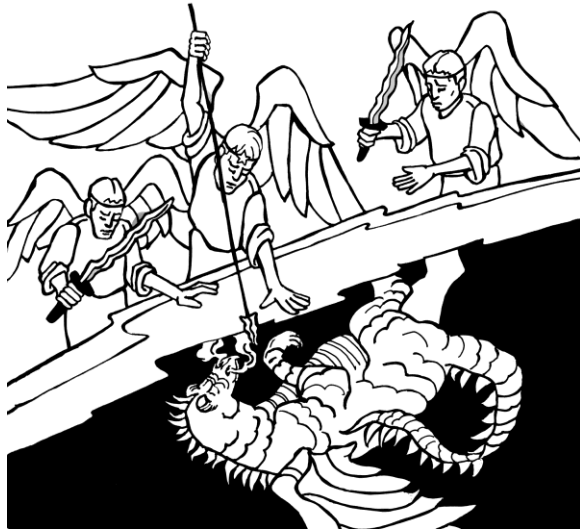


**The Festival
of
St. Michael and All Angels
September 29, 2024**

**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**

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.



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

THE HOLY COMMUNION

September 29th is the Feast Day of St. Michael and All Angels

As All Saints' Day is a reminder of the size of the one church in heaven and on earth, so this feast of Michael and the angels is a reminder of the breathtaking size of creation, seen and unseen. The feast teaches an understanding that there are aspects of reality beyond what can be grasped with the senses. Angels, like mortals, are children of the infinite imagination of God. They are a higher order of beings, whose service of God is nonetheless joined with ours, and the function of the Preface in the Eucharist is to join mortal songs with the perpetual praise offered by the angelic choirs in heaven.

Following Judaism, Christianity (followed in turn by Islam) speaks of an order of heavenly messengers, the angels, created by God to do his bidding and differing from humans by having a fully spiritual nature and no physical body. They are mentioned by Jesus as watching over children (Matt 18:10) and rejoicing over penitent sinners (Luke 15:10), and there are numerous references to them throughout scripture. Michael the archangel is mentioned in the books of Daniel, Jude and Revelation, as well as in apocryphal literature.

The angelic beings were imagined by Pseudo-Dionysius in the 6th Century to be arranged in a ninefold division based on Colossians 1:16. In order descending from those nearest the throne of God to those closest to earth, their ranks, grouped in three "hierarchies" of three "choirs" each, are seraphim, cherubim, thrones; dominations, virtues, powers; principalities, archangels, angels.

-From New Book of Festivals & Commemorations. Philip H. Pfatteicher © Fortress Press. 2008

Welcome

Prelude Andante (from Sonata VI) Felix Mendelssohn

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: Ye Watchers and Ye Holy Ones

A harmony graphic is not available. Please see #175 in the green hymnal (LBW).



1 Ye watch-ers and ye ho-ly ones, bright ser-aphs, cher-u-
2 O high-er than the cher-u-bim, more glo-rious than the
3 Re-spond, ye souls in end-less rest, ye pa-tri-archs and
4 O friends, in glad-ness let us sing, su-per-nal an-thems



bim, and thrones, raise the glad strain: "Al-le-lu-ia!"
ser-a-phim, lead their prais-es; "Al-le-lu-ia!"
proph-ets blest: "Al-le-lu-ia! Al-le-lu-ia!"
ech-o-ing: "Al-le-lu-ia! Al-le-lu-ia!"



Cry out, do-min-ions, prince-doms, pow'rs, arch-an-gels, vir-
Thou bear-er of the e-ter-nal Word, most gra-cious, mag-
Ye ho-ly twelve, ye mar-tyrs strong, all saints tri-um-
to God the Fa-ther, God the Son, and God the Spir-



tues, an-gel choirs:
ni-fy the Lord:
phant, raise the song: "Al-le-lu-ia! Al-le-lu-ia!"
it, Three in One:



Al-le-lu-ia, al-le-lu-ia, al-le-lu-ia!

