

CHURCH CALENDAR THIS WEEK

Sunday, February 18	9:00 am	Adult Sunday School
	9:15 am	Parish Choir
	9:30 am	Children's Sunday School
	10:00 am	Worship
Monday, February 19	10:30 am	Quilting Group
	6:30 pm	Scouts
	6:30 pm	Bible Study
Wednesday, February 21	5:30 pm	Wednesdays in Lent
	6:00 pm	Bella Voce Choir
	7:00 pm	Parish Choir
Thursday, February 22	6:00 pm	Handbells
Sunday, February 25	9:00 am	Adult Sunday School
	9:15 am	Parish Choir
	9:30 am	Children's Sunday School
	9:50 am	Congregational Meeting
	10:00 am	Worship

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

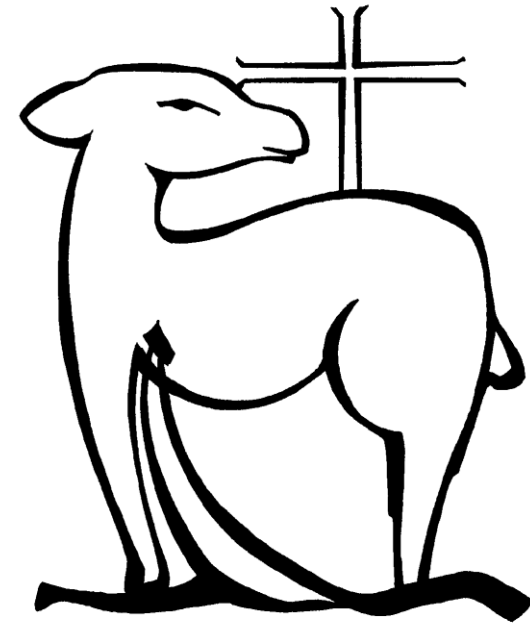
Tfh1990@yahoo.com

THE FIRST SUNDAY IN LENT

February 18, 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



ST. JAMES LUTHERAN CHURCH
GROWING IN CHRIST EST. 1843

Lifeline
CHRISTIAN MISSION

Meal Packing Event

Saturday, February 24th
10:00 AM - 11:30 AM
Gibson Mill | 325 McGill Ave NW
Suite 175, Concord, NC 28027

Sign Up Sheet at Portico Entrance
info@sjnc.net | 704-786-0166
Recruiting ~60 volunteers
Will pack ~10,600 meals

MEAL PACKING EVENT – FEBRUARY 24

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! A Sign-Up Sheet is posted on the bulletin board in the Portico area – please sign up if you are interested in helping and list the number in your family/group. The address of Lifeline Christian Mission is 325 McGill Avenue, NW, Suite 175, Concord. Please park in the lot to the right at you enter Gibson Mill – enter under the green awning, just to the right of the City Club through the double glass doors. They are located in the mall area, down the hall to the LEFT – across from the Iron Axe.

ASSISTING IN WORSHIP

Lector/Intercessor: Barbara Albright

Communion Assistant: Ann Blackwelder

Acolyte/Crucifer: John Meadows

Ushers: Mark Murphy, Jimmy Harris, Jeff Jones, Jeff Gilbert,
Chip Popovici, Phil Tesh

Videographer: Samantha Hillegass

Greeter: Nancy Faggart

Building Supervisors: Kenny and Annette Propst

ANNUAL MEETING

Sunday, February 25, 2024 @ 9:50am

Reception of Annual Report and Election of Nominating Committee

WEDNESDAYS IN LENT

Begins February 21 5:30ish – 7ish

Light meal / Study / Prayer Office

Please sign up on pew pads, e-mail or call church office...

info@sjnc.net / 704-786-0166 (to have #'s for meal prep)

ALTAR FLOWERS

The Altar Flowers today are given by Elizabeth Hurley
to the Glory of God and in loving memory of Sam Petrea, Jr.

PRAYER LIST

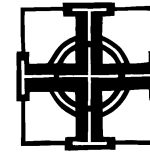
Tom Grady; Tom Ridenhour; Noah Clifton;

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

Susan Tadlock (friend of Deb Black); and Jason and Stephanie Matthews upon the death of
Stephanie's mother (Vicky Skinner).

