

Saint James Lutheran Church

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



"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 worship ancient and traditional spiritual practices transform contemporary lives. Join us as together we 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.

DAY OF PENTECOST

MAY 28, 2023 10:00 A.M.

Introduction to Today's Worship

Pentecost derives its name from the Jewish festival celebrating the harvest and the giving of the law on Mount Sinai fifty days after Passover. Fifty days after Easter, we celebrate the Holy Spirit as God's presence within and among us. In Acts the Spirit arrives in rushing wind and flame, bringing God's presence to all people. Paul reminds us that though we each have different capacities, we are unified in the Spirit that equips us with these gifts. Jesus breathes the Holy Spirit on his disciples, empowering them to forgive sin. We celebrate that we too are given the breath of the Holy Spirit and sent out to proclaim God's redeeming love to all the world.

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 www.youtube.com search for stiames luther anconcord and subscribe.

COOK SCHOLARSHIPS: The deadline for applications to be returned is June 1st. Applications for First Time as well as Renewing are available in the church office. If you are attending post-high school education, this is a great opportunity!

FAVORITE HYMNS: We would like your help in letting us know what hymns you like to sing! In an effort to schedule more familiar Lutheran hymns, while keeping liturgically sound and honoring the seasons and themes of the church year, please complete the survey below telling us what hymns you like and feel

are most familiar and beloved to you. https://forms.gle/myvP5JY56EA2oKiG6

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WELCOME

ORGAN VOLUNTARY

Alleluia! Hearts to Heaven

W. K. Stanton

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

O God, on this day you open the hearts of your faithful people by sending into us your Holy Spirit. Direct us by the light of that Spirit, that we may have a right judgment in all things and rejoice at all times in your peace, through Jesus Christ, your Son and our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

(Sit)

YOUNG DISCIPLES' TIME / CHILDREN'S CHURCH

FIRST READING ACTS 2:1-21

Pentecost was a Jewish harvest festival that marked the fiftieth day after Passover. Luke portrays the Holy Spirit being poured out upon the disciples before the gathered and astonished people assembled in Jerusalem for the festival. Filled with the Spirit, the disciples were able to witness to the power of Christ's resurrection.

A reading from Acts, the second chapter.

\ \ \ 7 hen the day of Pentecost had come, the apostles were all together in one place. ²And suddenly from heaven there came a sound like the rush of a violent wind, and it filled the entire house where they were sitting. ³Divided tongues, as of fire, appeared among them, and a tongue rested on each of them. 4All of them were filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak in other languages, as the Spirit gave them ability. ⁵Now there were devout Jews from every nation under heaven living in Jerusalem. ⁶And at this sound the crowd gathered and was bewildered, because each one heard them speaking in the native language of each. ⁷Amazed and astonished, they asked, "Are not all these who are speaking Galileans? 8And how is it that we hear, each of us, in our own native language? ⁹Parthians, Medes, Elamites, and residents of Mesopotamia, Judea and Cappadocia, Pontus and Asia, ¹⁰Phrygia and Pamphylia, Egypt and the parts of Libya belonging to Cyrene, and visitors from Rome, both Jews and proselvtes, ¹¹Cretans and Arabs—in our own languages we hear them speaking about God's deeds of power." 12All were amazed and perplexed, saying to one another, "What does this mean?" 13But others sneered and said, "They are filled with new wine." ¹⁴But Peter, standing with the eleven, raised his voice and addressed them, "Men of Judea and all who live in Jerusalem. let this be known to you, and listen to what I say, 15Indeed, these are not drunk, as you suppose, for it is only nine o'clock in the morning. ¹⁶No, this is what was spoken through the prophet Joel: 17'In the last days it will be, God declares, that I will pour out my Spirit upon all flesh, and your sons and your daughters shall prophesy, and your young men shall see visions, and your old men shall dream dreams. ¹⁸Even upon my slaves, both men and women, in those days I will pour out my Spirit; and they shall prophesy. ¹⁹And I will show portents in the heaven above and signs on the earth below, blood, and fire, and smoky mist. ²⁰The sun shall be turned to darkness and the moon to blood, before the coming of the Lord's great and glorious day. ²¹Then everyone who calls on the name of the Lord shall be saved."

