



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

Week of Aug. 16, 2026

The Twelfth Sunday After Pentecost

Introduction to Worship

In Isaiah we hear that God's house shall be a house of prayer for all people and that God will gather the outcasts of Israel. The Canaanite woman in today's gospel is a Gentile, an outsider, who is unflinching in her request that Jesus heal her daughter. As Jesus commends her bold faith, how might our church extend its mission to those on the margins of society? In our gathering around word and meal we receive strength to be signs of comfort, healing, and justice for those in need.

Watch the Live Stream:



[Download Bulletin](#)

The Week Ahead

Sunday, Aug. 16

9:00 am Choir
9:30 am Children's Sunday School
10:00 am Worship
11:00 am Nominating Committee Meeting
(Flex Room)

Monday, Aug. 17

[RSVP Deadline for Stewardship Lunch](#)

10:30 am Quilting with Guest Speaker
(Flex Room)

Thursday, Aug. 20

6:30 pm Choir

Sunday, Aug. 23

9:00 am Choir
9:30 am Children's Sunday School
10:00 am Worship
11:00 am Stewardship Luncheon 🌱

Coming Up Next

Aug. 23 - Stewardship Luncheon
Sept. 13 - God's Work. Our Hands.
Oct. 25 - Trunk or Treat

[Church Calendar](#)

Sunday Ministries

LECTOR/INTERCESSOR

Aug. 16 Lindsey Olsen
Aug. 23 Barbara Albright

COMMUNION ASSISTANT

Aug. 16 Samantha Hillegass
Aug. 23 Kim Haberman

ACOLYTES

Aug. 16 [Volunteer](#)
Aug. 23

GREETER

Aug. 16 [Volunteer](#)
Aug. 23

VIDEOGRAPHER

Aug. 16 Jason Pittard
Aug. 23 Jason Pittard

USHERS

Al Brown, Jr., Bill Hardister,
Amy Griffith, Eric Olsen

BUILDING SUPERVISORS

Kim Haberman, Hunter Huss

ALTAR FLOWER

Aug. 16
Aug. 23

Happy Birthday! 🎂

Aug. 16 - Patty Propst
Aug. 17 - Michael Bestler
Aug. 18 - Helen Fincher, Sam Jones
Aug. 19 - Jim Harris, Jr.
Aug. 21 - Meagan Lambert

Announcements



God's Work. Our Hands - September 13

Join us Sunday, September 13, after worship in the Fellowship Hall for a day of service! We'll assemble Lutheran World Relief kits, create Mission Quilts, and write encouragement cards for the Big Brothers Big Sisters program.

A bagged lunch will be provided ([CLICK TO RSVP](#)).
Everyone is invited to participate!

T-shirts will be available after worship on September 6 and on September 13 for those who need one.

As a reminder, we are still collecting items for our kit-packing.
[Click here for the list of needed supplies.](#)



Interested in Carols by Candlelight?

If you missed Sunday's Carols by Candlelight preview, it's not too late to join the St. James Choir!

If you or someone you know would enjoy being a part of Carols by Candlelight, we'd love to have you join us.

Rehearsals Begin: Sept. 17 at 7:30pm

Dress Rehearsals: Dec. 7 & 9

Performance Dates: Dec. 11 & 12

For more information contact [Kevin Estes](#).



Phishing Email Reminder

We've received reports of another scam email pretending to be from Pastor Bill requesting gift cards for cancer patients. Please remember that Pastor Bill will never solicit gift cards, money, or other items from members by email.

If you receive an unexpected message that appears to be from Pastor Bill:

- **Check the sender's email address** carefully—don't rely on the name displayed (official email is prbill@sjnc.net).
- Be cautious of **requests for gift cards, money, or personal information**, especially if the request seems **urgent** or unusual.
- When in doubt, **don't respond or click links**. Contact the church office to verify the request.

Scam emails can look convincing, so taking a moment to check the sender can help protect you and our congregation.

In Case You Missed It...



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!



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



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

Reminders



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 donations in the designated collection bins at the Portico Entrance.

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)

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)

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

☎ Phone: (704) 786-0166

🌐 Website: www.sjnc.net

✉ Email: info@sjnc.net



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