

Saint James Lutheran Church



A Parish of the North Carolina Synod of the
Evangelical Lutheran Church in America



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

ALL SAINTS DAY NOVEMBER 1, 2020



104 Union Street South
Concord, North Carolina 28025

Office Phone: 704.786.0166
Website: www.sjnc.net



All Saints celebrates the baptized people of God, living and dead, who are the body of Christ. As November heralds the dying of the landscape in many northern regions, the readings and liturgy call us to remember all who have died in Christ and whose baptism is complete. At the Lord's table we gather with the faithful of every time and place, trusting that the promises of God will be fulfilled and that all tears will be wiped away in the new Jerusalem.

WELCOME

GATHERING

Welcome in the name of Jesus, the Savior of the world. We are gathered to worship, to proclaim Christ crucified and risen, and to remember before God the saints of all times and all places—both those on earth and those in heaven who now rest from their labors.

When we were baptized in Christ Jesus, we were baptized into his death. We were buried therefore with him by baptism into death, so that as Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father, we too might live a new life. For if we have been united with him in a death like his, we shall certainly be united with him in a resurrection like his.

Eternal God, maker of heaven and earth, who formed us from the dust of the earth, who by your breath gave us life,

We glorify you.

Jesus Christ, the resurrection and the life, who suffered death for all humanity, who rose from the grave to open the way to eternal life.

We praise you.

Holy Spirit, author and giver of life, the comforter of all who sorrow, our sure confidence and everlasting hope,

We worship you.

To you, O blessed Trinity, be glory and honor forever and ever.

Amen.

GREETING

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

And also with you.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray.

Almighty God, whose people are knit together in one holy Church, the body of Christ our Lord; grant us grace to follow your blessed saints in lives of faith and commitment, and to know the inexpressible joys you have prepared for those who love you, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

WORD

FIRST READING: *Revelation 7:9-17*

The book of Revelation is written to seven churches in western Asia Minor during a time of great oppression. Today's reading is a response to the question asked in 6:17: "Who is able to stand?" The writer gives the faithful the assurance of God's protection and a vision of victory.

A reading from Revelation, the seventh chapter.

After this I looked, and there was a great multitude that no one could count, from every nation, from all tribes and peoples and languages, standing before the throne and before the Lamb, robed in white, with palm branches in their hands. ¹⁰They cried out in a loud voice, saying, "Salvation belongs to our God who is seated on the throne, and to the Lamb!" ¹¹And all the angels stood around the throne and around the elders and the four living creatures, and they fell on their faces before the throne and worshiped God, ¹²singing, "Amen! Blessing and glory and wisdom and thanksgiving and honor and power and might be to our God forever and ever! Amen." ¹³Then one of the elders addressed me, saying, "Who are these, robed in white, and where have they come from?" ¹⁴I said to him, "Sir, you are the one that knows." Then he said to me, "These are they who have come out of the great ordeal; they have washed their robes and made them white in the blood of the Lamb. ¹⁵For this reason they are before the throne of God, and worship him day and night within his temple, and the one who is seated on the throne will shelter them. ¹⁶They will hunger no more, and thirst no more; the sun will not strike them, nor any scorching heat; ¹⁷for the Lamb at the center of the throne will be their shepherd, and he will guide them to springs of the water of life, and God will wipe away every tear from their eyes."

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

PSALM: *Psalms 34:1-10, 22*

Fear the Lord, you saints of the Lord; for those who fear the Lord lack nothing. (Ps. 34:9)

A reading from Psalm Thirty-four.

- ¹I will bless the LORD at all times;
the praise of God shall ever be in my mouth.
²I will glory in the LORD;
let the lowly hear and rejoice.
³Proclaim with me the greatness of the LORD;
let us exalt God's name together.
⁴I sought the LORD, who answered me
and delivered me from all my terrors.
⁵Look upon the LORD and be radiant,
and let not your faces be ashamed.
⁶I called in my affliction, and the LORD heard me
and saved me from all my troubles.
⁷The angel of the LORD encamps around those who fear the LORD
and delivers them.
⁸Taste and see that the LORD is good;
happy are they who take refuge in God!
⁹Fear the LORD, you saints of the LORD,
for those who fear the LORD lack nothing.
¹⁰The lions are in want and suffer hunger,
but those who seek the LORD lack nothing that is good.
²²O LORD, you redeem the life of your servants,
and those who put their trust in you will not be punished.

