



# 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.

## RESURRECTION OF OUR LORD EASTER SUNRISE

**APRIL 9, 2023  
6:30 A.M.**

### Introduction to Today's Worship

**T**his is the day the Lord has made! Christ is risen, and through him all creation is made new! Indeed, “God shows no partiality” (Acts 10:34): Christ’s resurrection truly brings life to everyone. We sing hymns of praise, gather around sacred words, and proclaim God’s faithfulness, power, and love in the feast of holy communion. With the women at the tomb, we are astonished, elated, and grateful. We depart with joy to proclaim the good news of God’s endless love.

# Welcome!

**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.

**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.

**Pew Pads** are on the end of each pew (*near center aisle*), please sign and pass so that we have a record of your attendance and communion.

## **St. James Lutheran Church Facebook and Instagram groups**

Send Joseph Beasley any pictures and/or articles you would like to have posted at [joseph.f.beasley@gmail.com](mailto:joseph.f.beasley@gmail.com) @stjamesnc

**St. James YouTube Channel** Go to [www.youtube.com](http://www.youtube.com) search for stjameslutheranconcord and subscribe.

### **CALL COMMITTEE UPDATE:**

The Call Committee is pleased to announce that we have met with 3 Pastoral Candidates to date. These meetings have been positive, and we are having 2<sup>nd</sup> interviews with 2 of them. We will update you with any new details as they occur. Thanks for your continued support and prayers. God's Peace, Frank Irvin

**EASTER LILIES:** Please pick up your Easter Lily after the 10:00 service today.

**OFFERING ENVELOPES:** Offering envelopes for 2023 finally have arrived. You may pick up yours in the area at the end of the office hallway. If you need them mailed to you, please contact Jill Irvin.

## GREETING

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

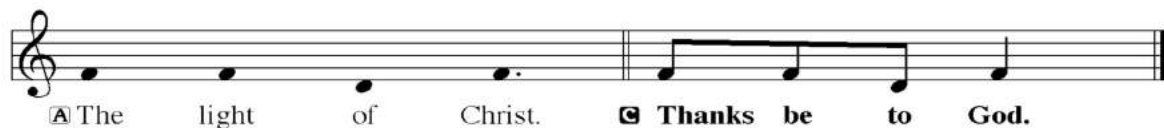
**And also with you.**

Dear friends in Christ: as this Easter morning dawns, we remember the most holy night in which our Lord Jesus passed over from death to life. The Church invites her members, dispersed throughout the world, to gather in vigil and prayer. For this is the Passover of the Lord, in which, by hearing his Word and celebrating his Sacraments, we share in his victory over death.

Let us pray. O God, through your Son you have bestowed upon your people the brightness of your light: Sanctify this new fire, and grant that in this Paschal feast we may so burn with heavenly desires, that with pure minds we may attain to the festival of everlasting light; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

**Amen.**

*The Paschal Candle is lit and processed to the chancel, pausing three times and singing.*



## EASTER PROCLAMATION

Rejoice, now, all heavenly powers! Sing, choirs of angels! Exult, all creation around God's throne! Jesus Christ is risen! Celebrate the divine mysteries with exultation; and for so great a victory, sound the trumpet of salvation. Rejoice, O earth, in shining splendor, radiant in the brightness of your king! Christ has conquered! Glory fills you! Darkness vanishes forever. Rejoice, O holy church! Exult in glory! The risen Savior shines upon you! Let this place resound with joy, echoing the mighty song of all God's people.

It is indeed right, our duty and our joy, that with full devotion of heart and mind and voice we should praise the invisible God, and the only Son, Jesus Christ our Lord; who, by his precious blood, redeemed us from bondage to the ancient sin. For this indeed is the Paschal Feast in which the true Lamb is slain, by whose blood the doorposts of the faithful are made holy.

This is the night in which, in ancient times, you delivered our forebears, the children of Israel, and led them, dry-shod, through the sea. This is the night in which the darkness of sin has been purged away by the rising brightness. This is the night in which all who believe in Christ are rescued from evil and the gloom of sin, are renewed in grace, and are restored to holiness.



This is the night in which, breaking the chains of death, Christ arises from hell in triumph. O night truly blessed which alone was worthy to know the time and hour in which Christ arose again from hell!

