

Saint James Lutheran Church

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A Parish of the North Carolina Synod of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

 $\boldsymbol{\times}$

"Growing in Christ Through Worship, Learning, Fellowship and Service"

Welcome!

St. James is a house of prayer where all people can come to know the compassionate heart of Jesus. We are a community of Christians where you can belong before you believe. At Saint James the beauty of ancient worship and traditional spiritual practices transform contemporary lives. together Join us as discover the sacred in the heart of the city. Our worship includes ancient and contemporary symbols and practices along with preaching and music to inspire you to follow Jesus in your daily life. We welcome both the spiritual seeker and seasoned disciple to find their home in God with us. If you are looking for a spiritual home or iust exploring the life of faith, we hope you will walk with us on that journey of discovery.

THE HOLY TRINITY

JUNE 4, 2023 10:00 A.M.

Introduction to Today's Worship

Nhough the word *trinity* is not found in the ■ scriptures, today's second reading includes the apostolic greeting that begins the liturgy: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all. In the gospel Jesus sends his disciples forth to baptize in the name of the Father, and the Son, and the Holy Spirit. More than a doctrine, the Trinity expresses the heart of our faith: we have experienced the God of creation made known in Jesus Christ and with us always through the Holy Spirit. We celebrate the mystery of the Holy Trinity in word and sacrament, as we profess the creed, and as we are sent into the world to bear witness to our faith.

Welcome!

Newcomers and visitors, we hope that you will feel at home in this place and in this liturgy. Ushers are available in the Narthex during the liturgy should you have any questions or concerns. Please be sure and sign the guestbook located in the Narthex and introduce yourself to the Pastor or to an usher so that we can extend to you a warm welcome.

Although there are customary postures (such as standing and kneeling) in Lutheran worship, you are invited to be seated at any point, according to your needs and comfort.

Children are most welcome in worship at Saint James Church. For those who desire it, nursery care is provided on the first floor of the Education Building.

The First Aid Kit and the Automatic External Defibrillator (AED) are located outside the church office door, immediately behind the Sanctuary. Fire extinguishers are located in the Sacristy and in the Narthex.

If you are interested in membership to this parish or desire a call from the Pastor, please indicate this to an usher or to the Pastor.

Restrooms are available on the first and second floors of the Education Building.

Pew Pads are on the end of each pew (*near center aisle*), please sign and pass so that we have a record of your attendance and communion.

St. James Lutheran Church Facebook and Instagram groups
Send Joseph Beasley any pictures and/or articles you would like to have posted at
joseph.f.beasley@gmail.com @stjamesnc

St. James YouTube Channel Go to <u>www.youtube.com</u> search for stjameslutheranconcord and subscribe.

MEET AND GREET: Our Primary Candidate will worship with us on Sunday, June 11th. After the worship service there will be a luncheon in the King Fellowship Hall where everyone will have an opportunity to meet the candidate and ask questions. Scan QR Code to make your reservation.

CONGREGATIONAL MEETING: A Congregational Meeting will be held at the beginning of worship on Sunday, June 18th. The purpose of this meeting is to vote on our Primary Candidate to become the next Senior Pastor of St. James and to vote on a compensation package.

MY FATHER'S HOUSE: St. James will be providing meals for My Father's House Ministry on June 12 & 13. If you can provide an item for either day, contact Sylvia Corl.



WELCOME

OPENING VOLUNTARY

A Solemn Melody

Sir H. Walford Davies

Congregational Responses in **Bold**

(Stand)

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

Blessed be the holy Trinity, + one God, who redeems us in Christ Jesus, whose steadfast love endures forever.

Amen.

God of all mercy and consolation, come to the help of your people, turning us from our sin to live for you alone. Give us the power of your Holy Spirit that we may confess our sin, receive your forgiveness, and grow into the fullness of Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Amen.

(Kneel or sit, as able)

Silence is held for reflection and self-examination

Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another. Gracious God,

have mercy on us. We confess that we have turned from you and given ourselves into the power of sin. We are truly sorry and humbly repent. In your compassion forgive us our sins, known and unknown, things we have done and things we have failed to do. Turn us again to you, and uphold us by your Spirit, so that we may live and serve you in newness of life through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

Almighty God, in his mercy, has given his Son to die for us and for his sake, forgives us all our sins. As a called and ordained minister of the Church of Christ, and by his authority, I therefore declare to you the entire forgiveness of all your sins, in the name of the Father, and of the + Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

Amen.

