



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



Ring Out - Week of Dec. 8, 2024

Second Sunday of Advent

Introduction to Sunday's Worship

Forerunners and messengers advance the advent of our God. While John the baptizer's voice in the wilderness may be the principal focus of the day, Malachi's prophecy could as easily herald the coming Christ as forerunner of the Lord of hosts. Finally all the baptized are called to participate in the sharing of the gospel. In so doing we prepare the way for the coming of Jesus and assist all people in capturing a vision of the

Download Bulletin



Sunday Worship will be live-streamed on YouTube beginning at 9:45 on Sunday morning. An email with the link will be sent on Sunday morning. You can also watch a recorded version later by visiting our [YouTube Page](#).

You can open or print the bulletin and follow along with the service.

Watch the Live Stream

On the Calendar...

THIS WEEK

The Week Ahead

Sunday, December 8

9:00 am Adult SS

9:00 am Choir

9:30 am Children's SS

10:00 am Worship

11:00 am Social Ministry
Committee (Parlor)

**4:00 pm Bethlehem at the
Farm**

Monday, December 9

10:30 am Quilting

SUNDAY

Sunday Ministries

LECTOR/INTERCESSOR

Dec. 8 Gretchen Walker

Dec. 15 Frank Irvin

COMMUNION

ASSISTANT

Dec. 8 Lori Pittard

Dec. 15 Samantha Hillegass

ACOLYTES

Dec. 8 Annette Propst

Dec. 15

6:30 pm Scouts

Tuesday, December 10

Noon Lively Leisures
6:00 pm Congregation
Council

Wednesday, December 11

5:30 pm Handbells
6:30 pm Choir Rehearsal

Thursday, December 12

Salvation Army Bell Ringing

Sunday, December 15

9:00 am Adult SS
9:00 am Choir
9:30 am Children's SS
10:00 am Worship

GREETERS

Dec. 8 Esther Circle
Dec. 15 Esther Circle

VIDEOGRAPHER

Dec. 8
Dec. 15

DECEMBER USHERS

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

BUILDING SUPERVISOR

Wendell Overby

ALTAR FLOWERS

Dec. 8 Elizabeth Horner
Dec. 15 Kelley Carpenter

Online Calendar

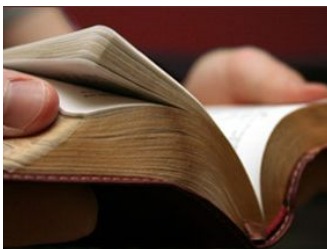


Happy Birthday!

10 Dec. - Jason Urso
11 Dec. - CJ Harward III
13 Dec. - Debbie Davis

Volunteer!

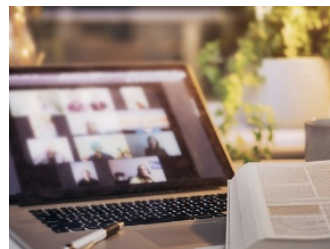
Please consider volunteering for a Sunday ministry or special event!



Lectors



Communion



Videographers

Assistants



Altar Flowers



Special Events



Acolytes

Announcements



Front sidewalk area under construction

As part of the city's streetscape improvement project, demolition work has begun on the sidewalk in front of the main entrance.

For your safety, please use caution when approaching this area or consider using an alternate entrance if you typically rely on the front sidewalk. Thank you for your patience and understanding as these enhancements take place!

Register to Ring - We have a few spots left to cover!

We have a few spots left to cover for the Salvation Army Bell Ringing on **Thursday, Dec. 12**. The location is the same as last year, Sam's Club in Kannapolis: 2421 Supercenter Dr. NE Kannapolis NC 28083.

Please consider signing up for a one-hour shift.
[Register to Ring!](#)



My Father's House Ministry Needs

St. James & St. Johns will host My Father's House Ministry Dec. 16-18. There are 25 people in the Ministry. If you can help provide an item for the dinner meal **Dec. 16 or Dec. 17**, please let co-chairs Sylvia Corl (704-425-



Poinsettia Orders Extended through the Weekend!

We have more poinsettias available for order! If you haven't placed your order yet, we're extending the deadline through this weekend.