This is the night of which it is written: "The night is as clear as the day," and, "then shall my night be turned into day." The holiness of this night puts to flight the deeds of wickedness; washes away sin; restores innocence to the fallen, and joy to those who mourn; casts out hate; brings peace; and humbles earthly pride.

Therefore, in this night of grace, receive, O God, our praise and thanksgiving for the light of the resurrection of our Lord Jesus Christ, reflected in the burning of this candle. We sing the glories of this pillar of fire, the brightness of which is not diminished even when its light is divided and borrowed.

For it is fed by the melting wax which the bees, your servants, have made for the substance of this candle. This is the night in which heaven and earth are joined—things human and things divine.

We, therefore, pray to you, O God, that this candle, burning to the honor of your name, will continue to vanquish the darkness of night and be mingled with the lights of heaven. May Christ the Morning Star find it burning, that Morning Star who never sets, that Morning Star who, rising from the grave, faithfully sheds light on the whole human race. And we pray, O God, rule, govern, and preserve with your continual protection your whole church, giving us peace in this time of our paschal rejoicing; through the same Lord Jesus Christ, your Son, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

## PRAYER OF THE DAY

O God, you are the creator of the world, the liberator of your people, and the wisdom of the earth. By the resurrection of your Son free us from our fears, restore us in your image, and ignite us with your light, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

## FIRST READING *GENESIS 1:1—2: 4a*

*Creation*

A reading from Genesis, the first and second chapters.

**I**n the beginning when God created the heavens and the earth, <sup>2</sup>the earth was a formless void and darkness covered the face of the deep, while a wind from God swept over the face of the waters. <sup>3</sup>Then God said, "Let there be light"; and there was light. <sup>4</sup>And God saw that the light was good; and God separated the light from the darkness. <sup>5</sup>God called the light Day, and the darkness he called Night. And there was evening and there was morning, the first day. <sup>6</sup>And God said, "Let there be a dome in the midst of the *continued...*

waters, and let it separate the waters from the waters." <sup>7</sup>So God made the dome and separated the waters that were under the dome from the waters that were above the dome. And it was so. <sup>8</sup>God called the dome Sky. And there was evening and there was morning, the second day. <sup>9</sup>And God said, "Let the waters under the sky be gathered together into one place, and let the dry land appear." And it was so. <sup>10</sup>God called the dry land Earth, and the waters that were gathered together he called Seas. And God saw that it was good. <sup>11</sup>Then God said, "Let the earth put forth vegetation: plants yielding seed, and fruit trees of every kind on earth that bear fruit with the seed in it." And it was so. <sup>12</sup>The earth brought forth vegetation: plants yielding seed of every kind, and trees of every kind bearing fruit with the seed in it. And God saw that it was good. <sup>13</sup>And there was evening and there was morning, the third day. <sup>14</sup>And God said, "Let there be lights in the dome of the sky to separate the day from the night; and let them be for signs and for seasons and for days and years, <sup>15</sup>and let them be lights in the dome of the sky to give light upon the earth." And it was so. <sup>16</sup>God made the two great lights — the greater light to rule the day and the lesser light to rule the night — and the stars. <sup>17</sup>God set them in the dome of the sky to give light upon the earth, <sup>18</sup>to rule over the day and over the night, and to separate the light from the darkness. And God saw that it was good. <sup>19</sup>And there was evening and there was morning, the fourth day. <sup>20</sup>And God said, "Let the waters bring forth swarms of living creatures, and let birds fly above the earth across the dome of the sky." <sup>21</sup>So God created the great sea monsters and every living creature that moves, of every kind, with which the waters swarm, and every winged bird of every kind. And God saw that it was good. <sup>22</sup>God blessed them, saying, "Be fruitful and multiply and fill the waters in the seas, and let birds multiply on the earth." <sup>23</sup>And there was evening and there was morning, the fifth day. <sup>24</sup>And God said, "Let the earth bring forth living creatures of every kind: cattle and creeping things and wild animals of the earth of every kind." And it was so. <sup>25</sup>God made the wild animals of the earth of every kind, and the cattle of every kind, and everything that creeps upon the ground of every kind. And God saw that it was good. <sup>26</sup>Then God said, "Let us make humankind in our image, according to our likeness; and let them have dominion over the fish of the sea, and over the birds of the air, and over the cattle, and over all the wild animals of the earth, and over every creeping thing that creeps upon the earth." <sup>27</sup>So God created humankind in his image, in the image of God he created them; male and female he created them. <sup>28</sup>God blessed them, and God said to them, "Be fruitful and multiply, and fill the earth and subdue it; and have dominion over the fish of the sea and over the birds of the air and over every living thing that moves upon the earth." <sup>29</sup>God said, "See, I have given you every plant yielding seed that is upon the face of all the earth, and every tree with seed in its fruit; you shall have them for food. <sup>30</sup>And to every beast of the earth, and to every bird of the air, and to everything that creeps on the earth, everything that has the breath of life, I have given every green plant for food." And it was so. <sup>31</sup>God saw everything that he had made, and indeed, it was very good. And there was evening and there was morning, the sixth day. <sup>2:1</sup>Thus the heavens and the earth were finished, and all their multitude. <sup>2</sup>And on the seventh day God finished the work that he had done, and he rested on the seventh day from all the work that he had done.

