

ASSISTING IN WORSHIP

Lector/Intercessor: Kim Haberman

Communion Assistant: Elizabeth Hurley

Acolyte: Noah Pittard

Ushers: Mike Downs, Al Brown Jr., Sid Hughes,
Bill Hardister, Hunter Huss

Videographer: Laurie Miller

Greeter: Maureen Hollymeyer

Building Supervisors: Kim Haberman & Hunter Huss

ASH WENDESDAY

St. James will observe Ash Wednesday on **March 5th** with the Imposition of Ashes and Holy Communion. **Worship will be offered at Noon and 7pm.**

WEDNESDAYS IN LENT

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

I understand that St. James has some history of gathering on Wednesdays in Lent. We will gather at 6:30 for an hour (or so) on the Wednesdays noted above. We will pray a prayer office and study the texts for the following Sunday. – Pastor Bill

PRAYER LIST

Joyce Beaty (friend of the Marlow's); 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); Maureen Hollmeyer; 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); Tom Ridenhour; Geoff & Pam Seige (friends of Robert & Debbie Davis).

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

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Church Office; info@sjnc.net

Kathryn Radcliffe, Nursery Coordinator; krad3700@gmail.com

Teresa Honeycutt, Custodian

The Transfiguration of our Lord

The Last Sunday after the Epiphany

March 2, 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 to 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. 2 – Amy Splawn
Mar. 5 – Lauren Popovici
Mar. 6 – Sam McGuire, Sarah Poplin, Logan Whisnant
Mar. 7 – Camden Burroughs, Avery Miller

CHURCH CALENDAR THIS WEEK

Sunday, March 2	9:00am 9:00am 9:30am 10:00am 11:00am	Adult Sunday School Parish Choir Children's Sunday School Planning Meeting Worship Lunch & Lenten Activity Day
Monday, March 3	10:30am 6:30pm	Quilting Scouts
Tuesday, March 4	10:30am 6:00pm	Mary Magdalene Circle Executive Committee
Wednesday, March 5	Noon 7:00pm	Ash Wednesday Service Ash Wednesday Evening Service
Thursday, March 6	5:30pm 6:30pm	Handbells Choir Rehearsal
Saturday, March 8	10:30am	Meal Packing with Lifeline Christian Mission
Sunday, March 9	9:00am 9:00am 9:30am 10:00am	Adult Sunday School Parish Choir Children's Sunday School 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.

UPCOMING EVENTS

March 5 – Ash Wednesday
March 8 – Meal Packing with Lifeline Christian Mission
April 13 – Palm Sunday
April 17 – Maundy Thursday
April 18 – Good Friday
April 19 – Easter Egg Hunt
April 20 – Easter Sunday
May 18 – Lunch & Bubble Blast Activity Day

MEAL PACKING - LIFELINE CHRISTIAN MISSION

Join us on **Saturday, March 8th, at 10:00 am at Gibson Mill** for a morning of service with Lifeline Christian Mission to pack 10,800 meals! The event is from 10:00am to 11:30am, and all necessary supplies will be provided. Visit the link to sign up!

<https://sjnc.net/special-event-sign-ups>.

CONFIRMATION PLANNING MEETING

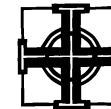
Parents and students of confirmation age are encouraged to join the Christian Education Committee and Pastor Bill on **Sunday, March 30, after worship** for a Confirmation Planning Meeting. We'll discuss the confirmation schedule and other details for the upcoming program.

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!



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

THE HOLY COMMUNION



Welcome

Prelude

Fanfare and Dance
Jacob Lipham, timpani

Richard White

Please stand.