BIRTHDAYS THIS WEEK

Feb 18	Mark Hartman	Feb 23	Caroline Bestler
	Jodi Ramirez		Jeff Crew
Feb 20	Cindy Korinko		Connie Rezza
Feb 22	Nina Folino		
	Alexandra Green		
	Travis Nesbit		
	Kelly Propst		



**THE SEASON IN LENT
THE HOLY COMMUNION**

Gathering



Chimes of the Trinity and Welcome

Opening Voluntary

Chorale Prelude on Rhosymedre

R. Vaughan-Williams

Please stand.

THE INVOCATION

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

C Amen.

THE CONFESSION AND FORGIVNESS

P Father of mercies and God of all consolation, come to the aid of your people,
turning us from our sin to live for you alone. Give us the power of your Holy
Spirit, that we may attend to your Word, confess our sins, receive your

forgiveness, and grow into the fullness of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord and Redeemer. 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 kneel or sit, as able.
Silence for 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**

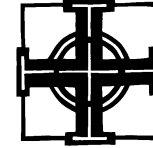
P In the mercy of Almighty God, Jesus Christ was given to die for you, and for his sake God forgives you all your sins. In his living water God makes us his children and bestows on us his Holy Spirit. Refreshed and renewed we rest in his peace and rise to serve him.

C **Amen**

THE DISMISSAL

P Go in peace. Serve the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**



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THE SENDING HYMN: *Christ, the Life of All the Living* Jesu, Meines Lebens Leben

1 Christ, the life of all the liv - ing, Christ, the death of death, our foe,
 2 You have suf - fered great af - flic - tion and have borne it pa - tient - ly,
 3 Then, for all that bought my par - don, for the sor - rows deep and sore,

Christ, your - self for me once giv - ing to the dark - est depths of woe:
 e - ven death by cru - ci - fix - ion, ful - ly to a - tone for me;
 for the an - guish in the gar - den, I will thank you ev - er - more;

through your suf - f'ring, death, and mer - it life e - ter - nal I in - her - it.
 for you chose to be tor - ment - ed that my doom should be pre - vent - ed.
 thank you for the groan - ing, sigh - ing, for the bleed - ing and the dy - ing,

Thou - sand, thou - sand thanks are due, dear - est Je - sus, un - to you.
 Thou - sand, thou - sand thanks are due, dear - est Je - sus, un - to you.
 for that last tri - um - phant cry, praise you ev - er - more on high.

THE ENTRANCE HYMN

#94 *My Song is Love Unknown*

Rhosymedre

1 My song is love un - known, my Sav - ior's love to me,
 2 He came from his blest throne, sal - va - tion to be - stow;
 3 Some - times they strew his way and his sweet prais - es sing;
 4 Why, what hath my Lord done? What makes this rage and spite?

love to the love - less shown, that they might love - ly be.
 but men made strange, and none the longed - for Christ would know.
 re - sound - ing all the day ho - san - nas to their King.
 He made the lame to run, he gave the blind their sight.

Oh, who am I, that for my sake my Lord should take frail
 But, oh, my friend, my friend in - deed, who at my need his
 Then "Cru - ci - fy!" is all their breath, and for his death they
 Sweet in - ju - ries! Yet they at these them - selves dis - please, and

flesh and die? My Lord should take frail flesh and die?
 life did spend; who at my need his life did spend!
 thirst and cry, and for his death they thirst and cry.
 'gainst him rise; them - selves dis - please, and 'gainst him rise.

