



104 Union Street South
Concord, North Carolina 28025

Office Phone: 704.786.0166
Website: www.sjnc.net

Saint James Lutheran Church



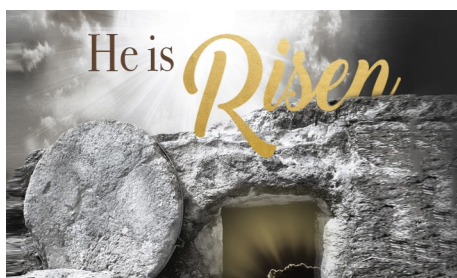
A Parish of the North Carolina Synod of the
Evangelical Lutheran Church in America



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

THIRD SUNDAY OF EASTER

APRIL 26, 2020



Today's gospel begins with two disciples walking to Emmaus, overcome with sadness, loss, and disappointment. They had hoped Jesus, who was crucified, would be the one to redeem Israel! Yet the risen Christ walks with them and then opens their eyes in the breaking of the bread. Each Sunday our hearts burn within us as the scriptures are proclaimed and Christ appears to us as bread is broken and wine is poured. The story of Emmaus becomes the pattern of our worship each Lord's day.

GATHERING

WELCOME

PRELUDE

Lauda anima mea Dominum

Gerald Near (b. 1942)

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

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

Amen.

Almighty God, to who 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.

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 love 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.

God, who is rich in mercy, loved us even when we were dead in sin, and made us alive together with Christ. By grace you have been saved. In the name of + Jesus Christ, your sins are forgiven. Almighty God strengthen you with power through the Holy Spirit, that Christ may live in your hearts through faith.

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,

O God, your Son makes himself known to all his disciples in the breaking of bread. Open the eyes of our faith, that we may see him in his redeeming work, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

WORD

FIRST READING *Acts 2:14a, 36-41*

Today's reading is the conclusion of Peter's sermon preached following the giving of the Holy Spirit to the apostles on the day of Pentecost. The center of his preaching is the bold declaration that God has made the crucified Jesus both Lord and Christ.

A reading from Acts, the second chapter.

Peter, standing with the eleven, raised his voice and addressed [the crowd], ³⁶"Therefore let the entire house of Israel know with certainty that God has made him both Lord and Messiah, this Jesus whom you crucified." ³⁷Now when they heard this, they were cut to the heart and said to Peter and to the other apostles, "Brothers, what should we do?" ³⁸Peter said to them, "Repent, and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ so that your sins may be forgiven; and you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit. ³⁹For the promise is for you, for your children, and for all who are far away, everyone whom the Lord our God calls to him." ⁴⁰And he testified with many other arguments and exhorted them, saying, "Save yourselves from this corrupt generation." ⁴¹So those who welcomed his message were baptized, and that day about three thousand persons were added.

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

SECOND READING *1 Peter 1:17-23*

The imagery of exile is used to help the readers of this letter understand that they are strangers in a strange land. Christians no longer belong to this age. Through the death of Christ we belong to God, so that our focus, faith, and hope are no longer on such things as silver or gold.

A reading from 1 Peter, the first chapter.

If you invoke as Father the one who judges all people impartially according to their deeds, live in reverent fear during the time of your exile. ¹⁸You know that you were ransomed from the futile ways inherited from your ancestors, not with perishable things like silver or gold, ¹⁹but with the precious blood of Christ, like that of a lamb without defect or blemish. ²⁰He was destined before the foundation of the world, but was revealed at the end of the ages for your sake. ²¹Through him you have come to trust in God, who raised him from the dead and gave him glory, so that your faith and hope are set on God. ²²Now that you have purified your souls by your obedience to the truth so that you have genuine mutual love, love one another deeply from the heart. ²³You have been born anew, not of perishable but of imperishable seed, through the living and enduring word of God.

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

HOLY GOSPEL *Luke 24:13-35*

The colorful story of Jesus' appearance to two disciples on the road to Emmaus answers the question of how Jesus is to be recognized among us. Here, he is revealed through the scriptures and in the breaking of bread.

