

Saint James Lutheran Church

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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. together Join us as 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.

FIFTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

MAY 15, 2022 10:00 A.M.

Introduction to Today's Worship

E aster initiates a new day. It anticipates a new heaven and a new earth. The risen Christ is making all things new. In the mystery of holy baptism God has made new people of us. Today Jesus invites us to see everyone in a new light—through the lens of love.

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 vears 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@pbnjay.com



St. James YouTube Channel

Go to www.youtube.com and search for St. James Lutheran Church Concord NC and subscribe.

GATHERING

WELCOME

OPENING VOLUNTARY

Villanella—Miniature Suite for Organ

~John Ireland

Congregational Responses in Bold

SACRAMENT OF HOLY BAPTISM

In baptism our gracious heavenly Father frees us from sin and death by joining us to the death and resurrection of our Lord Jesus Christ. We are born children of a fallen humanity; by water and the Holy Spirit we are reborn children of God and made members of the church, the body of Christ. Living with Christ and in the communion of saints, we grow in faith, love, and obedience to the will of God.

Parents: We present Aspen Mazie MacFarlane for baptism.

Parents: We present Blake Everly Green and Brynlee Elaine Green for baptism.

Called by the Holy Spirit, trusting in the grace and love of God, do you desire to have your children baptized into Christ?

Parents: We do.

As you bring your children to receive the gift of baptism, you are entrusted with responsibilities: to live with them among God's faithful people, bring them to the word of God and the holy supper, teach them the Lord's Prayer, the Creed, and the Ten Commandments, place in their hands the holy scriptures, and nurture them in faith and prayer, so that they may learn to trust God, proclaim Christ through word and deed, care for others and the world God made, and work for justice and peace. Do you promise to help your children grow in the Christian faith and life?

Parents: We do.

Family and God parents, do you promise to nurture (Aspen, Blake, Brynlee) in the Christian faith as you are empowered by God's Spirit, and to help them live in the covenant of baptism and in communion with the church?

Family: We do.

People of God, do you promise to support (Aspen, Blake, Brynlee) and pray for them in their new life in Christ?

We do.

PROFESSION OF FAITH

I ask you to profess your faith in Christ Jesus, reject sin, and confess the faith of the church.

Do you renounce the devil and all the forces that defy God? Parents I renounce them.

Do you renounce the powers of this world that rebel against God? *Parents* I renounce them.

Do you renounce the ways of sin that draw you from God? Parents I renounce them.

Do you believe in God the Father?

I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.

Do you believe in Jesus Christ, the Son of God?

I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary, 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, he is seated at the right hand of the Father, and he will come to judge the living and the dead.

Do you believe in God the Holy Spirit?

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.

THANKSGIVING AT THE FONT

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give God thanks and praise.

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, and 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 the baptism of Jesus' death and resurrection you set us free from the power of sin and death and raise us up to live in you.

Pour out your Holy Spirit, the power of your living Word, that those who are washed in the waters of baptism may be given new life. To you be given honor and praise through Jesus Christ our Lord, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, now and forever.

Amen.

BAPTISM

(Aspen Mazie, Blake Everly, Brynlee Elaine) I baptize you in the name of the Father, and of the + Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

Amen.

Let us pray. We give you thanks, O God, that through water and the Holy Spirit you give your daughters and sons new birth, cleanse them from sin, and raise them to eternal life.

Pour out your Holy Spirit upon (Aspen, Blake, Brynlee): the spirit of wisdom and understanding, the spirit of counsel and might, the spirit of knowledge and the fear of the Lord, the spirit of joy in your presence, both now and forever.

Amen.

(Aspen, Blake, Brynlee) child of God, you have been sealed by the Holy Spirit and marked with the cross of Christ forever.

Amen.

WELCOME

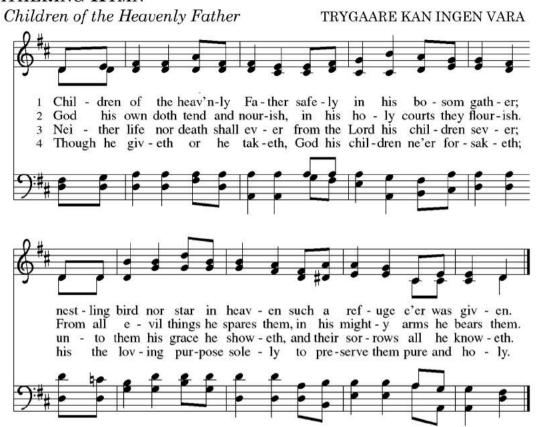
A lighted candle is given to the parents with these words:

Let your light so shine before others that they may see your good works and glorify your Father in heaven.

