

CONTRIBUTION STATEMENTS:

2023 Contribution Statements were e-mailed this week. If you did not receive yours or need a printed copy, please contact Jill Irvin @ jill@sjnc.net. or call the church office.

SCOUTING FOR FOOD

Over the next 3 weeks our Scouts are collecting nonperishable goods to be delivered to Cooperative Christian Ministry for their food crisis ministry. Please drop off canned goods in the portico area. You may also make a donation for food purchase – write check to St. James Lutheran Church and note for CCM Food Purchase. CCM serves 900 houses per month, and with the increase in housing costs for lower income families, the need for food donations has increased 23% over this time last year. Your community thanks you!

Invitation to Feed your Neighbor

THANK YOU! THANK YOU! THANK YOU! All days are filled with folks willing to prepare meals for the Salvation Army Center at 45 Ashlyn Drive, SE (the corner of Ashlyn Drive SE and Patterson Ave SE) in Concord during the week of January 21-27. Please contact Chip Popovici (484-772-5963) with any questions.

From Your Social Ministry Committee

Big Brothers/Big Sisters whose offices are in our Education Building is in need of adult mentors. They particularly need men mentors. If you are interested, please contact their Executive Director – Elizabeth Hutchins at 704-562-1144 to learn how you can help. The time you can give will be a significant blessing to a child!

A Call for Annual Reports

Leadership/Committee Chairs, etc. – it is that time of the year... Please get your 2023 annual reports into the office by January 31st to give us time to compile and have the Annual Report/Directory ready for the February 25th Congregational Meeting.

MEAL PACKING EVENT – FEBRUARY 24

A big event will be taking place next month. St. James will be participating in a meal packing event with Lifeline Christian Mission from 10 a.m. – approximately 11:30 a.m. on February 24. We are projecting to have around 60 people and should package around 10,600 meals. Save the date on your calendar and make plans now to come and pack – all ages welcome!

SAINT JAMES STAFF

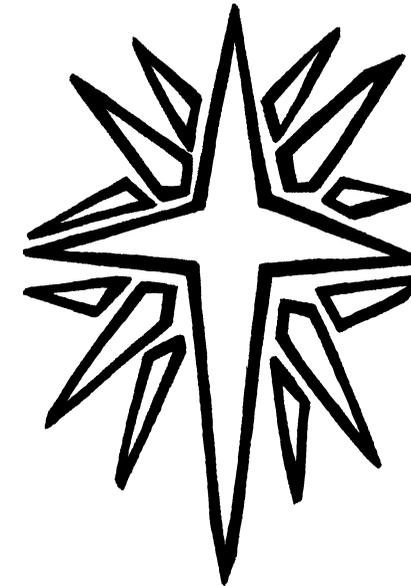
Rev. William C. Ridenhour, Senior Pastor prbill@sjnc.net
Jill Irvin, Finance Administrator jill@sjnc.net
Scott F. Foppiano, Organist and Director of Music scottfop@gmail.com
Debbie Wilkinson, Interim Parish Administrator info@sjnc.net
Kathryn Radcliffe, Nursery Coordinator Krad3700@gmail.com
Teresa Honeycutt, Custodian Tfh1990@yahoo.com

THE THIRD SUNDAY AFTER THE EPIPHANY

January 21, 2024

THE HOLY COMMUNION

TEN O’CLOCK



ST JAMES LUTHERAN CHURCH

104 UNION STREET SOUTH

PO BOX 684

CONCORD, NORTH CAROLINA 28026

704-786-0166

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 St. 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 our 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.

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 (ages 0-up to and including ages 5)

First Aid Kits and the Automatic External Defibrillators (AED) are located outside the church office door, immediately behind the Sanctuary, at the bottom of the stairs in the Portico area and in the Narthex. 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 @stjamesnc

Lector/Intercessor: Chris Miller

Communion Assistant: Malinda Allison

Acolyte/Crucifer: John Meadows

Ushers: Dale Merrell, Gretchen Walker, Robert Davis, Lex Patterson,
and Samantha Hillegass

Videographer: Chris Miller

Greeter: Dee Pieschel

OUR STEWARDSHIP

Contributions / Receipts for January 14, 2024 – \$7,828.38

(\$7,371.00 needed weekly)

In-Person Attendance – 74

ALTAR FLOWERS

The Altar Flowers today are given to the Glory of God by Kelley Carpenter and in honor of Jo Eng, Kim Haberman, and Jeff Carpenter.