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

PSALM 104:24-34, 35b (Chanted by Choir)

- ²⁴ O LORD, how manifold are Thy works! In wisdom hast Thou made them all; the earth is full of Thy riches.
- ²⁵ So also is this great and wide sea, wherein are innumerable creeping things, both small and great beasts.

- ²⁶ There go the ships; there also is that leviathan, whom Thou hast made to play therein.
- ²⁷ These all wait upon Thee, that Thou mayest give them their meat in due season.
- ²⁸ What Thou givest them, they gather: Thou openest Thine hand, they are filled with good.
- ²⁹ Thou hidest Thy face, they are troubled; Thou takest away their breath, they die and return to their dust.
- ³⁰ Thou sendest forth Thy Spirit, they are created; and Thou renewest the face of the earth.
- ³¹ The glory of the LORD shall endure for ever; the LORD shall rejoice in His works.
- 32 He looketh on the earth, and it trembleth; He toucheth the hills, and they smoke.
- 33 I will sing unto the LORD as long as I live; I will sing praise to my God while I have my being.
- ³⁴ My meditation of Him shall be sweet; I will be glad in the LORD.
- 35b Bless thou the LORD, O my soul! Praise ye the LORD!

SECOND READING 1 CORINTHIANS 12:3b-13

Paul is helping the Corinthians understand the relationship between our God-given unity and Spirit-created diversity. The Spirit creates the unity of faith and gives all Christians diverse gifts for the common benefit of all. We need one another's diverse spiritual gifts because the same Spirit has given them to each person for the common good.

A reading from 1st Corinthians, the twelfth chapter.

No one can say "Jesus is Lord" except by the Holy Spirit. ⁴Now there are varieties of gifts, but the same Spirit; ⁵and there are varieties of services, but the same Lord; ⁶and there are varieties of activities, but it is the same God who activates all of them in everyone. ⁷To each is given the manifestation of the Spirit for the common good. ⁸To one is given through the Spirit the utterance of wisdom, and to another the utterance of knowledge according to the same Spirit, ⁹to another faith by the same Spirit, to another gifts of healing by the one Spirit, ¹⁰to another the working of miracles, to another prophecy, to another the discernment of spirits, to another various kinds of tongues, to another the interpretation of tongues. ¹¹All these are activated by one and the same Spirit, who allots to each one individually just as the Spirit chooses. ¹²For just as the body is one and has many members, and all the members of the body, though many, are one body, so it is with Christ. ¹³For in the one Spirit we were all baptized into one body—Jews or Greeks, slaves or free—and we were all made to drink of one Spirit.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

(Stand)

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



HOLY GOSPEL JOHN 20:19-23

Al - le - lu - ia!

The risen Jesus appears to his disciples, offering them a benediction, a commission, and the gift of the Holy Spirit.

for

The Holy Gospel according to Saint John, the twentieth chapter.

Glory to you, O Lord.

\textbf{\chi} hen it was evening on that day, the first day of the week, and the doors of the house **V** where the disciples had met were locked for fear of the Jews, Jesus came and stood among them and said, "Peace be with you." 20 After he said this, he showed them his hands and his side. Then the disciples rejoiced when they saw the Lord. 21 Jesus said to them again, "Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, so I send you." ²²When he had said this, he breathed on them and said to them, "Receive the Holy Spirit. 23If you forgive the sins of any, they are forgiven them; if you retain the sins of any, they are retained."

