



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.

SIXTH SUNDAY AFTER EPIPHANY

FEBRUARY 13, 2022
10:00 A.M.

Introduction to Today's Worship

Blessings and curses abound on the sixth Sunday after Epiphany. We would do well to listen closely to whom the "blessed are" and the "woe tos" are directed and to find our place in the crowd among those who desire to touch Jesus. The risen Christ stands among us in the mystery of the holy supper with an invitation to live in him, and offers power to heal us all.

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



@stjamesnc

St. James YouTube Channel

Go to www.youtube.com and search for [St. James Lutheran Church Concord NC](https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCStJamesLutheranChurchConcordNC) and subscribe.

GATHERING

WELCOME

OPENING VOLUNTARY

Prière

~Rene Vierende

*Congregational Responses in **Bold***

The candidate for baptism, sponsors, and parents gather at the font.

THE SACRAMENT OF HOLY BAPTISM

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

Parents We present Arthur Joseph Glatz for baptism.

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

Parents We do.

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

Parents We do.

Family, do you promise to nurture Arthur in the Christian faith as you are empowered by God's Spirit, and to help him live in the covenant of baptism and in communion with the church?

Family We do.

People of God, do you promise to support Arthur and pray for him in his new life in Christ?

We do.

THE PROFESSION OF FAITH

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

Do you renounce the devil and all the forces that defy God?

Parents I renounce them.

Do you renounce the powers of this world that rebel against God?

Parents I renounce them.

Do you renounce the ways of sin that draw you from God?

Parents I renounce them.

Do you believe in God the Father?

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

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

I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried; he descended into hell. On the third day he rose again; he ascended into heaven, he is seated at the right hand of the Father, and he will come to judge the living and the dead.

Do you believe in God the Holy Spirit?

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

THE THANKSGIVING AT THE FONT

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give God thanks and praise.

We give you thanks, O God, for in the beginning your Spirit moved over the waters and by your Word you created the world, calling forth life in which you took delight. Through the waters of the flood you delivered Noah and his family, and through the sea you led your people Israel from slavery into freedom. At the river your Son was baptized by John and anointed with the Holy Spirit. By the baptism of Jesus' death and resurrection you set us free from the power of sin and death and raise us up to live in you.

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

Amen.

THE BAPTISM

Arthur Joseph, I baptize you in the name of the Father, and of the ✝ Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

Amen.

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

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

Amen.

Arthur, child of God, you have been sealed by the Holy Spirit and marked with the cross of Christ forever.

Amen.

THE WELCOME

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

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

Let us welcome the newly baptized.

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

GATHERING HYMN *Wash, Oh God, Our Sons and Daughters* BEACH SPRING



- 1 Wash, O God, our sons and daughters, where your cleansing waters flow.
- 2 We who bring them long for nurture; by your milk may we be fed.
- 3 Oh, how deep your holy wisdom! Unimagined, all your ways!



Number them among your people; bless as Christ blessed long ago.
Let us join your feast, partaking cup of blessing, living bread.
To your name be glory, honor! With our lives we worship, praise!



Weave them garments bright and sparkling; compass them with love and light.
God, renew us, guide our footsteps; free from sin and all its snares,
We your people stand before you, water-washed and Spirit-born.



Fill, anoint them; send your Spirit, holy dove and heart's delight.
One with Christ in living, dying, by your Spirit, children, heirs.
By your grace, our lives we offer. Re-create us; God, transform!

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

Living God, in Christ you make all things new. Transform the poverty of our nature by the riches of your grace, and in the renewal of our lives make known your glory, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Amen.

WORD

FIRST READING *JEREMIAH 17:5-10*

These verses compose a poem that is part of a larger collection of wisdom sayings that contrast two ways of life. Life with God brings blessing; the power and vitality of God is active in our life. Life without God brings a curse, the power of death.

A reading from Jeremiah, the seventeenth chapter.

Thus says the LORD: Cursed are those who trust in mere mortals and make mere flesh their strength, whose hearts turn away from the LORD. ⁶They shall be like a shrub in the desert, and shall not see when relief comes. They shall live in the parched places of the wilderness, in an uninhabited salt land. ⁷Blessed are those who trust in the LORD, whose trust is the LORD. ⁸They shall be like a tree planted by water, sending out its roots by the stream. It shall not fear when heat comes, and its leaves shall stay green; in the year of drought it is not anxious, and it does not cease to bear fruit. ⁹The heart is devious above all else; it is perverse—who can understand it? ¹⁰I the LORD test the mind and search the heart, to give to all according to their ways, according to the fruit of their doings.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

PSALM 1

- ¹ Happy are those who do not follow the advice of the wicked,
or take the path that sinners tread, or sit in the seat of scoffers;
² but their delight is in the law of the LORD,
and on his law they meditate day and night.

