



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

Week of Aug. 9, 2026

The Eleventh Sunday After Pentecost

Introduction to Worship

Elijah finds the presence of God not in earthquake, wind, or fire, but in the sound of sheer silence. When the disciples face a great storm on the sea, they cry out with fear. Jesus says: "Take heart, it is I; do not be afraid." Amid the storms of life, we gather to seek the calm presence of Christ that soothes our fears. In comforting words of scripture and in the refreshing bread and cup of the eucharist, God grants us peace and sends us forth to be a sign of God's presence to others.

Watch the Live Stream:



[Download Bulletin](#)

The Week Ahead

Sunday, Aug. 9

9:00 am Choir
9:30 am Children's Sunday School
10:00 am Worship
11:00 am 📖 Blessing of the
Backpacks Lunch
2:00 pm 🎵 Carols by Candlelight
Choir Interest Preview

Monday, Aug. 10

10:30 am Quilting

Tuesday, Aug. 11

Congregation Council

Thursday, Aug. 13

6:30 pm Choir

Saturday, Aug. 15

8:30 am Leah's Hope Trailer

Sunday, Aug. 16

9:00 am Choir
9:30 am Children's Sunday School
10:00 am Worship

[Church Calendar](#)

Sunday Ministries

LECTOR/INTERCESSOR

Aug. 9 Barbara Albright

Aug. 16 Lindsey Olsen

COMMUNION ASSISTANT

Aug. 9 Dianne Lambert

Aug. 15 Samantha Hillegass

ACOLYTES

Aug. 9 [Volunteer](#)

Aug. 15

GREETER

Aug. 9 Samantha Hillegass

Aug. 16

VIDEOGRAPHER

Aug. 9 Jason Pittard

Aug. 16 Jason Pittard

USHERS

Al Brown, Jr., Bill Hardister

[Ushers Needed! - Contact Gretchen Walker if you can help!](#)

BUILDING SUPERVISORS

Kim Haberman, Hunter Huss

ALTAR FLOWER

Aug. 9 Ordered

Aug. 16

Happy Birthday! 🎂

August 10 - Connie King

August 12 - Robert Davis, Jr., Wayne Williams

August 14 - Mike Downs, Bill Grady

August 15 - Charlotte Davis

Announcements



Stay for Lunch on Sunday, Aug. 23!

Please join us after worship on **Sunday, Aug. 23** for a catered lunch as we gather in fellowship and hear how God is changing lives through St. James.

[Click here to RSVP!](#) | **RSVP by Aug. 17**

Can you bring a dessert? If so, please email LeeAnn Miller (lbmiller1@carolina.rr.com).

We hope you'll join us!



Blessing of the Backpacks - Sunday

Join us during worship this **Sunday, August 9** for our annual Blessing of the Backpacks as we pray for students, teachers, and school staff as they begin a new school year.

After worship, stay for a congregational lunch. All are welcome!



Carols by Candlelight Choir Interest Preview - Sunday

Have interest in singing for *Carols by Candlelight*? The St. James Parish Choir invites anyone interested in participating in this year's performance to attend a special preview this **Sunday, August 9, at 2:00 p.m.**

If you are interested in participating, please complete the [interest form](#) and join us for the preview.



A Note from Your VBS Coordinators

To our amazing Vacation Bible School volunteers,

Thank you for giving your time, talents, and hearts to make this year's VBS such a wonderful success! Whether you served as a class leader, floater, decorator, skit character, snack server, registration helper, or behind the scenes, every role was important and every act of service made a difference.

Your willingness to serve helped create a fun, safe, and Christ-centered environment where children could learn about God's love while being brave, sharing their gifts and giving their all. We truly couldn't have done it without each one of you.

Thank you for your hard work, your flexibility, your smiles, and the love you showed to every child. We are so grateful for each of you.

With heartfelt appreciation, thank you for making VBS a wonderful time to remember!

-Laura and Lisa

Partner News



A Message from Big Brothers Big Sisters

Dear St. James Lutheran,

I hope you are having a great week!

We are having our annual Big Brothers Big Sisters event, The Big Toast. I wanted you to be among the first to receive this year's invitation.

Your presence would make the evening so meaningful, and we'd be honored to welcome you for an unforgettable celebration of the children, mentors, and community partners who are changing lives across Cabarrus County.

The Big Brothers Big Sisters Big Toast, Cabarrus County, will be held on Thursday, September 17th, at the Laureate Center in Kannapolis, NC.

