



# 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"*

## *Welcome!*

St. James is a house of prayer where all people can come to know the compassionate heart of Jesus. We are a community of Christians where you can belong before you believe. At Saint James the beauty of ancient worship and traditional spiritual practices transform contemporary lives. Join us as together we discover the sacred in the heart of the city. Our worship includes ancient and contemporary symbols and practices along with preaching and music to inspire you to follow Jesus in your daily life. We welcome both the spiritual seeker and seasoned disciple to find their home in God with us. If you are looking for a spiritual home or just exploring the life of faith, we hope you will walk with us on that journey of discovery.

## BAPTISM OF OUR LORD

**JANUARY 9, 2022**  
**10:00 A.M.**

### Introduction to Today's Worship

**T**oday's festival rejoices in God's blessings. We recall and celebrate our adoption as God's children, the gift of the Holy Spirit, and the promised company of almighty God when we "pass through the waters . . . the rivers . . . fire." On this day the heavens open again for this assembly, and we receive the gift of God's Beloved, Jesus, in bread and wine.

## **We Welcome Everyone on this Lord's Day to the Liturgy of Holy Communion.**

**Newcomers and visitors**, we hope that you will feel at home in this place and in this liturgy. Ushers are available in the Narthex during the liturgy should you have any questions or concerns. Please be sure and sign the guestbook located in the Narthex and introduce yourself to the Pastor or to an usher so that we can extend to you a warm welcome.

**Although there are customary postures** (such as standing and kneeling) in Lutheran worship, you are invited to be seated at any point, according to your needs and comfort.

**Children are most welcome in worship** at Saint James Church. For those who desire it, nursery care is provided on the first floor of the Education Building. In keeping with CDC guidelines, and for the safety of our children, masks must be worn by nursery attendants and children two years old and older.

**The First Aid Kit and the Automatic External Defibrillator (AED)** are located outside the church office door, immediately behind the Sanctuary. Fire extinguishers are located in the Sacristy and in the Narthex.

**If you are interested in membership** to this parish or desire a call from the Pastor, please indicate this to an usher or to the Pastor.

**Restrooms are available** on the first and second floors of the Education Building.



**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@pbniay.com](mailto:jeremy@pbniay.com)



**@stjamesnc**

**St. James YouTube Channel**

Go to [www.youtube.com](http://www.youtube.com) and search for [St. James Lutheran Church Concord NC](https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCqj8K8K8K8K8K8K8K8K8K8K) and subscribe.

# GATHERING

## WELCOME

## OPENING VOLUNTARY

*Chorale Prelude on Christe Sanctorum*

*~Richard C. Baker*

*Congregational Responses in **Bold***

## THANKSGIVING FOR BAPTISM

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

**Amen.**

Joined to Christ in the waters of baptism, we are clothed with God's mercy and forgiveness. Let us give thanks for the gift of baptism.

We give you thanks, O God, for in the beginning your Spirit moved over the waters and by your Word you created the world, calling forth life in which you took delight.

Through the waters of the flood you delivered Noah and his family. Through the sea you led your people Israel from slavery into freedom. At the river your Son was baptized by John and anointed with the Holy Spirit.

By water and your Word you claim us as daughters and sons, making us heirs of your promise and servants of all. We praise you for the gift of water that sustains life, and above all we praise you for the gift of new life in Jesus Christ.

Shower us with your Spirit, and renew our lives with your forgiveness, grace, and love. To you be given honor and praise through Jesus Christ our Lord in the unity of the Holy Spirit, now and forever.

**Amen.**

# GATHERING HYMN

*Christ, When for Us You Were Baptized*

LOBT GOTT, IHR CHRISTEN

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| 1 Christ, when for us you were baptized,<br>God's Spirit on you came, as peaceful as<br>a dove, and yet as urgent as a flame,<br>as urgent as a flame.       | 3 Straightway and steadfast until death<br>you then obeyed the call to serve with<br>free and willing heart, to give your life<br>for all, to give your life for all. |
| 2 God called you, "My beloved Son";<br>you are God's servant true, sent to<br>proclaim the reign of heav'n, God's holy<br>will to do, God's holy will to do. | 4 Baptize us with your Spirit, Lord;<br>your cross on us be signed, that likewise<br>in God's service we may perfect freedom<br>find, may perfect freedom find.       |

## 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

Almighty God, you anointed Jesus at his baptism with the Holy Spirit and revealed him as your beloved Son. Keep all who are born of water and the Spirit faithful in your service, that we may rejoice to be called children of God, 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 *ISAIAH 43:1-7*

*Near the end of Israel's exile in Babylon, God promises to bring the people home. They need no longer be afraid, because the one who formed, created, and called them by name now redeems them from all their enemies. God declares them precious and honored, and God loves them.*

A reading from Isaiah, the forty-third chapter.

