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.

Second Sunday in Lent

March 13, 2022
10:00 a.m.

Introduction to Today's Worship

Though we sometimes doubt and often resist God's desire to protect and save us, our God persists. In holy baptism, God's people have been called and gathered into a God-initiated relationship that will endure. Lent provides the church with a time and a tradition in which to seek God's face again. Lent provides another occasion to behold the God of our salvation in the face of the Blessed One who "comes in the name of the Lord."

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 and subscribe.

GATHERING

WELCOME

OPENING VOLUNTARY

Christ, the Lamb of God, Innocent ~*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.

God of all mercy and consolation, come to the help of your people, turning us from our sin to live for you alone. Give us the power of your Holy Spirit that we may confess our sin, receive your forgiveness, and grow into the fullness of Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Amen.

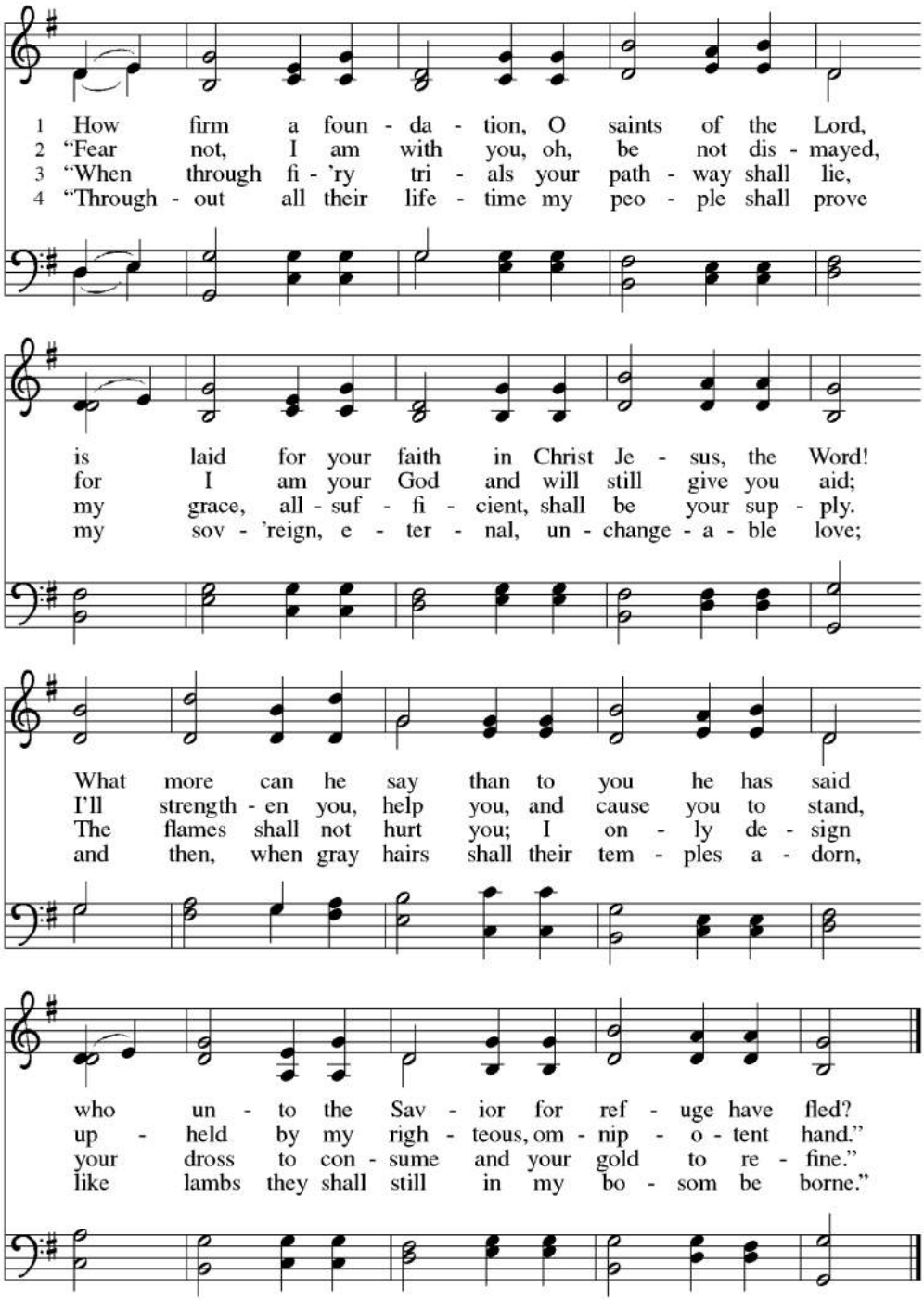
Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

