



104 Union Street South
Concord, North Carolina 28025

Office Phone: 704.786.0166
Website: www.sjnc.net

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"

JANUARY 5, 2020
10:00 A.M.



Welcome!

Saint 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 transforms 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.

HOLY COMMUNION SECOND SUNDAY OF CHRISTMAS

THE INTRODUCTION TO TODAY'S LITURGY...

Within the gospel reading's profound words lies the simple message that God is revealed in a human person. Though we may try to understand how the Word existed with God from the beginning of time, the wonder we celebrate at Christmas is that the Word continues to dwell among us. Christ comes among us in the gathered assembly, the scriptures, the waters of new birth, and the bread and the wine. Through these ordinary gifts we receive the fullness of God's grace and truth.



Evangelical Lutheran Church in America
God's work. Our hands.

Welcome!

We welcome everyone on this Lord's Day to the liturgy of Holy Communion.

To all who are spiritually weary and seek rest; to all who mourn and long for comfort; to all who struggle and desire victory; to all who sin and need a Savior; to all who are strangers and want fellowship; to all who hunger and thirst after righteousness; and to all who will come, this parish opens wide its doors and offers welcome in the name of the Lord Jesus Christ!

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.

If you are a visitor or guest, 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.

This Service Leaflet contains all of today's hymns and liturgy.

Children are most welcome in worship at Saint James Church. Children's Ministry Bags are located in the narthex for use during worship. Please return them to the narthex area or leave them on the pews at the end of worship. Be sure to take home the Children's Worship Bulletin and color sheets for your child. For those who desire it, nursery care is provided on the first floor of the Education Building.

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.

About the Liturgy During Christmas & Epiphany

The celebration of Jesus' birth and his manifestation as the Son of God comes in a pair of seasons with common characteristics. These seasons have been particularly popular in western Christendom and were, in the past, times of such levity and rejoicing that puritans in the sixteenth and seventeenth centuries sought to do away with them. In the last century, when the puritan influence had waned, Christmas became popular in this country again, but by then the churches had all but lost their memory of the old feast. As a result, Epiphany season and the intervening Twelve Days of Christmas were not part of the secular celebration. A host of new secular customs and legends developed during Advent primarily as a means of supporting business. We need to recover our own special heritage if we are to make Christmas and Epiphany central to our faith and life.

Underlying these two feasts, then, is the central proclamation of Christianity: the dying and rising of Jesus. Recovery of this earliest level of meaning can help us rescue Christmas from a limited emphasis on the birth of a baby; for that birth is of ultimate importance only because of the saving event of his death and resurrection.

The period of Christmas and Epiphany has three primary days and themes: Christmas, or the Nativity of Christ (December 25th); Epiphany, or the Manifestation of Christ to the Gentiles (January 6th); and the First Sunday after Epiphany: the Baptism of Christ. Other celebrations came to be associated with this time as well.

GATHERING

We gather together for worship on this first day of the week, the day Christ Jesus rose from the dead, for an intimate communion with our Lord. He comes to us, speaks to us, and blesses us through his Word and Sacrament. We come to him and speak to him in prayer and praise and thanksgiving. This liturgy is the recurring moment of high splendor in our earthly lives, a God-given foretaste of the heavenly life to come. Out of respect for the liturgy we are about to celebrate and those sitting around you, help us create sacred space by powering down your cell phones and electronic devices.

*Congregational Responses in **Bold***

RINGING OF THE TOWER BELLS

PARISH NOTICES

OPENING VOLUNTARY

From *Partita: Christe, Redemptor omnium*

Gerald Near (b. 1942)

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS *(Stand)*

All may make the sign of the cross ✝ in remembrance of baptism:

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

Amen.

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.

Amen.

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.

(Kneel or sit as able)

Silence is held for reflection and self-examination

Most merciful God,

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.

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.

Amen.