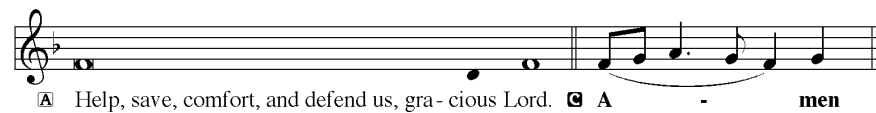
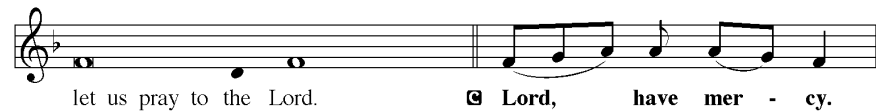
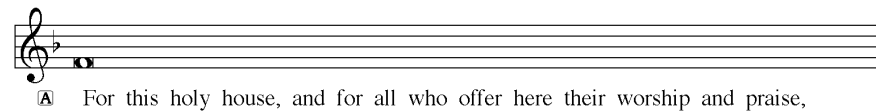
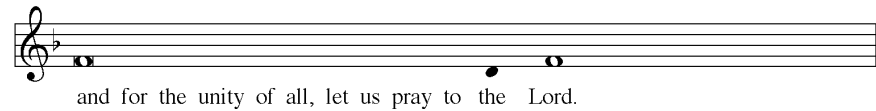
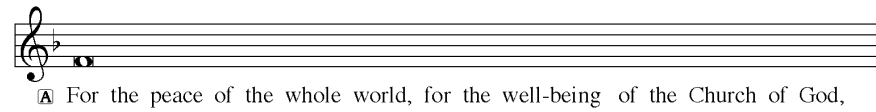
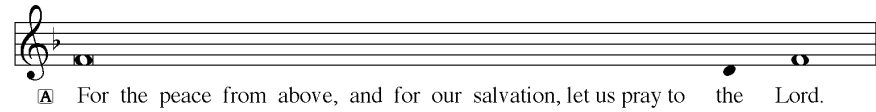
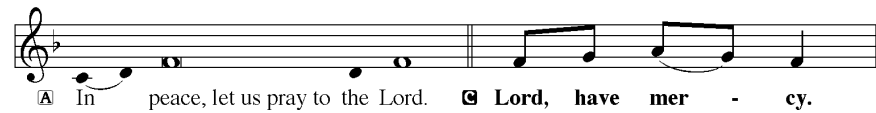
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|---|--|
| 5 They rise, and needs will have
my dear Lord made away;
a murderer they save,
the prince of life they slay.
Yet cheerful he to suff'ring goes,
that he his foes from thence might free. | 6 In life, no house, no home
my Lord on earth might have;
in death, no friendly tomb
but what a stranger gave.
What may I say? Heav'n was his home;
but mine the tomb wherein he lay. |
|---|--|

- 7 Here might I stay and sing—
 no story so divine!
 Never was love, dear King,
 never was grief like thine.
 This is my friend, in whose sweet praise
 I all my days could gladly spend!

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 KYRIE



COMMUNION ANTHEM

Turn Thy Face from My Sins

Thomas Attwood

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 POST-COMMUNION PRAYER

A Let us pray.
A Almighty God, you gave your Son both as a sacrifice for sin and a model of the godly life. Enable us to receive him always with thanksgiving, and to conform our lives to his through the same Jesus Christ our Lord
C **Amen**

Silence for reflection.



THE BENEDICTION

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

Please sit.

THE SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION

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

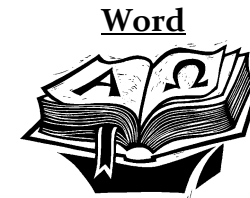
Jesus bids all the baptized to feast at his table. Please come by way of the center aisle and return by the side aisle. If you need help figuring out where to and when to go, an usher or fellow worshiper will help you. At one time we too were confused. For those unable to partake of wine, white grape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

THE PRAYER OF THE DAY

P Let us pray. Lord God, our strength, the battle of good and evil rages within and around us, and our ancient foe tempts us with his deceits and empty promises. Keep us steadfast in your Word and, when we fall, raise us again and restore us through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

Please sit.



THE FIRST READING: Genesis 9:8-17

⁸God said to Noah and to his sons with him, ⁹“As for me, I am establishing my covenant with you and your descendants after you, ¹⁰and with every living creature that is with you, the birds, the domestic animals, and every animal of the earth with you, as many as came out of the ark. ¹¹I establish my covenant with you, that never again shall all flesh be cut off by the waters of a flood, and never again shall there be a flood to destroy the earth.” ¹²God said, “This is the sign of the covenant that I make between me and you and every living creature that is with you, for all future generations: ¹³I have set my bow in the clouds, and it shall be a sign of the covenant between me and the earth. ¹⁴When I bring clouds over the earth and the bow is seen in the clouds, ¹⁵I will remember my covenant that is between me and you and every living creature of all flesh; and the waters shall never again become a flood to destroy all flesh. ¹⁶When the bow is in the clouds, I will see it and remember the everlasting covenant between God and every living creature of all flesh that is on the earth.” ¹⁷God said to Noah, “This is the sign of the covenant that I have established between me and all flesh that is on the earth.”