*continued...*

<sup>3</sup>So God blessed the seventh day and hallowed it, because on it God rested from all the work that he had done in creation. <sup>4</sup>These are the generations of the heavens and the earth when they were created.

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

Let us pray. Almighty God, you wonderfully created the dignity of human nature and yet more wonderfully restored it. In your mercy, let us share the divine life of the one who came to share our humanity, Jesus Christ, your Son, our Lord. **Amen.**

## **SECOND READING** *EXODUS 14:10-31; 15:20-21*

*Deliverance at the Red Sea*

A reading from Exodus, the fourteenth and fifteenth chapter.

**A**s Pharaoh drew near, the Israelites looked back, and there were the Egyptians advancing on them. In great fear the Israelites cried out to the LORD. <sup>11</sup>They said to Moses, "Was it because there were no graves in Egypt that you have taken us away to die in the wilderness? What have you done to us, bringing us out of Egypt? <sup>12</sup>Is this not the very thing we told you in Egypt, 'Let us alone and let us serve the Egyptians'? For it would have been better for us to serve the Egyptians than to die in the wilderness." <sup>13</sup>But Moses said to the people, "Do not be afraid, stand firm, and see the deliverance that the LORD will accomplish for you today; for the Egyptians whom you see today you shall never see again. <sup>14</sup>The LORD will fight for you, and you have only to keep still." <sup>15</sup>Then the LORD said to Moses, "Why do you cry out to me? Tell the Israelites to go forward. <sup>16</sup>But you lift up your staff, and stretch out your hand over the sea and divide it, that the Israelites may go into the sea on dry ground. <sup>17</sup>Then I will harden the hearts of the Egyptians so that they will go in after them; and so I will gain glory for myself over Pharaoh and all his army, his chariots, and his chariot drivers. <sup>18</sup>And the Egyptians shall know that I am the LORD, when I have gained glory for myself over Pharaoh, his chariots, and his chariot drivers." <sup>19</sup>The angel of God who was going before the Israelite army moved and went behind them; and the pillar of cloud moved from in front of them and took its place behind them. <sup>20</sup>It came between the army of Egypt and the army of Israel. And so the cloud was there with the darkness, and it lit up the night; one did not come near the other all night. <sup>21</sup>Then Moses stretched out his hand over the sea. The LORD drove the sea back by a strong east wind all night, and turned the sea into dry land; and the waters were divided. <sup>22</sup>The Israelites went into the sea on dry ground, the waters forming a wall for them on their right and on their left. <sup>23</sup>The Egyptians pursued, and went into the sea after them, all of Pharaoh's horses, chariots, and chariot drivers. <sup>24</sup>At the morning watch the LORD in the pillar of fire and cloud looked down upon the Egyptian army, and threw the Egyptian army into panic. <sup>25</sup>He clogged their chariot wheels so that they turned with difficulty. The Egyptians said, "Let us flee from the Israelites, for the LORD is fighting for them against Egypt."