But now thus says the LORD, he who created you, O Jacob, he who formed you, O Israel: Do not fear, for I have redeemed you; I have called you by name, you are mine. <sup>2</sup>When you pass through the waters, I will be with you; and through the rivers, they shall not overwhelm you; when you walk through fire you shall not be burned, and the flame shall not consume you. <sup>3</sup>For I am the LORD your and God, the Holy One of Israel, your Savior. I give Egypt as your ransom, Ethiopia Seba in exchange for you.

<sup>4</sup>Because you are precious in my sight, and honored, and I love you, I give people in return for you, nations in exchange for your life. <sup>5</sup>Do not fear, for I am with you; I will bring your offspring from the east, and from the west I will gather you; <sup>6</sup>I will say to the north, "Give them up," and to the south, "Do not withhold; bring my sons from far away and my daughters from the end of the earth—<sup>7</sup>everyone who is called by my name, whom I created for my glory, whom I formed and made."

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

## **PSALM 29**

- <sup>1</sup> Ascribe to the LORD, O heavenly beings,  
ascribe to the LORD glory and strength.
- <sup>2</sup> Ascribe to the LORD the glory of his name;  
worship the LORD in holy splendor.
- <sup>3</sup> The voice of the LORD is over the waters;  
the God of glory thunders, the LORD, over mighty waters.
- <sup>4</sup> The voice of the LORD is powerful; the voice of the LORD is full of majesty.
- <sup>5</sup> The voice of the LORD breaks the cedars;  
the LORD breaks the cedars of Lebanon.
- <sup>6</sup> He makes Lebanon skip like a calf, and Sirion like a young wild ox.
- <sup>7</sup> The voice of the LORD flashes forth flames of fire.
- <sup>8</sup> The voice of the LORD shakes the wilderness;  
the LORD shakes the wilderness of Kadesh.
- <sup>9</sup> The voice of the LORD causes the oaks to whirl,  
and strips the forest bare; and in his temple all say, "Glory!"
- <sup>10</sup> The LORD sits enthroned over the flood;  
the LORD sits enthroned as king forever.
- <sup>11</sup> May the LORD give strength to his people!  
May the LORD bless his people with peace!

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

## SECOND READING    **ACTS 8:14-17**

*Peter and John are sent to support the new Christians in Samaria, a group that was recently baptized after hearing the good news of Christ through the preaching of Philip. Here the Samaritans receive the gift of the Holy Spirit in the laying on of hands.*

A reading from Acts, the eighth chapter.

**N**ow when the apostles at Jerusalem heard that Samaria had accepted the word of God, they sent Peter and John to them. <sup>15</sup>The two went down and prayed for them that they might receive the Holy Spirit <sup>16</sup>(for as yet the Spirit had not come upon any of them; they had only been baptized in the name of the Lord Jesus). <sup>17</sup>Then Peter and John laid their hands on them, and they received the Holy Spirit.

The Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

*Stand*

## HOLY GOSPEL    **LUKE 3:15-17, 21-22**

*The reading opens with questions about the identity of the Messiah. John the Baptist insists that he is not the Messiah; instead he points ahead to one who is coming. And whether the voice of God was heard by all or only by Jesus, God settles the matter: Jesus is God's beloved Son.*

The Holy Gospel according to Saint Luke, the third chapter.

**Glory to you, O Lord.**

**A**s the people were filled with expectation, and all were questioning in their hearts concerning John, whether he might be the Messiah, <sup>16</sup>John answered all of them by saying, "I baptize you with water; but one who is more powerful than I is coming; I am not worthy to untie the thong of his sandals. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire. <sup>17</sup>His winnowing fork is in his hand, to clear his threshing floor and to gather the wheat into his granary; but the chaff he will burn with unquenchable fire." <sup>21</sup>Now when all the people were baptized, and when Jesus also had been baptized and was praying, the heaven was opened, <sup>22</sup>and the Holy Spirit descended upon him in bodily form like a dove. And a voice came from heaven, "You are my Son, the Beloved; with you I am well pleased."