PRAYER LIST

Patsy Black; Tom Grady; Tom Ridenhour;

Linda and Paul Jones (family members of Barbara & Dale Merrell);
and Noah Clifton

BIRTHDAYS THIS WEEK

Jan 21 Phillip Michaels

Jan 25 Anne Fridlund

Jan 22 Samantha Cooley

Jan 26 Kenny Propst

Lyla Guilfoyle

Jessica Sutton

Jeff Jones

Jan 27 Jaret Kiker

Hanna Klein

Jason Pittard

Bible Study Returns

Mondays at 6:30 p.m. (Passion Narratives)

Requirements: Bible and a Sense of Humor

COPYRIGHT

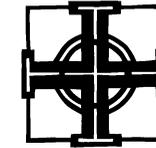
MUSIC: Used with permission under ONE LICENSE A-735002 All rights reserved.

LITURGY: From Sundays and Seasons.com. Copyright 2023 Augsburg Fortress. All rights reserved. Reprinted by permission under Augsburg Fortress Liturgies Annual License SAS002140

THE BENEDICTION

P Almighty God, Father, + Son, and Holy Spirit, bless you now and forever.

C Amen



THE SENDING HYMN #383 *Rise Up, O Saints of God*

Festal Song



- 1 Rise up, O saints of God! From vain am - bi - tions turn;
- 2 Speak out, O saints of God! De - spair en - gulf's earth's frame;
- 3 Rise up, O saints of God! His king - dom's task em - brace;
- 4 Give heed, O saints of God! Cre - a - tion cries in pain;
- 5 Com - mit your hearts to seek the paths which Christ has trod



Christ rose tri - um - phant that your hearts with no - bler zeal might burn.
as heirs of God's bap - tis - mal grace, his word of hope pro - claim.
re - dress sin's cru - el con - se - quence; give jus - tice larg - er place.
stretch forth your hand of heal - ing now, with love the weak sus - tain.
and quick - ened by the Spir - it's pow'r, rise up, O saints of God!

THE DISMISSAL

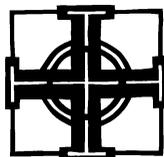
P Go in peace. Serve the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Closing Voluntary

Rigaudon

Andre Campra



THE SEASON AFTER THE EPIPHANY THE HOLY COMMUNION

Gathering



Chimes of the Trinity and Welcome

Opening Voluntary *Andante Sostenuto from Symphonie 9* Charles Marie Widor

Please stand.

THE INVOCATION

P In the name of the Father, and of the + Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

C Amen.

THE BRIEF ORDER FOR CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

P 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.

C Amen

P 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.

Please sit or kneel as able.

Silence for reflection and self-examination.

P Most merciful God,
C **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**

P 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.

C Amen

THE POST-COMMUNION CANTICLE

☞ Lord, now you let your ser- vant go in peace; your word has been ful -
filled. My own eyes have seen the sal - va - tion which you have pre -
pared in the sight of ev - 'ry peo - ple: A light to re - veal you to the
na - tions and the glo - ry of your peo - ple Is - ra - el.
Glo - ry to the Fa - ther, and to the Son, and to the Ho - ly Spir - it,
as it was in the be - gin - ning, is now,
and will be for - ev - er. A - men

THE POST-COMMUNION PRAYER

A Let us pray. God of Glory, in this sacrament you unite us in the body of your Son. May we who have been guests at this table grow in love for one another, that through us your light may shine in all the world, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

C Amen

☩ Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world; have mer-cy on us.

Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world; have mer-cy on us.

Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world;

grant us peace, grant us peace.

Please sit.

THE DISTRIBUTION

- Q: What is the Sacrament of the Altar?
 A: Instituted by Christ himself, it is the true body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ under the bread and wine, given to us Christians to eat and to drink.
- Q: What is the benefit of such eating and drinking?
 A: We are told in the words “for you” and “for the forgiveness of sins.” By these words the forgiveness of sins, life, and salvation are given to us in the sacrament, for where there is forgiveness of sins, there are also life and salvation.
-Luther’s Small Catechism Part V

Jesus bids all the baptized to feast at his table. Please come by way of the center aisle and return by the side aisle. If you need help figuring out where to and when to go, an usher or fellow worshiper will help you. At one time we too were confused. For those unable to partake of wine, white grape juice is available. If you are unable to come to the altar, the pastor will bring communion to you at your seat. Please advise an usher.

