

### ASSISTING IN WORSHIP

**Lector/Intercessor:** Christine Ruff  
**Communion Assistant:** Kim Haberman  
**Acolyte:** Joshua Rinker  
**Ushers:** Chip Popovici, Jimmy Harris, Jeff Jones, Jeff Gilbert, Phil Tesh  
**Greeter:** Samantha Hillegass  
**Videographer:** Debbie Davis  
**Building Supervisor:** Wendell Overby

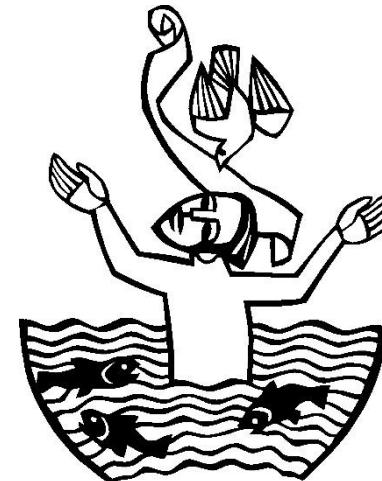
### **The Baptism of our Lord**

***The First Sunday after the Epiphany***

**Sunday, January 11, 2026**

### **The Holy Communion**

**10:00am**



### PRAYER LIST

Cecil Berry (friend of Gretchen Walker); Family of Michael Black (nephew of Patsy Black); Patsy Black; Caroline Bost; Betsy Boynton (friend of Tommy Propst); Patrick Bryn (son of Kirby & Sondra Bryn); Angie Buchanan; Mike & Debbie Cagle (friends of Robert & Debbie Davis); Noah Clifton; 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 (friend of the Marlow's); Jeff Gilbert; 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); Dave Olsen (friend of Patsy Black); Stan Parnell (friend of Rob & Debbie Davis); Becky Phillips; Al Pieschel; Lori Pittard; Tom Ridenhour.

*To assist in your offering  
Secure Online Giving*



Open Camera – Scan QR Code  
Thank you for supporting St. James!

**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.

### ***Let us know you visited!***



***Scan to connect!***

## BIRTHDAYS THIS WEEK

Jan. 11 – Aspen MacFarlane, Henry Mostek, Teddy Mostek  
Jan. 12 – David Trott  
Jan. 14 – Lex Patterson  
Jan. 15 – Craig Craver  
Jan. 16 – Judy Benz, Fred Lambert  
Jan. 17 – Mike Graham, Becky Phillips

## CHURCH CALENDAR THIS WEEK

<b>Sunday, Jan. 11</b>	9:00am	Adult Sunday School
	9:00am	Choir
	9:30am	Children's Sunday School
	10:00am	Worship
<b>Monday, Jan. 12</b>	10:30am	Quilting
<b>Tuesday, Jan. 13</b>	<i>Kerr St. Ministry Meal</i>	
	Noon	Lively Leisures
	6:00pm	Congregation Council
<b>Thursday, Jan. 15</b>	6:30pm	Choir
<b>Saturday, Jan. 17</b>	8:30am	Leah's Hope Trailer
<b>Sunday, Jan. 18</b>	9:00am	Adult Sunday School
	9:00am	Choir
	9:30am	Children's Sunday School
	10:00am	Worship

## LIVELY LEISURES

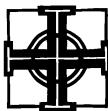
Please join us for this month's Lively Leisures on Tuesday, Jan. 13 at noon in the Fellowship Hall. We'll be looking back at our journey together by viewing the St. James 175th Anniversary video.

## 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.



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

**THE HOLY COMMUNION**



**Welcome**

**Prelude**

Pastorale in F Major

J. S. Bach

*Please stand.*

**THE INVOCATION**

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

**THE BRIEF ORDER FOR CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS**

P Almighty God, to whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hid: Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you and worthily magnify your holy name, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

C Amen.

P If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. But if we confess our sins, God who is faithful and just will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

*Please sit or kneel, as able.  
Silence for reflection and self-examination.*

P Most merciful God,  
C we confess that we are in bondage to sin and cannot free ourselves. We have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. For the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in your will and walk in your ways, to the glory of your holy name. Amen

P Almighty God, in his mercy, has given his Son to die for us and, for his sake, forgives us all our sins. As a called and ordained minister of the Church of Christ, and by his authority, I therefore declare to you the entire forgiveness of all your sins, in the name of the Father, and of the + Son, and of the Holy Spirit.  
C Amen.