A The Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

THE SECOND READING: I Peter 3:18-22

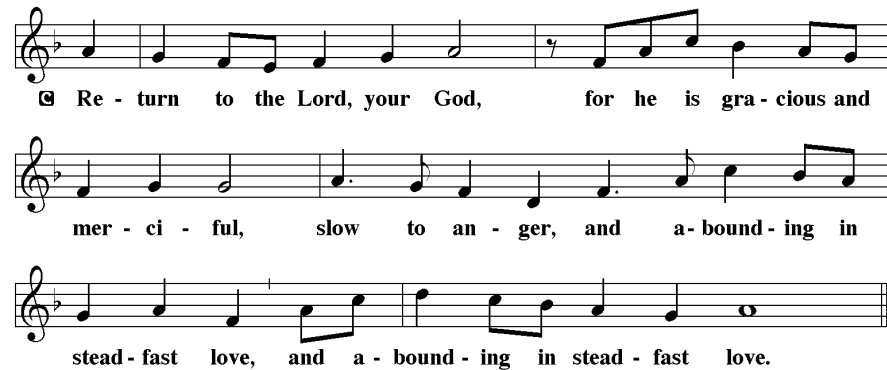
Christ also suffered for sins once for all, the righteous for the unrighteous, in order to bring you to God. He was put to death in the flesh, but made alive in the spirit, ¹⁹in which also he went and made a proclamation to the spirits in prison, ²⁰who in former times did not obey, when God waited patiently in the days of Noah, during the building of the ark, in which a few, that is, eight persons, were saved through water. ²¹And baptism, which this prefigured, now saves you—not as a removal of dirt from the body, but as an appeal to God for a good conscience, through the resurrection of Jesus Christ, ²²who has gone into heaven and is at the right hand of God, with angels, authorities, and powers made subject to him.

A The Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Please stand.

THE GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



☩ Re - turn to the Lord, your God, for he is gra - cious and
mer - ci - ful, slow to an - ger, and a - bound - ing in
stead - fast love, and a - bound - ing in stead - fast love.

THE GOSPEL

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

C Glory to you, O Lord.

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.

Remembering, therefore, his salutary command, his life-giving Passion and death, his glorious resurrection and ascension, and his promise to come again, we give thanks to you, Lord God Almighty, not as we ought, but as we are able; and we implore you mercifully to accept our praise and thanksgiving, and, with your Word and Holy Spirit, to bless us, your servants, and these your own gifts of bread and wine; that we and all who share in the body and blood of your Son may be filled with heavenly peace and joy, and, receiving the forgiveness of sin, may be sanctified in soul and body, and have our portion with all your saints.

All honor and glory are yours, O God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, in your holy Church, 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.

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. You bid your people cleanse their hearts and prepare with joy for the paschal feast. Renew our zeal in faith and life, and bring us to the fullness of grace that belongs to the children of God. And so, with the Church on earth and the hosts of heaven, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:



P You are indeed holy, almighty and merciful God; you are most holy, and great is the majesty of your glory.

You so loved the world that you gave your only Son, that whoever believes in him may not perish but have eternal life.

Having come into the world, he fulfilled for us your holy will and accomplished our salvation.

⁹In those days Jesus came from Nazareth of Galilee and was baptized by John in the Jordan. ¹⁰And just as he was coming up out of the water, he saw the heavens torn apart and the Spirit descending like a dove on him. ¹¹And a voice came from heaven, “You are my Son, the Beloved; with you I am well pleased.”

¹²And the Spirit immediately drove him out into the wilderness. ¹³He was in the wilderness forty days, tempted by Satan; and he was with the wild beasts; and the angels waited on him.

P The Gospel of the Lord.

C Praise to you, O Christ.

Please sit.

THE SERMON

Please stand.

THE HYMN OF THE DAY: *Lord Keep Us Steadfast in Your Word* Erhalt Uns, Herr

1 Lord, keep us steady in your word; curb those who
 2 Lord Je - sus Christ, your pow'r make known, for you are
 3 O Com - fort - er of price - less worth, send peace and

by de - ceit or sword would wrest the king - dom from your Son
 Lord of lords a - lone; de - fend your ho - ly church, that we
 u - ni - ty on earth; sup - port us in our fi - nal strife

and bring to naught all he has done.
 may sing your praise e - ter - nal - ly.
 and lead us out of death to life.