GATHERING HYMN

Word of God, Come Down on Earth



1 Word of God, come down on earth, liv - ing rain from
2 Word e - ter - nal, throned on high, Word that brought to
3 Word that speaks God's ten - der love, one with God be -



heav'n de - scend - ing; touch our hearts and bring to birth
life cre - a - tion, Word that came from heav'n to die,
yond all tell - ing, Word that sends us from a - bove



faith and hope and love un - end - ing. Word al - might - y,
cru - ci - fied for our sal - va - tion, sav - ing Word, the
God the Spir - it, with us dwell - ing, Word of truth, to



we re - vere you; Word made flesh, we long to hear you.
world re - stor - ing, speak to us, your love out - pour - ing.
all truth lead us; Word of life, with one bread feed us.

Text: James Quinn, SJ, b. 1919

Music: LIEBSTER JESU, WIR SIND HIER, Johann R. Ahle, 1625–1673

Text © James Quinn, SJ, admin. Selah Publishing Co., Inc., North American Agent.

GREETING

Blessed be God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

And blessed be his kingdom, now and for ever.

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.

HYMN OF PRAISE

Angels from the Realms of Glory



- 1 An - gels, from the realms of glo - ry, wing your flight o'er all the earth;
- 2 Shep-herds, in the fields a - bid - ing, watch-ing o'er your flocks by night,
- 3 Sa - ges, leave your con - tem-pla - tions, bright-er vi - sions beam a - far;
- 4 All cre - a - tion, join in prais-ing God, the Fa - ther, Spir - it, Son,



once you sang cre - a - tion's sto - ry, now pro - claim Mes - si - ah's birth:
God with us is now re - sid - ing, yon - der shines the in - fant light.
seek the great de - sire of na - tions, you have seen his na - tal star.
ev - er - more your voic - es rais - ing to the e - ter - nal Three in One.

Refrain



Come and wor-ship, come and wor-ship, wor-ship Christ, the new-born king.

Text: James Montgomery, 1771–1854, alt., sts. 1–3; *Salisbury Hymn Book*, 1857, st. 4
Music: REGENT SQUARE, Henry T. Smart, 1813–1879

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray.

Almighty God, you have filled all the earth with the light of your incarnate Word. By your grace empower us to reflect your light in all that we do, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

WORD

MESSAGE FOR YOUNG DISCIPLES

Following the children's message your children will go with their teachers to room 109 in the education wing for a lesson. They will return prior to communion.

OLD TESTAMENT READING *Jeremiah 31:7-14*

God promises to bring Israel back to its land from the most remote parts of exile. In Zion Israel will rejoice over God's gift of food and livestock. Young women will express their joy in dancing; God will give gladness instead of sorrow.

A reading from Jeremiah, the thirty-first chapter.

Thus says the LORD: Sing aloud with gladness for Jacob, and raise shouts for the chief of the nations; proclaim, give praise, and say, "Save, O LORD, your people, the remnant of Israel." ⁸See, I am going to bring them from the land of the north, and gather them from the farthest parts of the earth, among them the blind and the lame, those with child and those in labor, together; a great company, they shall return here. ⁹With weeping they shall come, and with consolations I will lead them back, I will let them walk by brooks of water, in a straight path in which they shall not stumble; for I have become a father to Israel, and Ephraim is my firstborn. ¹⁰Hear the word of the LORD, O nations, and declare it in the coastlands far away; say, "He who scattered Israel will gather him, and will keep him as a shepherd a flock." ¹¹For the LORD has ransomed Jacob, and has redeemed him from hands too strong for him. ¹²They shall come and sing aloud on the height of Zion, and they shall be radiant over the goodness of the LORD, over the grain, the wine, and the oil, and over the young of the flock and the herd; their life shall become like a watered garden, and they shall never languish again. ¹³Then shall the young women rejoice in the dance, and the young men and the old shall be merry. I will turn their mourning into joy, I will comfort them, and give them gladness for sorrow. ¹⁴I will give the priests their fill of fatness, and my people shall be satisfied with my bounty, says the LORD.