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 PRAYER OF THE DAY

P Everlasting God, you have ordained and constituted in a wonderful order the ministries of angels and mortals. Mercifully grant that, as your holy angels always serve and worship you in heaven, so by your appointment they may help and defend us here on earth; 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: Daniel 10:10-14; 12:1-3

¹⁰A hand touched me and roused me to my hands and knees. ¹¹He said to me, "Daniel, greatly beloved, pay attention to the words that I am going to speak to you. Stand on your feet, for I have now been sent to you." So while he was speaking this word to me, I stood up trembling. ¹²He said to me, "Do not fear, Daniel, for from the first day that you set your mind to gain understanding and to humble yourself before your God, your words have been heard, and I have come because of your words. ¹³But the prince of the kingdom of Persia opposed me twenty-one days. So Michael, one of the chief princes, came to help me, and I left him there with the prince of the kingdom of Persia, ¹⁴and have come to help you understand what is to happen to your people at the end of days. For there is a further vision for those days.

^{12:1}"At that time Michael, the great prince, the protector of your people, shall arise. There shall be a time of anguish, such as has never occurred since nations first came into existence. But at that time your people shall be delivered, everyone who is found written in the book. ²Many of those who sleep in the dust of the earth shall awake, some to everlasting life, and some to shame and everlasting contempt. ³Those who are wise shall shine like the brightness of the sky, and those who lead many to righteousness, like the stars forever and ever."

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

THE SECOND READING: Revelation 12:7-12

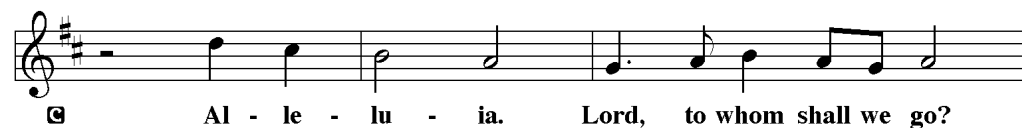
⁷War broke out in heaven; Michael and his angels fought against the dragon. The dragon and his angels fought back, ⁸but they were defeated, and there was no longer any place for them in heaven. ⁹The great dragon was thrown down, that ancient serpent, who is called the Devil and Satan, the deceiver of the whole world—he was thrown down to the earth, and his angels were thrown down with him.

¹⁰Then I heard a loud voice in heaven, proclaiming,
“Now have come the salvation and the power
and the kingdom of our God
and the authority of his Messiah,
for the accuser of our comrades has been thrown down,
who accuses them day and night before our God.
¹¹But they have conquered him by the blood of the Lamb
and by the word of their testimony,
for they did not cling to life even in the face of death.
¹²Rejoice then, you heavens
and those who dwell in them!
But woe to the earth and the sea,
for the devil has come down to you
with great wrath,
because he knows that his time is short!”

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

Please stand.

THE GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



THE GOSPEL

P The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke, the 10th chapter.
C **Glory to you, O Lord.**

¹⁷The seventy returned with joy, saying, “Lord, in your name even the demons submit to us!” ¹⁸He said to them, “I watched Satan fall from heaven like a flash of lightning. ¹⁹See, I have given you authority to tread on snakes and scorpions, and over all the power of the enemy; and nothing will hurt you. ²⁰Nevertheless, do not rejoice at this, that the spirits submit to you, but rejoice that your names are written in heaven.”

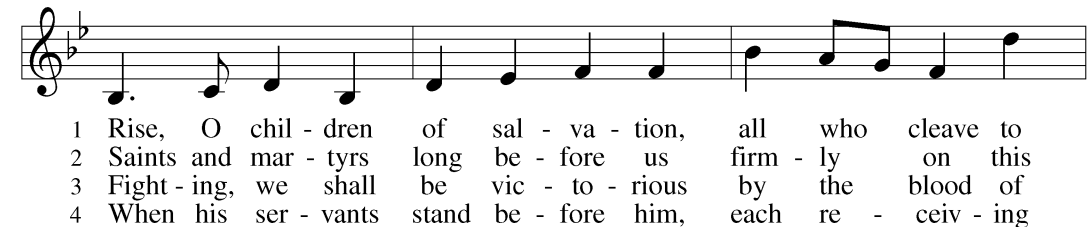
P The Gospel of the Lord.
C **Praise to you, O Christ.**

THE SERMON

Please stand.

THE HYMN OF THE DAY: Rise, O Children of Salvation

A harmony graphic is not available. Please see #182 in the green hymnal (LBW).