Gracious God,

have mercy on us. We confess that we have turned from you and given ourselves into the power of sin. We are truly sorry and humbly repent. In your compassion forgive us our sins, known and unknown, things we have done and things we have failed to do. Turn us again to you, and uphold us by your Spirit, so that we may live and serve you in newness of life through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

God, who is rich in mercy, loved us even when we were dead in sin, and made us alive together with Christ. By grace you have been saved. In the name of ✠ Jesus Christ, your sins are forgiven. Almighty God strengthen you with power through the Holy Spirit, that Christ may live in your hearts through faith.

Amen.

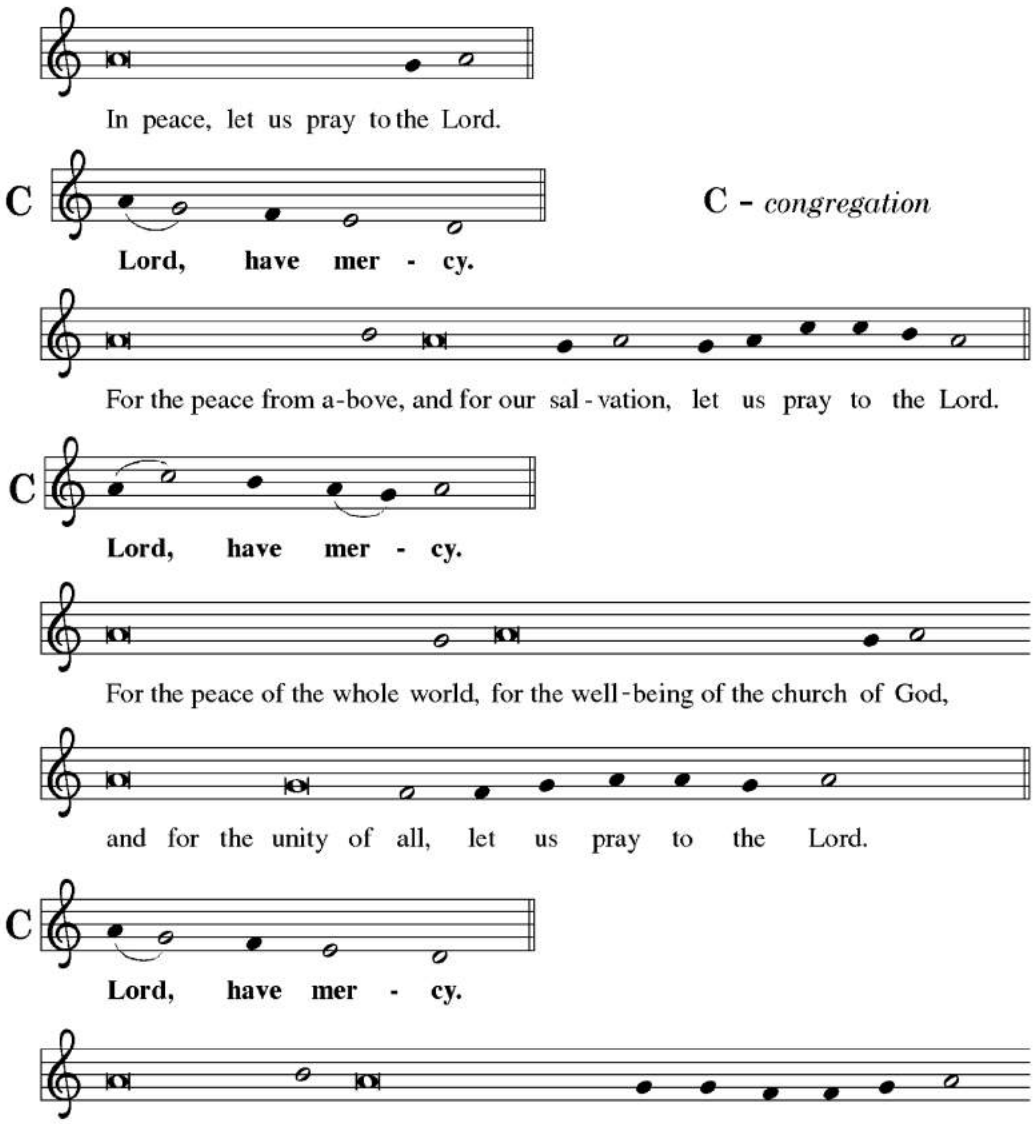

1 How firm a foun - da - tion, O saints of the Lord,
2 "Fear not, I am with you, oh, be not dis - mayed,
3 "When through fi - 'ry tri - als your path - way shall lie,
4 "Through - out all their life - time my peo - ple shall prove
is laid for your faith in Christ Je - sus, the Word!
for I am your God and will still give you aid;
my grace, all - suf - fi - cient, shall be your sup - ply.
my sov - 'reign, e - ter - nal, un - change - a - ble love;
What more can he say than to you he has said
I'll strength - en you, help you, and cause you to stand,
The flames shall not hurt you; I on - ly de - sign
and then, when gray hairs shall their tem - ples a - dorn,
who un - to the Sav - ior for ref - uge have fled?
up - held by my righ - teous, om - nip - o - tent hand."
your dross to con - sume and your gold to re - fine."
like lambs they shall still in my bo - som be borne."

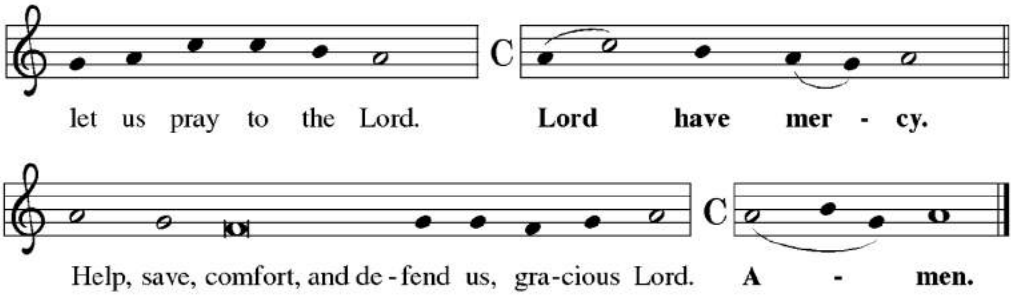
GREETING

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.