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

EPISTLE READING *Ephesians 1:3-14*

In Jesus, all of God's plans and purposes have been made known as heaven and earth are united in Christ. Through Jesus, we have been chosen as God's children and have been promised eternal salvation.

A reading from Ephesians, the first chapter.

Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us in Christ with every spiritual blessing in the heavenly places, ⁴just as he chose us in Christ before the foundation of the world to be holy and blameless before him in love. ⁵He destined us for adoption as his children through Jesus Christ, according to the good pleasure of his will, ⁶to the praise of his glorious grace that he freely bestowed on us in the Beloved. ⁷In him we have redemption through his blood, the forgiveness of our trespasses, according to the riches of his grace ⁸that he lavished on us. With all wisdom and insight ⁹he has made known to us the mystery of his will, according to his good pleasure that he set forth in Christ, ¹⁰as a plan for the fullness of time, to gather up all things in him, things in heaven and things on earth. ¹¹In Christ we have also obtained an inheritance, having been destined according to the purpose of him who accomplishes all things according to his counsel and will, ¹²so that we, who were the first to set our hope on Christ, might live for the praise of his glory. ¹³In him you also, when you had heard the word of truth, the gospel of your salvation, and had believed in him, were marked with the seal of the promised Holy Spirit; ¹⁴this is the pledge of our inheritance toward redemption as God's own people, to the praise of his glory.

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

HYMN OF THE DAY *Of the Father's Love Begotten (Stand with Choir)*



1 Of the Fa - ther's love be - got - ten ere the worlds be -
2 Oh, that birth for - ev - er bless - ed, when the vir - gin,
3 This is he whom seers in old time chant - ed of with
4 Let the heights of heav'n a - dore him; an - gel hosts, his
5 Christ, to thee, with God the Fa - ther, and, O Ho - ly



gan to be, he is Al - pha and O - me - ga,
full of grace, by the Ho - ly Ghost con - ceiv - ing,
one ac - cord, whom the voic - es of the proph - ets
prais - es sing; pow'rs, do - min - ions, bow be - fore him
Ghost, to thee, hymn and chant and high thanks - giv - ing



he the source, the end - ing he, of the things that are, that
bore the Sav - ior of our race, and the babe, the world's re -
prom - ised in their faith - ful word; now he shines, the long - ex -
and ex - tol our God and King; let no tongue on earth be
and un - wea - ried prais - es be: hon - or, glo - ry, and do -



have been, and that fu - ture years shall see,
deem - er, first re - vealed his sa - cred face,
pect - ed; let cre - a - tion praise its Lord
si - lent, ev - 'ry voice in con - cert ring
min - ion, and e - ter - nal vic - to - ry



ev - er - more and ev - er - more.
ev - er - more and ev - er - more.
ev - er - more and ev - er - more.
ev - er - more and ev - er - more.
ev - er - more and ev - er - more! A - men.

Text: Marcus Aurelius Clemens Prudentius, 348–413; tr. composite
Music: DIVINUM MYSTERIUM, plainsong mode V, 13th cent.

HOLY GOSPEL *John 1:1-18*

John begins his gospel with this prologue: a hymn to the Word through whom all things were created. This Word became flesh and brought grace and truth to the world.

The Holy Gospel according to Saint John, the first chapter. **Glory to you, O Lord.**

In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. ²He was in the beginning with God. ³All things came into being through him, and without him not one thing came into being. What has come into being ⁴in him was life, and the life was the light of all people. ⁵The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not overcome it. ⁶There was a man sent from God, whose name was John. ⁷He came as a witness to testify to the light, so that all might believe through him. ⁸He himself was not the light, but he came to testify to the light. *continued...*

