

ASSISTING IN WORSHIP

Lector/Intercessor: Barbara Albright

Communion Assistant: Samantha Hillegass

Acolyte: Joshua Rinker

Ushers: Mike Downs, Al Brown Jr., Sid Hughes,

Bill Hardister, Hunter Huss

Greeter: Barbara Albright

Building Supervisors: Kim Haberman & Hunter Huss

PRAYER LIST

Joyce Beaty (friend of the Marlow's); Family of Michael Black (nephew of Patsy Black); Angie Buchanan; Mike & Debbie Cagle (friends of Robert & Debbie Davis); Noah Clifton; Bruce Coffey (friend of Mark Murphy); Karey Conrad (friend of Dee Pieschel); Catherine Durst (Daughter of Anne & Dee Hodges); Nadine Filipak (friend of Al & Dee Pieschel); Anne Fridlund; Ed Frost (friend of the Marlow's); Tim Gibson (friend of Deb Black); Tom Grady; Scott Harrington (friend of Glenda Poole); Linda Jones (family of Barbara & Dale Merrell); Ruther Lawler (friend of Dee & Al Pieschel); Patricia Mahoney (sister-in-law of Joan Mahoney); Annaleah, Michael, & Preston Morrow (friends of Shannon Nesbit); Stan Parnell (friend of Robert Davis); Jan Phillips (family of Brownie Brown); Al Pieschel; Tom Ridenhour; Geoff & Pam Seige (friends of Robert & Debbie Davis).

REQUEST FOR EGG HUNT ITEMS

We are collecting plastic eggs and individually wrapped candy for our April 19th Easter Egg Hunt. If you would like to contribute, please drop off your donations in the box by the Portico Door by **April 7**. Thank you!

St. James Staff

Rev. William C. Ridenhour, Senior Pastor; prbill@sjnc.net

Dr. Kevin Estes, Director of Music Ministries & Organist; kevin@sjnc.net

Jill Irvin, Finance Administrator; jill@sjnc.net

Holly Sloop, Communications Coordinator; holly@sjnc.net

Church Office; info@sjnc.net

Kathryn Radcliffe, Nursery Coordinator; krad3700@gmail.com

Teresa Honeycutt, Custodian

**The Second Sunday in Lent
Sunday, March 16, 2025**

**The Holy Communion
10:00am**



**St James Lutheran Church
104 Union Street South
PO Box 684
Concord, North Carolina 28026
704-786-0166
www.sjnc.net
Rev. William C. Ridenhour, Pastor**

Welcome to St. James Lutheran Church

Maybe you need forgiveness, or maybe you need to forgive ... Maybe you're tired and you need a little space to breathe ... Maybe you're trying church for the first time, or maybe you're trying church for the last time... Maybe you've spent your whole life wondering if God really loves you... Maybe you're lonely... Maybe you're sick... Maybe you came here looking for a miracle... Maybe you came here looking for another church but got disoriented and came here instead, and now it's too late to get up and walk out... Maybe, with God, there are no accidents... Maybe, with God, there is hope and healing and miraculous companionship... Maybe, with God, there is space to breathe and forgiveness on top of forgiveness... Maybe, with God, there is love... Maybe, with God here in our midst, we will hear those words that still split open the heavens, "You are my son! You are my daughter! You are my beloved. You. In you I am well pleased!" Maybe this is why we gather together, week after week after week, here at St. James.

No matter who you are, or where you are on life's journey, you are welcome in this place - not just by the Saints at St. James, but by the God who revealed himself in the life, death, and resurrection of Jesus, our brother, and our friend.

Welcome to St. James.

If you are comfortable doing so, please introduce yourself to Pastor Bill. If you have visited with us a number of times and think you might want to "make it official," please speak to Pastor Bill. If you have any questions, please feel free to speak to the person next you or to an usher.

Restrooms are located on the first and second floor of the Education Building. A nursery is available for children up to and including five years of age on the first floor of the education building. An usher will be happy to help you find them.

If you're visiting or if you have been here for 99 years (and are willing to do so), please sign a pew pad.