Each 6½" red poinsettia is \$20 and can be given in memory or honor of a loved one. These gifts help adorn our worship space during the holy season.



A list of donors and those being honored or memorialized will be included in our gift list. Please ensure names are printed clearly to ensure proper recognition.

How to Order:

- Complete and return the [order form](#) to the offering plate this Sunday.
- Place your order [online](#) by Sunday evening.

Worship Live Stream

When the COVID-19 pandemic forced our world to shut down in 2020, St. James began to live stream worship. This was a helpful way to sustain our community in a difficult time. St. James continues to live stream worship to this day. For the sake of our homebound members (and our nurse staff/volunteers) who watch faithfully we will not stop live streaming worship.

It is possible to live stream worship with only a wide angle shot of the sanctuary that does not change. That only requires waking up the laptop, clicking on the live stream button and starting the stream. It is also possible to have a live stream in which the camera moves throughout worship. That makes for a more interesting "broadcast" and requires volunteers willing to be our "director" by changing the "shots" on the tablet.

This month of December has no one scheduled to serve in this role. We need to increase the number of volunteers willing to serve as the "videographer." The small, faithful band of current volunteers will enthusiastically welcome you to the club and teach you everything you need to know. The greater the number of videographers the smaller the number of times each person is needed to serve.



Congregational Breakfast - Dec. 22

Start your Sunday with fellowship and joy! Join us on **Sunday, Dec. 22 at 8:45am** for a delightful continental breakfast and the company of your fellow saints of St. James. At 9:15am, our Sunday School children share the Christmas story through song—a beautiful reminder of the season's true meaning.

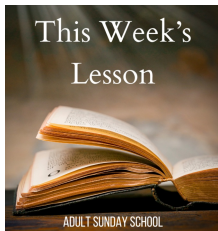
Gospel Reading Sign-Ups for Family Christmas Eve Service

Join us in bringing the Nativity story to life! We're looking for five families to assist by reading the Gospel and placing the characters in the Nativity scene during the program on **Christmas Eve, Dec. 24 at 5:30pm**.



Passages are divided into 5 sections; please select 1 section per family to read. Pastor Bill will follow up with details. [Click here to sign up!](#)

Ministries



Adult Sunday School

God's Promise - 2 Samuel 7:4-17

In this lesson, King David had it in his heart to build a house for the Lord in Jerusalem. God had "dwelt" in a tent (tabernacle) from the time Israel left Egypt and settled in the Promised Land. God left the construction of God's house to his son, Solomon, but, God's grand plans went far beyond the building and upkeep of an inanimate temple. God promised to give David an everlasting kingdom! In Jesus, we are part of God's holy and everlasting temple, it will be our eternal residence!

Partner News

Big Brothers Big Sisters is collecting toys for families in need this Holiday season. Can you help out local families who cannot afford Christmas?

Toys are being collected until

December 12th. Please see flyer. All toys must be received by **Thursday, December 12th.**

Our holiday gift shop for our families will be **Monday, December 16th at St. James.** We are looking for volunteers. Click the [link](#) to sign up for a volunteer time slot.



November Memorials & Honorariums

November Memorials & Honorariums
The following were given in memory or in honor of:

In Memory Of:

Jo Eng
Given by:
Nancy Faggart
Tom Grady
Fred & Dianne Lambert
Thomas & Sandra Long
Anne Readling
Patty Williams

Keith Fink
Given by:

Nancy Faggart	Victor & Joan Kyslinger
Don & Jo Ann Fowler	Fred & Dianne Lambert
Will & Ann Gillon	Buddy & Joan McEachern
Tom Grady	James McKay
Kim Haberman	Jim & Laurie Miller
Dee & Anne Hodges	Anne Readling
	St. James Bell Choir

In case you missed it...

Christmas at St. James

Tuesday, December 24th –

“Family” Christmas Eve @ 5:30pm

Designed with families and younger children in mind, this liturgy will be less formal than customary for St. James and will include the singing of many favorite carols. There will be an opportunity for five families to assist in reading the Gospel and placing the

characters in the nativity scene. [Click here if you would like to sign up.](#) At the normal sermon time, children will be invited to join Pastor Bill at the nativity scene. This will be the only sermon for this service. We will commune using a simple communion rite.