The Holy Gospel according to Saint Luke, the twenty-fourth chapter. **Glory to you, O Lord.**

Now on that same day [when Jesus had appeared to Mary Magdalene,] two [disciples] were going to a village called Emmaus, about seven miles from Jerusalem, ¹⁴and talking with each other about all these things that had happened. ¹⁵While they were talking and discussing, Jesus himself came near and went with them, ¹⁶but their eyes were kept from recognizing him. ¹⁷And he said to them, "What are you discussing with each other while you walk along?" They stood still, looking sad. ¹⁸Then one of them, whose name was Cleopas, answered him, "Are you the only stranger in Jerusalem who does not know the things that have taken place there in these days?" ¹⁹He asked them, "What things?" They replied, "The things about Jesus of Nazareth, who was a prophet mighty in deed and word before God and all the people, ²⁰and how our chief priests and leaders handed him over to be condemned to death and crucified him. ²¹But we had hoped that he was the one to redeem Israel. Yes, and besides all this, it is now the third day since these things took place. ²²Moreover, some women of our group astounded us. They were at the tomb early this morning, ²³and when they did not find his body there, they came back and told us that they had indeed seen a vision of angels who said that he was alive. ²⁴Some of those who were with us went to the tomb and found it just as the women had said; but they did not see him." ²⁵Then he said to them, "Oh, how foolish you are, and how slow of heart to believe all that the prophets have declared! ²⁶Was it not necessary that the Messiah should suffer these things and then enter into his glory?" ²⁷Then beginning with Moses and all the prophets, he interpreted to them the things about himself in all the scriptures. ²⁸As they came near the village to which they were going, he walked ahead as if he were going on. ²⁹But they urged him strongly, saying, "Stay with us, because it is almost evening and the day is now nearly over." So he went in to stay with them. ³⁰When he was at the table with them, he took bread, blessed and broke it, and gave it to them. ³¹Then their eyes were opened, and they recognized him; and he vanished from their sight. ³²They said to each other, "Were not our hearts burning within us while he was talking to us on the road, while he was opening the scriptures to us?" ³³That same hour they got up and returned to Jerusalem; and they found the eleven and their companions gathered together. ³⁴They were saying, "The Lord has risen indeed, and he has appeared to Simon!" ³⁵Then they told what had happened on the road, and how he had been made known to them in the breaking of the bread.

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

SERMON

HYMN

With High Delight Let Us Unite

1 With high de - light let us u - nite in
songs of great ju - bi - la - tion. You pure in heart, all
bear your part, sing Je - sus Christ, our sal - va - tion. To
set us free for - ev - er, he is ris'n and sends to
all earth's ends good news to save ev - 'ry na - tion.

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

Uplifted by the promised hope of healing and resurrection, we join the people of God in all times and places in praying for the church, the world, and all who are in need.

A brief silence.

For those whose hearts are fervent with love for your gospel, that they are empowered to tell the story of your love in their lives and to show hospitality in response to this love. Lord, in your mercy,

hear our prayer.

For the diverse natural world: for jungles, prairies, forests, valleys, mountains, and for all the wild and endangered animals who call these spaces home, that they are nurtured and protected. Lord, in your mercy,

hear our prayer.

For broken systems we have inherited and that we continue to perpetuate, forgive us. Restrain the nations from fighting over limited resources. Redeem us from the cycles of scarcity and violence. Lord, in your mercy,

hear our prayer.

For all who call upon your healing name, give rest. Stay with us, and walk with all those who are hungry, friendless, despairing, and desiring healing in body and spirit. Lord, in your mercy,

hear our prayer.

For the ministries of this church. Comfort and guide us with your word. Renew our hope. Give us the grace to honor you with all you have entrusted to us. Inspire our witness in word and deed that all may know the power of Christ's forgiveness and the hope of his resurrection. Lord, in your mercy,

hear our prayer.