The Gospel of the Lord.

**Praise to you, O Christ.**



**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.**

*Kneel or sit, as able*

**PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE**

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 brief silence.*

By the Holy Spirit, you gather your church and send it out in mission to share the good news of Jesus. Inspire your faithful people to be fervent in prayer and service, that all people know they are precious in God's sight. We especially pray for the Rev. Dale Pederson and our sisters and brothers in Christ at Cedar Grove Lutheran Church in Vale, NC. God of grace,  
**hear our prayer.**

You reveal your love and power through water and the Spirit. Guard rivers, seas, and all bodies of water from destruction and pollution. Secure access to clean water for all, and protect the land from drought and flood. God of grace,  
**hear our prayer.**

Establish among the nations the blessings of your peace. Raise up leaders who will protect vulnerable people in their care. Strengthen advocates who risk reputation or retaliation for the sake of mercy and justice. God of grace,  
**hear our prayer.**

You protect us through the fires and troubled waters of this life. Assure us that we will not be cut off from you by illness or despair, anxiety or pain, confusion or weakness. Comfort all who are in need especially those whom we now name before you with our lips and in the silence of our hearts. God of grace,  
**hear our prayer.**

We are joined in baptism to Christ and to one another. Bless those who are newly baptized and those who are preparing for baptism. Help us to be faithful in fellowship, worship, evangelism, service, and justice-seeking. God of grace,  
**hear our prayer.**

You created each of your saints for your glory. We give thanks for those you have called by name into your eternal embrace. Comfort us in grief and release us from fear. God of grace,  
**hear our prayer.**

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

## **HOLY COMMUNION**

**MUSIC**

*O Wondrous Type! O Vision Fair*

*~William Knapp*

## **THE GREAT THANKSGIVING**

The Lord be with you.

**And also with you.**

Lift up your hearts.

**We lift them to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**It is right to give our thanks and praise.**



Holy One, the beginning and the end, the giver of life: Blessed are you for the birth of creation. Blessed are you in the darkness and in the light. Blessed are you for your promise to your people. Blessed are you in the prophet's hopes and dreams. Blessed are you for Mary's openness to your will. Blessed are you for your Son Jesus, the Word made flesh.

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 in 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.

Let us proclaim the mystery of faith:

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

With this bread and cup we remember your Word dwelling among us, full of grace and truth. We remember our new birth in his death and resurrection. We look with hope for his coming.

**Come, Lord Jesus.**

Holy God, we long for your Spirit. Come among us. Bless this meal. May your Word take flesh in us. Awaken your people. Fill us with your light. Bring the gift of peace on earth.

**Come, Holy Spirit.**

All praise and glory are yours, Holy One of Israel, Word of God incarnate, Power of the Most High, one God, now and forever.

**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.**

# INVITATION TO HOLY COMMUNION

The gifts of God for the people of God.

**Thanks be to God!**

*All baptized Christians are welcome to Holy Communion at Saint James. If you desire to receive Communion, please proceed toward the chancel steps by way of the center aisle. You will receive a wafer and a cup of wine. For those unable to partake of wine, grape juice is available in the center circle of the tray. Those who do not commune may come forward for a blessing. After communing, please use the outside aisle to return to your seat. Communion will be brought to persons in the pews who are unable to come forward. Please advise an usher if you wish the pastor to do so.*

## POST COMMUNION BLESSING

The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace.

**Amen.**

## POST COMMUNION PRAYER

Let us pray. God of abundance, with this bread of life and cup of salvation you have united us with Christ, making us one with all your people. Now send us forth in the power of your Spirit, that we may proclaim your redeeming love to the world and continue forever in the risen life of Jesus Christ, our Lord.