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BIRTHDAYS THIS WEEK

Mar. 16 – Tony Eury, Dee Pieschel

Mar. 20 – Ann Gillon, John Marlow

CHURCH CALENDAR THIS WEEK

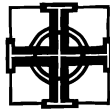
My Father's House Meal Ministry Week

Sunday, March 16	9:00am	Adult Sunday School
	9:00am	Parish Choir
	9:30am	Children's Sunday School
	10:00am	Worship
Monday, March 17	10:30am	Quilting
	6:30pm	Scouts
Wednesday, March 19	6:30pm	Wednesdays in Lent
Thursday, March 20	5:30pm	Handbells
	6:30pm	Choir Rehearsal
Sunday, March 23	9:00am	Adult Sunday School
	9:00am	Parish Choir
	9:30am	Children's Sunday School
	10:00am	Worship

MY FATHER'S HOUSE MINISTRY NEEDS

St. James and St. John's Lutheran will provide meals for My Father's House Ministry March 17-19. There are 4 adults and 8 children in the ministry. If you can help provide items for a supper meal for **March 17 or March 18**, please contact Martha Matthews:

704-787-2180 or Sylvia Corl: 704-425-8621.



St James Lutheran Church:
Growing in Christ through Worship, Learning, Fellowship and Service.

THE HOLY COMMUNION



Welcome

Prelude

Processional and Fanfare

Estes

Please stand.

THE INVOCATION

P In the name of the Father, and of the + Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

C **Amen.**

THE BRIEF ORDER FOR CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

P Father of mercies and God of all consolation, come to the aid of your people, turning us from our sin to live for you alone. Give us the power of your Holy Spirit, that we may attend to your Word, confess our sins, receive your forgiveness, and grow into the fullness of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord and Redeemer. Amen.

P If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. But if we confess our sins, God who is faithful and just will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

*Please sit or kneel, as able.
 Silence for reflection and self-examination.*

P Most merciful God,
C **we confess that we are in bondage to sin and cannot free ourselves. 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. For the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in your will and walk in your ways, to the glory of your holy name. Amen**

P In the mercy of Almighty God, Jesus Christ was given to die for you, and for his sake God forgives you all your sins. In his living water God makes us his children and bestows on us his Holy Spirit. Refreshed and renewed we rest in his peace and rise to serve him.

C **Amen**

THE ENTRANCE HYMN: Guide Me Ever, Great Redeemer

1 Guide me ev - er, great Re - deem - er, pil - grim through this
 2 O - pen now the crys - tal foun - tain where the heal - ing
 3 When I tread the verge of Jor - dan, bid my anx - ious

bar - ren land. I am weak, but you are might - y; hold me with your
 wa - ters flow; let the fire and cloud - y pil - lar lead me all my
 fears sub - side; death of death and hell's de - struc - tion, land me safe on

pow'r-ful hand. Bread of heav - en, bread of heav - en,
jour - ney through. Strong de - liv - 'rer, strong de - liv - 'rer,
Ca - naan's side. Songs and prais - es, songs and prais - es,

feed me now and ev - er - more, feed me now and ev - er - more.
shield me with your might - y arm, shield me with your might - y arm.
I will raise for - ev - er - more, I will raise for - ev - er - more.

THE APOSTOLIC GREETING

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

C **And also with you.**

THE KYRIE

A In peace, let us pray to the Lord. **C** **Lord, have mer - cy.**

A For the peace from above, and for our salvation, let us pray to the Lord.

C **Lord, have mer - cy.**

A For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the Church of God,

and for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord.

C **Lord, have mer - cy.**

A For this holy house, and for all who offer here their worship and praise,

let us pray to the Lord. **C** **Lord, have mer - cy.**

A Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gra - cious Lord. **C** **A - men**

THE PRAYER OF THE DAY

P The Lord be with you

C **And also with you.**

P Heavenly Father, it is your glory always to have mercy. Bring back all who have erred and strayed from your ways; lead them again to embrace in faith the truth of your Word and to hold it fast; through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C **Amen.**



Please sit.

THE FIRST READING: Genesis 15:1-12, 17-18

¹After these things the word of the Lord came to Abram in a vision, “Do not be afraid, Abram, I am your shield; your reward shall be very great.” ²But Abram said, “O Lord God, what will you give me, for I continue childless, and the heir of my house is Eliezer of Damascus?” ³And Abram said, “You have given me no offspring, and so a slave born in my house is to be my heir.” ⁴But the word of the Lord came to him, “This man shall not be your heir; no one but your very own issue shall be your heir.” ⁵He brought him outside and said, “Look toward heaven and count the stars, if you are able to count them.” Then he said to him, “So shall your descendants be.” ⁶And he believed the Lord; and the Lord reckoned it to him as righteousness.