(Stand)



GREETING

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

And also with you.

KYRIE





PRAYER OF THE DAY

Almighty Creator and ever-living God: we worship your glory, eternal Three-in-One, and we praise your power, majestic One-in-Three. Keep us steadfast in this faith, defend us in all adversity, and bring us at last into your presence, where you live in endless joy and love, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. one God. now and forever.

Amen.

(Sit)

YOUNG DISCIPLES' TIME / CHILDREN'S CHURCH

FIRST READING GENESIS 1:1—2:4a

At the beginning of time, God the Creator, God the powerful Word, and God the life-giving Spirit form the earth and all its inhabitants. God sees that all this created work is good and then rests on the seventh day.

A reading from Genesis, the first and second chapters.

Tn the beginning when God created the heavens and the earth, 2the earth was a L formless void and darkness covered the face of the deep, while a wind from God swept over the face of the waters. 3Then God said, "Let there be light"; and there was light. ⁴And God saw that the light was good; and God separated the light from the darkness. ⁵God called the light Day, and the darkness he called Night. And there was evening and there was morning, the first day. 6And God said, "Let there be a dome in the midst of the waters, and let it separate the waters from the waters." 7So God made the dome and separated the waters that were under the dome from the waters that were above the dome. And it was so. 8God called the dome Sky. And there was evening and there was morning, the second day. 9And God said, "Let the waters under the sky be gathered together into one place, and let the dry land appear." And it was so. ¹⁰God called the dry land Earth, and the waters that were gathered together he called Seas. And God saw that it was good. ¹¹Then God said, "Let the earth put forth vegetation: plants yielding seed, and fruit trees of every kind on earth that bear fruit with the seed in it." And it was so. ¹²The earth brought forth vegetation: plants yielding seed of every kind, and trees of every kind bearing fruit with the seed in it. And God saw that it was good. ¹³And there was evening and there was morning, the third day. ¹⁴And God said, "Let there be lights in the dome of the sky to separate the day from the night; and let them be for signs and for seasons and for days and years, ¹⁵ and let them be lights in the dome of the sky to give light upon the earth." And it was so. ¹⁶God made the two great lights—the greater light to rule the day and the lesser light to rule the night—and the stars. ¹⁷God set them in the dome of the sky to give light upon the earth, 18to rule over the day and over the night, and to separate the light from the darkness. And God saw that it was good. ¹⁹And there was evening and there was morning, the fourth day. ²⁰And God said, "Let the waters bring forth swarms of living creatures, and let birds fly above the earth across the dome of the sky." ²¹So God created the great sea monsters and every living creature that moves, of every kind, with which the waters swarm, and every winged bird of every kind. And God saw that it was good.

continued...

²²God blessed them, saying, "Be fruitful and multiply and fill the waters in the seas, and let birds multiply on the earth." 23And there was evening and there was morning, the fifth day. ²⁴And God said, "Let the earth bring forth living creatures of every kind: cattle and creeping things and wild animals of the earth of every kind." And it was so. 25God made the wild animals of the earth of every kind, and the cattle of every kind, and everything that creeps upon the ground of every kind. And God saw that it was good. ²⁶Then God said, "Let us make humankind in our image, according to our likeness; and let them have dominion over the fish of the sea, and over the birds of the air, and over the cattle, and over all the wild animals of the earth, and over every creeping thing that creeps upon the earth." ²⁷So God created humankind in his image, in the image of God he created them; male and female he created them. ²⁸God blessed them, and God said to them, "Be fruitful and multiply, and fill the earth and subdue it; and have dominion over the fish of the sea and over the birds of the air and over every living thing that moves upon the earth." ²⁹God said, "See, I have given you every plant yielding seed that is upon the face of all the earth, and every tree with seed in its fruit; you shall have them for food. ³⁰And to every beast of the earth, and to every bird of the air, and to everything that creeps on the earth, everything that has the breath of life, I have given every green plant for food." And it was so. 31God saw everything that he had made, and indeed, it was very good. And there was evening and there was morning, the sixth day. 2:1Thus the heavens and the earth were finished, and all their multitude. 2And on the seventh day God finished the work that he had done, and he rested on the seventh day from all the work that he had done. ³So God blessed the seventh day and hallowed it, because on it God rested from all the work that he had done in creation. ^{4a}These are the generations of the heavens and the earth when they were created.