⁹The true light, which enlightens everyone, was coming into the world. ¹⁰He was in the world, and the world came into being through him; yet the world did not know him. ¹¹He came to what was his own, and his own people did not accept him. ¹²But to all who received him, who believed in his name, he gave power to become children of God, ¹³who were born, not of blood or of the will of the flesh or of the will of man, but of God. ¹⁴And the Word became flesh and lived among us, and we have seen his glory, the glory as of a father's only son, full of grace and truth. ¹⁵(John testified to him and cried out, "This was he of whom I said, 'He who comes after me ranks ahead of me because he was before me.'") ¹⁶From his fullness we have all received, grace upon grace. ¹⁷The law indeed was given through Moses; grace and truth came through Jesus Christ. ¹⁸No one has ever seen God. It is God the only Son, who is close to the Father's heart, who has made him known.

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

SERMON

Rev. Dr. Tom Ridenhour

APOSTLES' CREED

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

**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.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE *(kneel or sit, as able)*

An intercessor invites the assembly into prayer with these words

Gathered with all who seek the Christ child, let us pray for the church, the world, and all who are in need.

A brief silence.

Holy God, you make your presence known to the church in every land. Give to us a desire and will to support the diverse work of the church throughout the world. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

Generous Creator, in you all things came into being and without you not one thing exists. We praise you for the snow and rain that water the earth. Move us to care for the well-being of the work of your hands. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

Savior of the nations, you gather in your care people of every age and ability, from lands near and far. Inspire the leaders of the nations to work for peace within their countries and in all the world. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

Saving God, provide for your people who begin this new year in need. Grant shelter to those who are homeless, comfort to all who are lonely, and a strong sense of your presence to those who are sick. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

Word of truth, your good news of salvation is proclaimed among us. Bless all who proclaim your word in this community, especially teachers, pastors, deacons, musicians, and lectors. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

Gracious One, your light shines in the darkness and it is not overcome. We thank you for the witnesses who have testified to your light (*especially*). May their lives continue to inspire us. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

The presiding minister concludes the prayers with these words.

Into your hands, O Lord, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in your mercy; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

SHARING OF THE PEACE

The peace of the Lord be with you always.

And also with you.

HOLY COMMUNION

All baptized Christians are welcome to Holy Communion at Saint James. If you desire to receive Communion at the altar, please proceed to the altar and kneel at the communion rail. If you desire to receive Communion at the station located below the pulpit, please proceed toward the chancel steps for reception of Communion on the nave level. Communion is administered by intinction. Take the wafer from the assistant then dip it in the wine. 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.

PREPARATION OF THE ALTAR AND OFFERING

ANTHEM AT THE OFFERTORY

Some Children See Him

Alfred Burt (1920 - 1954)

Some children see him lily white,
the baby Jesus born this night.
Some children see him lily white,
with tresses soft and fair.
Some children see him bronzed and brown,
The Lord of heav'n to earth come down.
Some children see him bronzed and brown,
with dark and heavy hair.

Some children see him almond-eyed,
this Savior whom we kneel beside.
some children see him almond-eyed,
with skin of yellow hue.

Some children see him dark as they,
sweet Mary's son to whom we pray.
Some children see him dark as they,
and, ah! they love him, too!

The children in each different place
will see the baby Jesus' face
like theirs, but bright with heavenly grace,
and filled with holy light.
O lay aside each earthly thing
and with thy heart as offering,
come worship now the infant king.
'Tis love that's born tonight!

OFFERTORY RESPONSE *(Stand)*



As they of - fered gifts most rare at thy cra - dle, rude and bare,



so may we with ho - ly joy, pure and free from sin's al - loy,



all our cost-liest trea - sures bring, Christ, to thee, our heav'n-ly king.

Text: William C. Dix, 1837–1898, alt.
Music: DIX, Conrad Kocher, 1786–1872

OFFERTORY PRAYER

Let us pray. Merciful God,

Receive the gifts we bring, our selves, our time, and our possessions. Through this meal unite us as your body, shining with the light of your justice and mercy; for the sake of him who gave himself for us, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

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 God thanks and praise.