⁷Then he said to him, “I am the Lord who brought you from Ur of the Chaldeans, to give you this land to possess.” ⁸But he said, “O Lord God, how am I to know that I shall possess it?” ⁹He said to him, “Bring me a heifer three years old, a female goat three years old, a ram three years old, a turtledove, and a young pigeon.” ¹⁰He brought him all these and cut them in two, laying each half over against the other; but he did not cut the birds in two. ¹¹And when birds of prey came down on the carcasses, Abram drove them away.

¹²As the sun was going down, a deep sleep fell upon Abram, and a deep and terrifying darkness descended upon him.

¹⁷When the sun had gone down and it was dark, a smoking fire pot and a flaming torch passed between these pieces. ¹⁸On that day the Lord made a covenant with Abram, saying, “To your descendants I give this land, from the river of Egypt to the great river, the river Euphrates.”

A The Word of the Lord.
C **Thanks be to God.**

THE SECOND READING: Philippians 3:17—4:1

¹⁷Brothers and sisters, join in imitating me, and observe those who live according to the example you have in us. ¹⁸For many live as enemies of the cross of Christ; I have

often told you of them, and now I tell you even with tears. ¹⁹Their end is destruction; their god is the belly; and their glory is in their shame; their minds are set on earthly things. ²⁰But our citizenship is in heaven, and it is from there that we are expecting a Savior, the Lord Jesus Christ. ²¹He will transform the body of our humiliation that it may be conformed to the body of his glory, by the power that also enables him to make all things subject to himself. ⁴¹Therefore, my brothers and sisters, whom I love and long for, my joy and crown, stand firm in the Lord in this way, my beloved.

A The Word of the Lord.
C **Thanks be to God.**

Please stand.

THE GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Re - turn to the Lord, your God, for he is gra - cious and
mer - ci - ful, slow to an - ger, and a - bound - ing in
stead - fast love, and a - bound - ing in stead - fast love.

THE HOLY GOSPEL

P The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke, the 13th chapter.
C **Glory to you, O Lord.**

Jesus went through one town and village after another, teaching as he made his way to Jerusalem. ²³Someone asked him, ‘Lord, will only a few be saved?’ He said to them, ²⁴‘Strive to enter through the narrow door; for many, I tell you, will try to enter and will not be able. ²⁵When once the owner of the house has got up and shut the door, and you begin to stand outside and to knock at the door, saying, “Lord, open to

us”, then in reply he will say to you, “I do not know where you come from.” ²⁶Then you will begin to say, “We ate and drank with you, and you taught in our streets.” ²⁷But he will say, “I do not know where you come from; go away from me, all you evildoers!” ²⁸There will be weeping and gnashing of teeth when you see Abraham and Isaac and Jacob and all the prophets in the kingdom of God, and you yourselves thrown out. ²⁹Then people will come from east and west, from north and south, and will eat in the kingdom of God. ³⁰Indeed, some are last who will be first, and some are first who will be last.’

³¹ At that very hour some Pharisees came and said to him, ‘Get away from here, for Herod wants to kill you.’ ³²He said to them, ‘Go and tell that fox for me, “Listen, I am casting out demons and performing cures today and tomorrow, and on the third day I finish my work. ³³Yet today, tomorrow, and the next day I must be on my way, because it is impossible for a prophet to be killed away from Jerusalem.” ³⁴Jerusalem, Jerusalem, the city that kills the prophets and stones those who are sent to it! How often have I desired to gather your children together as a hen gathers her brood under her wings, and you were not willing! ³⁵See, your house is left to you. And I tell you, you will not see me until the time comes when you say, “Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord.”’

P The Gospel of the Lord.
C Praise to you, O Christ.

Please sit.
THE SERMON

Pastor Bill Ridenhour

Please stand.
THE HYMN OF THE DAY: The God of Abraham Praise (See Next Page.)

1 The God of A-br’ham praise, who reigns en - throned a - bove;
2 The God of A-br’ham praise, at whose su - preme com - mand
3 The God of A-br’ham praise, whose all - suf - fi - cient grace
4 He by him - self has sworn; I on his oath de - pend.

An - cient of ev - er - last - ing days, and God of love.
from earth I rise and seek the joys at his right hand.
shall guide me all my pil - grim days in all my ways.
I shall, on ca - gle wings up - borne, to heav’n as - cend.