THE INVOCATION

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

C **Amen.**

THE ENTRANCE HYMN: #315 Love Divine All Loves Excelling

1 Love di - vine, all loves ex - cel - ling, Joy of
 2 Breathe, oh, breathe thy lov - ing Spir - it in - to
 3 Come, Al - might - y, to de - liv - er; let us
 4 Fin - ish then thy new cre - a - tion, pure and

heav'n, to earth come down! Fix in us thy
 ev - 'ry trou - bled breast; let us all in
 all thy life re - ceive; sud - den - ly re -
 spot - less let us be; let us see thy

hum - ble dwell - ing, all thy faith - ful mer - cies crown.
 thee in - her - it; let us find thy prom - ised rest.
 turn, and nev - er, nev - er - more thy tem - ples leave.
 great sal - va - tion per - fect - ly re - stored in thee!

Je - sus, thou art all com - pas - sion, pure, un -
 Take a - way the love of sin - ning; Al - pha
 Thee we would be al - ways bless - ing, serve thee
 Changed from glo - ry in - to glo - ry, till in

bound - ed love thou art; vis - it us with
 and O - me - ga be; end of faith, as
 as thy hosts a - bove, pray, and praise thee
 heav'n we take our place, till we cast our

thy sal - va - tion, en - ter ev - 'ry trem - bling heart.
 its be - gin - ning, set our hearts at lib - er - ty.
 with - out ceas - ing, glo - ry in thy per - fect love.
 crowns be - fore thee, lost in won - der, love, and praise!

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 HYMN OF PRAISE

A Glo - ry to God in the high - est, and peace to his peo - ple on earth.
B Lord God, heav - en - ly king, al - might - y God and Fa - ther:

We wor-ship you, we give you thanks, we praise you for your glo-ry.

Lord Je-sus Christ, on-ly Son of the Fa-ther, Lord God, Lamb of God:

You take a-way the sin of the world; have mer-cy on us.

You are seat-ed at the right hand of the Fa-ther; re-ceive our prayer.

For you a-lone are the Ho-ly One, you a-lone are the Lord,

you a-lone are the Most High, Je-sus Christ, with the Ho-ly Spir-it,

in the glo-ry of God the Fa-ther. A-men

THE PRAYER OF THE DAY

P The Lord be with you

C **And also with you.**

P O God, in the transfiguration of your Son you confirmed the mysteries of the faith by the witness of Moses and Elijah, and in the voice from the bright cloud you foreshadowed our adoption as your children. Make us with the king heirs of your glory, and bring us to enjoy its fullness, through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.



Please sit.

THE FIRST READING: Exodus 34:29-35

²⁹ Moses came down from Mount Sinai. As he came down from the mountain with the two tablets of the covenant in his hand, Moses did not know that the skin of his face shone because he had been talking with God. ³⁰ When Aaron and all the Israelites saw Moses, the skin of his face was shining, and they were afraid to come near him. ³¹ But Moses called to them; and Aaron and all the leaders of the congregation returned to him, and Moses spoke with them. ³² Afterward all the Israelites came near, and he gave them in commandment all that the Lord had spoken with him on Mount Sinai. ³³ When Moses had finished speaking with them, he put a veil on his face; ³⁴ but whenever Moses went in before the Lord to speak with him, he would take the veil off, until he came out; and when he came out, and told the Israelites what he had been commanded, ³⁵ the Israelites would see the face of Moses, that the skin of his face was shining; and Moses would put the veil on his face again, until he went in to speak with him.

A The Word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

THE SECOND READING: 2 Corinthians 3:12—4:2

¹² Since, then, we have such a hope, we act with great boldness, ¹³ not like Moses, who put a veil over his face to keep the people of Israel from gazing at the end of the glory that was being set aside. ¹⁴ But their minds were hardened. Indeed, to this very day, when they hear the reading of the old covenant, that same veil is still there, since only in Christ is it set aside. ¹⁵ Indeed, to this very day whenever Moses is read, a veil lies over their minds; ¹⁶ but when one turns to the Lord, the veil is removed. ¹⁷ Now the Lord is the Spirit, and where the Spirit of the Lord is, there is freedom. ¹⁸ And all of us, with unveiled faces, seeing the glory of the Lord as though reflected in a mirror, are being transformed into the same image from one degree of glory to another; for this comes from the Lord, the Spirit.