- ³They are like trees planted by streams of water,
which yield their fruit in its season, and their leaves do not wither.
In all that they do, they prosper.
- ⁴The wicked are not so,
but are like chaff that the wind drives away.
- ⁵Therefore the wicked will not stand in the judgment,
nor sinners in the congregation of the righteous;
- ⁶for the LORD watches over the way of the righteous,
but the way of the wicked will perish.

The Word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

SECOND READING 1 CORINTHIANS 15:12-20

For Paul, the resurrection of Christ is the basis for Christian hope. Because Christ has been raised, those who are in Christ know that they too will be raised to a new life beyond death.

A reading from 1 Corinthians, the fifteenth chapter.

Now if Christ is proclaimed as raised from the dead, how can some of you say there is no resurrection of the dead? ¹³If there is no resurrection of the dead, then Christ has not been raised; ¹⁴and if Christ has not been raised, then our proclamation has been in vain and your faith has been in vain. ¹⁵We are even found to be misrepresenting God, because we testified of God that he raised Christ—whom he did not raise if it is true that the dead are not raised. ¹⁶For if the dead are not raised, then Christ has not been raised. ¹⁷If Christ has not been raised, your faith is futile and you are still in your sins. ¹⁸Then those also who have died in Christ have perished. ¹⁹If for this life only we have hoped in Christ, we are of all people most to be pitied. ²⁰But in fact Christ has been raised from the dead, the first fruits of those who have died.

The Word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

Stand

HOLY GOSPEL LUKE 6:17-26

After choosing his twelve apostles, Jesus teaches a crowd of followers about the nature and demands of discipleship. He begins his great sermon with surprising statements about who is truly blessed in the eyes of God.

The Holy Gospel according to Saint Luke, the sixth chapter.
Glory to you, O Lord.

Jesus came down with [the twelve] and stood on a level place, with a great crowd of his disciples and a great multitude of people from all Judea, Jerusalem, and the coast of Tyre and Sidon.¹⁸ They had come to hear him and to be healed of their diseases; and those who were troubled with unclean spirits were cured. ¹⁹And all in the crowd were trying to touch him, for power came out from him and healed all of them. ²⁰Then he looked up at his disciples and said: "Blessed are you who are poor, for yours is the kingdom of God. ²¹"Blessed are you who are hungry now, for you will be filled. "Blessed are you who weep now, for you will laugh. ²²"Blessed are you when people hate you, and when they exclude you, revile you, and defame you on account of the Son of Man. ²³Rejoice in that day and leap for joy, for surely your reward is great in heaven; for that is what their ancestors did to the prophets. ²⁴"But woe to you who are rich, for you have received your consolation. ²⁵"Woe to you who are full now, for you will be hungry. "Woe to you who are laughing now, for you will mourn and weep. ²⁶"Woe to you when all speak well of you, for that is what their ancestors did to the false prophets."

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

SERMON

Kneel or sit, as able

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

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

A brief silence.

Blessed are those whose trust is in you. Strengthen the faith of those who profess your name and bring reassurance to those who doubt or fear. Through your church speak continued blessing into the world. We especially pray for the Rev. John Mouritsen and our sisters and brothers in Christ at Morning Star Lutheran Church in Matthews, NC. God of grace,
hear our prayer.

Those who trust in you are like trees planted by streams of water. Bless fruit trees with an abundant harvest. Protect rainforests from destruction. Restore land that has eroded after deforestation. Resurrect woodlands after forest fires. God of grace,
hear our prayer.

Search the hearts of those who govern, that they lead with humility. Inspire leaders to collaborate on policies that protect people and the planet. Sustain truth-tellers and social movements that challenge society to become more honest and just. God of grace,
hear our prayer.

Send your blessings of mercy upon those who long for consolation. Tend to those struggling with poverty, unemployment, or uncertainty. Provide for all who are hungry. Console those who face persecution. Grant peace to all who suffer especially those whom we now name before you with our lips and in the silence of our hearts. God of grace,
hear our prayer.

Renew this congregation in our shared mission. As we plan and dream for the future you are preparing, inspire us by the examples of Martin Luther and all the reformers. Bless new projects and new ministry partnerships. God of grace,
hear our prayer.

Christ is raised from the dead, and so we cling to the hope of the resurrection. We praise you for the lives of the saints who lived and died in the hope of eternal life with you. 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.

ANTHEM

O Sacred Feast

~Harley Willan

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.

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.

MUSIC DURING COMMUNION

At the Lamb's High Feast We Sing

SONNE DER GERECHTIGKEIT

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 ☩ Son, and Holy Spirit, be upon you and remain with you forever.

Amen.