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

SECOND READING: 1 John 3:1-3

A saint is one who has been set apart by God for God's purposes. God, out of divine love, set us apart to be the children of God. Our holy hope is that we shall see God as God really is.

A reading from 1 John, the Third chapter.

See what love the Father has given us, that we should be called children of God; and that is what we are. The reason the world does not know us is that it did not know him. ²Beloved, we are God's children now; what we will be has not yet been revealed. What we do know is this: when he is revealed, we will be like him, for we will see him as he is. ³And all who have this hope in him purify themselves, just as he is pure.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

HOLY GOSPEL Matthew 5:1-12

In the Beatitudes, Jesus provides a unique description of those who are blessed with God's favor. His teaching is surprising and shocking to those who seek wealth, fame, and control over others.

The Holy Gospel according to Saint Matthew, the fifth chapter.

Glory to you, O Lord.

¹When Jesus saw the crowds, he went up the mountain; and after he sat down, his disciples came to him. ²Then he began to speak, and taught them, saying:

³"Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

⁴"Blessed are those who mourn, for they will be comforted.

⁵"Blessed are the meek, for they will inherit the earth.

⁶"Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they will be filled.

⁷"Blessed are the merciful, for they will receive mercy.

⁸"Blessed are the pure in heart, for they will see God.

⁹"Blessed are the peacemakers, for they will be called children of God.

¹⁰"Blessed are those who are persecuted for righteousness' sake, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

¹¹"Blessed are you when people revile you and persecute you and utter all kinds of evil against you falsely on my account. ¹²Rejoice and be glad, for your reward is great in heaven, for in the same way they persecuted the prophets who were before you."

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

SERMON

HYMN

For All the Saints

Glenda Poole, Organist / Beth Downs, Audrey Glatz, Kim Miller, Jeremy Jay, vocalists



1 For all the saints who from their labors rest, who
2 Thou wast their rock, their fortress, and their might; thou,
Stanza 3 - Bottom of page
7 From earth's wide bounds, from ocean's farthest coast, through



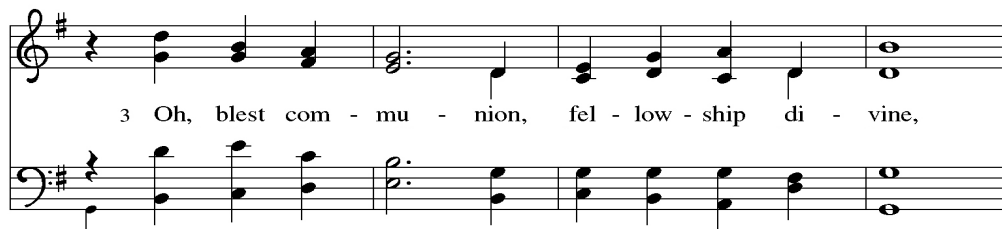
thee by faith before the world confessed, thy
Lord, their captain in the well-fought fight; . . .
gates of pearl streams in the countless host, . . .



name, O Jesus, be forever blest.
thou, in the darkness drear, their one true light.
sing - ing to Fa - ther, Son, and Ho - ly Ghost:



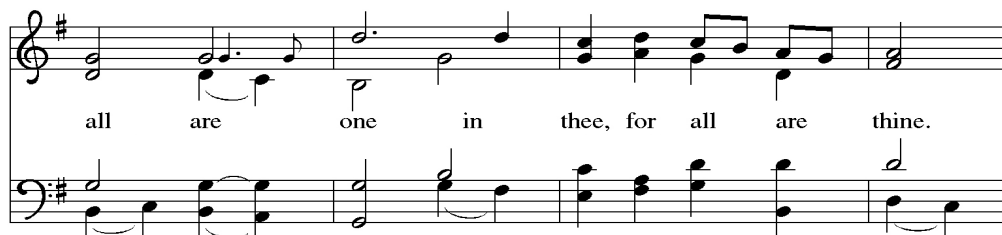
Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia!