Christ the head! Wake, a - wake, O might - y na - tion,
ground have stood; see their ban - ner wav - ing o'er us,
Christ our Lord; on our fore - heads, bright and glo - rious,
his re - ward; when his saints in light a - dore him,



lest the foe on Zi - on tread; he draws nigh and
con - qu'rors through the Sav - ior's blood. Ground we hold, where -
shines the wit - ness of his word; spear and shield on
giv - ing glo - ry to the Lord; "Vic - to - ry!" our



would de - fy all the hosts of God Most High.
on of old fought the faith - ful and the bold.
bat - tle - field, his great name; we can - not yield.
song shall be, like the thun - der of the sea.

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 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 sit or kneel, as able.

THE PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

A In peace, let us pray to the Lord, saying, "Lord, have mercy"

A For the holy Church of God, that it may be filled with truth and love, and be found without fault at the day of your coming, we pray to you, O Lord.

C Lord, have mercy.

A For all bishops, pastors and deacons that they may speak the good news of Jesus Christ, and for all the holy people that may hear and live it willingly, we pray to you, O Lord.

C Lord, have mercy.

A For all who fear God and believe in you, Lord Christ, that our divisions may cease, and that all may be one as you and the Father are one, we pray to you, O Lord.

C Lord, have mercy.

A For the mission of the Church, that in faithful witness it may preach the Gospel to the ends of the earth. For those who do not yet believe, and for those who have lost their faith, that they may receive the light of the Gospel, we pray to you, O Lord.

C Lord, have mercy.

A For the peace of the world, that a spirit of respect and forbearance may grow among nations and peoples. For those in positions of public trust that they

may serve justice, and promote the dignity and freedom of every person, we pray to you, O Lord.

C Lord, have mercy.

A For the poor, the persecuted, the sick, and all who suffer; for refugees, prisoners, and all who are in danger; that they may be relieved and protected, we pray to you, O Lord.

C Lord, have mercy.

A For this congregation, for those who are present, and for those who are absent, that we may be delivered from hardness of heart, and show forth your glory in all that we do, we pray to you, O Lord.

C Lord, have mercy.

A For our enemies and those who wish us harm, and for all whom we have injured or offended, we pray to you, O Lord.

C Lord, have mercy.

A For all who have died in the communion of your Church, and those whose faith is known to you alone, that, with all the saints, they may have rest in that place where there is no pain or grief, but life eternal, we pray to you, O Lord.

C Lord, have mercy.

A Rejoicing in the fellowship of all the saints, let us commend ourselves, and one another, and all our life to Christ our God.

C To you, O Lord our God.

P For yours is the majesty, O Father, Son, and Holy Spirit; yours is the kingdom and the power and the glory, now and forever.

C Amen.

THE PEACE

P The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C And also with you.

Please sit.

THE OFFERING

THE ANTHEM “He Shall Give His Angels Charge over Thee” Felix Mendelssohn
(from *Elijah*)

*For he shall give his angels charge over thee;
That they shall protect thee in all the ways thou goest;
That their hands shall uphold and guide thee,
lest thou dash thy foot against a stone*

Please stand.

THE OFFERTORY

Cre-ate in me a clean heart, O God, and re-new a right spir -
it with-in me. Cast me not a-way from your pres-ence, and take
not your Ho - ly Spir - it from me. Re-store to me the
joy of your sal-va - tion, and up-hold me with your free Spir - it.

THE OFFERTORY PRAYER

A Let us pray.

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.**

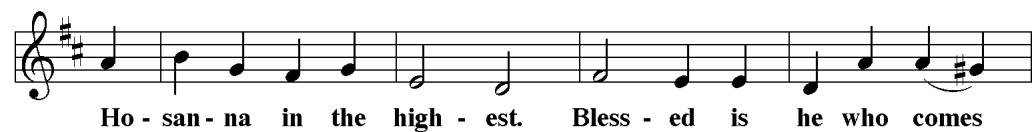
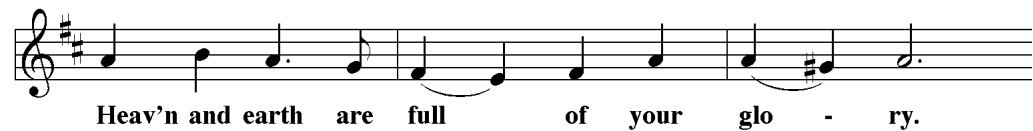
P Lift up your hearts.