THE NICENE CREED

We believe in one God,
 the Father, the Almighty,
 maker of heaven and earth,
 of all that is, seen and unseen.

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ,
 the only Son of God,

Cre - ate in me a clean heart, O God, and re - new a right spir -
 it with - in me. Cast me not a - way from your pres - ence, and take
 not your Ho - ly Spir - it from me. Re - store to me the
 joy of your sal - va - tion, and up - hold me with your free Spir - it.

THE OFFERTORY PRAYER

A Let us pray.
 A Merciful Father,
 C we offer with joy and thanksgiving what you have first given us – our
 selves, 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.

Table



THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

P The Lord be with you.
 C And also with you.
 P Lift up your hearts.

to help us use wisely the fruits and treasures
of the earth, the sea, and the air;
and graciously to hear our prayers:
We implore you to hear us, good Lord.

For the faithful who have gone before us and are at rest, let us pray to the Lord:
Lord, have mercy.

P Almighty God, our heavenly Father, you desire not the death of sinners, but rather that they should turn from their evil way and live: Graciously turn us from those punishments which we by our sins have deserved, and grant us grace evermore to serve you in holiness and pureness of living; through 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 *For God So Loved the World*

Donald Busarow

*For God so loved the world that he gave His only Son,
So that everyone who believes in Him may not perish but may have eternal life.
God did not send His Son into the world to condemn the world,
But that the world might be saved through him.*

THE OFFERING

Please stand.

THE OFFERTORY

**eternally begotten of the Father,
God from God, Light from Light,
true God from true God,
begotten, not made,
of one Being with the Father.
Through him all things were made.**

For us and for our salvation

**he came down from heaven,
by the power of the Holy Spirit he became incarnate
from the virgin Mary, and was made man.**

**For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate;
he suffered death and was buried.**

**On the third day he rose again
in accordance with the scriptures;
he ascended into heaven
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.**

**He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his
kingdom will have no end.**

**We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,
With the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified.
He has spoken through the prophets.
We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic church.
We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.
We look for the resurrection of the dead,
and the life of the world to come. Amen.**

Please kneel or sit, as able.

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.

From all sin, from all error, from all evil;
from the cunning assaults of the devil;
from an unprepared and evil death:
Good Lord, deliver us.

From war, bloodshed, and violence;
from corrupt and unjust government;
from sedition and treason:
Good Lord, deliver us.

From epidemic, drought, and famine,
from fire and flood, earthquake, lightning and storm;
and from everlasting death:
Good Lord, deliver us.

By the mystery of your incarnation; by your holy birth:
Help us, good Lord.

By your baptism, fasting, and temptation;
by your agony and bloody sweat;
by your cross and suffering;
by your precious death and burial:
Help us, good Lord.

By your glorious resurrection and ascension;
by the gift of the Holy Spirit:
Help us, good Lord.

In all time of our tribulation;
in all time of our prosperity;
in the hour of death; and in the day of judgment:
Save us, good Lord.

Though unworthy, we implore you
to hear us, Lord our God.

To rule and govern your holy catholic Church;
to guide all servants of your Church in the true knowledge
and understanding of your Word and in holiness of life;
to put an end to all schisms and causes of offense to those who
would believe;
and to bring into the way of truth all who have erred and gone astray:
We implore you to hear us, good Lord.

To beat down Satan under our feet;
to send faithful workers into your harvest;
to accompany your Word with your Spirit and power;
to raise up those who fall and to strengthen those who stand; and
to comfort and help the fainthearted and the distressed:
We implore you to hear us, good Lord.

To give to all nations justice and peace;
to preserve our country from discord and strife;
to direct and guard those who have civil authority;
and to bless and guide all our people:
We implore you to hear us, good Lord.

To behold and help all who are in danger, need, or tribulation;
to protect and guide all who travel;
to preserve and provide for all women in childbirth;
to watch over children and to guide the young;
to heal the sick and to strengthen their families and friends;
to bring reconciliation to families in discord;
to provide for the unemployed and for all in need;
to be merciful to all who are imprisoned;
to support, comfort, and guide all orphans, widowers, and widows;
to watch over our loved ones in need; especially . . .
and to have mercy on all your people:
We implore you to hear us, good Lord.

To forgive our enemies, persecutors, and slanderers,
and to reconcile us to them;