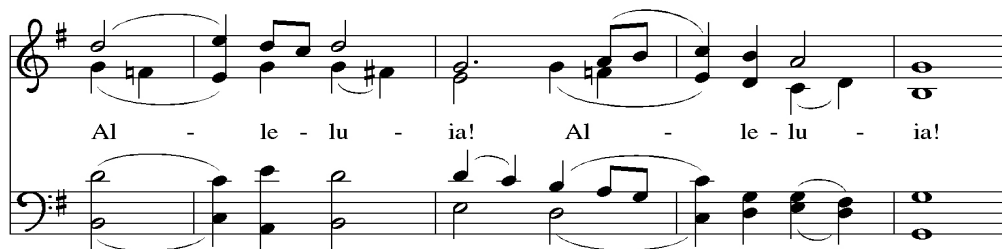
3 Oh, blest communion, fellowship divine,



we fee - bly struggle, they in glory shine; yet



all are one in thee, for all are thine.



Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia!

NICENE CREED

God has made us his people through our Baptism into Christ. Living together in trust and hope, we profess our faith.

**We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.**

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one Being with the Father; through him all things were made. For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven, was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the virgin Mary and became truly human. For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate; he suffered death and was buried. On the third day he rose again in accordance with the scriptures; he ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified, who has spoken through the prophets. We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic church.

We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins. We look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Let us pray, Almighty God, you have knit your chosen people together in one communion, in the mystical body of your son, Jesus Christ our Lord. Give to your whole Church in heaven and on earth your light and your peace.

Hear us, Lord

Grant that all who have been baptized into Christ's death and resurrection may die to sin and rise to newness of life and that through the grave and gate of death we may pass with him to our joyful resurrection.

Hear us, Lord.

Grant to us who are still in our pilgrimage, and who walk as yet by faith, that your Holy Spirit may lead us in holiness and righteousness all our days.

Hear us, Lord.

Grant to your faithful people pardon and peace, that we may be cleansed from all our sins and serve you with a quiet mind.

Hear us, Lord.

Grant to all who mourn, a sure confidence in your loving care, that, casting all their sorrow on you, they may know the consolation of your love.

Hear us, Lord.

Give courage and faith to those who are bereaved, that they may have strength to meet the days ahead in the comfort of a holy and certain hope, and in the joyful expectation of eternal life with those they love.

Hear us, Lord.

Help us, we pray, in the midst of things we cannot understand, to believe and trust in the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, and the resurrection to life everlasting.

Hear us, Lord.

We give thanks for the faithful witness of all your saints who now rest from their labors and dwell in your eternal light. With affection and love we remember those dear to us who have died. As we light these candles that shine with the light of your love and unfailing promises, we give you thanks for the lives of those saints who have entered the Church Triumphant during the past year. Especially we remember:

A candle is lighted and a chime is tolled in remembrance of the life of each of these faithful departed as their names are read.

| | |
|-------------------------------|---------------------------|
| † Clarence Gilbert Heilig | <i>February 27, 2020</i> |
| † Aubrey M. Hillis | <i>March 29, 2020</i> |
| † Charles R. Blackwelder, Jr. | <i>June 11, 2020</i> |
| † Harold Dean Merriott | <i>September 28, 2020</i> |

Since we are surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses, strengthen us to run with perseverance the race that is set before us, looking to Jesus, the pioneer and perfecter of our faith. By your Spirit make us one with Christ, one with each other, and one in ministry to all the world, until Christ comes in final victory, and we feast at his heavenly banquet.

Hear us, Lord.

Into your hands, gracious God, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in your mercy, through Jesus Christ our Savior.

Amen.

LORD'S PRAYER

And now as our Savior Christ has taught us, we are bold to pray,

**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.**

BLESSING

The blessing of God Almighty, the father, the † Son, and the Holy Spirit, be upon you and remain with you forever.

Amen.

DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Christ is with you!

