



# 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"

104 Union Street South  
Concord, North Carolina 28025

Office Phone: 704.786.0166  
Website: [www.sjnc.net](http://www.sjnc.net)

## SECOND SUNDAY AFTER EPIPHANY JANUARY 17, 2021



All the baptized have a calling in God's world. God calls not just pastors and deacons but also the youngest child, like Samuel. The story of the calling of Nathanael plays with the idea of place. Nathanael initially dismisses Jesus because he comes from Nazareth. But where we come from isn't important; it's where—or rather whom—we come to. Jesus refers to Jacob, who had a vision in a place he called "the house of God, and . . . the gate of heaven" (Gen. 28:17). Jesus says he himself is the place where Nathanael will meet God.

### WELCOME

#### CHORAL PRELUDE

*Here I Am Lord*

I, the Lord of sea and sky, I have heard my people cry. All who dwell in dark and sin my hand will save.

I, the Lord of wind and flame, I will tend the poor and lame, I will set a feast for them. My hand will save!

I, who made the stars of night, I will make their darkness bright. Who will bear my light to them? Whom shall I send?

Finest bread I will provide, Till their hearts be satisfied. I will give my life to them. Whom shall I send? Whom shall I send?

Here I am Lord. Is it I, is it I? I have heard You calling in the night, in the night. I will go, Lord, if You lead, if You lead. I will hold Your people in my heart.

It is I, is it I? I have heard You calling in the night, in the night. I will go, Lord, if You lead, if You lead. I will hold Your people in my heart.

Here I am. Here I am. Here I am.

#### CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

In the name of the Father, and of the  $\text{✝}$  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.**

## **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.

Thanks be to you, Lord Jesus Christ, most merciful redeemer, for the countless blessings and benefits you give. May we know you more clearly, love you more dearly, and follow you more nearly, day by day praising you, with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**Amen.**

## **WORD**

### **FIRST READING: 1 Samuel 3:1-20**

*At a time when visions are rare and unexpected, the LORD comes to Samuel and calls him to speak the divine word. Though just a boy, Samuel responds to God obediently, as Eli the priest has taught him to respond. This marks the beginning of Samuel's prophetic ministry.*

A reading from 1 Samuel, the third chapter.

**N**ow the boy Samuel was ministering to the Lord under Eli. The word of the Lord was rare in those days; visions were not widespread. <sup>2</sup>At that time Eli, whose eyesight had begun to grow dim so that he could not see, was lying down in his room; <sup>3</sup>the lamp of God had not yet gone out, and Samuel was lying down in the temple of the Lord, where the ark of God was. <sup>4</sup>Then the Lord called, "Samuel! Samuel!" and he said, "Here I am!" <sup>5</sup>and ran to Eli, and said, "Here I am, for you called me." But he said, "I did not call; lie down again." So he went and lay down. <sup>6</sup>The Lord called again, "Samuel!" Samuel got up and went to Eli, and said, "Here I am, for you called me." But he said, "I did not call, my son; lie down again." <sup>7</sup>Now Samuel did not yet know the Lord, and the word of the Lord had not yet been revealed to him. <sup>8</sup>The Lord called Samuel again, a third time. And he got up and went to Eli, and said, "Here I am, for you called me." Then Eli perceived that the Lord was calling the boy. <sup>9</sup>Therefore Eli said to Samuel, "Go, lie down; and if he calls you, you shall say, 'Speak, Lord, for your servant is listening.'" So Samuel went and lay down in his place. <sup>10</sup>Now the Lord came and stood there, calling as before, "Samuel! Samuel!" And Samuel said, "Speak, for your servant is listening." <sup>11</sup>Then the Lord said to Samuel, "See, I am about to do something in Israel that will make both ears of anyone who hears of it tingle. <sup>12</sup>On that day I will fulfill against Eli all that I have spoken concerning his house, from beginning to end. <sup>13</sup>For I have told him that I am about to punish his house forever, for the iniquity that he knew, because his sons were blaspheming God, and he did not restrain them. <sup>14</sup>Therefore I swear to the house of Eli that the iniquity of Eli's house shall not be expiated by sacrifice or offering forever." <sup>15</sup>Samuel lay there until morning; then he opened the doors of the house of the Lord. Samuel was afraid to tell the vision to Eli. <sup>16</sup>But Eli called Samuel and said, "Samuel, my son." He said, "Here I am." <sup>17</sup>Eli said, "What was it that he told you? Do not hide it from me. May God do so to you and more also, if you hide anything from me of all that he told you." <sup>18</sup>So Samuel told him everything and hid nothing from him. Then he said, "It is the Lord; let him do what seems good to him." <sup>19</sup>As Samuel grew up, the Lord was with him and let none of his words fall to the ground. <sup>20</sup>And all Israel from Dan to Beer-sheba knew that Samuel was a trustworthy prophet of the Lord.

The Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

## PSALM: *Psalm 139: 1-6, 13-18*

A reading from Psalm One Hundred Thirty Nine.

- <sup>1</sup> O LORD, you have searched me and known me.  
<sup>2</sup> You know when I sit down and when I rise up;  
you discern my thoughts from far away.  
<sup>3</sup> You search out my path and my lying down,  
and are acquainted with all my ways.  
<sup>4</sup> Even before a word is on my tongue,  
O LORD, you know it completely.  
<sup>5</sup> You hem me in, behind and before,  
and lay your hand upon me.  
<sup>6</sup> Such knowledge is too wonderful for me;  
it is so high that I cannot attain it.  
<sup>13</sup> For it was you who formed my inward parts;  
you knit me together in my mother's womb.  
<sup>14</sup> I praise you, for I am fearfully and wonderfully made.  
Wonderful are your works; that I know very well.  
<sup>15</sup> My frame was not hidden from you, when I was being made in secret,  
intricately woven in the depths of the earth.  
<sup>16</sup> Your eyes beheld my unformed substance. In your book were written  
all the days that were formed for me, when none of them as yet existed.  
<sup>17</sup> How weighty to me are your thoughts, O God!  
How vast is the sum of them!  
<sup>18</sup> I try to count them—they are more than the sand;  
I come to the end—I am still with you.

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

## SECOND READING: *1 Corinthians 6:12-20*

*Paul helps the Corinthians understand that God has claimed the entirety of their lives through the death of Christ. Hence Christian relationships and conduct, including areas of human sexuality, are to reflect the reality that we belong to Christ and that the Holy Spirit lives within us.*

A reading from 1 Corinthians, the sixth chapter.

**A**ll things are lawful for me," but not all things are beneficial. "All things are lawful for me," but I will not be dominated by anything. <sup>13</sup>"Food is meant for the stomach and the stomach for food," and God will destroy both one and the other. The body is meant not for fornication but for the Lord, and the Lord for the body. <sup>14</sup>And God raised the Lord and will also raise us by his power. <sup>15</sup>Do you not know that your bodies are members of Christ? Should I therefore take the members of Christ and make them members of a prostitute? Never! <sup>16</sup>Do you not know that whoever is united to a prostitute becomes one body with her? For it is said, "The two shall be one flesh." <sup>17</sup>But anyone united to the Lord becomes one spirit with him. <sup>18</sup>Shun fornication! Every sin that a person commits is outside the body; but the fornicator sins against the body itself. <sup>19</sup>Or do you not know that your body is a temple of the Holy Spirit within you, which you have from God, and that you are not your own? <sup>20</sup>For you were bought with a price; therefore glorify God in your body.

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

## HOLY GOSPEL *John 1:43-51*

*In John's gospel, Jesus' ministry begins with the call of disciples, who then bring others to Jesus. Philip's friend Nathanael moves from skepticism to faith when he accepts the invitation to "Come and see."*

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

**Glory to you, O Lord.**

**T**he next day Jesus decided to go to Galilee. He found Philip and said to him, "Follow me." <sup>44</sup>Now Philip was from Bethsaida, the city of Andrew and Peter. <sup>45</sup>Philip found Nathanael and said to him, "We have found him about whom Moses in the law and also the prophets wrote, Jesus son of Joseph from Nazareth." <sup>46</sup>Nathanael said to him, "Can anything good come out of Nazareth?" Philip said to him, "Come and see." <sup>47</sup>When Jesus saw Nathanael coming toward him, he said of him, "Here is truly an Israelite in whom there is no deceit!" <sup>48</sup>Nathanael asked him, "Where did you get to know me?" Jesus answered, "I saw you under the fig tree before Philip called you." <sup>49</sup>Nathanael replied, "Rabbi, you are the Son of God! You are the King of Israel!" <sup>50</sup>Jesus answered, "Do you believe because I told you that I saw you under the fig tree? You will see greater things than these." <sup>51</sup>And he said to him, "Very truly, I tell you, you will see heaven opened and the angels of God ascending and descending upon the Son of Man."

The Gospel of the Lord.

**Praise to you, O Christ.**

## SERMON

## HYMN

### *This Little Light of Mine*

- 1 This little light of mine, I'm goin'-a let it shine;  
this little light of mine, I'm goin'-a let it shine;  
this little light of mine, I'm goin'-a let it shine,  
let it shine, let it shine, let it shine.
- 2 Ev'rywhere I go, I'm goin'-a let it shine;  
ev'rywhere I go, I'm goin'-a let it shine;  
ev'rywhere I go, I'm goin'-a let it shine,  
let it shine, let it shine, let it shine.
- 3 Jesus gave it to me, I'm goin'-a let it shine;  
Jesus gave it to me, I'm goin'-a let it shine;  
Jesus gave it to me, I'm goin'-a let it shine,  
let it shine, let it shine, let it shine.