KYRIE





Prayer of the Day

God of the covenant, in the mystery of the cross you promise everlasting life to the world. Gather all peoples into your arms, and shelter us with your mercy, that we may rejoice in the life we share in your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

Word

First Reading *Genesis 15:1-12, 17-18*

God promises a childless and doubting Abram that he will have a child, that his descendants will be as numerous as the stars, and that the land of Canaan will be their inheritance. Abram's trust in God is sealed with a covenant-making ceremony, a sign of God's promise.

A reading from Genesis, the fifteenth chapter.

After these things the word of the Lord came to Abram in a vision, "Do not be
afraid, Abram, I am your shield; your reward shall be very great." 2But
Abram said, "O Lord God, what will you give me, for I continue childless, and the
heir of my house is Eliezer of Damascus?" 3And Abram said, "You have given me
no offspring, and so a slave born in my house is to be my heir." 4But the word of
the Lord came to him, "This man shall not be your heir; no one but your very own
issue shall be your heir." 5He brought him outside and said, "Look toward heaven
and count the stars, if you are able to count them." Then he said to him, "So shall
your descendants be." 6And he believed the Lord; and the Lord reckoned it to him
as righteousness. 7Then he said to him, "I am the Lord who brought you from Ur
of the Chaldeans, to give you this land to possess." 8But he said, "O Lord God,
how am I to know that I shall possess it?" 9He said to him, "Bring me a heifer
three years old, a female goat three years old, a ram three years old, a turtledove,
and a young pigeon."

continued...