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

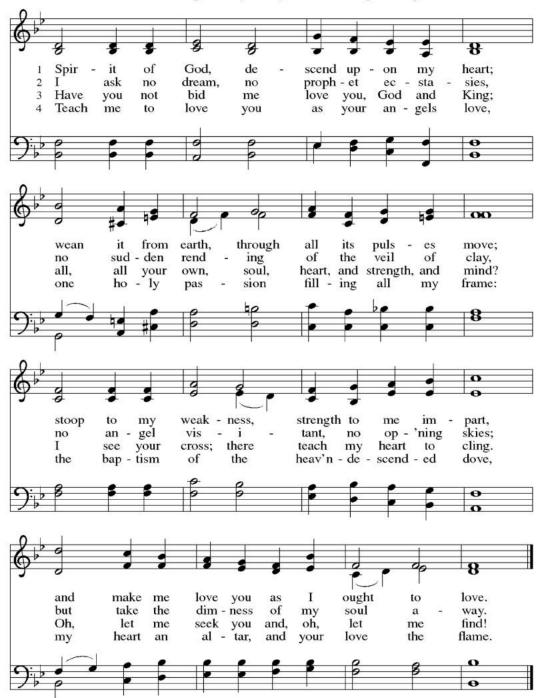
(Sit)

SERMON

Pastor Craig

the good news that you bring.

HYMN OF THE DAY Spirit of God, Descend Upon My Heart SONG 13



NICENE CREED

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

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 and the Son,

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.

(Kneel or sit, as able)

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

United in the hope and joy of the resurrection, let us pray for the church, the world, and all in need.

A brief silence.

Passionate God, you sent your Spirit through the gifts of fire, wind, and word. As you equipped the disciples for their work, equip us to bring the good news to all those who long for you. Today, we especially pray for Rev. Scott Berry and our brothers and sisters in Christ at Lutheran Church of Our Father in Greensboro, NC. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

Restoring God, wind and flame bring life and destruction throughout the world. We pray for those who work with wind energy, for migratory birds, for protection for lands facing destructive fire, for forestry managers and firefighters. Renew the face of the earth. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

Ever-present God, your spirit embraces all. Send your spirit of understanding to immigrants, refugees, and any experiencing language barriers. Bless the work of translators, ESL teachers, ambassadors, and international peace organizations. Safely guide those fleeing war and danger. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

Merciful God, you anoint us with your spirit. Bless nurses, doctors, midwives, chaplains, counselors, and hospice workers as they care for those in need. We pray for all who seek your comfort those we name out loud and in the silence of our hearts. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

Generous God, you impart a variety of gifts. Set aflame the desire to learn from one another, especially those who differ from us. Make your presence known through missionaries, peace workers, and through the outreach ministries of our synod and community. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

Life-giving God, we give thanks for those who have died to new life in you. As we observe Memorial Day, we remember those who died in military service. Comfort all who mourn, and usher in a world where war is no more. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

Rejoicing in the victory of Christ's resurrection, we lift our prayers and praise to you, almighty and eternal God; through Jesus Christ, our risen Lord. 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

If Ye Love Me

Philip Wilby

OFFERING

(Offering plates presented at the altar) (Stand)

OFFERING PRAYER

Generous God, in this meal you offer your very self. We give thanks for these gifts of the earth. In the breaking of this bread reveal to us the Risen One. In the pouring of this wine pour us out in service to the world; through Christ our 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, for the glorious resurrection of our Savior Jesus Christ, the true Paschal Lamb who gave himself to take away our sin; who in dying has destroyed death, and in rising has brought us to eternal life. And so, with Mary Magdalene and Peter and all the witnesses of the resurrection, with earth and sea and all their creatures, and with angels and archangels, cherubim and seraphim, 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.



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.



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

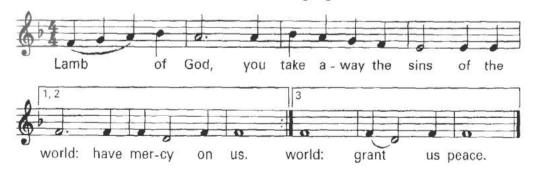
The gifts of God for the people of God. Thanks be to God!

(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.

