

# Saint James Lutheran Church



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



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

## THIRD SUNDAY AFTER EPIPHANY JANUARY 24, 2021



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Concord, North Carolina 28025

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"Come, follow me," Jesus said,  
"and I will send you out  
to fish for people."

Mark 1:17

As we continue through the time after Epiphany, stories of the call to discipleship show us the implications of our baptismal calling to show Christ to the world. Jesus begins proclaiming the good news and calling people to repentance right after John the Baptist is arrested for preaching in a similar way. Knowing that John was later executed, we see at the very outset the cost of discipleship. Still, the two sets of brothers leave everything they have known and worked for all their lives to follow Jesus and fish for people.

### WELCOME

**PRELUDE**      *You Have Come Down to the Lakeshore*

### 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.**

## 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.

Almighty God, by grace alone you call us and accept us in your service. Strengthen us by your Spirit, and make us worthy of your call, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

**Amen.**

## WORD

### FIRST READING: *Jonah 3:1-5, 10*

*The book of Jonah is a comedy starring a reluctant prophet who is given a one-sentence message: Nineveh will be destroyed in forty days. Much to Jonah's dismay, the people of Nineveh repent. The point of the story is to get the reader to wrestle with the question "On whom should God have mercy?"*

A reading from Jonah, the third chapter.

**T**he word of the Lord came to Jonah a second time, saying, <sup>2</sup>"Get up, go to Nineveh, that great city, and proclaim to it the message that I tell you." <sup>3</sup>So Jonah set out and went to Nineveh, according to the word of the Lord. Now Nineveh was an exceedingly large city, a three days' walk across. <sup>4</sup>Jonah began to go into the city, going a day's walk. And he cried out, "Forty days more, and Nineveh shall be overthrown!" <sup>5</sup>And the people of Nineveh believed God; they proclaimed a fast, and everyone, great and small, put on sackcloth. <sup>10</sup>When God saw what they did, how they turned from their evil ways, God changed his mind about the calamity that he had said he would bring upon them; and he did not do it.

The Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

### PSALM: *Psalms 62:5-12*

A reading from Psalm Sixty-two.

- <sup>5</sup> For God alone my soul waits in silence,  
for my hope is from him.
- <sup>6</sup> He alone is my rock and my salvation,  
my fortress; I shall not be shaken.
- <sup>7</sup> On God rests my deliverance and my honor;  
my mighty rock, my refuge is in God.
- <sup>8</sup> Trust in him at all times, O people;  
pour out your heart before him; God is a refuge for us.
- <sup>9</sup> Those of low estate are but a breath, those of high estate are a delusion;  
in the balances they go up; they are together lighter than a breath.
- <sup>10</sup> Put no confidence in extortion, and set no vain hopes on robbery;  
if riches increase, do not set your heart on them.
- <sup>11</sup> Once God has spoken; twice have I heard this:  
that power belongs to God,
- <sup>12</sup> and steadfast love belongs to you, O Lord.  
For you repay to all according to their work.

The Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

## SECOND READING: 1 Corinthians 7:29-31

*Paul does not disapprove of marriage or other human social institutions. He does, however, want Christians to live in the present in fervent anticipation of God's future, which even now has dawned through the death and resurrection of Jesus Christ.*

A reading from 1 Corinthians, the seventh chapter.

**B**rothers and sisters, the appointed time has grown short; from now on, let even those who have wives be as though they had none, <sup>30</sup>and those who mourn as though they were not mourning, and those who rejoice as though they were not rejoicing, and those who buy as though they had no possessions, <sup>31</sup>and those who deal with the world as though they had no dealings with it. For the present form of this world is passing away.

The Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

## HOLY GOSPEL Mark 1:14-20

*Before Jesus calls his first disciples, he proclaims a message that becomes known as "the gospel" or good news from God. God is ready to rule our lives. Those who realize this will respond with repentance and faith.*

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

**Glory to you, O Lord.**

**N**ow after John was arrested, Jesus came to Galilee, proclaiming the good news of God, <sup>15</sup>and saying, "The time is fulfilled, and the kingdom of God has come near; repent, and believe in the good news." <sup>14</sup>As Jesus passed along the Sea of Galilee, he saw Simon and his brother Andrew casting a net into the sea—for they were fishermen. <sup>17</sup>And Jesus said to them, "Follow me and I will make you fish for people." <sup>18</sup>And immediately they left their nets and followed him. <sup>19</sup>As he went a little farther, he saw James son of Zebedee and his brother John, who were in their boat mending the nets. <sup>20</sup>Immediately he called them; and they left their father Zebedee in the boat with the hired men, and followed him.

The Gospel of the Lord.

**Praise to you, O Christ.**

## SERMON

### HYMN

### *Will You Come and Follow Me*

1 "Will you come and follow me  
if I but call your name?  
Will you go where you don't know  
and never be the same?  
Will you let my love be shown,  
will you let my name be known,  
will you let my life be grown  
in you and you in me?"

4 "Will you love the you you hide  
if I but call your name?  
Will you quell the fear inside  
and never be the same?  
Will you use the faith you've found  
to reshape the world around,  
through my sight and touch and sound  
in you and you in me?"

5 Lord, your summons echoes true  
when you but call my name.  
Let me turn and follow you  
and never be the same.  
In your company I'll go  
where your love and footsteps show.  
Thus I'll move and live and grow  
in you and you in me.

## **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 church throughout the world, for pastors and teachers, for deacons and deaconesses, and for musicians and servers, that all proclaim the good news of God's reconciling love, let us pray.

**Have mercy, O God.**

For skies and seas, for birds and fish, for favorable weather and clean water, and for the well-being of creation, that God raise up advocates and scientists to guide our care for all the earth, let us pray.

**Have mercy, O God.**

For those who provide leadership in our cities and around the world, for nonprofit and nongovernmental organizations, for planning commissions and homeless advocates, that God inspire all people in the just use of wealth, let us pray.

**Have mercy, O God.**

For those who are sick, distressed, or grieving; for the outcast and all who await relief, that in the midst of suffering, God's peace and mercy surround them, let us pray.

**Have mercy, O God.**

For our congregation and denomination; for families big and small; for our community, state, nation and the world; that God's steadfast love serves as a model for all relationships, let us pray.

**Have mercy, O God.**

In thanksgiving for our ancestors in the faith whose lives serve as an example of gospel living, that they point us to salvation through Christ, 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

*How Firm a Foundation*

FOUNDATION

*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](mailto:keith@sjnc.net)

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CONCORD, NORTH CAROLINA 28025  
CHURCH OFFICE 704.786.0166  
WEBSITE [www.sjnc.net](http://www.sjnc.net)

## PRAYER LIST

**Alex Barnhardt**

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](mailto:keith@sjnc.net)*

## BIRTHDAYS THIS WEEK

**25-Jan.** Anne Fridlund

**26-Jan.** Kenny Propst

**26-Jan.** Jessica Sutton

**28-Jan.** Tony Bradshaw

**29-Jan.** Dieter Klauss

## ASSISTING IN WORSHIP

**Lector/Intercessor:** Ann Gillon

**Vocalist:** Choir Ensemble

## OUR STEWARDSHIP

**Contributions and Receipts**

**for January 17, 2021**

**\$9,086.00**

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

## 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](mailto:tony@sjnc.net)

Jill Irvin.....Finance Administrator  
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Kathryn Radcliffe.....Nursery Coordinator  
[krad3700@gmail.com](mailto: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



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## 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)

**St. James YouTube Channel**

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Church Concord NC and subscribe.