10He brought him all these and cut them in two, laying each half over against the other; but he did not cut the birds in two. 11And when birds of prey came down on the carcasses, Abram drove them away. 12As the sun was going down, a deep sleep fell upon Abram, and a deep and terrifying darkness descended upon him. 17When the sun had gone down and it was dark, a smoking fire pot and a flaming torch passed between these pieces. 18On that day the Lord made a covenant with Abram, saying, "To your descendants I give this land, from the river of Egypt to the great river, the river Euphrates."

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

PSALM 27 *(Chanted by the choir)*

A reading from Psalm twenty-seven.

1The LORD is my light and my salvation; whom then | shall I fear?
The LORD is the stronghold of my life; of whom shall I | be afraid?
2When evildoers close in against me to de- | vour my flesh,
they, my foes and my enemies, will stum- | ble and fall.
3Though an army encamp against me, my heart | will not fear.
Though war rise up against me, my trust will | not be shaken.
4One thing I ask of the LORD; one | thing I seek;
that I may dwell in the house of the LORD all the days of my life; to gaze upon the beauty of the LORD and to seek God | in the temple.
5For in the day of trouble God will | give me shelter, hide me
in the hidden places of the sanctuary, and raise me high up- | on a rock.
6Even now my head is lifted up above my enemies | who surround me.
Therefore I will offer sacrifice in the sanctuary, sacrifices of rejoicing; I will sing and make music | to the LORD.
7Hear my voice, O LORD, | when I call;
have mercy on me and | answer me.
8My heart speaks your message— | "Seek my face."
Your face, O LORD, | I will seek.
9Hide not your face from me, turn not away from your ser- | vant in anger.
Cast me not away—you have been my helper; forsake me not, O God of | my salvation.
10Though my father and my moth- | er forsake me,
the LORD will | take me in.

11Teach me your | way, O LORD;
lead me on a level path, because of | my oppressors.
12Subject me not to the will | of my foes,
for they rise up against me, false witnesses | breathing violence.
13This I believe—that I will see the goodness | of the LORD
in the land | of the living!
14Wait for the LORD| and be strong.
Take heart and wait | for the LORD!

The Word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

SECOND READING *PHILIPIANS 3:17—4:1*

Although Paul's devotion to Christ has caused him to be persecuted, he does not regret the course he has taken. Writing from prison, he expresses confidence in a glorious future and encourages other Christians to follow in his footsteps.

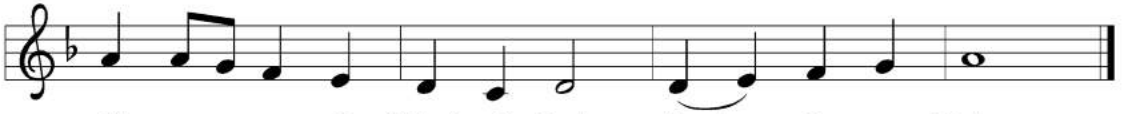
A reading from Philipians, the third chapter.

Brothers and sisters, join in imitating me, and observe those who live according to the example you have in us. 18For many live as enemies of the cross of Christ; I have often told you of them, and now I tell you even with tears. 19Their end is destruction; their god is the belly; and their glory is in their shame; their minds are set on earthly things. 20But our citizenship is in heaven, and it is from there that we are expecting a Savior, the Lord Jesus Christ. 21He will transform the body of our humiliation that it may be conformed to the body of his glory, by the power that also enables him to make all things subject to himself. 4:1Therefore, my brothers and sisters, whom I love and long for, my joy and crown, stand firm in the Lord in this way, my beloved.

The Word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

Stand

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION *(Choir sings once, then everyone repeats)*



HOLY GOSPEL *LUKE 13:31-35*

Neither Herod's plotting nor Jerusalem's resistance to maternal love will deter Jesus from his sacrificial mission.