Reserve Your Spot

 [Register Here](#)

Your support helps ensure more young people are matched with caring mentors who can change the trajectory of their lives.

Thank you for being part of our Big Brothers Big Sisters family. We hope you'll join us for an evening that celebrates

the power of mentorship and the incredible impact we can make together.

Warmly,

Elizabeth Hutchins
Area Director – Cabarrus County
Big Brothers Big Sisters of Central Carolinas
Elizabeth.Hutchins@bbbscentralcarolinas.org
704-562-1144

In Case You Missed It...



Children's Sunday School Begins Aug. 9

Join us as Sunday School returns on Sunday, August 9, at 9:30 a.m.! We have classes for children of all ages, and we're excited to introduce a new class for middle and high school students called "Youtherans," led by Christine Lovelace and Judy Hoekstra.

On the first day, all children and youth will gather briefly in the Flex Room before heading to their individual classrooms.

Class Groups:

- Little Lambs: Infants–4 years
- Kingdom Kids: Kindergarten–2nd Grade
- Faith Followers: 3rd–5th Grade
- Youtherans: Middle & High School



Celebrating Milestones in Our Church Family

Throughout the year, we celebrate God's work in the lives of our congregation through Holy Baptism and the welcoming of new members. The Evangelism Committee would like to recognize those who have reached these important milestones.

Going forward, we will share baptisms and new members in the Ring Out each quarter so our congregation can celebrate these joyful occasions together.

Baptisms in 2025

Henry Mostek
Theodore "Teddy" Mostek
Rylee Alizabeth Rooker
Emery Poplin (pictured)
Brayden Thayer

Baptisms in 2026 (through today).

Dallas Helgeson
Grady Fincher
Ava "Ellie" Bennett
Elliot Hinson

New Members

Amy Griffith
Deb Walker
Sarah Bennett

If you notice that someone has been unintentionally omitted, please contact the church office so we can update our records.

Memorials & Honorariums

JULY 2026

Memorials & Honorariums

The following memorials & honorariums were given in memory or in honor.

In Memory of:

Tom & Carole Grady <u>Given by:</u> Terry & Sandy Brummeyer Nancy Faggart	Thomas Myers Grady <u>Given by:</u> Marion & Barbara Bost Lisa Burke Robert & Debbie Davis Walter & Susan Hannah Larry & Jan Hendley Howard & Margaret Irvin Jim, Laurie & Chris Miller Ron & Emily Pare Lineta Pritchard Tom Roberts Steve, Kay & Jeff Smith Todd & Gretchen Walker	Lee Davis Ballard <u>Given by:</u> Ed & Betsy Ballard
George Patterson <u>Given by:</u> Robert & Debbie Davis		Rev. Dr. Tom Ridenhour <u>Given by:</u> Robert & Debbie Davis
Randy Robbins <u>Given by:</u> Robert & Debbie Davis		Jill Strahl <u>Given by:</u> Will & Ann Gillon

Reminders

Join us for a day of service!
GOD'S WORK. OUR HANDS.
Supply Drive & Kit Packing Event
Sunday, Sept. 13, | after worship

FABRIC KIT SUPPLIES
Please donate new, unused items only.
Thread
• Neutral-colored, general-purpose thread
250-300 yards per spool
Fabric
Please donate cotton or cotton-blend fabric (no linens or 100% polyester). Each piece should be one of the following sizes:
• 2 1/4 yards of 60" wide fabric
• 3 yards of 44" wide fabric
• 4 yards of 36" wide fabric
Donation Guidelines
Fabric must be free of stains and holes. Each spool of thread should coordinate with one piece of fabric.
Please do not donate items with:
Religious symbols or messages, Group or organization names, U.S. flags, patriotic or military symbols, References to the armed forces, including camouflage

SCHOOL KIT SUPPLIES
• 70-page spiral notebooks (wide- or college-ruled)
• #2 unsharpened pencils with erasers
• 30-centimeter ruler for ruler with centimeters and inches
• Black or blue ballpoint pens (no gel ink)
• Pencil sharpener
• Pair of blunt scissors
• Box of 18 or 24 crayons
• 200 pink erasers

PERSONAL CARE KIT SUPPLIES
• Dark-colored, lightweight bath towels (20" x 40" to 32" x 27")
• Bath-size bars of soap totaling 8-9 oz. (original wrapping)
• Adult-size toothbrushes (original packaging)
• Sturdy combs
• Metal nail clippers

