



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

---

## Week of Nov. 30, 2025

*The First Sunday in Advent*

### Introduction to Worship

The new church year begins with a wake-up call: Christ is coming soon! In today's readings both Paul and Jesus challenge us to wake from sleep, for we know neither the day nor hour of the Lord's coming. Isaiah proclaims the day when God will gather all people on the holy mountain and there will be no more war or suffering. Though we vigilantly watch for the promised day of salvation, we wait for what we already have: Christ comes among us this day as the word and meal that strengthens our faith in the promises of God.

### Watch the Live Stream:



[Download Bulletin](#)

---

## The Week Ahead

### Sunday, Nov. 30

9:00 am Choir  
9:30 am Children's Sunday School  
10:00 am Worship  
11:00 am **Advent Family Celebration**

### Monday, Dec. 1

10:30 am Quilting  
6:30 pm Bible Study

### Tuesday, Dec. 2

11:30am Mary Magdalene Lunch  
6:00pm Executive Committee

### Thursday, Dec. 4

Salvation Army Bell Ringing  
6:30pm Choir

### Sunday, Dec. 7

*Poinsettia Orders Due* ☐  
9:00 am Adult Sunday School  
9:00 am Choir  
9:30 am Children's Sunday School  
10:00 am Worship

## Coming Up

### Events:

**Dec. 13:** Carols by Candlelight ☐☐

**Dec. 21:** Cocoa, Coffee, & Cookies with the Children of St. James ☕

### Dec. 24: Christmas Eve

**5:30pm:** Family Service  
**9:30pm:** Musical Prelude  
**10:00pm:** Candlelight Service

[Church  
Calendar](#)

---

## Sunday Ministries

### LECTOR/INTERCESSOR

**November 30** Christine Ruff  
**Dec. 7** Christine Ruff

### NOVEMBER USHERS

Wendell Overby, Frank Irvin, Tony  
Folino, Nick Lovelace, Jason Pittard

**COMMUNION ASSISTANT**  
November 30 Kim Haberman  
December 7 Elizabeth Hurley

**ACOLYTE**  
November 30  
December 7 Josh Rinker

**GREETER**  
November 30 Jean Beasley  
December 7

**VIDEOGRAPHER**  
November 30  
December 7

**DECEMBER USHERS**  
Chip Popovici, Jimmy Harris, Jeff Jones,  
Jeff Gilbert, Phil Tesh

**NOVEMBER BUILDING SUPERVISOR**  
Wendell Overby

**DECEMBER SUPERVISORS**  
Jeff Gilbert & Kenny Propst

**ALTAR FLOWERS**  
November 30 Ashley Cline  
December 7

**Sign Up to  
Volunteer**

Lector

Communion  
Assistant

Acolyte

Videographer

Altar Flowers

## Happy Birthday! ☐

Nov. 30 - Patrick Matthews  
Dec. 2 - Betsy Ballard, Al Brown, Jr., Jaxon Yow  
Dec. 3 - Christine Ruff  
Dec. 4 - Lauren Hoadley, Margaret Pruette  
Dec. 6 - Marshall Cromer

## Announcements



### Advent Family Celebration - Sunday! (Nov. 30)

Join us this Sunday, Nov. 30 at 11:00AM (after worship) as we begin the Advent season with a special time of fellowship and preparation! All families are invited to our Advent Family Celebration, featuring lunch, ornament making, and indoor tree decorating.

Come enjoy this meaningful time together as we prepare our hearts and homes for the coming of Christ.



### My Father's House Meal Support

St. James Lutheran Church will provide meals for My Father's House Ministry on Monday, December 15, and Tuesday, December 16. We are looking for volunteers to help by preparing side dishes:

Monday: Sides to complement a ham meal



Tuesday: Sides to accompany a chicken strip meal

If you can contribute, please contact Martha Matthews at 704-787-2180 (call or text). She will provide a head count for each meal.

Suggested sides:

Mac & cheese, Bob Evans mashed potatoes, baked beans, green beans, corn, noodle or potato dishes, any vegetable casserole, rolls, and desserts.

Additional needs:

Snacks for after-school tutoring—such as Lance crackers, fruit cups, and juice boxes.

## December Highlights



### Register to Ring 2025! (Dec. 4 & 11)

St. James is proud to once again partner with the Salvation Army to ring bells and support those in need in our community. Join us on Thursday, December 4 and Thursday, December 11 at Sam's Club (2421 Supercenter Dr. NE Kannapolis NC 28083) for this meaningful tradition.

One-hour time slots are available; click below to sign up!

[Register to Ring!](#)



Poinsettia Orders Due by Dec. 7th!

### Poinsettia Gifts Due ☐ (Dec. 7)

This Christmas season, you have the opportunity to give a beautiful red 6 ½" poinsettia as a gift to the church. These gifts help adorn our worship space during this holy season and can be given in memory or honor of loved ones.

Each poinsettia is \$25. A list of donors and those being memorialized or honored will be included in the gift list. Please print clearly to ensure names are displayed as intended.