## **APOSTLES' CREED**

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

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

**I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.**

**He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit and born of the virgin Mary,**

**He suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried.**

**He descended into hell. On the third day he rose again.**

**He ascended into heaven, and is seated at the right hand of the Father.**

**He will come again to judge the living and the dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Spirit,  
the holy catholic church,  
the communion of saints,  
the forgiveness of sins,  
the resurrection of the body,  
and the life everlasting. Amen.**

## **PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE**

Guided by Christ made known to the nations, let us offer our prayers for the church, the world, and all people in need.

*A brief silence.*

For the body of Christ gathered throughout the world and for all servants of the gospel, that following Jesus, the church lives out its calling every day, let us pray.

**Have mercy, O God.**

For the well-being of creation, for plants and animals, and for all that God has marvelously made, that we serve as wise stewards of Earth, our home, let us pray.

**Have mercy, O God.**

For police officers and firefighters, for attorneys and paralegals, for peacekeepers and military personnel, and for the leaders of governments, that they provide protection to all people, especially the most vulnerable, let us pray.

**Have mercy, O God.**

For those lacking food or shelter, for those who are sick or grieving, and for those who are imprisoned or homebound, that God console all who suffer, let us pray.

**Have mercy, O God.**

For our neighborhood, city, county, state, and nation; and for those who are joining us in this worship service this morning, that all who seek to know you are nourished by your presence in word and sacrament, let us pray.

**Have mercy, O God.**

In thanksgiving for Jane Brown, Richard Benz, Ray Faggart and all the saints whose lives have given us a vision of the gospel in action, let us pray.

**Have mercy, O God.**

Merciful God, hear the prayers of your people, spoken or silent, for the sake of the one who dwells among us, your Son, Jesus Christ our Savior.

**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.**

## BLESSING

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

**Amen.**

## DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Be the light of Christ.

**Thanks be to God!**

## POSTLUDE

*Valet Will Ich Dir Geben*

~Guilmant

*The Liturgy Has Ended; The Service Begins!*

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# 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

*The Family of Jane Brown*  
*The Family of Richard Benz*  
*The Family of Ray Faggart*  
**Virginia Sutton, mother of**  
*Keith Sutton*

## PRAYER LIST

All health care professionals and first responders including:

- Deb Bradshaw**
- Lauri Fowler**
- DeeDee Gilbert**
- Annette Propst**
- Meagan Lambert**
- Alison Monk**
- Jason and Stephanie Matthews**
- Dr Bradley Propst, son of**  
*Kenny and Annette Propst*
- Sam Hurley, son of Elizabeth**  
*Hurley*
- 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.

*If you have 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

- 17-Jan.** Eugene Brown, Jr.
- 17-Jan.** Mike Graham
- 17-Jan.** Becky Phillips
- 19-Jan.** Carrie Craver
- 19-Jan.** Gail Johnson
- 21-Jan.** Michael Phillips
- 22-Jan.** Samantha Cooley
- 22-Jan.** Don Faggart, Sr.
- 22-Jan.** Jeff Jones
- 22-Jan.** Jason Pittard

## ASSISTING IN WORSHIP

**Lector/Intercessor:** Jeremy Jay  
**Vocalist:** Choir Ensemble

## OUR STEWARDSHIP Contributions and Receipts for January 10, 2021 \$7,652.00

*(\$7,692.00 needed for weekly)*

## MEAL TRAIN

What is a meal train? There are times in our lives when friends and family ask, "What can I do to help out?" The answer is usually to help them with a meal. When many friends give a meal, this is a Meal Train. As a reminder, a meal is being taken to Martha and Jimmy Summers every Monday. Please consider helping in this way! Below is the link for the Meal Train, a place to electronically reserve the date you'd like to take a meal. [Sign-up Here](#)

## SALVATION ARMY NIGHT SHELTER Jan. 31 - Feb. 6

St. James will be providing meals for the Salvation Army Shelter of Hope Sunday, January 31 - Saturday, February 6. You will deliver the meal to the Salvation Army Night Shelter at 216 Patterson Ave SE, Concord. You do not have to serve the meal, only drop off. Provide dinner for 18-20 adults (Please include a protein, vegetable, and a starch and dessert) Bring a gallon of milk for breakfast. If you have any questions, contact Mark Murphy. [Sign-up Here](#)

## 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**

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

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

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

Cindy Cruse.....Hospitality Director  
**ccruse98@twc.com**

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

## CONGREGATIONAL COUNCIL

**Joseph Beasley..... President**  
**Golda Jay..... Vice President**  
**Ann Blackwelder ..... Secretary**  
**Beth Huss ..... Treasurer**

- Samantha Hillegass
- Elizabeth Hurley
- Hunter Huss
- Nick Lovelace
- Chris Miller
- Jon Miller
- Mac Mullins
- Mark Murphy
- Al Pieschel
- Kenny Propst



@stjamesnc

## OFFICE HOURS

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

**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](mailto:jeremy@pbnjay.com)

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