BABY CARE KIT SUPPLIES
• Lightweight cotton T-shirts (no onesies)
• Long- or short-sleeved gowns or sleepers (without feet)
• Receiving blankets (medium-weight cotton or flannel, 32" x 52")
• Cloth diapers (flat-fold preferred)
• Jacket, sweater, sweatshirt, or cape with hood for include a baby hat
• Pairs of socks
• Hand towels (dark color)
• Bath-size bars of gentle soap (8-9 oz., original wrapping; no mini bars)
• Diaper pins or large safety pins

Supply Collection Dates: Aug. 2 - Sept. 6
Pack Date: Sunday, Sept. 13, after worship

ST. JAMES LUTHERAN CHURCH

God's Work. Our Hands. Supply Drive

Help us prepare for *God's Work. Our Hands.* by donating supplies for Lutheran World Relief Kits that will support people in need around the world.

Social Ministry Committee is collecting supplies for:

- School Kits
- Personal Care Kits
- Baby Care Kits
- Fabric Kits

The Christian Education Committee is partnering with Social Ministry by focusing its annual collection on School Kit supplies in place of their traditional pencil drive.

Collection Dates: August 2 – September 6

Assembly Day:

Sunday, September 13, following worship

Donations:

Please place [school kit](#) items in the "SCHOOL SUPPLIES" collection box located at the Portico Entrance.

Watch for additional collection boxes for Personal Care, Baby Care, and Fabric Kit supplies.

Please consider donating supplies, packing kits, or both to help serve our neighbors around the world.

[See flyer for complete list of needed supplies.](#)

In Our Prayers

Cecil Berry (Friend of Gretchen Walker)

Family of Michael Black
(Nephew of Patsy Black)

Patsy Black

Patrick Bryn
(Son of Kirby & Sondra Bryn)

Angie Buchanan

Mike & Debbie Cagle

(Friends of Robert & Debbie Davis)

Jay Clemmer

Noah Clifton

Karey Conrad (Friend of Dee Pieschel)

Catherine Durst

(Daughter of Anne & Dee Hodges)

Nadine Filipak

(Friend of Al & Dee Pieschel)

Phyllis Freeman

(Mother of Fonda Shumate)

Ed Frost (Friends of the Marlow's)

Ginger Gibbs

(Friend of Deedee & Jeff Gilbert)

Jeff Gilbert

Nancy Haney

(Loved one of Betsy Ballard)

Ryan Hardister

(Son of Bill & Reggie Hardister)

Maureen Hollmeyer

Hunter Huss

Mary Frances Johnson
(Cousin of Francie Davis)

Karen Johnston

(Friend of Judy Benz)

Mary Anne Lanahan

(Aunt of Francie Davis)

Ruth Lawler

(Friend of Dee & Al Pieschel)

John Ledford (Brother of Deb Black)

Buddy McEachern

Jason Matthews

Barbara Merrell

Deb & Roger Myers

(Friends of Deb Black)

Dave Olsen

(Friend of Patsy Black)

Mason Overby

Stan Parnell

(Friend of Rob & Debbie Davis)

Al Pieschel

Corinne Robbins

Lori Ruff (Mother of Christine Ruff)

Jessica Seeley

(Cousin of Christine Ruff)

Ruby Tyer (Niece of Beth Huss' Friend)

John Walker

Secure Online Giving

Supporting your church is just a few clicks away! With [online giving](#), you can make a one-time gift, set up automatic recurring donations on the date you choose, and view your complete giving history.

Automated recurring gifts are a convenient way to provide our church with much-needed consistent support throughout the year. Thank you for your faithful generosity.



Ways to Give

Volunteer!

Assisting in Worship

Sunday Worship Volunteer Opportunities are now open! We're looking for Ushers, Greeters, Communion Assistants, Lectors, Acolytes, and Videographers to help on Sundays.

Altar flower dates are available on a first-come, first-served basis. Sign up for flowers [online](#), on the sign-up sheet in the portico, or call the office at 704-786-0166.

Not sure where to start? Email us at info@sjnc.net for more information, training, or to connect with a volunteer team leader.

St. James Staff

Rev. Bill Ridenhour, Pastor [Email](#)

Jill Irvin, Financial Administrator [Email](#)

Dr. Kevin Estes, Director of Music Ministries & Organist [Email](#)

Holly Sloop, Communications Coordinator [Email](#)

Kathryn Radcliffe, Nursery Coordinator [Email](#)

Teresa Honeycutt, Custodian [Email](#)

Kim Haberman, Congregation President [Email](#)

Contact Us

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