**THE ENTRANCE HYMN: #90 Songs of Thankfulness and Praise**

1. Songs of thankfulness and praise, Jesus, Lord, to thee we raise;  
2. Man - i - fest at Jor - dan's stream, Proph - et, Priest, and King su - preme;  
3. Man - i - fest in mak - ing whole pal - sied limbs and faint - ing soul;  
4. Grant us grace to see thee, Lord, pres - ent in thy ho - ly word;

man - i - fest - ed by the star to the sa - ges from a - far,  
and at Ca - na wed - ding guest in thy God-head man - i - fest;  
man - i - fest in val - iant fight, quell-ing all the dev - il's might;  
grace to im - i - tate thee now and be pure, as pure art thou;

branch of roy - al Da - vid's stem in thy birth at Beth - le - hem:  
man - i - fest in pow'r di - vine, chang-ing wa - ter in - to wine;  
man - i - fest in gra - cious will, ev - er bring-ing good from ill:  
that we might be - come like thee at thy great e - piph - a - ny,

an - them be to thee ad-dressed,  
an - them be to thee ad-dressed, God in flesh made man - i - fest.  
an - them be to thee ad-dressed,  
and may praise thee, ev - er blest,

### 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.

C 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 Father in heaven, at the baptism of Jesus in the River Jordan you proclaimed him your beloved Son and anointed him with the Holy Spirit. Make all who are baptized into Christ faithful in their calling to be your children and inheritors with him of everlasting life; through your Son, 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: Isaiah 42:1-9

Here is my servant, whom I uphold,  
my chosen, in whom my soul delights;  
I have put my spirit upon him;  
he will bring forth justice to the nations.

<sup>2</sup> He will not cry or lift up his voice,  
or make it heard in the street;

<sup>3</sup> a bruised reed he will not break,  
and a dimly burning wick he will not quench;  
he will faithfully bring forth justice.

<sup>4</sup> He will not grow faint or be crushed  
until he has established justice in the earth;  
and the coastlands wait for his teaching.

<sup>5</sup> Thus says God, the Lord,  
who created the heavens and stretched them out,  
who spread out the earth and what comes from it,  
who gives breath to the people upon it  
and spirit to those who walk in it:

<sup>6</sup> I am the Lord, I have called you in righteousness,  
I have taken you by the hand and kept you;

I have given you as a covenant to the people,  
a light to the nations,

<sup>7</sup> to open the eyes that are blind,  
to bring out the prisoners from the dungeon,  
from the prison those who sit in darkness.

<sup>8</sup> I am the Lord, that is my name;  
my glory I give to no other,  
nor my praise to idols.

<sup>9</sup> See, the former things have come to pass,  
and new things I now declare;  
before they spring forth,  
I tell you of them.

A The Word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

### THE SECOND READING: Acts 10:34-43

Then Peter began to speak to them: 'I truly understand that God shows no partiality,<sup>35</sup> but in every nation anyone who fears him and does what is right is acceptable to him.<sup>36</sup> You know the message he sent to the people of Israel, preaching peace by Jesus Christ—he is Lord of all.<sup>37</sup> That message spread throughout Judea, beginning in Galilee after the baptism that John announced:<sup>38</sup> how God anointed Jesus of Nazareth with the Holy Spirit and with power; how he went about doing good and healing all who were oppressed by the devil, for God was with him.<sup>39</sup> We are witnesses to all that he did both in Judea and in Jerusalem. They put him to death by hanging him on a tree;<sup>40</sup> but God raised him on the third day and allowed him to appear,<sup>41</sup> not to all the people but to us who were chosen by God as witnesses, and who ate and drank with him after he rose from the dead.<sup>42</sup> He commanded us to preach to the people and to testify that he is the one ordained by God as judge of the living and the dead.<sup>43</sup> All the prophets testify about him that everyone who believes in him receives forgiveness of sins through his name.'

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. Matthew the 3<sup>rd</sup> chapter.

Glo - ry to you, O Lord.

Then Jesus came from Galilee to John at the Jordan, to be baptized by him.<sup>14</sup> John would have prevented him, saying, 'I need to be baptized by you, and do you come to me?' <sup>15</sup> But Jesus answered him, 'Let it be so now; for it is proper for us in this way to fulfil all righteousness.' Then he consented.<sup>16</sup> And when Jesus had been baptized, just as he came up from the water, suddenly the heavens were opened to him and he saw the Spirit of God descending like a dove and alighting on him.<sup>17</sup> And a voice from heaven said, 'This is my Son, the Beloved, with whom I am well pleased.'