Let us welcome the newly baptized.

We welcome you into the body of Christ and into the mission we share: join us in giving thanks and praise to God and bearing God's creative and redeeming word to all the world.

GATHERING HYMN



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

O Lord God, you teach us that without love, our actions gain nothing. Pour into our hearts your most excellent gift of love, that, made alive by your Spirit, we may know goodness and peace, through your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

MESSAGE FOR YOUNG DISCIPLES



FIRST READING ACTS 11:1-18

In defense of his earlier baptism of non-Jewish believers, Peter demonstrates to the members of the Jerusalem church that God's intention to love Gentiles as well as Jews is revealed in Jesus' testimony. In this way the mission to the Gentiles is officially authorized.

A reading from Acts, the eleventh chapter.

Tow the apostles and the believers who were in Judea heard that the Gentiles had also accepted the word of God. ²So when Peter went up to Jerusalem, the circumcised believers criticized him, 3saving, "Why did you go to uncircumcised men and eat with them?" 4Then Peter began to explain it to them, step by step, saying, 5"I was in the city of Joppa praying, and in a trance I saw a vision. There was something like a large sheet coming down from heaven, being lowered by its four corners; and it came close to me. ⁶As I looked at it closely I saw four-footed animals, beasts of prey, reptiles, and birds of the air. I also heard a voice saying to me, 'Get up, Peter; kill and eat.' But I replied, 'By no means, Lord; for nothing profane or unclean has ever entered my mouth.' 9But a second time the voice answered from heaven, 'What God has made clean, you must not call profane.' 10 This happened three times; then everything was pulled up again to heaven. 11At that very moment three men, sent to me from Caesarea, arrived at the house where we were. ¹²The Spirit told me to go with them and not to make a distinction between them and us. These six brothers also accompanied me, and we entered the man's house. ¹³He told us how he had seen the angel standing in his house and saying, 'Send to Joppa and bring Simon, who is called Peter; 14he will give you a message by which you and your entire household will be saved.' 15And as I began to speak, the Holy Spirit fell upon them just as it had upon us at the beginning. ¹⁶And I remembered the word of the Lord, how he had said, 'John baptized with water, but you will be baptized with the Holy Spirit.' 17If then God gave them the same gift that he gave us when we believed in the Lord Jesus Christ, who was I that I could hinder God?" 18When they heard this, they were silenced. And they praised God, saying, "Then God has given even to the Gentiles the repentance that leads to life."

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

PSALM 148 (Congregation chants even bold verses, Choir chants odd verses)



¹Hallelujah! Praise the LORD from the heavens; praise God in the heights.

²Praise the LORD, | all you angels; sing praise, all you | hosts of heaven.

³Praise the LORD, | sun and moon; sing praise, all you | shining stars.

⁴Praise the LORD, heav- | en of heavens,

and you waters a- | bove the heavens.

⁵Let them praise the name | of the LORD,

who commanded, and they | were created,

⁶who made them stand fast forev- | er and ever, giving them a law that shall not | pass away.

⁷Praise the LORD from the earth, you sea monsters | and all deeps;

⁸fire and hail, | snow and fog, tempestuous wind, do- | ing God's will; ⁹mountains | and all hills, fruit trees | and all cedars;

10 wild beasts | and all cattle, creeping things and | flying birds;

11sovereigns of the earth | and all peoples, princes and all rulers | of the world;

12young | men and maidens, old and | young together.

¹³Let them praise the name | of the LORD,

whose name only is exalted, whose splendor is over | earth and heaven.

¹⁴The LORD has raised up strength for the people and praise for all | faithful servants, the children of Israel, a people who are near the LORD. | Hallelujah!

SECOND READING REVELATION 21:1-6

John's vision shows us that in the resurrection the new age has dawned; God dwells with us already. Yet we wait for the time when the tears that cloud our vision will be wiped away. Then we will see the new heaven, new earth, and new Jerusalem.

A reading from Revelation, the twenty-first chapter.