The Word of the Lord. Thanks be to God.

PSALM 8 (Read responsively, Congregation **bold** verses)

¹O LORD, our Sovereign, how majestic is your name in all the earth!

You have set your glory above the heavens.

- ² Out of the mouths of babes and infants you have founded a bulwark because of your foes, to silence the enemy and the avenger.
- ³ When I look at your heavens, the work of your fingers, the moon and the stars that you have established;
- ⁴ what are human beings that you are mindful of them, mortals that you care for them?
- ⁵ Yet you have made them a little lower than God, and crowned them with glory and honour.
- ⁶ You have given them dominion over the works of your hands; you have put all things under their feet,
- ⁷ all sheep and oxen, and also the beasts of the field,
- 8 the birds of the air, and the fish of the sea, whatever passes along the paths of the seas.
- ⁹O LORD, our Sovereign, how majestic is your name in all the earth!

SECOND READING 2 CORINTHIANS 13:11-13

Paul closes a challenging letter to the Corinthians with an appeal to Christian fellowship grounded in the triune harmony of Christ's grace, God's love, and the Spirit's partnership.

A reading from 2nd Corinthians, the thirteenth chapter.

Paul writes: ¹¹Finally, brothers and sisters, farewell. Put things in order, listen to my appeal, agree with one another, live in peace; and the God of love and peace will be with you. ¹²Greet one another with a holy kiss. All the saints greet you. ¹³The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with all of you.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION (Stand)



HOLY GOSPEL MATTHEW 28:16-20

After his resurrection, Jesus summons his remaining disciples and commissions them to baptize and teach all nations in the name of the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

The Holy Gospel according to Saint Matthew, the twenty-eighth chapter.

Glory to you, O Lord.

Now the eleven disciples went to Galilee, to the mountain to which Jesus had directed them. ¹⁷When they saw him, they worshiped him; but some doubted. ¹⁸And Jesus came and said to them, "All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. ¹⁹Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, ²⁰and teaching them to obey everything that I have commanded you. And remember, I am with you always, to the end of the age."

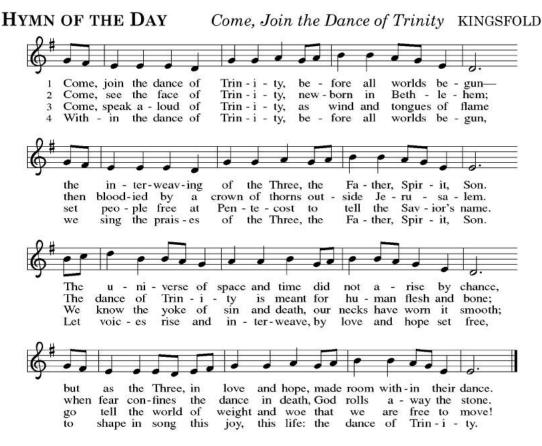
The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

(Sit)

SERMON

Pastor Craig



BLESSING OF THE GRADUATES

Surely I know the plans I have for you, says the LORD, plans for your welfare and not for harm, to give you a future with hope. ¹²Then when you call upon me and come and pray to me, I will hear you. ¹³When you search for me, you will find me. *Jeremiah 29*:

We are gathered together to celebrate your accomplishments and to offer prayers for you.

We give blessings to you for all that you have achieved and many more achievements yet to come.

One part of your life's journey is complete. You will prepare to begin another phase that will take you to unimaginable places.

We give you blessings of good will and love as you journey forth into the world. We thank you for the fellowship that you have shared with us and pray that as you begin your next journey, you will know that our love and support go with you.

Use your experiences as a beacon to guide you on your path. Don't look back; continue only forward, while using those memories to create a new path.

We pray that God will give you strength and determination to develop new relationships that will help to strengthen and sustain your faith.

Because we are made in the image of God we have been blessed with the power to make choices and decisions.

We pray that you make wise decisions, always turning to God for help. God hears, God listens, God is always with you. Keep in mind that when you turn to him he will guide you. Amen.

APOSTLE'S CREED

God has made us his people through our Baptism into Christ. Living together in trust and hope, we profess our faith.

I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.

- I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord. He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit and born of the virgin Mary, He suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried. He descended into hell. On the third day he rose again. He ascended into heaven, and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again to judge the living and the dead.
- I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

(Kneel or sit, as able)

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Trusting in God's abundant mercy, let us offer our prayers for a world in need.