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: When Jesus Came to Jordan

*No harmony graphic is available.*

1 When Je - sus came to Jor - dan to be bap - tized by John,  
2 He came to share temp - ta - tion, our ut - most woe and loss,  
3 Come, Ho - ly Spir - it, aid us to keep the vows we make;  
he did not come for par - don but as the Sin - less One.  
for us and our sal - va - tion to die up - on the cross.  
this ver - y day in - vade us, and ev - 'ry bond-age break.  
He came to share re - pen - tance with all who mourn their sins,  
So when the dove de - scend - ed on him, the Son of Man,  
Come, give our lives di - rec - tion, the gift we cov - et most:  
to speak the vi - tal sen - tence with which good news be - gins.  
the hid - den years had end - ed, the age of grace be - gan.  
to share the res - ur - rec - tion that leads to Pen - te - cost.

## THE APOSTLES' CREED

C 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.\*  
On the third day he rose again.  
He ascended into heaven,  
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.  
He will come again 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

*Please kneel or sit as able.*

#### THE PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH

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 We praise you, Gracious Heavenly Father, for liberating us from sin and death by joining us to death and resurrection of our Lord Jesus Christ. We praise you for the gift of Baptism. Born children of a sinful humanity you give us new birth in baptismal water. We praise you for claiming us as your children and making us heirs to the promise eternal life. By the power of the Holy Spirit, help us to grow in faith, love and obedience to your will. Lord, in mercy, **Hear our prayer.**

Gracious Lord, we pray for all the baptized everywhere. Strengthen your church across the world that your people may hear good news among communities of faithful people, may remember their baptisms and feast at Your Table, may share your gifts through word and deed, may serve all people in imitation of our Lord Jesus and may work for justice and peace in all the earth. Lord, in your mercy, **Hear our Prayer.**

Gracious Lord, we pray for this congregation and her people, whose sins you forgive, whom you bring to newness of life. Continue to strengthen us with the Holy Spirit, and daily increase in us your gifts of grace: the spirit of wisdom and

understanding, the spirit of counsel and might, the spirit of knowledge and the fear of the Lord, the spirit of joy in your presence. Lord in your mercy, **Hear our Prayer.**

Preserve our nation in justice and honor, that we may lead a peaceable life of integrity. Grant health and favor to all who bear office in our land and all those who make, administer, and judge our laws and help them to serve this people according to your holy will. Take from us all hatred and prejudice, give us the spirit of love, and dispose our days in your peace. Lord in your mercy, **Hear our Prayer.**

Comfort with the grace of your Holy Spirit all who are in sorrow or need, sickness or adversity. Remember those who suffer persecution for the faith. Have mercy on those to whom death draws near. Bring consolation to those in sorrow or mourning. And to all grant a measure of your love, taking them into your tender care. Lord in your mercy, **Hear our Prayer.**

We remember with thanksgiving those who have loved and served you in your Church on earth, who now rest from their labors. Keep us in fellowship with all your saints, and bring us at last to the joy of your heavenly kingdom. Lord in your mercy, **Hear our Prayer.**

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 PEACE

P The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C **And also with you.**

*Please sit.*

#### THE ANTHEM

Jesu, Joy of Man's Desiring

J. S. Bach

Through the way where hope is guiding,  
 Hark, what peaceful music rings;  
 Where the flock, in thee confiding,  
 Drink of joy from deathless springs.  
 Theirs is beauty's fairest pleasure;  
 Theirs is wisdom's holiest treasure.  
 Thou dost ever lead thine own  
 In the love of joys unknown.

## THE OFFERING

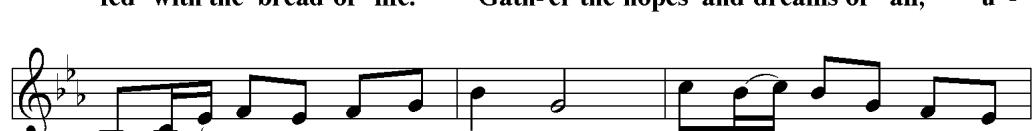
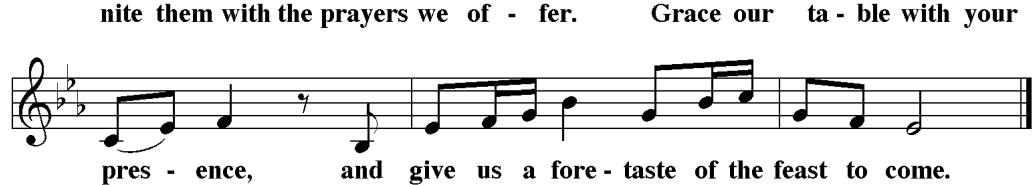
*Please stand.*

### 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  

 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 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,  
 almighty and merciful Father, through our Savior Jesus Christ.  
 By the leading of a star he was shown forth to all nations;  
 in the waters of the Jordan you proclaimed him your beloved son,  
 and in the miracle of water turned to wine he revealed your glory.  
 And so, with all the choirs of angels, 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 have filled all creation with light and life;  
heaven and earth are full of your glory.  
Through Abraham you promised to bless all nations.  
You rescued Israel, your chosen people.  
Through the prophets you renewed your promise;  
and, at this end of all the ages, you sent your Son,  
who in words and deeds proclaimed your kingdom  
and was obedient to your will, even to giving his life.