⁴¹ Therefore, since it is by God's mercy that we are engaged in this ministry, we do not lose heart. ² We have renounced the shameful things that one hides; we refuse to practice cunning or to falsify God's word; but by the open statement of the truth we commend ourselves to the conscience of everyone in the sight of God.

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

Please stand.

THE GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Al - le - lu - ia. Lord, to whom shall we go?
You have the words of e - ter - nal life. Al - le - lu - ia.

THE HOLY GOSPEL

P The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke, the 9th chapter.

Glo - ry to you, O Lord.

Now about eight days after these sayings Jesus took with him Peter and John and James, and went up on the mountain to pray. And while he was praying, the appearance of his face changed, and his clothes became dazzling white. Suddenly they saw two men, Moses and Elijah, talking to him. They appeared in glory and were speaking of his departure, which he was about to accomplish at Jerusalem. Now Peter and his companions were weighed down with sleep; but since they had stayed awake, they saw his glory and the two men who stood with him. Just as they were leaving him, Peter said to Jesus, 'Master, it is good for us to be here; let us make three dwellings, one for you, one for Moses, and one for Elijah' —not knowing what he said.

While he was saying this, a cloud came and overshadowed them; and they were terrified as they entered the cloud. Then from the cloud came a voice that said, 'This is my Son, my Chosen; listen to him!' When the voice had spoken, Jesus was found alone. And they kept silent and in those days told no one any of the things they had seen.

On the next day, when they had come down from the mountain, a great crowd met him. Just then a man from the crowd shouted, 'Teacher, I beg you to look at my son; he is my only child. Suddenly a spirit seizes him, and all at once he shrieks. It throws him into convulsions until he foams at the mouth; it mauls him and will scarcely leave him. I begged your disciples to cast it out, but they could not.' Jesus answered, 'You faithless and perverse generation, how much longer must I be with you and bear with you? Bring your son here.' While he was coming, the demon dashed him to the ground in convulsions. But Jesus rebuked the unclean spirit, healed the boy, and gave him back to his father. And all were astounded at the greatness of God.

P The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

Please sit.

THE SERMON

Pastor Bill Ridenhour

Please stand.

THE HYMN OF THE DAY: Jesus on the Mountain Peak

No harmony graphic is available.



1 Je - sus on the moun-tain peak stands a - lone in glo - ry
 2 Trem-bling at his feet we saw Mo - ses and E - li - jah
 3 Swift the cloud of glo - ry came: God pro - claim-ing in its
 4 This is God's be - lov - ed Son! Law and proph-ets sing be -



blaz - ing; let us, if we dare to speak, join the
 speak - ing. All the proph-ets and the law shout through
 thun - der Je - sus as the Son by name! Na - tions,
 fore him, first and last and on - ly One. All cre -



saints and an - gels prais - ing. Al - le - lu - ia!
 them their joy - ful greet - ing: Al - le - lu - ia!
 cry a - loud in won - der: Al - le - lu - ia!
 a - tion shall a - dore him! Al - le - lu - ia!

Installation of Elected Parish Officers

Elected Parish Officers gather at the font.

The minister addresses the congregation.

P These persons having been elected by the congregation to positions of leadership on the church council are invited to accept their office.

The minister addresses those being installed.

P In Holy Baptism our Lord Jesus Christ liberated you from sin and death and made you members of his church. Through Word and Sacrament you have been nurtured in faith. I ask you, together with all who are here gathered, to confess the faith of the Church, the faith in which we are baptized.

The congregation stands.

THE APOSTLES' CREED

**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.
 He ascended into heaven,
 and is seated at the right hand of the Father.
 He will come 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.**

The congregation sits.

The minister addresses those being installed.

P Saint Paul writes: There are different kinds of spiritual gifts, but the same Spirit gives them. There are different ways of serving, but the same Lord is served. There are different abilities to perform service, but the same God gives to everyone ability for particular service. The Spirit's presence is shown in some way in each person, for the good of all (I Cor. 12:4-7)

You have been elected to positions of leadership and trust in this congregation.