A brief silence.

Holy three, holy one, you call the church to make disciples of all nations. Encourage bishops, pastors, and deacons in their proclamation of the gospel and direct all the baptized into lives of humble service. Today, we pray for our brothers and sisters in Christ at Holy Communion Lutheran Church in Banner Elk, NC. God, in your mercy,

hear our prayer.

Holy three, holy one, you spoke creation into being and called it good. Protect lands and waters threatened by human misuse and sustain living creatures of every kind: wild animals, birds, fish, and every creeping thing. God, in your mercy,

hear our prayer.

Holy three, holy one, you have given humankind authority over the earth. Raise up leaders who listen earnestly, speak honestly, and govern thoughtfully. Heal divisions between nations, that we might agree with one another and live in peace. God, in your mercy, hear our prayer.

Holy three, holy one, you promise to be with us always, to the end of the age. Surround those most in need of your healing presence: any who are lonely, all who are grieving, and those who are sick especially those we name out loud and in the silence of our hearts. God, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Holy three, holy one, you set the earth on its axis, and we experience the seasons. Strengthen those enduring challenges this summer: those who suffer in the heat, parents overwhelmed by childcare responsibilities, and children experiencing food insecurity outside of school. God, in your mercy, **hear our prayer**.

Holy three, holy one, you give rest when our work is done. We give thanks for all the saints who now rest in you, confident in the promise of resurrection life in the age to come. God, in your mercy, hear our prayer.

Receive our prayers and answer us, O God, in the name of Jesus Christ. Amen.

SHARING OF THE PEACE (This can be done verbally with no physical contact, if desired)

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

(Sit)

ANTHEM

Draw Us in the Spirit's Tether

Harold W. Friedell

(Stand)

OFFERING

(Offering plates presented at the altar)

OFFERING PRAYER

God of field and forest, sea and sky, you are the giver of all good things. Sustain us with these gifts of your creation, and multiply your graciousness in us, that the world may be fed with your love, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Amen.

GREAT THANKSGIVING

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

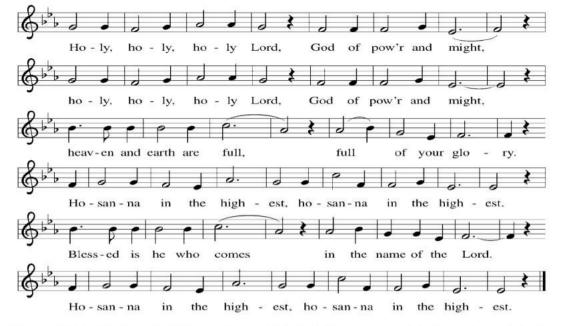
Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

It is indeed right, our duty and our joy, that we should at all times and in all places give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God. You reveal your glory as the glory of the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit: equal in majesty, undivided in splendor, one Lord, one God, ever to be adored in your eternal glory. And so, with all the choirs of angels, with the church on earth and the hosts of heaven, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:



You are indeed holy, almighty and merciful God. You are most holy, and great is the majesty of your glory. You so loved the world that you gave your only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may not perish but have eternal life. We give you thanks for his coming into the world to fulfill for us your holy will and to accomplish all things for our salvation.

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

In the night in which he was betrayed, our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks; broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying: Take and eat; this is my body, given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me.

Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it for all to drink, saying: This cup is the new covenant in my blood, shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin. Do this for the remembrance of me.

For as often as we eat of this bread and drink from this cup, we proclaim the Lord's death until he comes.

Christ has died, Christ is risen, Christ will come again.

Remembering, therefore, his salutary command, his life-giving passion and death, his glorious resurrection and ascension, and the promise of his coming again, we give thanks to you, O Lord God Almighty, not as we ought but as we are able; we ask you mercifully to accept our praise and thanksgiving and with your Word and Holy Spirit to bless us, your servants, and these your own gifts of bread and wine, so that we and all who share in the body and blood of Christ may be filled with heavenly blessing and grace, and, receiving the forgiveness of sin, may be formed to live as your holy people and be given our inheritance with all your saints. To you, O God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, be all honor and glory in your holy church, now and forever. **Amen.**

LORD'S PRAYER

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

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.