<sup>26</sup>Then the LORD said to Moses, "Stretch out your hand over the sea, so that the water may come back upon the Egyptians, upon their chariots and chariot drivers." <sup>27</sup>So Moses stretched out his hand over the sea, and at dawn the sea returned to its normal depth. As the Egyptians fled before it, the LORD tossed the Egyptians into the sea. <sup>28</sup>The waters returned and covered the chariots and the chariot drivers, the entire army of Pharaoh that had followed them into the sea; not one of them remained. <sup>29</sup>But the Israelites walked on dry ground through the sea, the waters forming a wall for them on their right and on their left. <sup>30</sup>Thus the LORD saved Israel that day from the Egyptians; and Israel saw the Egyptians dead on the seashore. <sup>31</sup>Israel saw the great work that the LORD did against the Egyptians. So the people feared the LORD and believed in the LORD and in his servant Moses. <sup>20</sup>Then the prophet Miriam, Aaron's sister, took a tambourine in her hand; and all the women went out after her with tambourines and with dancing. <sup>21</sup>And Miriam sang to them: "Sing to the LORD, for he has triumphed gloriously; horse and rider he has thrown into the sea."

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

Let us pray. O God, whose wonderful deeds of old shine forth even to our own day: By the power of your mighty arm you once delivered your chosen people from slavery under Pharaoh, a sign for us of the salvation offered to everyone by the water of baptism. Grant that all the peoples of earth may partake in the salvation of the Israelites and together dance on the safe side of the sea, through Jesus Christ our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

### THIRD READING *ISAIAH 55:1-11*

A reading from Isaiah, the fifty-fifth chapter.

**H**o, everyone who thirsts, come to the waters; and you that have no money, come, buy and eat! Come, buy wine and milk without money and without price. <sup>2</sup>Why do you spend your money for that which is not bread, and your labor for that which does not satisfy? Listen carefully to me, and eat what is good, and delight yourselves in rich food. <sup>3</sup>Incline your ear, and come to me; listen, so that you may live. I will make with you an everlasting covenant, my steadfast, sure love for David. <sup>4</sup>See, I made him a witness to the peoples, a leader and commander for the peoples. <sup>5</sup>See, you shall call nations that you do not know, and nations that do not know you shall run to you, because of the LORD your God, the Holy One of Israel, for he has glorified you. <sup>6</sup>Seek the LORD while he may be found, call upon him while he is near; <sup>7</sup>let the wicked forsake their way, and the unrighteous their thoughts; let them return to the LORD, that he may have mercy on them, and to our God, for he will abundantly pardon. <sup>8</sup>For my thoughts are not your thoughts, nor are your ways my ways, says the LORD. <sup>9</sup>For as the heavens are higher than the earth, so are my ways higher than your ways and my thoughts than your thoughts. <sup>10</sup>For as the rain and the snow come down from heaven, and do not return there until they have watered the earth, making it bring forth and sprout, giving seed to the sower and bread to the eater, <sup>11</sup>so shall my word be that goes out from my mouth; it shall not return to me empty, but it shall accomplish that which I purpose, and succeed in the thing for which I sent it.

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



Let us pray. Holy God, you created all things by the power of your Word, and you renew the whole earth by your Spirit. Give now the water of life to all who thirst for you, that, rejoicing in your covenant of mercy, we may bring forth abundant fruit, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

## NEW TESTAMENT READING *ROMANS 6:3-11*

A reading from Romans, the sixth chapter.

**D**o you not know that all of us who have been baptized into Christ Jesus were baptized into his death? <sup>4</sup>Therefore we have been buried with him by baptism into death, so that, just as Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father, so we too might walk in newness of life. <sup>5</sup>For if we have been united with him in a death like his, we will certainly be united with him in a resurrection like his. <sup>6</sup>We know that our old self was crucified with him so that the body of sin might be destroyed, and we might no longer be enslaved to sin. <sup>7</sup>For whoever has died is freed from sin. <sup>8</sup>But if we have died with Christ, we believe that we will also live with him. <sup>9</sup>We know that Christ, being raised from the dead, will never die again; death no longer has dominion over him. <sup>10</sup>The death he died, he died to sin, once for all; but the life he lives, he lives to God. <sup>11</sup>So you also must consider yourselves dead to sin and alive to God in Christ Jesus.