You are to see that the words and deeds of this household of faith reflect him in whose name we gather.

You are to work together with other members to see that the worship and work of Christ are done in this congregation, and that God's will is done in this community and in the whole world.

You are to be diligent in your specific area of serving, that the one Lord who empowers you is glorified.

You to be examples of faith active in love, to help maintain the life and harmony of this congregation.

P On behalf of your sisters and brothers in Christ, I ask you: Are you ready to accept and faithfully carry out the duties of the offices to which you have been elected?

R Yes, by the help of God.

The congregation stands.

Those being installed face the congregation. The minister addresses the congregation.

P People of God, I ask you: Will you support these, your elected leaders, and will you share in the mutual ministry that Christ has given to all who are baptized?

C **Yes, by the help of God.**

Those being installed face the minister, who addresses them:

P I now declare you installed as council members of this congregation. God bless you with his Holy Spirit, that you may prove faithful servants of Christ.

*The congregation sits or kneels as able.
Those being installed may stand.*

THE PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

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.

A Father, we pray for your holy Catholic Church;

C **That we all may be one.**

A Grant that every member of the Church may truly and humbly serve you;
C **That your Name may be glorified by all people.**

A We pray for all bishops, pastors, and deacons;
C **That they may be faithful ministers of your Word and Sacraments.**

A We pray for all who govern and hold authority in the nations of the world;
C **That there may be justice and peace on the earth.**

A Give us grace to do your will in all that we undertake;
C **That our works may find favor in your sight.**

A Have compassion on those who suffer from any grief or trouble;
C **That they may be delivered from their distress.**

A Give to the departed eternal rest.
C **Let light perpetual shine upon them.**

A We praise you for your saints who have entered into joy;
C **May we also come to share in your heavenly kingdom.**

A Let us pray for our own needs and those of others.

A brief silence for reflection.

P Into your hands, O Lord, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in your mercy; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

C **Amen.**

The minister, newly installed officers and congregation may greet one another in the name of the Lord.

THE PEACE

P The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C **And also with you.**

Please sit.

THE ANTHEM

O God, When Thou Appearest
Jacob Lipham, timpani

W. A. Mozart

*O God, Lord God, when thou appearest, darkness flies.
Thy light and thy glory shine forth on the earth,
and thou art exalted, O Lord, above all gods.
We worship thy glorious name, O Lord God Almighty.*

*Thou only art my rock and my salvation,
and my defense and I shall not be moved.
Thou art my salvation and my glory,
my refuge, the rock of my strength.
O Lord of all power and might.*

*O praise the Lord all ye people,
and praise him all ye lands.
His merciful kindness endureth forever.
Praise him in songs of joy.*

*We praise thee, O Lord our God.
Be thou exalted above all heavens,
thy glory above all the earth.
For thou, Lord art greater than all that are in the earth.*

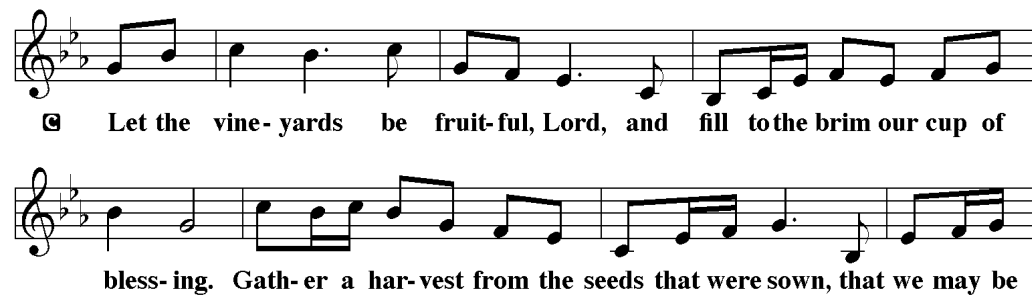


fed with the bread of life. Gath-er the hopes and dreams of all; u -
nite them with the prayers we of - fer. Grace our ta - ble with your
pres - ence, and give us a fore - taste of the feast to come.