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; who on this day overcame death and the grave, and by his glorious resurrection opened to us the way of everlasting life. And so, with the Church on earth and the hosts of heaven, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:



P We give you thanks, Father, through Jesus Christ, your beloved Son, whom you sent in this end of the ages to save and redeem us and to proclaim to us your will.

He is your Word, inseparable from you. Through him you created all things, and in him you take delight. He is your Word, sent from heaven to a virgin's womb. He there took on our nature and our lot and was shown forth as your Son, born of the Holy Spirit and of the virgin Mary.

It is he, our Lord Jesus, who fulfilled all your will and won for you a holy people; he stretched out his hands in suffering in order to free from suffering those who trust you.

It is he who, handed over to a death he freely accepted, in order to destroy death, to break the bonds of the evil one, to crush hell underfoot, to give light to the righteous, to establish his covenant, and to show forth the resurrection, taking bread and giving thanks to you, said: Take and eat; this is my body, broken for you. Do this for the remembrance of me.

In the same way he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it for all to drink, saying: This is my blood poured out for you. Do this for the remembrance of me.

Remembering, then, his death and resurrection, we lift this bread and cup before you, giving you thanks that you have made us worthy to stand before you and to serve you as your priestly people.

And we ask you: Send your Spirit upon these gifts of your Church; gather into one all who share this bread and wine; fill us with your Holy Spirit to establish our faith in truth, that we may praise and glorify you through your Son Jesus Christ.

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

C **Amen.**

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.**



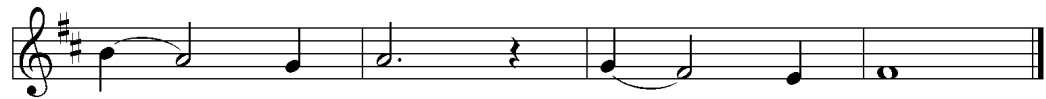
☞ Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world; have mer-cy on us.



Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world; have mer-cy on us.



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. 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 We give you thanks, almighty God, that you have refreshed us through the healing power of this gift of life; and we pray that in your mercy you would strengthen us, through this gift, in faith toward you and in fervent love toward one another; for the sake of Jesus Christ our Lord.

C **Amen**

THE BENEDICTION

P Almighty God, Father, + Son, and Holy Spirit, bless you now and forever.

C **Amen**

THE SENDING HYMN: Rejoice, O Pilgrim Throng!

1 Re - joice, O pil - grim throng! Re - joice, give thanks, and sing;
 2 With voice as full and strong as o - cean's surg - ing praise,
 3 With all the an - gel choirs, with all the saints on earth
 4 Yet, on and on - ward still, with hymn and chant and song,

your fes - tal ban - ner wave on high, the cross of Christ your king,
 send forth the stur - dy hymns of old, the psalms of an - cient days.
 pour out the strains of joy and bliss, true rap - ture, no - blest mirth.
 through gate and porch and col - umned aisle the hal - lowed path - ways throng.

Refrain

Re - joice! Re - joice! Re - joice, give thanks, and sing!
 Re - joice! Re - joice!

5 Still lift your standard high,
 still march in firm array,
 as pilgrims through the darkness wend
 till dawns the golden day. *Refrain*

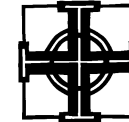
6 At last the march shall end;
 the wearied ones shall rest;
 the pilgrims find their home at last,
 Jerusalem the blest. *Refrain*

7 Praise him who reigns on high,
 the Lord whom we adore:
 the Father, Son, and Holy Ghost,
 one God forevermore. *Refrain*

THE DISMISSAL

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

POSTLUDE Allegro maestoso e vivace (from *Sonata II*) Felix Mendelssohn



COPYRIGHT:

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

COTTAGE MEETINGS

Join us for fellowship, meaningful conversations, and spiritual growth at an upcoming Cottage Meeting! These meetings are meant to bring members together in small groups with Pastor Bill. Scan the QR Code to see meeting dates and to RSVP! If you are interested in hosting a Cottage Meeting, please email LeeAnn Miller, lbmiller1@carolina.rr.com.