PREFACE OF THE DAY

It is indeed right, our duty and our joy, that we should at all times and in all places give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God, through our Savior Jesus Christ. You comforted your people with the promise of the Redeemer, through whom you will also make all things new in the day when he comes to judge the world in righteousness. 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:

SANCTUS AND BENEDICTUS



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow'r and might,
heav-en and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho - san - na. Ho -
san-na. 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.

COMMUNION PRAYER

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 prophets' hopes and dreams.
Blessed are you for Mary's openness to your will.
Blessed are you for your Son Jesus, the Word made flesh.

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

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.

MEMORIAL ACCLAMATION

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

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

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 COMMUNION

The gifts of God for the people of God.

Thanks be to God!

AGNUS DEI (Sit)



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.



COMMUNION HYMN

Infant Holy, Infant Lowly



1 In - fant ho - ly, in - fant low - ly, for his bed a cat - tle stall;
2 Flocks were sleep - ing, shep - herds keep - ing vig - il till the morn - ing new



ox - en low - ing, lit - tle know - ing Christ the child is Lord of all.
saw the glo - ry, heard the sto - ry, tid - ings of a gos - pel true.



Swift - ly wing - ing, an - gels sing - ing, bells are ring - ing, tid - ings bring - ing:
Thus re - joic - ing, free from sor - row, prais - es voic - ing, greet the mor - row:



Christ the child is Lord of all! Christ the child is Lord of all!
Christ the child was born for you! Christ the child was born for you!

Text: Polish carol; tr. Edith M. G. Reed, 1885–1933, alt.
Music: W ZŁOBIE LEŻY, Polish carol

MUSIC DURING DISTRIBUTION

Liebster Jesu, wir sind hier

Gerald Near

POST-COMMUNION BLESSING *(Stand)*

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, we give you thanks that in this holy meal you have invited us to feast with you and one another. May the taste of your love remain with us, and may our words and our work in your name invite others into your bountiful grace. Send us from your table to proclaim your presence, even as we await the glorious coming of Christ our Savior.

Amen.

SENDING

BLESSING

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

Amen.

SENDING HYMN

Let All Together Praise Our God



1 Let all to - geth - er praise our God be - fore the
2 From God's right hand the Son de - scends, is born an
3 O ten - der Child, you veil in flesh the splen - dor
4 Your moth - er feeds you ten - der - ly, sings you a



high - est throne; to - day God o - pens heav'n a - gain and
in - fant small, and lies in pov - er - ty, his bed a
of your might; a ser - vant's garb now wraps the one who
lul - la - by, while an - gels, hail - ing Da - vid's heir, your



sends the on - ly Son, and sends the on - ly Son.
man - ger in a stall, a man - ger in a stall.
clothed the sky with light, who clothed the sky with light.
glo - ry mag - ni - fy, your glo - ry mag - ni - fy.

5 A wonderful exchange you make:
you take our flesh and blood,
and in return give us to share
the shining realm of God,
the shining realm of God.

6 Unlock the door again today
that leads to paradise;
the angel bars the way no more.
To God let praises rise,
to God let praises rise!

Text: Nikolaus Herman, 1480–1561; tr. hymnal version
Music: LOBT GOTT, IHR CHRISTEN, Nikolaus Herman
Text © 2006 Augsburg Fortress

DISMISSAL

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

CLOSING VOLUNTARY

From *Partita: Christe, Redemptor omnium*

Gerald Near

RINGING OF THE TOWER BELLS

The Liturgy Has Ended; The Service Begins!

Weekly Announcements

The deadline for notices to be included in the weekly notices is 9:00 on Wednesday morning.
Please e-mail all information to the church office at keith@sjnc.net

PRAYER LIST

(additions to full listing of names in monthly newsletter)

Heather Schwarz, daughter of Al and Dee Pieschel

ALTAR FLOWERS

The Altar Flowers are given by Ann and Tom Ridenhour to the Glory of God and in memory of Elizabeth and Clarence Ridenhour and Mary Edith and Dale Rogers.