The Holy Gospel according to Saint Luke, the thirteenth chapter.

Glory to you, O Lord.

At that very hour some Pharisees came and said to Jesus, "Get away from here, for Herod wants to kill you." 32He said to them, "Go and tell that fox for me, 'Listen, I am casting out demons and performing cures today and tomorrow, and on the third day I finish my work. 33Yet today, tomorrow, and the next day I must be on my way, because it is impossible for a prophet to be killed outside of Jerusalem.' 34Jerusalem, Jerusalem, the city that kills the prophets and stones those who are sent to it! How often have I desired to gather your children together as a hen gathers her brood under her wings, and you were not willing! 35See, your house is left to you. And I tell you, you will not see me until the time comes when you say, 'Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord.'"

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

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.

You gather the church into a community of mercy and grace. Unify Christians around the globe in efforts to proclaim good news even in the face of opposition and to protect those whose lives are imperiled by the gospel. We especially pray for the Rev Theodore Rust and our sisters and brothers in Christ at St. Andrew Lutheran Church in New Bern, NC. Lord in your mercy,

hear our prayer.

You create the entire universe and call it good. Hinder those who would cause further destruction to our planet's fragile ecosystems, and augment the calls of those who advocate for thoughtful stewardship of the earth's resources. Lord in your mercy,

hear our prayer.

You raise up leaders committed to love and justice. Nurture in those who govern patience to receive criticism, openness to new ideas, and courage to change course when needed for the sake of the common good. Lord in your mercy,

hear our prayer.

You hear us when we cry to you. Attend to those expecting a child, and console those who have experienced miscarriage. Comfort veterans enduring post-traumatic stress. Shield those endangered by domestic violence. Uphold those who are ill or grieving and those whom we now name before you with our lips and in the silence of our hearts. Lord in your mercy,

hear our prayer.

You kindle faith that moves us into action. Guide children and adults preparing for baptism or confirmation. Empower Sunday school teachers, confirmation leaders, and parents who share their faith with younger generations. Give us all a renewed sense of vocation. Lord in your mercy,

hear our prayer.

You welcome us into your heavenly realm. We give thanks for those whose labors on earth are ended and who now rest with you. On the final day, gather all of us, with them, in your loving arms. Lord in your mercy,

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 at the Preparation of the Altar

When I Survey the Wondrous Cross *~Gilbert M. Martin*

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.

Blessed are you, O God of the universe. Your mercy is everlasting and your faithfulness endures from age to age.

Praise to you for creating the heavens and the earth. Praise to you for saving the earth from the waters of the flood. Praise to you for bringing the Israelites safely through the sea. Praise to you for leading your people through the wilderness to the land of milk and honey. Praise to you for the words and deeds of Jesus, your anointed one. Praise to you for the death and resurrection of Christ. Praise to you for your Spirit poured out on all nations.

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

With this bread and cup we remember our Lord's passover from death to life as we proclaim the mystery of faith:

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

O God of resurrection and new life: Pour out your Holy Spirit on us and on these gifts of bread and wine. Bless this feast. Grace our table with your presence.

Come, Holy Spirit.

Reveal yourself to us in the breaking of the bread. Raise us up as the body of Christ for the world. Breathe new life into us. Send us forth, burning with justice, peace, and love.

Come, Holy Spirit.

With your holy ones of all times and places, with the earth and all its creatures, with sun and moon and stars, we praise you, O God, blessed and holy Trinity, 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.