SENDING HYMN

Let Streams of Living Justice

THAXTED

1 Let streams of liv - ing jus - tice flow down up - on the earth;
2 For heal - ing of the na - tions, for peace that will not end,
3 Your ci - ty's built to mu - sic; we are the stones you seek;
give free-dom's light to cap - tives, let all the poor have worth.
for love that makes us lov - ers, God grant us grace to mend.
your har - mo - ny is lan - guage; we are the words you speak.

The hun - gry's hands are plead - ing, the work - ers claim their rights,
Weave our var - ied gifts to - geth - er; knit our lives as they are spun;
Our faith we find in ser - vice, our hope in oth - ers' dreams,
the mourn - ers long for laugh - ter, the blind - ed seek for sight.
on your loom of time en - roll us till our thread of life is run.
our love in hand of neigh - bor; our home - land bright - ly gleams.

Make lib - er - ty a bea - con, strike down the i - ron pow'r;
O great weav - er of our fab - ric, bind church and world in one;
In - scribe our hearts with jus - tice; your way—the path un - tried;
a - bol - ish an - cient ven - geance: pro - claim your peo - ple's hour.
dye our tex - ture with your ra - diance, light our col - ors with your sun.
your truth—the heart of strang - er; your life—the Cru - ci - fied.

DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Serve the Lord.
Thanks be to God!

CLOSING VOLUNTARY

Festive Trumpet Tune

~David German

The Liturgy Has Ended; The Service Begins!

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THIS IS CHRIST'S CHURCH.

There is a place for you here.

We are the church that shares a living, daring confidence in God's grace.
Liberated by our faith, we embrace you as a whole person--questions,
complexities and all. Join us as we do God's work in Christ's name
for the life of the world.



SAINT JAMES LUTHERAN CHURCH

PO BOX 684
CONCORD, NORTH CAROLINA 28026
CHURCH OFFICE 704.786.0166
WEBSITE 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. Tony Bradshaw, Senior Pastor
tony@sjnc.net

Keith Sutton, Parish Administrator
keith@sjnc.net

Jill Irvin, Finance Administrator
jill@sjnc.net

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

Mike Holt, Youth and Family
mvholt1957@yahoo.com

Kathryn Radcliffe, Nursery Coordinator
krad3700@gmail.com

Cindy Cruse, Hospitality Director
ccruse98@twc.com

CONGREGATIONAL COUNCIL

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

Joseph Beasley
Samantha Hillegass
Elizabeth Hurley
Hunter Huss
Frank Irvin
Jon Miller
Mark Murphy
Dee Pieschel

OFFICE HOURS
M-Th 8:30-4:00
F 8:30-1:00

WEEKLY ANNOUNCEMENTS

*Please email all information to the church office at
keith@sjnc.net*

BIRTHDAYS THIS WEEK

13-Feb Wade Bestler
13-Feb Jeff Carpenter
15-Feb Lori Pittard
16-Feb Stephanie Matthews
16-Feb Clary Phillips
17-Feb Jason Matthews
17-Feb Elias Rutemiller
18-Feb Mark Hartman
18-Feb Jodi Ramirez

CALENDAR THIS WEEK

Sunday, January 13
9:00 am Adult Sunday Schl
9:50 am Live Stream Begins
10:00 am In-Person Worship

Monday, February 14
10:30 am Quilting Group
6:30 pm Scouts

Wednesday, February 16
7:00 pm Choir Rehearsal

Sunday, January 20
9:00 am Adult Sunday Schl
9:50 am Live Stream Begins
10:00 am In-Person Worship

ASSISTING IN WORSHIP

Lector/Intercessor:

Jodi Rameriz

Communion Assistant:

Ann Blackwelder

Acolyte/Crucifer:

Bookbearer:

Ushers: Mark Murphy,
Jimmy Harris, Jeff Jones,
Jeff Gilbert, Tony Eury, Phil
Tesh

OUR STEWARDSHIP

**Contributions and Receipts
for February 6, 2022**
\$8,153.00
(\$7,371.00 needed for weekly)

FLOWERS: The flowers today
are given by Joseph Beasley to
the Glory of God and in honor
of his mother Jean Beasley's
birthday on February 12.

PRAYER LIST

- ♦ Morning Star Lutheran
Church, Matthews, NC
- ♦ Tom Ridenhour
- ♦ Don and Sandra Faggart
- ♦ Jimmy Summers
- ♦ Martha Summers
- ♦ Noah Clifton
- ♦ Ernestine (Lee) Caffrey
- ♦ Family of Enestine Irvin,
mother of Frank Irvin

*If you have someone you would like
to add to the prayer list, please
contact Keith at 704-786-0166 and
leave a message or email at
keith@sjnc.net*