

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. Join us as together 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.

SECOND SUNDAY AFTER EPIPHANY

JANUARY 16, 2022 10:00 A.M.

Introduction to Today's Worship

The Sundays after Epiphany continue to celebrate the revelation of God's glory to us as it was made known to the magi and to those on Jordan's banks at Jesus' baptism—today using wedding imagery. Our God rejoices over God's people as those being married rejoice over one another. By the power of the Spirit there are gifts galore for everyone. In Christ Jesus the best wine is saved for last. Taste and see.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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



Join Saint James Lutheran Church Facebook and Instagram groups
Send Jeremy Jay any pictures and/or articles you would like to have posted at jeremy@pbnjay.com



St. James YouTube Channel

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



WELCOME

OPENING VOLUNTARY

Liebster Jesu, wir sind hier

~Johann Seb. Bach

Congregational Responses in Bold

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

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.

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.

- 1 Songs of thankfulness and praise, Jesus, Lord, to thee we raise; manifested by the star to the sages from afar, branch of royal David's stem in thy birth at Bethlehem: anthems be to thee addressed, God in flesh made manifest.
- 2 Manifest at Jordan's stream,
 Prophet, Priest, and King supreme;
 and at Cana wedding guest
 in thy Godhead manifest;
 manifest in pow'r divine,
 changing water into wine;
 anthems be to thee addressed,
 God in flesh made manifest.
- 3 Manifest in making whole palsied limbs and fainting soul; manifest in valiant fight, quelling all the devil's might; manifest in gracious will, ever bringing good from ill: anthems be to thee addressed, God in flesh made manifest.
- 4 Grant us grace to see thee, Lord, present in thy holy word; grace to imitate thee now and be pure, as pure art thou; that we might become like thee at thy great epiphany, and may praise thee, ever blest, God in flesh made manifest.

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

Lord God, source of every blessing, you showed forth your glory and led many to faith by the works of your Son, who brought gladness and salvation to his people. Transform us by the Spirit of his love, that we may find our life together in him, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

WORD

FIRST READING ISAIAH 62:1-5

The people's return to Judah after the exile was marred by economic and political troubles. Nevertheless, the prophet declares, Jerusalem and Judah will be restored. God will rejoice over Jerusalem as a bridegroom rejoices over the bride, and the people are called to the celebration.

A reading from Isaiah, the sixty-second chapter.

Por Zion's sake I will not keep silent, and for Jerusalem's sake I will not rest, until her vindication shines out like the dawn, and her salvation like a burning torch. ²The nations shall see your vindication, and all the kings your glory; and you shall be called by a new name that the mouth of the LORD will give.

³You shall be a crown of beauty in the hand of the LORD, and a royal diadem in the hand of your God. ⁴You shall no more be termed Forsaken, and your land shall no more be termed Desolate; but you shall be called My Delight Is in Her, and your land Married; for the LORD delights in you, and your land shall be married. ⁵For as a young man marries a young woman, so shall your builder marry you, and as the bridegroom rejoices over the bride, so shall your God rejoice over you.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

PSALM 36:5-10

- ⁵ Your steadfast love, O LORD, extends to the heavens, your faithfulness to the clouds.
- ⁶ Your righteousness is like the mighty mountains, your judgments are like the great deep; you save humans and animals alike, O LORD.
- ⁷ How precious is your steadfast love, O God!

All people may take refuge in the shadow of your wings.

- ⁸ They feast on the abundance of your house,
 - and you give them drink from the river of your delights.
- ⁹ For with you is the fountain of life;
 - in your light we see light.
- ¹⁰ O continue your steadfast love to those who know you, and your salvation to the upright of heart!

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

SECOND READING 1 CORINTHIANS 12:1-11

The congregation at Corinth experienced division as people were comparing their spiritual gifts, thinking some to be superior to others. Paul invites this fractured community to trust that God's Holy Spirit has gifted them all perfectly for their mission together.

A reading from 1 Corinthians, the twelfth chapter.