Please stand.

THE POST-COMMUNION BLESSING

- P The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace.
 C **Amen**

THE ENTRANCE HYMN #380 O Christ Our Light, O Radiance True

O Jesu Christe

1 O Christ, our light, O Ra - diance true, shine forth on
 2 Fill with the ra - diance of your grace the wan - d'ers
 3 Lord, o - pen all re - luc - tant ears and take a -
 4 Lord, let your mer - cy's gen - tle ray shine down on
 5 Make theirs with ours a sin - gle voice up - lift - ed,

those es - tranged from you, and bring them to your home a -
 lost in er - ror's maze. En - light - en those whose se - cret
 way the child - ish fears of those who trem - ble to ex -
 oth - ers strayed a - way. To those in con - science wound - ed
 ev - er to re - joice with wond - 'ring grat - i - tude and

gain, where their de - light shall nev - er end.
 minds some deep de - lu - sion haunts and blinds.
 press the faith their se - cret hearts con - fess.
 sore show heav - en's wait - ing, o - pen door.
 praise to you, O Lord, for bound - less grace.

THE APOSTOLIC GREETING

- P The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.
 C **And also with you.**

THE HYMN OF PRAISE



A Glo-ry to God in the high- est, and peace to his peo- ple on earth.



B Lord God, heav- en- ly king, al- might- y God and Fa- ther:



We wor- ship you, we give you thanks, we praise you for your glo- ry.



Lord Je- sus Christ, on- ly Son of the Fa- ther, Lord God, Lamb of God:



You take a- way the sin of the world; have mer- cy on us.



You are seat- ed at the right hand of the Fa- ther; re- ceive our prayer.



For you a- lone are the Ho- ly One, you a- lone are the Lord,



you a- lone are the Most High, Je- sus Christ, with the Ho- ly Spir- it,



in the glo- ry of God the Fa- ther. A - men

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 all people for the forgiveness of sin. Do this for the remembrance of me.

Remembering, therefore, his preaching and healing, his dying and rising, and his promise to come again, we await that day when all the universe will rejoice in your holy and life-giving light.

By your Spirit bless us and this meal, that, refreshed with this heavenly food, we may be light for the world, revealing the brilliance of your Son.

Through him all glory and honor is yours, Almighty Father, with the Holy Spirit, in your holy Church, both now and forever.

C Amen.

P Lord, remember us in your kingdom and teach us to pray:

C **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

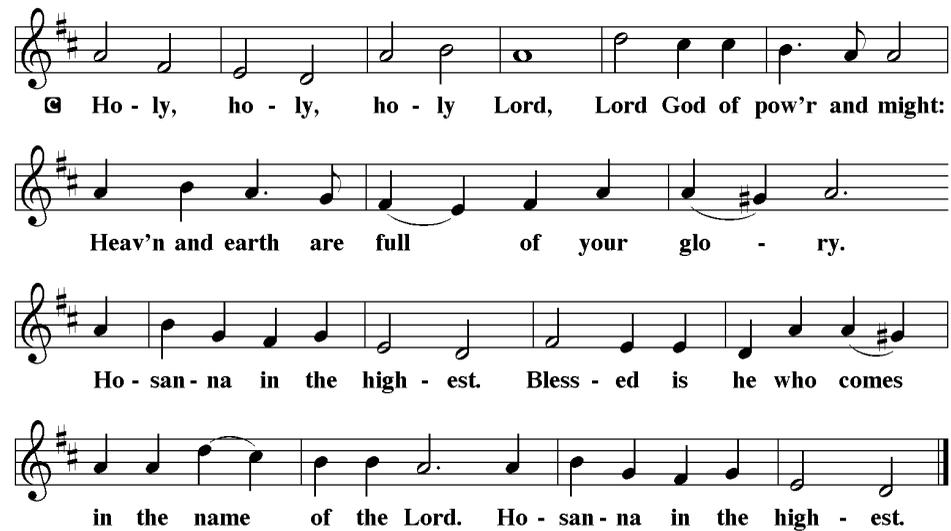
P Lift up your hearts.