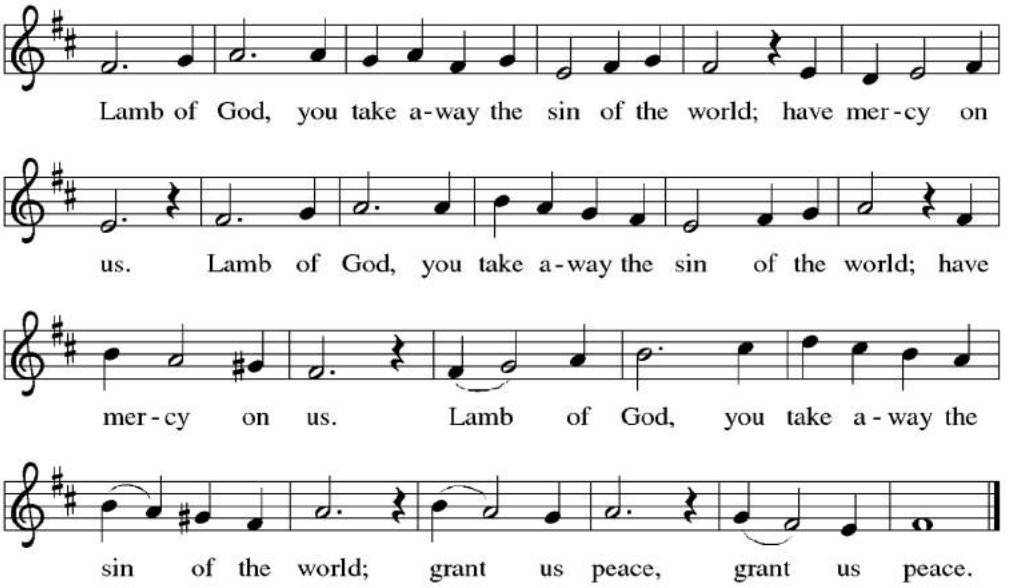
INVITATION TO HOLY COMMUNION

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.

Lamb of God



Communion Hymn

Children of the Heavenly Father SWEEDISH FOLK TUNE

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. Merciful God, accompany us on our journey through these forty days of Lent. Renew in us the gift of baptism, that we may provide for those who are poor, pray for those in need, fast from self-indulgence, and above all that we may find our treasure in the life of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Amen.

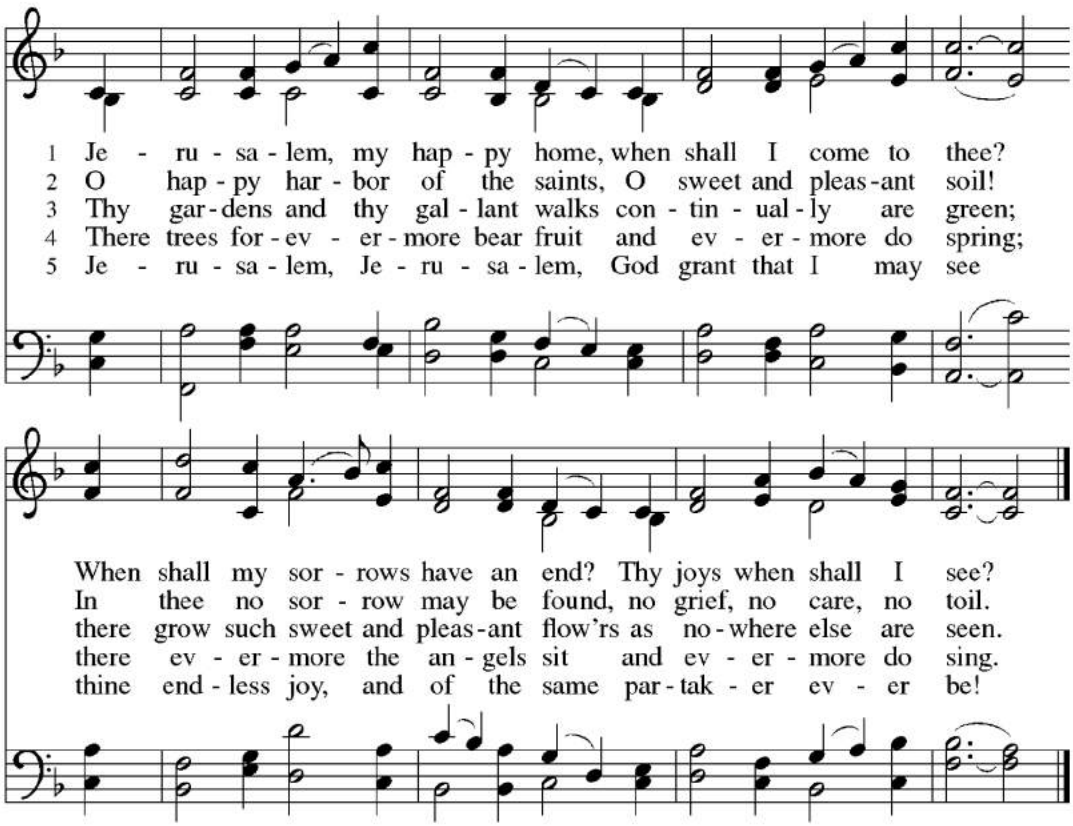
Sending

Blessing

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

Amen.