Now concerning spiritual gifts, brothers and sisters, I do not want you to be uninformed. ²You know that when you were pagans, you were enticed and led astray to idols that could not speak. ³Therefore I want you to understand that no one speaking by the Spirit of God ever says "Let Jesus be cursed!" and no one can say "Jesus is Lord" except by the Holy Spirit.

continued...

services, but the same Lord; ⁶and there are varieties of activities, but it is the same God who activates all of them in everyone. ⁷To each is given the manifestation of the Spirit for the common good. ⁸To one is given through the Spirit the utterance of wisdom, and to another the utterance of knowledge according to the same Spirit, ⁹to another faith by the same Spirit, to another gifts of healing by the one Spirit, ¹⁰to another the working of miracles, to another prophecy, to another the discernment of spirits, to another various kinds of tongues, to another the interpretation of tongues. ¹¹All these are activated by one

and the same Spirit, who allots to each one individually just as the Spirit

⁴Now there are varieties of gifts, but the same Spirit; ⁵and there are varieties of

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

chooses.

Stand

HOLY GOSPEL JOHN 2:1-11

Turning water to wine at the wedding at Cana is described as the first of Jesus' signs. Through many such epiphanies, Jesus reveals that he bears God's creative power and joyful presence into the world.

In the third day there was a wedding in Cana of Galilee, and the mother of

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

Jesus was there. ²Jesus and his disciples had also been invited to the wedding. ³When the wine gave out, the mother of Jesus said to him, "They have no wine." ⁴And Jesus said to her, "Woman, what concern is that to you and to me? My hour has not yet come." ⁵His mother said to the servants, "Do whatever he tells you." ⁶Now standing there were six stone water jars for the Jewish rites of purification, each holding twenty or thirty gallons. ⁷Jesus said to them, "Fill the jars with water." And they filled them up to the brim. ⁸He said to them, "Now draw some out, and take it to the chief steward." So they took it. ⁹When the steward tasted the water that had become wine, and did not know where it came

from (though the servants who had drawn the water knew), the steward called the bridegroom ¹⁰and said to him, "Everyone serves the good wine first, and then the inferior wine after the guests have become drunk. But you have kept the good wine until now." ¹¹Jesus did this, the first of his signs, in Cana of Galilee, and

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

revealed his glory; and his disciples believed in him.

SERMON

Stand

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.

Kneel or sit, as able

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

With the whole people of God in Christ Jesus, let us pray for the church, those in need, and all of God's creation.

A brief silence.

By your Spirit, activate within your church gifts of faith, healing, and prophecy. Unite those who profess your name across congregations, denominations, and geographic boundaries. Open our hearts to recognize and celebrate surprising miracles. We especially pray on this day for the Rev. Bill Milholland and our sisters and brothers in Christ at Lutheran Church of Reconciliation in Wilmington, NC. God of grace,

hear our prayer.

Your creation reflects your generosity. Bless farmers, migrant farmworkers, orchard-keepers, ranchers, and all who tend the abundance of the land. Protect food and water sources from destruction that all can eat and drink and be satisfied. God of grace,

hear our prayer.

By your Spirit, grant wisdom, knowledge, and discernment to those who hold leadership positions at any level. Direct policymakers toward compassionate decisions that build up safe and just communities. Lead all authorities in seeking and serving the common good. God of grace,

hear our prayer.

As Jesus provided generously in a moment of need, provide abundantly for all who are hungry or thirsty, all seeking shelter, all who seek peace and all in need healing this day, especially those whom we now name before with our lips and in the silence of our hearts. God of grace,

hear our prayer.

You see us for who we are and you delight in us. Embrace those struggling with self-worth, wrestling with self-identity, or facing significant life transition. Remind us that nothing can separate us from your love. God of grace,

hear our prayer.

You bless us through the spiritual gifts of the saints who have gone before us. We give thanks for the life of Martin Luther King Jr. and all who have modeled the way of courageous faith. God of grace,

hear our prayer.

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

Amen.

HOLY COMMUNION

ANTHEM Lauda Anima ~Mark Andrews

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

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

In the night in which he was betrayed, our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks; broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying: Take and eat; this is my body, given for you. Do this in remembrance of me.

Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it for all to drink, saying: This cup is the new covenant in my blood, shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin. Do this for the remembrance of me.

Let us proclaim the mystery of faith:

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

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

Come, Lord Jesus.

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

Come, Holy Spirit.

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

Amen.

LORD'S PRAYER

And now as our Savior Christ has taught us; we are bold to pray,

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name, thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven.

Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our trespasses,

as we forgive those who trespass against us;

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

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

INVITATION TO HOLY COMMUNION

The gifts of God for the people of God.

Thanks be to God!

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

POST COMMUNION BLESSING

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

Amen.

POST COMMUNION PRAYER

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

Amen.



SENDING

BLESSING

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

Amen.

SENDING HYMN

O Christ, Your Heart Compassionate

ELLACOMBE

- O Christ, your heart, compassionate, bore ev'ry human pain.
 Its beating was the pulse of God; its breadth, God's vast domain.
 The heart of God, the heart of Christ combined in perfect rhyme to write God's love in human deeds, eternity in time.
- 2 As once you welcomed those cast down and healed the sick, the blind, so may all bruised and broken lives through us your help still find.

 Lord, join our hearts with those who weep that none may weep alone, and help us bear another's pain as though it were our own.
- 3 O Christ, create new hearts in us that beat in time with yours, that, joined by faith with your great heart, become love's open doors. We are your body, risen Christ; our hearts, our hands we yield that through our life and ministry your love may be revealed.
- 4 O Love that made the distant stars, yet marks the sparrow's fall, whose arms stretched wide upon a cross embrace and bear us all: come, make your church a servant church that walks your servant ways, whose deeds of love rise up to you, a sacrifice of praise!

DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Serve the Lord.

Thanks be to God!

CLOSING VOLUNTARY

Trumpet Voluntary in D

~John Stanley

The Liturgy Has Ended; The Service Begins!

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SAINT JAMES LUTHERAN CHURCH

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DIRECTORY

Members of Saint James......Ministers The Rev. Elizabeth Eaton...Presiding Bishop

The Rev. Dr. Timothy M. Smith......Bishop SAINT JAMES STAFF

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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

BIRTHDAYS THIS WEEK 16-Jan Judy Benz

16-Jan Fred Lambert 16-Jan Jennifer Winterhalter

16-Jan Meredith Wyatt 17-Jan Mike Graham 17-Jan Becky Phillips

19-Jan Carrier Craver 19-Jan Gail Johnson 21-Jan Michael Phillips

22-Jan Samantha Cooley 22-Jan Don Faggart 22-Jan Jeff Jones

22-Jan Jason Pittard CALENDAR THIS WEEK Sunday, January 16

Office Closed

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

Monday, January 17 10:30 am Quilting Group 6:30 pm Scouts

Wednesday, January 12 7:00 pm Choir Rehearsal Sunday, January 23

9:00 am Adult Sunday Schl 9:50 am Live Stream Begins

10:00 am In-Person Worship

ASSISTING IN WORSHIP

Lector/Intercessor:

Communion Assistant:

Jeremy Jay

Bookbearer:

Crucifer: Ushers: Dale Merrell.

Samantha Hillegass

Jeremy Jay

Gretchen Walker, Robert Davis, Lex Patterson.

keith@sinc.net

OUR STEWARDSHIP Contributions and Receipts

for January 9, 2022 \$10,486.00 (\$7,371.00 needed for weekly)

PRAYER LIST Lutheran Church of

Reconciliation.

Wilmington, NC Carole Grady

Jimmy Summers

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

keith@sinc.net SALVATION ARMY NIGHT

SHELTER: St. James will be providing meals for the Salvation Army

Shelter of Hope Sunday, Jan. 23 - Saturday, Jan. 29. This

leave a message or email at

includes providing dinner for 20 adults. You will be advised if the number increases but no more than 30. (Please include a protein, vegetable, a starch

and dessert) If you have any questions. contact Mark

Murphy. Sign up below: https://forms.gle/ ePuiPiETWe4oJGNA6