[Click here to order online](#), or complete and return the order form in Sunday's bulletin.

**The deadline to order is Sunday, Dec. 7.**



### Lively Leisures (Dec. 9)

Join us on Tuesday, Dec. 9th, for a festive Christmas Lively Leisures! Enjoy lunch followed by a joyful Christmas sing-along. Please RSVP to Sylvia Corl.



## Carols by Candlelight (Dec. 13)

Join us for Carols by Candlelight — the story of Christmas told through scripture and song!

Experience this beautiful evening featuring full orchestra, organ, and the Parish & Bell Choirs of St. James Lutheran Church on Saturday, December 13th at 7pm.



## Cocoa, Coffee, & Cookies with the Children of St. James (Dec. 21)

Join us after worship December 21 for cocoa, coffee and cookies in the Fellowship Hall as the children of St. James tell us the Christmas story.



## Christmas Eve (Dec. 24)

Make plans now to join us for Christmas at St. James!

### Wednesday, Dec. 24

#### **5:30pm – Family Service**

A family-friendly gathering with Christmas carols and communion, designed for worshippers of all ages.

#### **9:30pm – Musical Prelude**

Arrive early to enjoy festive seasonal music offered by our music ministry.

#### **10:00pm – Candlelight Service**

A joyful Christmas celebration featuring carols and communion by candlelight.

---

## Memorials & Honorariums



NOVEMBER 2025

## Memorials & Honorariums

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

### In Honor Of:

#### Quilting Ministry

Given by:  
Lex & Laura Patterson

#### Ralph Barnhardt's 90th Birthday

Given by:  
Doug & Cheryl Kelling

#### Terry Fleck

Given by:  
Lex & Laura Patterson

### In Memory Of:

#### Anne Fridlund

Given by:  
Lex & Laura Patterson

#### David Propst

Given by:  
Fuller & Jean Beasley

## Reminders

### Volunteer opportunities



### Volunteer in 2026!

Our 2026 **Sunday Worship Volunteer Opportunities** are now open! We're looking for Communion Assistants, Lectors, Acolytes, and Videographers to help on Sundays.

Altar Flower dates are also available on a first-come, first-served basis.

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

---

## Partner News



### Amazing Grace invites St. James participation in new initiatives...

#### 1. Blessing Box in Rotary Square

Amazing Grace's Life Skills Lab program will be helping to keep the Blessing Box stocked every Tuesday and Thursday in partnership with the 1Can Organization.

You can join in this ongoing effort by donating non-perishable food or hygiene items. The red Blessing Box collection bin will remain on the Portico Counter and serve as a year-round ministry opportunity.

## 2. Children's Coat Drive

In partnership with the Cabarrus Partnership for Children, Amazing Grace will be collecting new or gently used winter coats for children in need. A collection box will be located in the Portico Hallway for this short-term drive.



## Big Brothers Big Sisters Holiday Toy Drive

Each year, Big Brothers Big Sisters hosts a Holiday Gift Shop to help families in need choose gifts for their children. This year's event will take place Monday, December 15 at St. James and they are looking for both toys and volunteers.

If you are interested in assisting, visit links below.

[Volunteer to Sign Up](#)

[BBBS Holiday Amazon Wish List](#)

---

## In Our Prayers

### Joyce Beaty

(Friend of the Marlow's)

**Cecil Berry** (Friend of Gretchen Walker)

**Family of Michael Black**

(Nephew of Patsy Black)

**Patsy Black**

**Caroline Bost**

**Patrick Bryn** (Son of Kirby & Sondra Bryn)

**Angie Buchanan**

**Mike & Debbie Cagle**

(Friends of Robert & Debbie Davis)

**Noah Clifton**

**Bruce Coffey** (Friend of Mark Murphy)

**Karey Conrad** (Friend of Dee Pieschel)

**Jennifer Cook** (Friend of Fonda Shumate)

**Catherine Durst**

(Daughter of Anne & Dee Hodges)

**Nadine Filipak**

(Friend of Al & Dee Pieschel)

**Ed Frost** (Friends of the Marlow's)

**Tom Grady**

**Harriett Huss Hodge**

**Maureen Hollmeyer**

**Mary Frances Johnson**

(Cousin of Francie Davis)

**Karen Johnston** (Friend of Judy Benz)

**Ruth Lawler**

(Friend of Dee & Al Pieschel)

**John Ledford** (Brother of Deb Black)

**Barbara Merrell**

**Deb & Roger Myers**

(Friends of Deb Black)

**Stan Parnell**

(Friend of Rob & Debbie Davis)

**Becky Phillips**

**Al Pieschel**

**Lori Pittard**

**Tom Ridenhour**

---

## 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.



---

## 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](http://www.sjnc.net)

✉ Email: [info@sjnc.net](mailto:info@sjnc.net)

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

[Unsubscribe](#) | [Update Profile](#) | [Constant Contact Data Notice](#)



Try email & social marketing for free!