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

*Stand*

## GOSPEL ACCLAMATION *(Choir sings, then everyone repeats. Repeated after Gospel)*



## HOLY GOSPEL *JOHN 20:1-18*

*John's gospel describes the confusion and excitement of the first Easter morn: the stone is moved and the tomb is empty; disciples race back and forth, while angels speak to a weeping woman. Finally, Jesus himself appears as the Lord in unity with God.*

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

**Glory to you, O Lord.**

**E**arly on the first day of the week, while it was still dark, Mary Magdalene came to the tomb and saw that the stone had been removed from the tomb. <sup>2</sup>So she ran and went to Simon Peter and the other disciple, the one whom Jesus loved, and said to them, "They have taken the Lord out of the tomb, and we do not know where they have laid him." <sup>3</sup>Then Peter and the other disciple set out and went toward the tomb. <sup>4</sup>The two were running together, but the other disciple outran Peter and reached the tomb first. <sup>5</sup>He bent down to look in and saw the linen wrappings lying there, but he did not go in. <sup>6</sup>Then Simon Peter came, following him, and went into the tomb. He saw the linen wrappings lying there,



<sup>7</sup>and the cloth that had been on Jesus' head, not lying with the linen wrappings but rolled up in a place by itself. <sup>8</sup>Then the other disciple, who reached the tomb first, also went in, and he saw and believed; <sup>9</sup>for as yet they did not understand the scripture, that he must rise from the dead. <sup>10</sup>Then the disciples returned to their homes. <sup>11</sup>But Mary stood weeping outside the tomb. As she wept, she bent over to look into the tomb; <sup>12</sup>and she saw two angels in white, sitting where the body of Jesus had been lying, one at the head and the other at the feet. <sup>13</sup>They said to her, "Woman, why are you weeping?" She said to them, "They have taken away my Lord, and I do not know where they have laid him." <sup>14</sup>When she had said this, she turned around and saw Jesus standing there, but she did not know that it was Jesus. <sup>15</sup>Jesus said to her, "Woman, why are you weeping? Whom are you looking for?" Supposing him to be the gardener, she said to him, "Sir, if you have carried him away, tell me where you have laid him, and I will take him away." <sup>16</sup>Jesus said to her, "Mary!" She turned and said to him in Hebrew, "Rabbouni!" (which means Teacher). <sup>17</sup>Jesus said to her, "Do not hold on to me, because I have not yet ascended to the Father. But go to my brothers and say to them, 'I am ascending to my Father and your Father, to my God and your God.'" <sup>18</sup>Mary Magdalene went and announced to the disciples, "I have seen the Lord"; and she told them that he had said these things to her.

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

## SERMON

*Pastor Craig*

## HYMN OF THE DAY

*(Next Page)*

## NICENE CREED    *Stand*

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.**



1 We know that Christ is raised and dies no more.  
 2 We share by wa - ter in his sav - ing death.  
 3 The Fa - ther's splen - dor clothes the Son with life.  
 4 A new cre - a - tion comes to life and grows



Em-braced by death, he broke its fear - ful hold,  
 Re-born, we share with him an Eas - ter life,  
 The Spir - it's fis - sion shakes the church of God.  
 as Christ's new bod - y takes on flesh and blood.



and our de - spair he turned to blaz - ing joy.  
 as liv - ing mem - bers of our Sav - ior Christ.  
 Bap-tized, we live with God the Three in One.  
 The u - ni - verse re - stored and whole will sing:



Hal - le - lu - jah!

*Kneel or sit, as able*

## PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

United in the hope and joy of the resurrection, let us pray for the church, the world, and all in need.

*A brief silence.*

You call your church to witness to your salvation. We give thanks for Dietrich Bonhoeffer and all theologians, preachers, and teachers who proclaim your gospel. Equip all the baptized to share the joy of the resurrection in all we say and do. Today, we especially pray for Rev. Judy Drysdale and our brothers and sisters in Christ at Bethlehem Evangelical Lutheran Church in Hickory, NC. Risen Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

You bring abundant life throughout creation. The green blade rises, and all creation greets the resurrection dawn. Preserve vineyards and orchards and those who tend to them. Feed us with the fruits of creation. Risen Lord, in your mercy,

**hear our prayer.**

You show your steadfast love without regard to borders, barriers, or human-made divisions. Infuse your justice in every nation of the world that all experience the peace that only you can give. Risen Lord, in your mercy,

**hear our prayer.**

You anointed your Son with the Holy Spirit and with power. Encourage us by his example in our ministries of healing, care, and outreach. We pray for all who are sick or hospitalized especially those we name out loud and in the silence of our hearts. We pray for all health care workers who care for them. Risen Lord, in your mercy,

**hear our prayer.**

You have put gladness in our hearts. Inspire musicians and dancers to rejoice with songs of victory. Bless the music ministries of this congregation and all who foster our assembly's song. Risen Lord, in your mercy,

**hear our prayer.**

*Here other intercessions may be offered.*

As you have raised Jesus from the dead, you show us your resurrection promise. With your holy ones who have sung your praise, free us from fear and empower us to go and tell the good news. Risen Lord, in your mercy,

**hear our prayer.**

Rejoicing in the victory of Christ's resurrection, we lift our prayers and praise to you, almighty and eternal God; through Jesus Christ, our risen Lord.

