocese Newsletter](#)

Straight Talk is published weekly. Please submit your articles ideas and photos to wendy@stjamesutah.com by Wednesday noon.

We appreciate your input on the newsletter.

Wendy Ormsby, editor / Carol Gentner, editor's editor