THE OFFERING

Please stand.

THE OFFERTORY



Let the vine-yards be fruit-ful, Lord, and fill to the brim our cup of
bless-ing. Gath-er a har-vest from the seeds that were sown, that we may be

THE OFFERTORY PRAYER

A Blessed are you,

C **O Lord our God, maker of all things. Through your goodness you have blessed us with these gifts. With them we offer ourselves to your service and dedicate our lives to the care and redemption of all that you have made, for the sake of him who gave 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.

Sharing our life, he lived among us to reveal your glory and love, that our darkness should give way to his own brilliant light.

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, Lord God of pow'r and might:
Heav'n and earth are full of your glo - ry.
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 Holy God, mighty Lord, gracious Father: Endless is your mercy and eternal your reign. You are the Life and Light of all. By your powerful word you created all things. Through the prophets you called your people to be a light to the nations.

Blessed are you for Jesus, your Son. He is your Light, shining in our darkness and revealing to us your mercy and might.

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 all people for the forgiveness of sin. Do this for the remembrance of me.

Remembering, therefore, his preaching and healing, his dying and rising, and his promise to come again, we await that day when all the universe will rejoice in your holy and life-giving light.

By your Spirit bless us and this meal, that, refreshed with this heavenly food, we may be light for the world, revealing the brilliance of your Son.

Through him all glory and honor is yours, Almighty Father, with the Holy Spirit, in your holy Church, both now and forever.

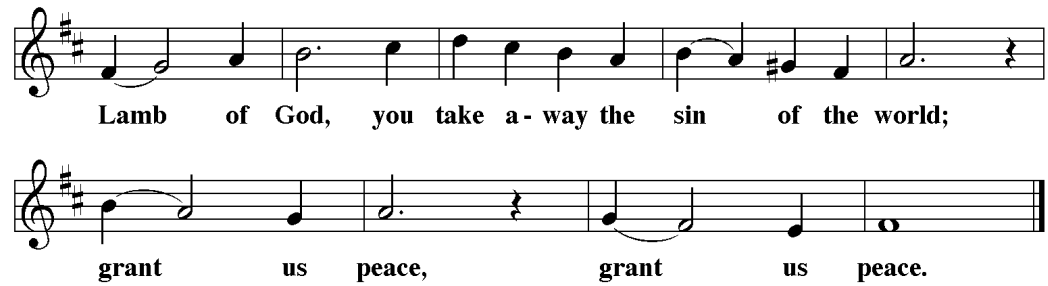
C Amen.

THE LORD'S PRAYER

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.



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,
P Pour out upon us the spirit of your love, O Lord, and unite the wills of those whom you have fed with one heavenly food; through 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: #Beautiful Savior

1 Beau - ti - ful Sav - ior, King of cre - a - tion,
 2 Fair are the mead - ows, fair are the wood - lands,
 3 Fair is the sun - shine, fair is the moon - light,
 4 Beau - ti - ful Sav - ior, Lord of the na - tions,

Son of God and Son of Man!
 robed in flow'rs of bloom - ing spring;
 bright the spar - kling stars on high;
 Son of God and Son of Man!

Tru - ly I'd love thee, tru - ly I'd serve thee,
 Je - sus is fair - er, Je - sus is pur - er,
 Je - sus shines bright - er, Je - sus shines pur - er,
 Glo - ry and hon - or, praise, ad - o - ra - tion,

light of my soul, my joy, my crown.
 he makes our sor - rowing spir - it sing.
 than all the an - gels in the sky.
 now and for - ev - er - more be thine!

THE DISMISSAL

P Go in peace. Serve the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Postlude

Allegro (from *Sonata No. 3*)

Nealson