Je - ho - vah, great I AM! By earth and heav’n con - fessed;
I all on earth for - sake— its wis - dom, fame, and pow’r—
He deigns to call me friend; he calls him - self my God!
I shall be - hold his face; I shall his pow’r a - dore,

I bow and bless the sa - cred name for - ev - er blest.
and him my on - ly por - tion make, my shield and tow’r.
And he shall save me to the end through Je - sus’ blood.
and sing the won - ders of his grace for - ev - er - more.

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 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.

Please kneel or sit as able.

THE PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH

A With the whole people of God in Christ Jesus, let us pray for the church, those in need, and all of God's creation.

From all sin, from all error, from all evil;
from the cunning assaults of the devil;
from an unprepared and evil death:

Good Lord, deliver us.

From war, bloodshed, and violence;
from corrupt and unjust government;
from sedition and treason:

Good Lord, deliver us.

From epidemic, drought, and famine,
from fire and flood, earthquake, lightning and storm;
and from everlasting death:

Good Lord, deliver us.

By the mystery of your incarnation; by your holy birth:
Help us, good Lord.

By your baptism, fasting, and temptation;
by your agony and bloody sweat;
by your cross and suffering;
by your precious death and burial:

Help us, good Lord.

By your glorious resurrection and ascension;
by the gift of the Holy Spirit:

Help us, good Lord.

In all time of our tribulation;
in all time of our prosperity;
in the hour of death; and in the day of judgment:

Save us, good Lord.

Though unworthy, we implore you
to hear us, Lord our God.

To rule and govern your holy catholic Church;
to guide all servants of your Church in the true knowledge and
understanding of your Word and in holiness of life;
to put an end to all schisms and causes of offense to those who would believe;
and to bring into the way of truth all who have erred and gone astray:
We implore you to hear us, good Lord.

To beat down Satan under our feet;
to send faithful workers into your harvest;
to accompany your Word with your Spirit and power;
to raise up those who fall and to strengthen those who stand; and
to comfort and help the fainthearted and the distressed:
We implore you to hear us, good Lord.

To give to all nations justice and peace;
to preserve our country from discord and strife;
to direct and guard those who have civil authority;
and to bless and guide all our people:
We implore you to hear us, good Lord.

To behold and help all who are in danger, need, or tribulation;
to protect and guide all who travel;
to preserve and provide for all women in childbirth;
to watch over children and to guide the young;
to heal the sick and to strengthen their families and friends;
to bring reconciliation to families in discord;
to provide for the unemployed and for all in need;
to be merciful to all who are imprisoned;
to support, comfort, and guide all orphans, widowers, and widows;
to watch over our loved ones in need;
and to have mercy on all your people:
We implore you to hear us, good Lord.

To forgive our enemies, persecutors, and slanderers,
and to reconcile us to them;
to help us use wisely the fruits and treasures
of the earth, the sea, and the air;
and graciously to hear our prayers:
We implore you to hear us, good Lord.

For the faithful who have gone before us and are at rest, let us pray to the Lord:
Lord, have mercy.

P Almighty God, our heavenly Father, you desire not the death of sinners, but
rather that they should turn from their evil way and live: Graciously turn us
from those punishments which we by our sins have deserved, and grant us
grace evermore to serve you in holiness and pureness of living; through Jesus
Christ our Lord.

C **Amen**

Please stand.

THE PEACE

P The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C **And also with you.**

Please sit.

THE ANTHEM

Blessed are the Men who Fear God
(from *Elijah*)

Mendelssohn, Felix

Blessed are the men who fear God, they ever walk in the ways of peace.

Through darkness riseth light to the upright.

God is gracious, compassionate.

-Psalms 128:1, 112:4

THE OFFERING

Please stand.

THE OFFERTORY



Cre-ate in me a clean heart, O God, and re-new a right spir -
it with-in me. Cast me not a-way from your pres-ence, and take
not your Ho - ly Spir - it from me. Re-store to me the
joy of your sal-va - tion, and up-hold me with your free Spir - it.