**Amen.**



## BLESSING

The blessing of Almighty God, the Father, the ✠ Son,  
and Holy Spirit, be upon you and remain with you forever.  
**Amen.**

## SENDING HYMN

*We Know That Christ Is Raised*

ENGELBERG

- |   |  |
|---|--|
| 1 We know that Christ is raised and dies no more. Embraced by death, he broke its fearful hold, and our despair he turned to blazing joy. Hallelujah! | 3 The Father's splendor clothes the Son with life. The Spirit's fission shakes the church of God. Baptized, we live with God the Three in One. Hallelujah! |
| 2 We share by water in his saving death. Reborn, we share with him an Easter life, as living members of our Savior Christ. Hallelujah!                | 4 A new creation comes to life and grows as Christ's new body takes on flesh and blood. The universe restored and whole will sing: Hallelujah!             |

## DISMISSAL

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

## CLOSING VOLUNTARY

*Grand Choeur (from Douze Pièces)*

*~Théodore DuBois*

*The Liturgy Has Ended; The Service Begins!*

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# SAINT JAMES LUTHERAN CHURCH

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## DIRECTORY

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

## SAINT JAMES STAFF

**Rev. Tony Bradshaw**, Senior Pastor  
[tony@sjnc.net](mailto:tony@sjnc.net)

**Keith Sutton**, Parish Administrator  
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**Jill Irvin**, Finance Administrator  
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**Scott F. Foppiano**, Organist /  
Director of Music [scott@sjnc.net](mailto:scott@sjnc.net)

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**Cindy Cruse**, Hospitality Director  
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## CONGREGATIONAL COUNCIL

Joseph Beasley  
Ann Blackwelder  
Debbie Davis  
Samantha Hillegass  
Elizabeth Hurley  
Hunter Huss  
Frank Irvin  
Chris Miller  
Jon Miller  
Mark Murphy  
Dee Pieschel  
Kenny Propst

## OFFICE HOURS

M-Th 8:30-4:00, F 8:30-1:00

## WEEKLY ANNOUNCEMENTS

*Please email all information to the church office at  
[keith@sjnc.net](mailto:keith@sjnc.net)*

## BIRTHDAYS THIS WEEK

**09-Jan** Andrew Propst  
**09-Jan** Benjamin Propst  
**09-Jan** Heidi Propst  
**10-Jan** Christine Lovelace  
**12-Jan** David Trott  
**14-Jan** Kim Johnson  
**14-Jan** Lex Patterson, Jr.  
**15-Jan** Craig Craver

## CALENDAR THIS WEEK

**Sunday, January 9**  
9:00 am Adult Sunday Schl  
9:50 am Live Stream Begins  
10:00 am In-Person Worship

**Monday, January 10**  
10:30 am Quilting Group  
6:30 pm Scouts

**Tuesday, January 11**  
6:00 pm Church Council

**Wednesday, January 12**  
7:00 pm Choir Rehearsal

**Sunday, January 16**  
9:00 am Adult Sunday Schl  
9:50 am Live Stream Begins  
10:00 am In-Person Worship

## ASSISTING IN WORSHIP

**Lector/Intercessor:**

Ann Gillon

**Communion Assistant:**

Dianne Lambert

**Biblebearer:** Jonas Jay

**Crucifer:** TBD

**Ushers:** Dale Merrell,  
Gretchen Walker, Robert  
Davis, Lex Patterson,  
Samantha Hillegass

## OUR STEWARDSHIP

**Contributions and Receipts**  
for January 2, 2022  
**\$8,468.00**  
(*\$7,371.00 needed for weekly*)

## ALTAR FLOWERS

The flowers today are given  
by Pat Marriott to the Glory  
of God and in memory of Hal  
Marriott whose birthday  
would have been January 10.

## PRAYER LIST

- ♦ Cedar Grove Lutheran  
Church, Vale, NC
- ♦ Don and Sandra Faggart
- ♦ Carole Grady
- ♦ Jimmy Summers
- ♦ Marte Copeland, *friend of  
Dee and Al Pieschel*

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

## SALVATION ARMY NIGHT SHELTER:

St. James will be providing  
meals for the Salvation Army  
Shelter of Hope Sunday, Jan.  
23 - Saturday, Jan. 29. This  
includes providing dinner for  
20 adults. You will be advised  
if the number increases but no  
more than 30. (Please include  
a protein, vegetable, a starch  
and dessert) If you have any  
questions, contact Mark  
Murphy. Sign up below:  
[https://forms.gle/  
ePuiPiETWe4oJGNA6](https://forms.gle/ePuiPiETWe4oJGNA6)