LAMB OF GOD

Choir and Congregation



ANTHEM

Grieve Not the Holy Spirit of God

T. Tertius Noble

POST COMMUNION BLESSING

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

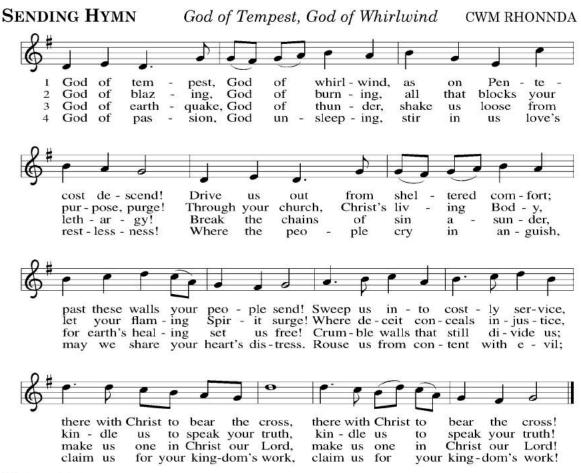
Amen.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Gracious God, in you we live and move and have our being. With your word and this meal of grace, you have nourished our life together. Strengthen us to show your love and serve the world in Jesus' name. **Amen.**

BLESSING

The God of all, who raised **+** Jesus from the dead, bless you by the power of the Holy Spirit to live in the new creation. **Amen**.



DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Serve the Risen One. Thanks be to God.

SAINT JAMES LUTHERAN CHURCH PO Box 684 CONCORD, NORTH CAROLINA 28026 CHURCH OFFICE 704.786.0166 WEBSITE www.sinc.net DIRECTORY Members of Saint James......Ministers The Rev. Elizabeth Eaton...Presiding Bishop The Rev. Dr. Timothy M. Smith......Bishop SAINT JAMES STAFF Rev. Craig Saltzer, Interim Pastor csaltzer@triad.rr.com 336-225-7889 Keith Sutton. Parish Administrator Communion Assistant: keith@sinc.net Ann Blackwelder Jill Irvin, Finance Administrator iill@sinc.net Scott F. Foppiano, Organist / Director of Music scottfop@gmail.com Mike Holt, Youth and Family mvholt1957@vahoo.com Teresa Honeycutt, Custodian tfh1990@vahoo.com Kathryn Radcliffe, Nursery Coordinator krad3700@gmail.com CONGREGATIONAL COUNCIL Debbie Davis, President

Jon Miller, Vice Pres., Mutual Ministry Chris Miller, Secretary, Social Ministry Chip Blackwelder, Property Kim Haberman, Evangelism Samantha Hillegass, Parish Fellowship Elizabeth Hurley, Worship & Music Frank Irvin, Finance/Christian Ed

WEEKLY ANNOUNCEMENTS

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

BIRTHDAYS THIS WEEK 29-May Dylan Rutemiller 31-May Joe Grady

31-May Samantha Hillegass 01-Jun Jason Kartheiser 01-Jun Keith Sutton

03-Jun Nancy Hopkins 03-Jun Jack Nivens

ASSISTING IN WORSHIP Lector/Intercessor: Margaret Garrison

Acolyte/Crucifer: Josh/Jacob Rinker Finley Stephens Noah Pittard

Greeter: Jovce Smith Ushers: Mike Downs, Al Brown, Sid Hughes, Bill Hardister, Hunter Huss

Building Supervisor: Beth Huss Videographer: Chris Miller

FLOWERS The altar flowers today are

given by Todd and Gretchen Walker to the Glory of God and in celebration of our

children's, Louise and Miles. birthdays.

PRAYER LIST ◆ Lutheran Church of Our

Father, Greensboro, NC

♦ Patsy Black ♦ Tom Grady

• Tom Ridenhour ◆ Jim Weisel ♦ Marga Beville

♦ Connie King

CALENDAR THIS WEEK

Sunday, May 28 9:00 am Sunday School 9:15 am Parish Choir

10:00 am Worship Monday, May 29

Church Office Closed Wednesday, May 31

9:30 pm College Online Thursday, June 01 6:00 pm Handbells

7:00 pm Parish Choir

Deadline for Cook Scholarship **Applications** Friday, June 02

NC Synod Assembly Saturday, June 03 NC Synod Assembly

Sunday, June 4 9:00 am Sunday School 9:15 am Parish Choir

10:00 am Worship-Graduation Sunday

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

Kenny Propst, Treasurer

Beth Huss, Stewardship

Pat McDonough, Youth Wendell Overby, Property Dee Pieschel, Social Ministry