THE OFFERTORY PRAYER

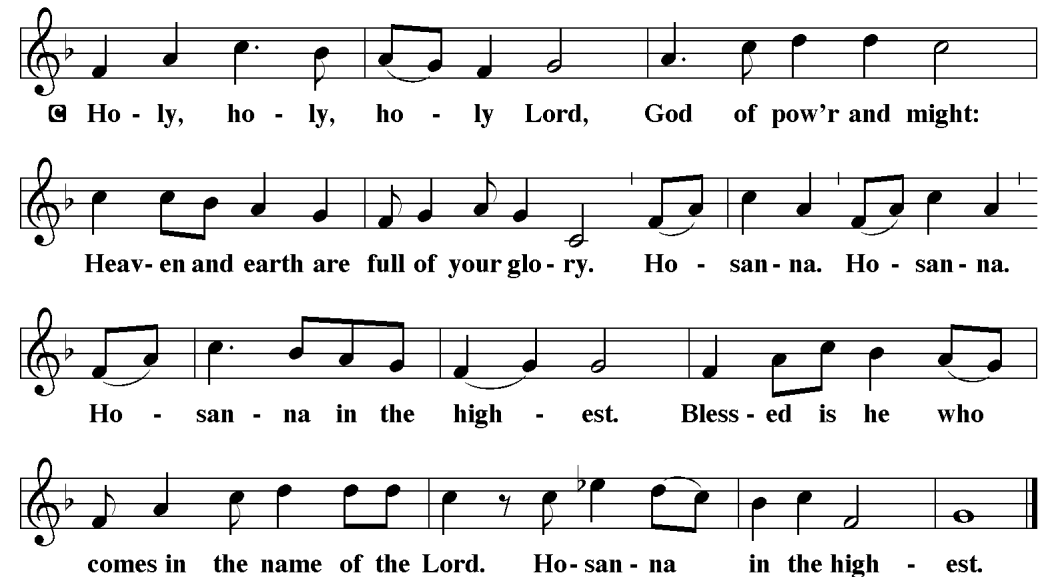
A Merciful Father,
C we offer with joy and thanksgiving what you have first given us – our
selves, our time, and our possessions, signs of your gracious love.
Receive them for the sake of him who offered himself for us, Jesus Christ
our Lord. Amen.



THE COMMUNION RITE

P The Lord be with you.
C **And also with you.**
P Lift up your hearts.
C **We lift them to the Lord.**

P Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
C **It is right to give him thanks and praise.**
P It is indeed right and salutary that we should at all times
and in all places offer thanks and praise to you,
O Lord, holy Father, through Christ our Lord.
You bid your people cleanse their hearts
and prepare with joy for the paschal feast.
Renew our zeal in faith and life,
and bring us to the fullness of grace that belongs to the children of God.
And so, with the Church on earth and the hosts of heaven,
we praise your name and join their unending hymn:



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow'r and might:
Heav-en and earth are full of your glo-ry. Ho - san-na. Ho - san-na.
Ho - san - na in the high - est. Bless - ed is he who
comes in the name of the Lord. Ho-san - na in the high - est.

P 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, that whoever believes in
him may not perish but have eternal life.

Having come into the world, he fulfilled for us your holy will and accomplished
our salvation.

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.

Remembering, therefore, his salutary command, his life-giving Passion and death, his glorious resurrection and ascension, and his promise to come again, we give thanks to you, Lord God Almighty, not as we ought, but as we are able; and we implore 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; that we and all who share in the body and blood of your Son may be filled with heavenly peace and joy, and, receiving the forgiveness of sin, may be sanctified in soul and body, and have our portion with all your saints.

All honor and glory are yours, O God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, in your holy Church, now and forever.

C Amen

P Lord, remember us in your kingdom and teach us to pray:

C **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.**

☩ Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the world; have
mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the
world; have mer - cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a - way the
sin of the world; grant us peace.

Please sit.

THE SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION

Q: What is the Sacrament of the Altar?

A: Instituted by Christ himself, it is the true body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ under the bread and wine, given to us Christians to eat and to drink.

Q: What is the benefit of such eating and drinking?

A: We are told in the words “for you” and “for the forgiveness of sins.” By these words the forgiveness of sins, life, and salvation are given to us in the sacrament, for where there is forgiveness of sins, there are also life and salvation.

-Luther's Small Catechism Part V

Jesus bids all the baptized to feast at his table. Please come by way of the center aisle and return by the side aisle. If you need help figuring out where to and when to go, an usher or fellow worshiper will help you. At one time we too were confused. For those

unable to partake of wine, white grape juice is available. If you are unable to come to the altar, the pastor will bring communion to you at your seat. Please advise an usher.

Please stand.