C **We lift them to the Lord.**

P Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

C **It is right to give him thanks and praise.**

P It is indeed right and salutary that we should at all times and in all places offer thanks and praise to you, O Lord, holy Father, through Christ our Lord. By the leading of a star he was shown forth to all nations; in the waters of the Jordan you proclaimed him your beloved Son, and in the miracle of water turned to wine he revealed your glory. And so, with all the choirs of angels, with the Church on earth and the hosts of heaven we praise your name and join their unending hymn:



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

P Holy God, mighty Lord, gracious Father: Endless is your mercy and eternal your reign. You are the Life and Light of all. By your powerful word you created all things. Through the prophets you called your people to be a light to the nations.

Blessed are you for Jesus, your Son. He is your Light, shining in our darkness and revealing to us your mercy and might.

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

THE PRAYER OF THE DAY

P Let us pray . . . Almighty God, you sent your Son to proclaim your kingdom and to teach with authority. Anoint us with the power of your Spirit, that we, too, may bring good news to the afflicted, bind up the brokenhearted, and proclaim liberty to the captive; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

C **Amen**

Please sit.



THE FIRST READING: Jonah 3:1-5, 10

The word of the LORD came to Jonah a second time, saying, ²'Get up, go to Nineveh, that great city, and proclaim to it the message that I tell you.' ³So 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. ⁴Jonah began to go into the city, going a day's walk. And he cried out, 'Forty days more, and Nineveh shall be overthrown!' ⁵And the people of Nineveh believed God; they proclaimed a fast, and everyone, great and small, put on sackcloth.

¹⁰ 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 SECOND READING: I Corinthians 7:29-31

²⁹I mean, brothers and sisters, the appointed time has grown short; from now on, let even those who have wives be as though they had none, ³⁰and 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, ³¹and those who deal with the world as though they had no dealings with it. For the present form of this world is passing away.

Please stand.

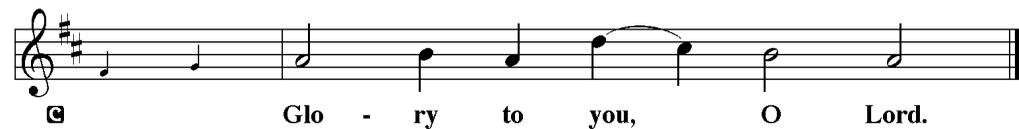
THE GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



Al - le - lu - ia. Lord, to whom shall we go?
You have the words of e - ter - nal life. Al - le - lu - ia.

THE HOLY GOSPEL

P The Holy Gospel according to St. Mark, the 1st chapter.



Glo - ry to you, O Lord.

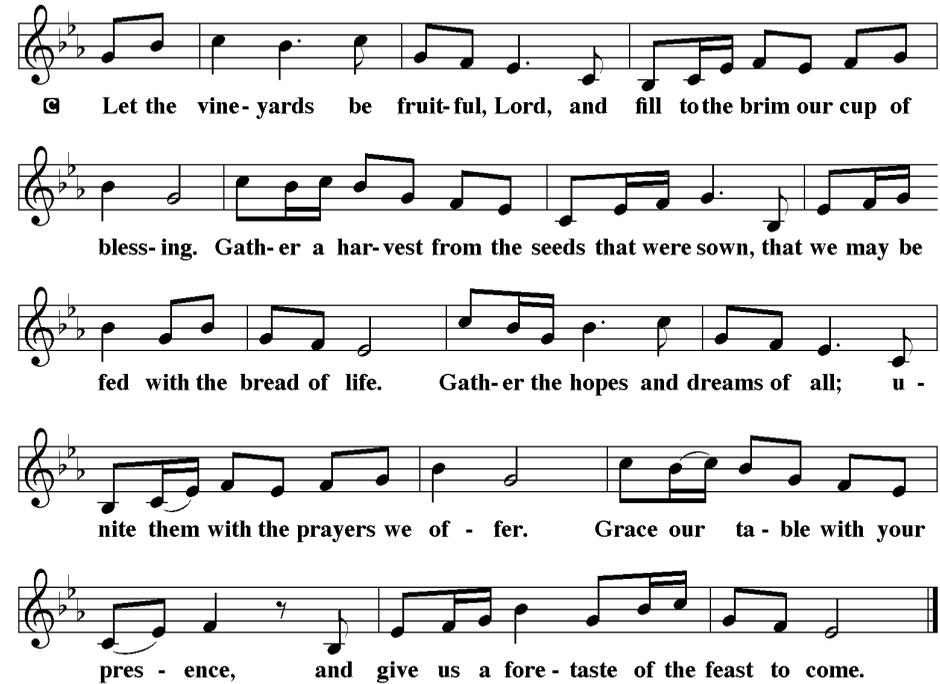
¹⁴ Now after John was arrested, Jesus came to Galilee, proclaiming the good news of God, ¹⁵and saying, ‘The time is fulfilled, and the kingdom of God has come near; repent, and believe in the good news.’