BIRTHDAYS THIS WEEK

06-Jan Jon Miller
Karen Rezza
07-Jan Stephanie Deville
08-Jan Brad Davis
09-Jan Andrew Propst
Benjamin Propst
Heidi Propst
10-Jan Christine Lovelace
Hal Merriott

OUR STEWARDSHIP

Contributions and Receipts
for December 24 & 29, 2019:
\$12,044.50
(\$8,135.00 needed per week)

CONTRIBUTE ONLINE

You may make contributions online by visiting our website at www.sjnc.net. You may contribute to the General Fund or to a designated fund. Look for the link "On-Line Giving" on the Saint James home page.

GIVING ENVELOPES

2020 Giving Envelopes are available in the hallway inside the portico door. If you would rather not have envelopes or did not receive envelopes and would like them, please contact Jill

Irvin, Finance Administrator at jill@sjnc.net.

WEEKLY E-NEWS

If you have not received your copy, please make sure the church office has your correct email. 704-786-0166 or info@sjnc.net If you have family or friends who would like to receive, provide us with their email address.

2020 FLOWER CALENDAR

The 2020 Flower Calendar is posted on the bulletin board. Sign up now! Please complete a flower reservation form when you sign up and turn into the office.

LYO YOUTH RETREAT

This is an annual event that meets in Greensboro, NC at the Embassy Suites. Last year, there were over 500 youth in attendance and we want to be part of that this year. The Word, building relationships, great food, a dance, music, games and more all wrapped up in one weekend. The dates are **February 21 - 23** and the cost is \$150 per person. There is a sign up sheet on the bulletin board. We need to sign up quickly in order to participate in this event. Scholarship funding is available upon request, please see Mike. mvholt1957@yahoo.com

NIGHT SHELTER

The week of January 26th - February 1st St James will prepare and serve a meal each night at the Salvation Army City of Hope Night Shelter. A sign up sheet will be on the bulletin

board in the portico. One or more persons can plan and prepare meal. Breakfast items are also donated for the following morning's breakfast. Contact Juanita Fitts with questions. Juanita Wilson Fitts jwilson1152@outlook.com

MY FATHER'S HOUSE

We are serving those in transition a meal at My Father's House on January 21st and 22nd. Contact Sylvia Corl if you can provide an item for the meal. shcorlatcarolyn@aol.com

LIVELY LEISURES

The January Lively Leisure luncheon will be at the church at 12:00 on Tuesday, January 21. Mandy Smith-Thompson, Environmental Educator-City of Concord will present the program on New Recycling Program.

WEDNESDAYS TOGETHER

Come join us for Wednesdays Together on January 8 and 22. The meal begins at 5:30 followed by a bible study.

WELCA CIRCLES

Esther Circle will meet Monday, January 6 at 6:30 pm. at the home of Sandra Faggart. For more information contact Sandra Faggart.

The Mary Magdalene Circle will meet at the church at 10:00 for a tour of the Preschool. The regular meeting will follow at 10:30 in the King Fellowship Hall. For more information contact Jean Beasley.

**SAINT JAMES
LUTHERAN CHURCH**
104 UNION STREET SOUTH
PO BOX 684
CONCORD, NORTH CAROLINA
28025

CHURCH OFFICE 704.786.0166
WEBSITE www.sjnc.net



@stjamesnc

OFFICE HOURS

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

Closed for lunch from 12:30 - 1:00 p.m.