THE POST-COMMUNION BLESSING

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

C **Amen**

THE POST-COMMUNION PRAYER

P Let us pray,

A Almighty God, you gave your Son both as a sacrifice for sin and a model of the godly life. Enable us to receive him always with thanksgiving, and to conform our lives to his through the same Jesus Christ our Lord

C **Amen**

Silence for reflection.



THE BENEDICTION

P Almighty God, Father, + Son, and Holy Spirit, bless you now and forever.

C **Amen**

THE SENDING HYMN: Jesus Refuge of the Weary (See #93 in green LBW for harmony.)



1 Je - sus, ref - uge of the wea - ry, blest re - deem - er, whom we love,
2 Do we pass that cross un - heed - ing, breath - ing no re - pen - tant vow,
3 Je - sus, may our hearts be burn - ing with more fer - vent love for you;



foun - tain in life's des - ert drea - ry, Sav - ior from the world a - bove;
though we see you wound - ed, bleed - ing, see your thorn - en - cir - cled brow?
may our eyes be ev - er turn - ing to be - hold your cross a - new;



of - ten have your eyes, of - fend - ed, gazed up - on the sin - ner's fall;
Yet your sin - less death has brought us life e - ter - nal, peace, and rest;
till in glo - ry, part - ed nev - er from the bless - ed Sav - ior's side,



yet up - on the cross ex - tend - ed, you have borne the pain of all.
on - ly what your grace has taught us calms the sin - ner's deep dis - tress.
grav - en in our hearts for - ev - er, dwell the cross, the Cru - ci - fied.

THE DISMISSAL

P Go in peace. Serve the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

Postlude

Tanz

Mueller



THANK YOU!!

As the calendar has reached mid-March our hopes of making it through this heating season without another boiler failure (like last fall) become greater with each passing day. Prayers, Hail Mary's, Crossed fingers and toes ... whatever works ... the non-guaranteed repaired boiler has kept us warm.

Working with our boiler contractor, plans are in place to have new boilers installed, tested and ready to go for next heating season.

In response to our boiler needs, St. James' elected leadership turned to the Saints at St. James at the end of February with an invitation to offer \$150,000 during a Lenten Special Appeal to meet the \$38,000 repair cost to have heat this winter, the \$95,000 cost of new boilers and \$17,000 cost of contingencies and necessary new heating system parts.

Since the appeal was launched on February 23rd, you have responded! Holy Smokes, have you responded. **As of March 10th, the Special Appeal has raised \$126,655 in gifts and pledges. That is 84% of our goal.** Included in that figure are gifts from every member of Church Council and Pastor Bill.

God shows up at St. James and changes lives in this building. Yes, this money is going to something you will probably never see and will not think about (until it quits working). Boilers are not exciting. Without them, the building will not be warm and lives will cease to be changed to here.

THANK YOU for your generosity and working with your neighbors to exponentially increase our impact. When we work together our imaginations are the only limit to what God do with us and our community.

What if we raise more than our \$150,000 goal? What a great thing that would be! We would be prepared to meet the next property / equipment challenge. That opportunity is before us.

Every gift is important and makes a difference. Thank you for all you do make St. James a steward of God's grace. Please join us keeping St. James a place where God changes lives.

WEDNESDAYS IN LENT

March 12, 19, 26 and April 2, 9 - 6:30pm

Join us for a meaningful Lenten tradition of gathering on Wednesdays for prayer and study. On March 12, 19, 26, and April 2 and 9, we will come together at 6:30pm for approximately an hour of reflection. Each evening will include a prayer office and a study of the scriptures for the upcoming Sunday.

YOUTH NIGHT - MARCH 28

Attn: Middle and High School Youth!

Join us for a fun movie night at St. James in the Flex Room on **Friday, March 28, from 7:00 - 9:15 p.m.**

We'll have pizza, games, and watch the movie: The Astronaut Farmer!
Bring a friend, kick back, and enjoy the evening!
RSVP to help us plan!



CONFIRMATION PLANNING MEETING

Parents and students of confirmation age are encouraged to join the Christian Education Committee and Pastor Bill on **Sunday, March 30, after worship** for a Confirmation Planning Meeting. We'll discuss the confirmation schedule and other details for the upcoming program.

EASTER EGG HUNT

Join us for the annual St. James Easter Egg Hunt on Saturday, **April 19 at 2:00pm!** Save the date and be sure to bring your basket!

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

We are seeking volunteers to assist with Sunday ministries. If you are willing to volunteer as a communion assistant, lector, videographer, or acolyte, please sign up by scanning the code or visiting the website!