Thanks be to God!

POSTLUDE

Amazing Grace

NEW BRITAIN

The Liturgy Has Ended; The Service Begins!

Music Copyright Information

For All the Saints Music: SINE NOMINE, Ralph Vaughn Williams, 1872-1958 *The English Hymnal*, Oxford University Press 1906 Used with permission under ONE LICENSE #735002 All rights reserved

WEEKLY ANNOUNCEMENTS

Please e-mail all information to the church office at keith@sjnc.net

SAINT JAMES LUTHERAN CHURCH
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CHURCH OFFICE 704.786.0166
WEBSITE www.sjnc.net

PRAYER LIST

Barbara Merrell
Carole Grady
Ray Faggart

All health care professionals and first responders including:

Deb Bradshaw
Lauri Fowler
DeeDee Gilbert
Annette Propst
Meagan Lambert
Alison Monk
Jason and Stephanie Matthews
Dr Bradley Propst, son of
Kenny and Annette Propst
Sam Hurley, son of Elizabeth
Hurley
Julie Greathouse, friend of
Lois Marlow
Betsy Waselovich, sister of
Golda Jay
Lauren, daughter of Angie
Buchanan
Dr. Stephanie Garrison,
daughter-in-law of Margaret
Garrison
Dr. Kevin Burns, son-in-law of
Margaret Garrison.

If you have someone you would like to add to the prayer list, please contact Keith. 704-786-0166 and leave a message or email at keith@sjnc.net

BIRTHDAYS THIS WEEK

01-Nov Juanita Fitts
02-Nov Mary Elizabeth Stewart
02-Nov Patricia Weisel
03-Nov David Cruse
03-Nov Kerri Kiker
04-Nov David Klein
06-Nov Ed Ballard
07-Nov Brittany Wilson

ASSISTING IN WORSHIP

Lector/Intercessor:

Tom Ridenhour

Vocalists:

Beth Downs, Audrey Glatz,
Kim Miller, Jeremy Jay

OUR STEWARDSHIP
Contributions and Receipts
for October 25, 2020
\$4,253.00

(\$8,414.00 needed for weekly)

IN-PERSON WORSHIP

In-person worship will resume on **November 15** at St. James. Social distancing, distanced seating, masks, and temperature checks will be required. Congregational singing will not be an option indoors, but we will have music and other means of congregational participation. We understand that not everyone will be comfortable returning to the building so the recorded service will still be available on-line.

COUNCIL NOMINATIONS

A reminder that all nominations for Congregation Council must be received in the church office by November 8. If you are nominating someone, please be sure that they are willing to serve. You can access the nomination form at:

<https://forms.gle/ziZnrG1BZzhzKEDn8>



SCAN ME

Join Saint James Lutheran Church Facebook and Instagram groups—send Jeremy Jay any pictures and/or articles you would like to have posted at jeremy@pbnjay.com

St. James YouTube Channel
Search for St. James Lutheran Church Concord NC and subscribe.

DIRECTORY

Members of Saint James.....Ministers
The Rev. Elizabeth Eaton...Presiding Bishop
The Rev. Dr. Timothy M. Smith.....Bishop

SAINT JAMES STAFF

The Rev. Tony Bradshaw.....Senior Pastor
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Jill Irvin.....Finance Administrator
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Mike Holt.....Youth and Family
mvholt1957@yahoo.com
Keith Sutton.....Parish Administrator
keith@sjnc.net
Cindy Cruse.....Hospitality Director
ccruse98@twc.com
Kathryn Radcliffe.....Nursery Coordinator
krad3700@gmail.com

CONGREGATIONAL COUNCIL

Kenny Propst.....President
Joseph Beasley.....Vice President
Golda Jay.....Secretary
Beth Huss.....Treasurer

Ann Blackwelder
Samantha Hillegass
Elizabeth Hurley
Hunter Huss
Nick Lovelace
Mac Mullins
Mark Murphy
Al Pieschel
Jodi Ramirez



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OFFICE HOURS

M-Th 8:30-4:00, F 8:30-1:00
Closed for lunch 12:30 - 1:00