SENDING HYMN *Jerusalem, My Happy Home* LAND OF REST



DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Serve the Lord.

Thanks be to God!

CLOSING VOLUNTARY

Land of Rest: A Retrospective *~American Folk Melody*

The Liturgy Has Ended; The Service Begins!

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LAND OF REST Text: CM;F.B.P., London, ca. 16th cent., Contributors: LAND OF REST Used with permission under ONE LICENSE A-735002 All rights reserved.

KING OF KINGS

Silent film with live organ accompaniment

Sunday, April 10, 2022 at 6:00 pm
St. James Lutheran Church

Please join us for Cecil B. DeMille's 1927 black and white silent film masterpiece, "King of Kings" starring H.B. Warner. The film is a stunning, dramatic period-representation of Christ's earthly adult ministry. The presentation on Palm Sunday reinforces the significance and beauty of Holy Week as we look toward Christ's passion, death and triumphant resurrection on Easter Day.

This is the first silent film with live organ accompaniment program to be offered in the Concord area. Scott Foppiano, the St. James Organist/Director of Music, has presented this program throughout the United States and will provide the organ accompaniment.

The film is appropriate for all ages. There is no admission charge. Please plan to attend and bring your families and friends.

WEDNESDAY NIGHTS IN LENT

During the season of Lent we will gather for a meal each Wednesday at **6:00**, followed by a time of worship, song, prayer and a brief meditation on Jesus' final conversation with his disciples prior to his crucifixion. You may find it helpful to read the verses assigned for each week before worship. All services will be livestreamed. This week:

John 15:1-17 "Abide in my love"

To sign up for the meal, go to https://forms.gle/nXCzvFyWLzKeTQvp8, scan this QR code or call the church office 704-786-0166.

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

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-Mar Wendell Overby
13-Mar Anne Swayney
14-Mar Sara Faircloth
16-Mar Tony Eury
16-Mar Dee Pieschel

CALENDAR THIS WEEK

Sunday, March 13
9:00 am Adult Sunday Schl
10:00 am In-Person Worship

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

Wednesday, March 16
6:00 pm Lenten Meal
6:45 pm Lenten Service
7:15 pm Choir Rehearsal

Sunday, March 20
9:00 am Adult Sunday Schl
10:00 am In-Person Worship
2:00 pm Confirmation

ASSISTING IN WORSHIP

Lector/Intercessor:
Mark Murphy
Communion Assistant:
Mark Murphy
Acolyte/Crucifer:
Jacob Rinker
Bookbearer:
Joshua Rinker

Ushers: David Cruse, Chip Blackwelder, Joe Grady, Jay Cruse, Michael Rinker

OUR STEWARDSHIP

Contributions and Receipts for March 6, 2022
$12,533.00
($7,371.00 needed for weekly)

PRAYER LIST

- St. Andrew Lutheran Church, New Bern, NC
- Tom Ridenhour
- Sandra Faggart
- Jimmy Summers
- Martha Summers
- Noah Clifton
- David Smith
- Angela Ward, *friend of Anne and Tony Eury*
- Phil Robenhymer, *friend of Al and Dee Pieschel*
- Family of David Smith
- People of Ukraine

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

MY FATHER'S HOUSE

St. James / St. John's will be hosting My Father's House Ministry, March 21, 22, and 23. St. James will provide dinner meals on Monday, March 21 and Tuesday, March 22. There are presently 11 adults and 10 children in the Ministry. If you can provide an item for the meal for March 21 or March 22, please let Sylvia Corl know. Thanks so much for your help with this needed ministry.