Create in our hearts a yearning to rest in your promise of eternal and resurrected life. Give us thankful hearts for those who have died, even as we look forward to the hope of new life with you. Lord, in your mercy,

hear our prayer.

With bold confidence in your love, almighty God, we place all for whom we pray into your eternal care; through Christ our Lord.

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.

SENDING

Alleluia! Christ is risen.

Christ is risen indeed! Alleluia.

BLESSING

Almighty God, the Father, ✝ Son, and Holy Spirit, bless you and raise you to life, both now and forever.

Amen.

DISMISSAL

Go in peace, proclaim the resurrection!

Thanks be to God. Alleluia, alleluia!

POSTLUDE

Jesus Christus, unser Heiland, der den Tod überwand, BWV 626 Johann Sebastian Bach (1685 - 1750)

The Liturgy Has Ended; The Service Begins!

WEEKLY ANNOUNCEMENTS

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

SAINT JAMES LUTHERAN CHURCH
104 UNION STREET SOUTH
PO BOX 684
CONCORD, NORTH CAROLINA 28025
CHURCH OFFICE 704.786.0166
WEBSITE www.sjnc.net

PRAYER LIST

Blair Edwards, great grand-daughter of Jaunita Fitts
All health care professionals and first responders including:
Dr Bradley Propst, son of Kenny and Annette Propst
Sam Hurley, son of Elizabeth Hurley
Lisa Snyder, friend of Debbie Wilkinson
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.
Jason and Stephanie Matthews
Deb Bradshaw
DeeDee Gilbert
Annette Propst

If you have a name of 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

26-Apr Kailey Hartman
27-Apr Thomas Grady
28-Apr Kara Bestler
28-Apr Larken Muenster
29-Apr Sam Hurley
29-Apr Stacey Wilson
01-May Anna Grace Craver

COOK SCHOLARSHIPS

Applications for first time and previous applicants are now available in the church office. If you would like a copy emailed to you, you can contact Keith, keith@sjnc.net. contact Kenny Propst, 704-467-2300 with any questions.

NEW BABY

Winstyn Grace Downs was born on April 16. Parents are Grayson and Jessica Downs, brother, Holden Downs and grandparents are Mike and Beth Downs, Everyone is doing great!

WEDDING ANNIVERSARY

Jimmy and Patty Propst are celebrating their 60th wedding anniversary on Thursday, April 23. Let's celebrate with them on this wonderful occasion!

CONTRIBUTIONS

The need for your giving and support continues, even though we have had to cancel gathering and corporate worship services. You can mail your contributions or 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 St .James home page. Thank you for your continued support

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.

Music Copyright Information

"*Lauda anima mea Dominum*" from A Gregorian Liturgical Year, Vol. 2, arr. by Gerald Near. Copyright © 2012 by Birnamwood Publications (ASCAP), a division of MorningStar Music Publishers, Inc. www.morningstarmusic.com All rights reserved. Used by permission.
With *High Delight Let Us Unite* Text © 1969 Concordia Publishing House. Used by permission. cph.org.
Jesus Christus, unser Heiland, der den Tod überwand, BWV 626 - Johann Sebastian Bach (1685 - 1750)



@stjamesnc

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

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
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 Cruse.....Hospitality Director
ccruse98@twc.com
Kathryn Radcliffe.....Nursery Coordinator
krad3700@gmail.com

CONGREGATIONAL COUNCIL

Kenny Propst, President
fcpsc@vnet.net
Joseph Beasley, Vice President
joseph.f.beasley@gmail.com

Golda Jay, Secretary
waselovich@gmail.com

Beth Huss, Treasurer
bethahuss82@gmail.com

Ann Blackwelder..... ablackwe89@aol.com
Al Brown, Jr. 1973yellowbug@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... marknccgolf@carolina.rr.com
Al Pieschel..... apieschel@ctc.net
Jodi Ramirez..... jramirez@kannapolisnc.gov