¹⁶ As Jesus passed along the Sea of Galilee, he saw Simon and his brother Andrew casting a net into the lake—for they were fishermen. ¹⁷And Jesus said to them, ‘Follow me and I will make you fish for people.’ ¹⁸And immediately they left their nets and followed him. ¹⁹As he went a little farther, he saw James son of Zebedee and his brother John, who were in their boat mending the nets. ²⁰Immediately he called them; and they left their father Zebedee in the boat with the hired men, and followed him.

The reading concludes, “The Gospel of the Lord.”

Please stand.

THE OFFERTORY CANTICLE



Let the vine-yards be fruit-ful, Lord, and fill to the brim our cup of
bless-ing. Gath-er a har-vest from the seeds that were sown, that we may be
fed with the bread of life. Gath-er the hopes and dreams of all; u -
nite them with the prayers we of - fer. Grace our ta - ble with your
pres - ence, and give us a fore - taste of the feast to come.

THE OFFERTORY PRAYER

A Let us pray.
A Merciful Father,
C we offer with joy and thanksgiving what you have first given us –
ourselves, our time, and our possessions, signs of your gracious love.
Receive them for the sake of him who offered himself for us, Jesus Christ
our Lord. Amen.

THE COMMUNION RITE

P The Lord be with you .
C And also with you.

A Have compassion on those who suffer from any grief or trouble;
C **That they may be delivered from their distress.**

A Give to the departed eternal rest.
C **Let light perpetual shine upon them.**

A We praise you for your saints who have entered into joy;
C **May we also come to share in your heavenly kingdom.**

A Let us pray for our own needs and those of others.

A brief silence for reflection.

P Into your hands, O Lord, we commend we commend all for whom we pray,
trusting in your mercy; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.
C **Amen.**

THE PEACE

P The peace of the Lord be with you always.
C **And also with you.**

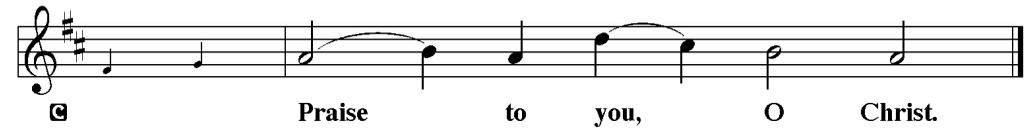
Please sit.

THE ANTHEM

Jesus, the Very Thought of Thee

Glen L. Randolph

THE OFFERING



Please sit.

THE SERMON

Please stand.

THE HYMN OF THE DAY #390 *I Love To Tell the Story*

Hankey



1 I love to tell the sto - ry of un - seen things a - bove,
2 I love to tell the sto - ry: how pleas - ant to re - peat
3 I love to tell the sto - ry, for those who know it best



of Je - sus and his glo - ry, of Je - sus and his love.
what seems, each time I tell it, more won - der - ful - ly sweet!
seem hun - ger - ing and thirst - ing to hear it like the rest.



I love to tell the sto - ry, be - cause I know it's true;
I love to tell the sto - ry, for some have nev - er heard
And when, in scenes of glo - ry, I sing the new, new song,



it sat - is - fies my long - ings as noth - ing else would do.
the mes - sage of sal - va - tion from God's own ho - ly word.
I'll sing the old, old sto - ry that I have loved so long.

Refrain



I love to tell the sto - ry; I'll sing this theme in glo - ry



and tell the old, old sto - ry of Je - sus and his love.

THE APOSTLES' CREED

**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 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.**

THE PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

A 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 Father, we pray for your holy Catholic Church;

C **That we all may be one.**

A Grant that every member of the Church may truly and humbly serve you;

C **That your Name may be glorified by all people.**

A We pray for all bishops, pastors, and deacons;

C **That they may be faithful ministers of your Word and Sacraments.**

A We pray for all who govern and hold authority in the nations of the world;

C **That there may be justice and peace on the earth.**

A Give us grace to do your will in all that we undertake;

C **That our works may find favor in your sight.**