**Amen.**

**(Stand)**

**SHARING OF THE PEACE** *(This can be done verbally with no physical contact, if desired)*

The peace of the Lord be with you always.

**And also with you.**

**ANTHEM**

*Hark! Ten Thousand Harps and Voices*

*Craig Courtney*

**OFFERING**

*(Offering plates presented at the altar)*

## OFFERING PRAYER

Blessed are you, O God, ruler of heaven and earth. Day by day you shower us with blessings. As you have raised us to new life in Christ, give us glad and generous hearts, ready to praise you and to respond to those in need, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

## HOLY COMMUNION

### 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.**

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, and with angels and archangels, cherubim and seraphim, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow - er and  
might. Heav'n and earth are full of your glo - ry.  
Ho - san - na! Ho - san - na in the high - est.  
Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.  
Ho - san - na! Ho - san - na in the high - est.



You are indeed holy, almighty and merciful God. You are most holy, and great is the majesty of your glory. You so loved the world that you gave your only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may not perish but have eternal life. We give you thanks for his coming into the world to fulfill for us your holy will and to accomplish all things for our salvation.

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.

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 ris - en, Christ will come a - gain.

Remembering, therefore, his salutary command, his life-giving passion and death, his glorious resurrection and ascension, and the promise of his coming again, we give thanks to you, O Lord God Almighty, not as we ought but as we are able; we ask you mercifully to accept our praise and thanksgiving and with your Word and Holy Spirit to bless us, your servants, and these your own gifts of bread and wine, so that we and all who share in the body and blood of Christ may be filled with heavenly blessing and grace, and, receiving the forgiveness of sin, may be formed to live as your holy people and be given our inheritance with all your saints.

To you, O God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, be all honor and glory in your holy church,



A - men, a - men, a - men.

## 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!**

*(Sit)*

*All baptized Christians are welcome to Holy Communion at St. James. If you desire to receive Communion, please proceed to the altar by way of the center aisle. The ushers will direct you. You will receive a wafer and a cup of wine. For those unable to partake of wine, white grape juice is available. 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 to the altar. Please advise an usher if you wish the pastor to do so.*

## LAMB OF GOD

CHOIR AND CONGREGATION

The image shows two staves of musical notation in G major and 4/4 time. The first staff contains the melody for the first line of the hymn: "Lamb of God, you take a-way the sins of the". The second staff contains the melody for the second line: "world: have mer-cy on us. world: grant us peace." The second staff includes first, second, and third endings, indicated by the numbers 1, 2, and 3 above the staff.

## 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.**

## BLESSING

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

## BENEDICTION RESPONSE

*Amen: The Easter Song of Praise*

*Richard Shepherd*



1 Je - sus Christ is ris'n to - day, Al - le - lu - ia!  
 2 Hymns of praise then let us sing, Al - le - lu - ia!  
 3 But the pains which he en - dured, Al - le - lu - ia!  
 4 Sing we to our God a - bove, Al - le - lu - ia!



our tri - um - phant ho - ly day, Al - le - lu - ia!  
 un - to Christ, our heav'n - ly king, Al - le - lu - ia!  
 our sal - va - tion have pro - cured; Al - le - lu - ia!  
 praise e - ter - nal as his love; Al - le - lu - ia!



who did once up - on the cross, Al - le - lu - ia!  
 who en - dured the cross and grave, Al - le - lu - ia!  
 now a - bove the sky he's king, Al - le - lu - ia!  
 praise him, all you heav'n - ly host, Al - le - lu - ia!



suf - fer to re - deem our loss. Al - le - lu - ia!  
 sin - ners to re - deem and save. Al - le - lu - ia!  
 where the an - gels ev - er sing. Al - le - lu - ia!  
 Fa - ther, Son, and Ho - ly Ghost. Al - le - lu - ia!