DIRECTORY

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

SAINT JAMES STAFF

The Rev. Tony Bradshaw.....Senior Pastor
tony@sjnc.net

Mike Holt.....Youth and Family
mvholt1957@yahoo.com

Keith Sutton.....Parish Administrator
keith@sjnc.net

Jill Irvin.....Finance Administrator
jill@sjnc.net

Rob Keene.....Director of Music Ministries
rob@sjnc.net

Cindy CruseHospitality Director
ccruse98@twc.com

Kathryn Radcliffe.....Nursery Coordinator
krad3700@gmail.com

CONGREGATIONAL COUNCIL

Kenny Propst, President
fpinc@vnet.net

Joseph Beasley, Vice President
joseph.f.beasley@gmail.com

Kathryn Radcliffe, Secretary
krad3700@gmail.com

Beth Huss, Treasurer
bethahuss82@gmail.com

Ann Blackwelder ablackwe89@aol.com
Al Brown, Jr. 1973yellowbug@gmail.com
Golda Jay..... waselovich@gmail.com
Samantha Hillegass..... Hillegass4@aol.com
Elizabeth Hurley..... elizabeth_hurley@us.afiac.com
Hunter Huss hunter@hunterhuss.com
Nick Lovelace..... nick.lovelace@gmail.com
Mac Mullins..... mciver.mullins@gmail.com
Mark Murphy markkngolf@carolina.rr.com
Al Pieschel..... apieschel@ctc.net
Jodi Ramirez..... jramirez@kannapolisnc.gov

Worship Assistants

ACOLYTE

Today:
TBD

Next Week:
TBD

GREETERS

Today:
Samantha Hillegass

Next Week:
Dee Pieschel

LECTOR

Today:
Jodi Ramirez

Next Week:
TBD

INTERCESSOR

Today:
Dee Pieschel

Next Week:
TBD

COMMUNION ASSISTANTS

Today:
Kim Haberman
Dianne Lambert
Linny Baker

Next Week:
TBD

USHERS

Mark Murphy / Jimmy Harris /
Jeff Jones / Tony Eury / Jeff
Gilbert / Phil Tesh / Luke Baker

NURSERY ATTENDANTS

Today:
Laura Overby

Next Week:
Lisa Moran

CHILDREN'S CHURCH

Today:
Vero Grady / Lori Stevens

Next Week:
Vero Grady / Lori Stevens

ALTAR GUILD

Laura Patterson
Ann Blackwelder

BUILDING SUPERVISOR

This Week's Calendar

SUNDAY, January 5

9:00 Choir Rehearsal
10:00 Worship
5:00 Jr. Youth
6:00 Sr. Youth

MONDAY, January 6

10:30 Quilting Group
6:30 Boy/ Cub Scouts
6:30 Esther Circle

TUESDAY, January 7

6:00 Christian Ed Committee
6:30 Property Committee
7:00 Sea Scouts
10:00 MM Circle-Preschool Tour
10:30 Many Magdalene Circle

WEDNESDAY, January 8

12:05 Chapel
1:00 Chair/Mat Yoga
5:30 Wednesdays Together
6:00 Handbell Rehearsal
6:30 Guys' Small Group
7:00 Choir Rehearsal

THURSDAY, January 9

10:30 Singing Seniors Rehearsal

FRIDAY, January 10

No Scheduled Events

SATURDAY, January 11

10:00 Celebrating Sobriety

SUNDAY, January 12

9:00 Sunday School
9:00 Choir Rehearsal
10:00 Worship
5:00 Jr. Youth
6:00 Sr. Youth

**Be sure to join our
St. 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.

Liturgy Copyright Information: *From Sundays and Seasons.com. Copyright © 2019 Augsburg Fortress. All rights reserved. Reprinted by permission under Augsburg Fortress Liturgies Annual License #22140. New Revised Standard Version Bible, copyright 1989, Division of Christian Education of the National Council of the Churches of Christ in the United States of America. Used by permission. All rights reserved. "The Introduction to Today's Liturgy" and "About the Liturgy" are taken from The Rite Light: Reflections on the Sunday Readings and Sundays of the Church Year. Copyright © 1998 by Michael W. Merriman. Church Publishing Corporation, New York. CCLI No.: 11399785*