I saw a new heaven and a new earth; for the first heaven and the first earth had passed away, and the sea was no more. ²And I saw the holy city, the new Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God, prepared as a bride adorned for her husband. ³And I heard a loud voice from the throne saying, "See, the home of God is among mortals. He will dwell with them; they will be his peoples, and God himself will be with them; ⁴he will wipe every tear from their eyes. Death will be no more; mourning and crying and pain will be no more, for the first things have passed away."

⁵And the one who was seated on the throne said, "See, I am making all things new." Also he said, "Write this, for these words are trustworthy and true." ⁶Then he said to me, "It is done! I am the Alpha and the Omega, the beginning and the end. To the thirsty I will give water as a gift from the spring of the water of life."

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Stand

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



HOLY GOSPEL JOHN 13:31-35

After washing the disciples' feet, predicting his betrayal, and then revealing his betrayer, Jesus speaks of his glorification on the cross. This deep complicated love of Jesus, even to death on the cross, will be the distinctive mark of Jesus' community.

The Holy Gospel according to Saint John, the thirteenth chapter.

Glory to you, O Lord.

When he had gone out, Jesus said, "Now the Son of Man has been glorified, and God has been glorified in him. ³²If God has been glorified in him, God will also glorify him in himself and will glorify him at once. ³³Little children, I am with you only a little longer. You will look for me; and as I said to the Jews so now I say to you, 'Where I am going, you cannot come.' ³⁴I give you a new commandment, that you love one another. Just as I have loved you, you also should love one another. ³⁵By this everyone will know that you are my disciples, if you have love for one another."

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

SERMON

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.

Send your Holy Spirit upon your church. Awaken in us renewed commitment to our baptismal promise: to build community, to worship together, to share our faith, to serve others, and to work for justice and peace. We especially pray for the Rev. Michael Comer and our sisters and brothers in Christ at Lutheran Chapel Church, Gastonia, NC. Lord, in your mercy

hear our prayer.

Inspire us to praise you through the beauty and majesty of the natural world around us. Urge us toward more deliberate care of the world you have made. Lord, in your mercy

hear our prayer.

Call all nations to the repentance that leads to life. Empower legislators to craft laws reflecting your commandment to love and serve. Bless police officers, firefighters, paramedics and first responders who put themselves at risk to care for others. Lord, in your mercy

hear our prayer.

Dwell among those who are in pain or distress especially those whom we now name before you with our lips and in the silence of our hearts. As Christ enters our deepest suffering, remain with those experiencing despair and great need. Lord, in your mercy

hear our prayer.

Place holy love at the center of all our relationships and communities. By your love heal us, convict us, and renew us. Let everyone know your goodness by the love we show one another. Lord, in your mercy

hear our prayer.

You promise new life for all the faithful departed. Renew us in faith and hope until the day death is no more, when you will dwell with us in the new heaven and earth. Lord, in your mercy

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

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.

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, for the glorious resurrection of our Savior Jesus Christ, the true Paschal lamb who gave himself to take away our sin, who in dying has destroyed death, and in rising has brought us to eternal life. And so, with Mary Magdalene and Peter and all the witnesses of the resurrection, with earth and sea and all their creatures, with angels and archangels, cherubim and seraphim, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:



Blessed are you, O God of the universe. Your mercy is everlasting and your faithfulness endures from age to age.

Praise to you for creating the heavens and the earth. Praise to you for saving the earth from the waters of the flood. Praise to you for bringing the Israelites safely through the sea. Praise to you for leading your people through the wilderness to the land of milk and honey. Praise to you for the words and deeds of Jesus, your anointed one. Praise to you for the death and resurrection of Christ. Praise to you for your Spirit poured out on all nations.

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.

With this bread and cup we remember our Lord's passover from death to life as we proclaim the mystery of faith:

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

O God of resurrection and new life: Pour out your Holy Spirit on us and on these gifts of bread and wine. Bless this feast. Grace our table with your presence.

Come, Holy Spirit.

Reveal yourself to us in the breaking of the bread. Raise us up as the body of Christ for the world. Breathe new life into us. Send us forth, burning with justice, peace, and love.

Come, Holy Spirit.

With your holy ones of all times and places, with the earth and all its creatures, with sun and moon and stars, we praise you, O God, blessed and holy Trinity, 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;

as we forgive those who trespass against us;

and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.