**DISMISSAL**

Alleluia, Christ is risen.

**Christ is risen indeed! Alleluia!**

Go in peace, proclaim the resurrection.

**Thanks be to God! Alleluia, alleluia!**

**CLOSING VOLUNTARY**

*Toccata en Fa Majeur*

*Charles-Marie Widor*

# SAINT JAMES LUTHERAN CHURCH

PO Box 684  
CONCORD, NORTH CAROLINA 28026  
CHURCH OFFICE 704.786.0166  
WEBSITE [www.sjnc.net](http://www.sjnc.net)

## DIRECTORY

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

## SAINT JAMES STAFF

**Rev. Craig Saltzer**, Interim Pastor  
[csaltzer@triad.rr.com](mailto:csaltzer@triad.rr.com)  
336-225-7889

**Keith Sutton**, Parish Administrator  
[keith@sjnc.net](mailto:keith@sjnc.net)

**Jill Irvin**, Finance Administrator  
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**Scott F. Foppiano**, Organist /  
Director of Music  
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**Mike Holt**, Youth and Family  
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**Teresa Honeycutt**, Custodian  
[tfh1990@yahoo.com](mailto:tfh1990@yahoo.com)

**Kathryn Radcliffe**, Nursery Coordinator  
[krad3700@gmail.com](mailto:krad3700@gmail.com)

## CONGREGATIONAL COUNCIL

Debbie Davis, President  
Jon Miller, Vice Pres., Mutual Ministry  
Chris Miller, Secretary, Social Ministry  
Kenny Propst, Treasurer

Chip Blackwelder, Property  
Kim Haberman, Evangelism  
Samantha Hillegass, Parish Fellowship  
Elizabeth Hurley, Worship & Music  
Beth Huss, Stewardship  
Frank Irvin, Finance/Christian Ed  
Pat McDonough, Youth  
Wendell Overby, Property  
Dee Pieschel, Social Ministry

## 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-Apr** Myers Jones  
**11-Apr** Troy Heston  
**11-Apr** Alison Monk  
**13-Apr** David Hardister  
**13-Apr** Amanda Irvin  
**13-Apr** Chip Popovici  
**14-Apr** Joan Mahoney  
**14-Apr** Mary Nivens  
**14-Apr** Michelle Urso  
**15-Apr** Hayden Weisel

## CALENDAR THIS WEEK

**Sunday, April 9**  
6:30 am Easter Sunrise  
Worship  
8:00 am Easter Breakfast  
9:00 am Adult Sunday Sch  
9:15 am Parish Choir  
10:00 am Worship

**Monday, April 10**  
*Church Office Closed*

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

**Saturday, April 15**  
10:00 am Leah's Hope  
Trailer

**Sunday, April 16**  
9:00 am Sunday School  
9:15 am Parish Choir  
10:00 am Worship

## OUR STEWARDSHIP

Contributions and  
Receipts for April 2, 2023  
**\$3,266.25**  
*(\$7,371.00 needed weekly)*

## FLOWERS

The flowers today are given by Fuller and Jean Beasley to the Glory of God and in honor of newly baptized, Naomi Elizabeth Lovelace on March 5, 2023.

## PRAYER LIST

- ◆ Bethlehem Lutheran Church, Hickory, NC
- ◆ Martha Summers
- ◆ Patsy Black
- ◆ Tom Grady
- ◆ Jim Weisel
- ◆ Tom Ridenhour
- ◆ Marga Beville
- ◆ Betty Miller
- ◆ Karey Conrad, *friend of Al and Dee Pieschel*
- ◆ Lynda Jones, *sister of Barbara Merrell*

## ASSISTING IN WORSHIP

**Lector/Intercessor:**  
Keith Sutton

**Communion Assistant:**  
Ann Blackwelder

**Acolyte/Crucifer:**  
Finley Stephens

**Council Person of Month:**  
Samantha Hillegass

**Videographer:**  
Keith Sutton

**Instrumentalist:**  
Jackie Siverly and Rachel Leonard - Trumpets, Kenneth Schechter and Jason Wise - Trombones,  
Graham Johnson - Tympani

**Ushers:**  
Wendell Overby, Frank Irvin,  
Tony Folino, Nick Lovelace,  
Jason Pittard