

## Music at St. James Episcopal Church during 2020

In sharp contrast to music report of 2019 music at St. James was very much hindered but it did continue!

The organ played every Sunday in 2020 whether the service was attended or only live streamed.

A service was added on Sunday evening in the parking meadow, music with acoustic guitars. Frank Stabler coordinated music and played for this service, which continued for several months.

We featured many soloists and small ensembles until we settled in with inviting any choir member who would sing and with a mask. Sunday 10:15 – 10:45 am became rehearsal time in Green Hall with the Choir singing for 11 am service. Singers are spread throughout the nave. We have drawn on our large collection of very accessible anthems and I have been impressed with the choir's resilience and tenacity to continue to lead this body in worship.

Remarkably, our group of Compline singers has continued to sing on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday evening of each month.

We celebrated a modified Advent Lessons and Carols at 9 and 11 with Adult choir leadership, singing Advent hymns from the 1982 hymnal.

Christmas Eve was busy with services at 3, 5, 7, and 9. The Gamard family rang bells at 3 and 5. Various soloists sang for the offertory. The congregation sang our beloved traditional carols.

The St. James Concert Series held 2 concerts just prior to covid shutdown. We were able to feature a double harp concert in November with attendees masked and socially distant.

I am wonderfully assisted by Frank Stabler and Asheton Green. During the time with no children's choirs I was happy that Asheton was much needed at the St James school where she presently works.

Respectfully submitted,  
Helen V. Rodgers  
Director of Music