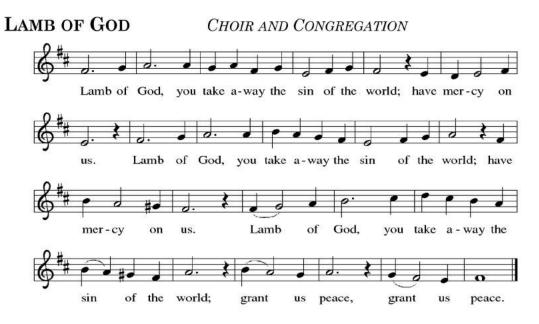
For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever and ever. Amen.

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.



COMMUNION HYMN

If You Love Me

~Thomas Tallis

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. Life-giving God, in the mystery of Christ's resurrection you send light to conquer darkness, water to give new life, and the bread of life to nourish your people. Send us forth as witnesses to your Son's resurrection, that we may show forth your glory to all the world; through Jesus Christ, our risen Lord.

Amen.

SENDING

BLESSING

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

Amen.

SENDING HYMN

Sing Praise to God, the Highest Good

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DISMISSAL

Alleluia, Christ is risen.

Christ is risen indeed! Alleluia!

Go in peace, proclaim the resurrection.

Thanks be to God! Alleluia, alleluia!

CLOSING VOLUNTARY

Menuetto Impromptu

~John Ireland

The Liturgy Has Ended; The Service Begins!

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SAINT JAMES LUTHERAN CHURCH PO Box 684 CONCORD, NORTH CAROLINA 28026 CHURCH OFFICE 704.786.0166 WEBSITE www.sinc.net 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

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Jill Irvin, Finance Administrator

iill@sinc.net Scott F. Foppiano, Organist / Director of Music scott@sinc.net

Mike Holt. Youth and Family mvholt1957@vahoo.com

Kathryn Radcliffe, Nursery Coordinator krad3700@gmail.com

CONGREGATIONAL COUNCIL

Ann Blackwelder, President

Debbie Davis, Vice President Chris Miller, Secretary Kenny Propst, Treasurer

Joseph Beasley Samantha Hillegass

Elizabeth Hurley **Hunter Huss** Frank Irvin

Jon Miller Mark Murphy Dee Pieschel

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@sinc.net

BIRTHDAYS THIS WEEK 17-May Liz Klein 18-May Dare Godfrey

18-May Harrison Propst 18-May Amy Whisnant 19-May Nicolas Lovelace

20-May Greg Hartman 20-May Rich Rezza

20-May Louise Walker 21-May Beverly Heilig 21-May Ethan Patterson

CALENDAR THIS WEEK Sunday, May 15

9:00 am Adult & Children's Sunday School 10:00 am Worship

2:30 pm Confirmation at Mt. Zion, Richfield Monday, May 16 10:30 am Quilting Group

Wednesday, May 18 7:15 pm Choir Rehearsal Saturday, May 21

10:00 am Street Trailer

6:30 pm Scouts

Sunday, May 22

10:00 am Worship

Jeremy Jay

Noah PIttard

9:00 am Adult & Children's Sunday School

ASSISTING IN WORSHIP Lector/Intercessor:

Communion Assistant:

Dianne Lambert

Acolyte/Crucifer: Jason Pittard Bookbearer:

Patterson

If you have someone you would like to add to the prayer list, please contact Keith at 704-786-0166 and

keith@sinc.net

membership,

FLOWERS:

anniversary.

PRAYER LIST

Gastonia, NC

Patsy Black

Jimmy Summers

and Dee Pieschel

The Family of Alex

NEW MEMBERS If you have been worshiping at St. James interested and are

leave a message or email at

please

contact

Cook

OUR STEWARDSHIP

Contributions and Receipts for May 8, 2022

\$7,189,00

today are given to the Glory of

God and in honor of Jeremy

and Golda Jay's 14th wedding

Lutheran Chapel Church.

Judy Olson, friend of Al

(\$7,371.00 needed for weekly)

The

flowers

Pastor Tony tony@sjnc.net or 704-786-0166. New members will be received on May 22.

COOK SCHOLARSHIPS Applications for Scholarship for the 2022-2023

school year are now available. You may pick one up in the church office or contact Keith

Ushers: Mike Downs, Al

Brown, Sid Hughes, Bill Hardister, Luke Baker

keith@sinc.net to have one emailed to you.