Cottage Meetings

BETHLEHEM AT THE FARM – VOLUNTEERS NEEDED!

This year's event will be **Sunday, December 8, from 4pm - 7pm.**

We need a large number of volunteers to act as townspeople for the village.

Volunteers to arrive by 3:30pm; costumes to be provided. Please sign up @ the link:

<https://bit.ly/VolunteerBATF>.

BIRTHDAYS THIS WEEK

Sept. 30 – Jo Eng, Katie Popovici
Oct. 1 – Chase Lineberger, Conner Lineberger
Oct. 3 – Nicholas Crainshaw
Oct. 4 – Alex Holt, Meghan Kuly
Oct. 5 – Phil Sloop

CHURCH CALENDAR THIS WEEK

Sunday, Sept. 29	9:00 am	Adult Sunday School
	9:00 am	Parish Choir
	9:30 am	Children's Sunday School
	10:00 am	Worship
Monday, Sept. 30	10:30 am	Quilting
	6:30 pm	Bible Study
	6:30 pm	Scouts
Tuesday, Oct. 1	10:30 am	Mary Magdalene Circle
	5:00 pm	Executive Committee
Wednesday, Oct. 2	5:30 pm	Handbells Practice
	7:00 pm	Choir Rehearsal
Thursday, Oct. 3	7:00 pm	Cottage Meeting (<i>Hosted by Kim Miller</i>)
Saturday, Oct. 5	8:30 am	NC WELCA Cabarrus/Stanly Conference
Sunday, Oct. 6	9:00 am	Adult Sunday School
	9:00 am	Parish Choir
	9:30 am	Children's Sunday School
	10:00 am	Worship

UPCOMING EVENTS

October 13: CROP Hunger Walk
October 27: Trunk or Treat
November 17: Congregation Meeting
November 24: Thanksgiving Worship & Pie Party
December 1: Advent Tree Lighting
December 8: Bethlehem at the Farm – *Volunteers Needed*

ASSISTING IN WORSHIP

Lector/Intercessor: Kristin Rinker
Communion Assistant: Margaret Garrison
Ushers: Chip Blackwelder, Michael Rinker, Ashley Cline, Jeff Koenig, Barbara Albright
Videographer: John Meadows
Greeter: Sylvia Corl
Building Supervisor: Mike Rinker

ALTAR FLOWERS

The altar flowers for today are given to the Glory of God and in honor of Jo Eng's birthday by the Carpenter family and Haberman family.

PRAYER LIST

Tom Grady; Tom Ridenhour; Noah Clifton; Angie Buchanan; Jo Eng; Sheril Rominger (friend of the Marlow's); Linda Jones (family members of Barbara & Dale Merrell); Bruce Coffey (friend of Mark Murphy); Tim Gibson (friend of Deb Black); Annaleah, Michael, & Preston Morrow (friends of Shannon Nesbit); Karey Conrad (friend of Dee Pieschel).

YOUTH GROUP CALENDAR

We are excited to announce that Mike Holt will be assisting in leading Youth Group this year for students in 6th grade and above. We invite you to mark your calendars for **Sunday, October 13th**, as we kick off our first Youth Group gathering. For a tentative schedule of the school year, please visit: <https://sjnc.net/youth-calendar>. If you are a youth ready for Confirmation, we encourage you to join us for Youth Group, where we will be discussing the Confirmation calendar.

NC WELCA CABARRUS/STANLY CONFERENCE – THIS SATURDAY!

Join us this **Saturday, October 5, 2024**, for the NC Women of the ELCA Cabarrus/Stanly Fall Conference gathering! Enjoy food, fellowship, offerings, and special program. Registration is \$10 (at the door). Register at: <https://bit.ly/NCWELCAFALLCONFERENCE>.

CROP HUNGER WALK

St. James is a registered team for this year's Cabarrus County CROP Hunger Walk on **Sunday, October 13th**. Consider supporting by joining the St. James team or donating: <https://bit.ly/StJamesCropWalk>.