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

For as often as we eat of this bread and drink from this cup  
we proclaim the Lord's death until he comes.

C **Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.**

P Therefore, gracious Father, with this bread and cup  
we remember the life our Lord offered for us.

And, believing the witness of his resurrection, we await his coming in power  
to share with us the great and promised feast.

C **Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.**

P Send now, we pray, your Holy Spirit,  
the spirit of our Lord and of his resurrection,  
that we who receive the Lord's body and blood  
may live to the praise of your glory  
and receive our inheritance with all your saints in light.

C **Amen. Come, Holy Spirit.**

P Join our prayers with those of your servants of every time and every place,  
and unite them with the ceaseless petitions of our great high priest  
until he comes as victorious Lord of all.

Through him, with him, in him, in the u - ni - ty  
of the Ho - ly Spir - it, all hon - or and glo - ry is  
yours, al-might- y Fa - ther, now and for - ev - er. A - men

## 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.

C 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.

Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world;

grant us peace, grant us peace.

*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. For those unable to partake of wine, white grape juice is available. If you wish for the pastor to bring communion to you. 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: Go, My Children With My Blessing

*Please see next page.*



1 "Go, my chil - dren, with my bless-ing, nev - er a - lone.  
2 "Go, my chil - dren, sins for - giv - en, at peace and pure.  
3 "Go, my chil - dren, fed and nour-ished, clos - er to me.  
4 "I the Lord will bless and keep you, and give you peace.



Wak - ing, sleep - ing, I am with you, you are my own.  
Here you learned how much I love you, what I can cure.  
Grow in love and love by serv - ing, joy - ful and free.  
I the Lord will smile up - on you, and give you peace.



In my love's bap - tis - mal riv - er I have made you mine for - ev - er.  
Here you heard my dear Son's sto - ry, here you touched him, saw his glo - ry.  
Here my Spir - it's pow - er filled you, here his ten - der com-fort stilled you.  
I the Lord will be your Fa - ther, Sav-ior, Com - fort - er and Broth-er.



Go, my chil - dren, with my bless-ing, you are my own."  
Go, my chil - dren, sins for - giv - en, at peace and pure."  
Go, my chil - dren, fed and nour-ished, joy - ful and free."  
Go, my chil - dren, I will keep you, and give you peace."



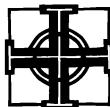
## THE DISMISSAL

P     Go in peace. Serve the Lord.  
C     **Thanks be to God.**

## Postlude

In dir ist Freude

J. S. Bach



### COPYRIGHT:

**Lutheran Book of Worship** © 1978. All rights reserved. Reprinted by permission under Augsburg Fortress Licenses SAS-002140, SB177826

**When Jesus Came to Jordan (Text):** © 1980 by Hope Publishing Company, Carol Stream, IL 60188. All rights reserved. Reprinted/podcast/streamed with permission under ONE LICENSE A-735002. All Rights Reserved.

**When Jesus Came to Jordan (Arrangement):** © Augsburg Fortress. Reprinted/podcast/streamed with permission under ONE LICENSE A-735002. All Rights Reserved. Reprinted by permission under Augsburg Fortress Licenses SAS-002140, SB177826.

**Go, My Children with My Blessing** Text © 1983 Jaroslav J. Vajda Reprinted/podcast/streamed with permission under ONE LICENSE A-735002. All Rights Reserved.

## DID WE MISS YOUR CALL?

We recently discovered an issue that was preventing voicemail messages from being received. We believe the problem has now been resolved. If you do not hear back from us in a timely manner, please don't hesitate to follow up.

We sincerely apologize for any inconvenience and appreciate your understanding.

## 2026 OFFERING ENVELOPES AVAILABLE

Offering envelopes for 2026 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 Irvin.

## PARTNER INITIATIVES: AMAZING GRACE

### **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 iCAN 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. Coats can be placed on the couch in the Amazing Grace room on the 3<sup>rd</sup> floor through January.

## STAY CONNECTED!

Sign up to receive our weekly *Ring Out* e-newsletter for news, events, and ministry updates.



### **Follow us on social media:**

Facebook & Instagram: [@stjamesnc](https://www.instagram.com/stjamesnc)

YouTube: [@stjameslutheranconcord](https://www.youtube.com/stjameslutheranconcord)