Musical Prelude @ 10:30pm

The choir and Kevin Estes, Director of Music Ministries and Organist, will present thirty minutes of fabulous music at 10:30pm. Don't wait until 11pm to come to church. Come at 10:30pm. You'll be glad you did.

A "Carol Mass" @ 11pm

St. James will celebrate a festive "Carol Mass" at 11pm on Christmas Eve. One of Luther's greatest gifts to the church was his "choral mass." A choral mass sings a hymn (or parts of a hymn) in place of the normal liturgical pieces. This "Carol Mass" sings a carol in place of many of the normal liturgical pieces. The 11pm liturgy will overflow with "C's." Carols, Communion, Candles. Come on Christmas Eve the 24th. Leave in the early minutes of Christmas Day, the 25th.

Sunday, December 29th @ 10am

On the First Sunday after Christmas, St. James will take a respite from our normal form. Have you had a hectic and stressful week? Come for a moment of calm. Sing a few quiet, softer carols. "A Service of Four Lessons and Carols with Reflections from Martin Luther" will precede a simple communion rite. The brief reflections are from Luther's Christmas Book. Luther and his brief reflections are the only preacher for the day.

Sunday, January 5th @ 10am

On the Second Sunday after Christmas, St. James returns to our customary Sunday morning liturgical fare. Through Luke's Gospel, we met John the Baptist on the Second Sunday in Advent. On this final day of Christmas, we come full circle meeting The Baptist again through the first chapter of the John's Gospel.



2025 Offering Envelopes Available

2025 Offering envelopes are ready for pick-up on the table behind the sacristy (office hallway). If you did not receive a box and would like one, contact [Jill Irving](#).



Reminders:

2025 Sign-Ups Available!

Please consider signing up for an upcoming Sunday ministry. Dates for

Volunteer opportunities



2025 are now available! Refer to the Volunteer section of this email or, [visit the website](#).



Acolytes Needed!

Please consider signing up to acolyte at an upcoming service.

All may serve - youth or adult! Just need to be able to carry the cross.

[Click here to sign up for an open date!](#)

Prayers & Considerations

IN OUR PRAYERS

Brad Baker
Joyce Beaty (*Friend of the Marlow's*)
Angie Buchanan
Mike & Debbie Cagle
(*Friends of Robert & Debbie Davis*)
Noah Clifton
Bruce Coffey (*Friend of Mark Murphy*)
Karey Conrad (*Friend of Dee Pieschel*)
Emma DePaulis
Anne Fridlund
Ed Frost (*Friends of the Marlow's*)



Tim Gibson (*Friend of Deb Black*)
Tom Grady
Linda Jones
(*Family of Barbara & Dale Merrell*)
Annaleah, Michael, & Preston Morrow
(*Friends of Shannon Nesbit*)
Tom Ridenhour
Geoff & Pam Seige
(*Friends of Robert & Debbie Davis*)

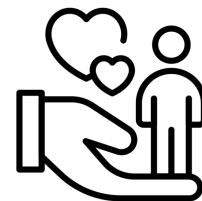
Member Meal Train Opportunity

[Click here to support a meal train for Jay Clemmer.](#)



Overnight Sitter Opportunity

Debbie Davis is looking for a sitter for the overnight hours for her mother. Paid position. Contact Debbie at 704-795-8743.



Online Giving

You can manage your giving online! Giving online is easy and allows you to set up automatic recurring contributions or make a one time contribution and view your complete online giving history from anywhere you have access to the internet. In a few short minutes, you can make a one-time gift or set up a donation that will process automatically on a recurring basis. Recurring donations are convenient and provide our church with much needed consistent support throughout the year.



Ways to Give

Keep in touch!



Follow St. James on [Instagram](#)
& [Facebook](#)!

Be sure to tag [@stjamesnc](#) when
posting so we may share!

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](#)

Debbie Davis, *Congregation President* [Email](#)

[View as Webpage](#)

Church Office: 704-786-0166

Website: www.sjnc.net

Church Email info@sjnc.net



Saint James Lutheran Church | 104 Union Street, South PO Box 684 | Concord, NC 28025 US

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