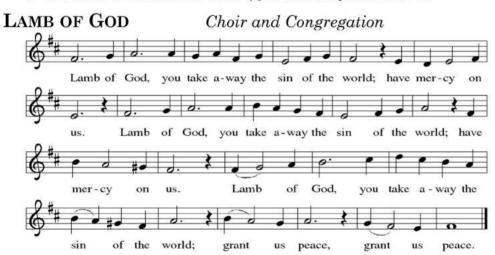
For thine is the kingdom, and the power,

and the glory, forever and ever. Amen.

INVITATION TO HOLY COMMUNION

The gifts of God for the people of God. Thanks be to God! (Sit)

All baptized Christians are welcome to Holy Communion at Saint James. If you desire to receive Communion, please proceed to the altar by way of the center aisle. The ushers will direct you. You will receive a wafer and a cup of wine. For those unable to partake of wine, white grape juice is available. Those who do not commune may come forward for a blessing. After communing, please use the outside aisle to return to your seat. Communion will be brought to persons in the pews who are unable to come forward to the altar. Please advise an usher if you wish the pastor to do so.



POST COMMUNION BLESSING

The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace.

Amen.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

We thank you, generous God, for the refreshment we have received at your banquet table. Send us now to spread your generosity into all the world, through the one who is our dearest treasure, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

BLESSING

The God who calls across the cosmos and speaks in the smallest seed

+ bless, keep, and sustain you now and to the end of the age.

Amen.



CLOSING VOLUNTARY

Coronation March

Giacomo Meyerbeer

NICAEA

SAINT JAMES LUTHERAN CHURCH PO Box 684

CONCORD, NORTH CAROLINA 28026 CHURCH OFFICE 704.786.0166 WEBSITE www.sjnc.net

DIRECTORY

Members of Saint James......Ministers The Rev. Elizabeth Eaton...Presiding Bishop The Rev. Dr. Timothy M. Smith......Bishop

SAINT JAMES STAFF

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tfh1990@yahoo.com Kathryn Radcliffe, Nursery Coordinator krad3700@gmail.com

CONGREGATIONAL COUNCIL

Debbie Davis, President Jon Miller, Vice Pres., Mutual Ministry

Chris Miller, Secretary, Social Ministry Kenny Propst, Treasurer

Chip Blackwelder, Property Kim Haberman, Evangelism Samantha Hillegass, Parish Fellowship

Elizabeth Hurley, Worship & Music

Beth Huss, Stewardship

Frank Irvin, Finance/Christian Ed Pat McDonough, Youth

Wendell Overby, Property

Dee Pieschel, Social Ministry

OFFICE HOURS M-Th 8:30-4:00 F 8:30-1:00

WEEKLY ANNOUNCEMENTS

Please email all information to the church office by Wednesday 10:00 am to keith@sjnc.net

04-Jun Thomas Propst 04-Jun Miles Walker

BIRTHDAYS THIS WEEK

05-Jun Mark Davis 05-Jun Joe Wilson

09-Jun Grant Weisel 10-Jun Linda Hartgen 10-Jun Michael Strahl

ASSISTING IN WORSHIP

Lector/Intercessor: Mark Murphy

Communion Assistant: Anne Hodges

Noah Pittard Greeter:

Acolyte/Crucifer:

Nancy Faggart Ushers: Brad Baker, Chip Harward, Taylor Pruette, Al

Building Supervisor: Beth Huss

Pieschel, Jon Miller

Videographer: Chris Miller

friends.

OUR STEWARDSHIP Contributions and

Receipts for May 28, 2023 \$5,254.03 (\$7.371.00 needed weekly)

FLOWERS

The altar flowers today are

given by Al and Pieschel to the Glory of God and in honor of family and

PRAYER LIST Holy Communion

Lutheran, Banner Elk, NC

 Patsy Black ♦ Tom Grady

Tom Ridenhour Margaret Garrison

♦ Marga Beville

♦ Tommy Propst

CALENDAR THIS WEEK

Sunday, June 4 9:00 am Sunday School 9:15 am Parish Choir 10:00 am Worship-Graduation Sunday

11:15 am Social Ministry 11:20 am Graduation Reception Monday, June 5

10:30 am Quilting Group Tuesday, June 6 5:00 pm Executive Council 6:00 pm Property

7:00 pm Parish Choir Thursday, June 8

Wednesday, June 7

6:00 pm Handbells Sunday, June 11 9:00 am Sunday School

9:15 am Parish Choir

10:00 am Worship 11:20 am Meet & Greet Lunch

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