

St. James Lutheran Church Newsletter



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Online Worship

Online worship services are being recorded and are available on our website. If you don't have a computer and someone who is with you has a smartphone or tablet, these services can be played anytime by going to our website, www.sjnc.net, selecting **Publications** and **Online Worship**.



Your church is here for you. Please do not hesitate to call the church office, 704-786-0166 and speak to someone or leave a message if you have needs.



To the Glory of God and In Loving Memory

Gib Heilig

By Jimmy and Patty Propst

Dave Burke

By Frank and Jill Irvin



CALL-IN OPTION FOR WORSHIP

The synod office has subscribed to a call-in plan which offers a new option for folks worshipping across the synod. Call the toll-free number any time during the week (Monday thru Sunday) to hear the previous Sunday's recorded worship; you may call **833-924-1988** to access. Press 1 to hear the full worship; press 2 to hear the sermon; and press 3 to hear the prayers. Please publicize this number widely, especially to those folks who may not be able to worship online or in-person.

JUNE 2020

Where do we go from here?

For now we see in a mirror dimly, but then we will see face to face. Now I know only in part; then I will know fully, even as I have been fully known. 1 Corinthians 12:12

Sisters and brothers in Christ,

In my Pentecost sermon, I expressed my lament over the things I miss about our shared life together. I had written and recorded it before the violent demonstrations over the senseless and heartbreaking death of George Floyd, and confess I am deeply grieved by his death and his unanswered cries for mercy. I pray for his family, for the officers and families involved, for the brave men and women who faithfully serve in protecting all citizens, and for the women and men in our country who experience the painful consequences and reality of a racism and injustice that suffocates our hopes and dreams in our shared life as one nation under God.

While I know this tragedy is a political hotbed for many, the truth is, showing justice, mercy, and steadfast love is at the very heart of who and whose we are as the body of Christ. We are a people called and empowered to love God with all of our heart and soul and mind and strength, by loving our neighbor (particularly the most vulnerable among us) as ourselves. And that means doing more than confessing to or rejecting the principle of white privilege. Loving our neighbor means listening to their cries and concerns, walking with them where they are, and taking actions that protect them, actions that reflect God's love for all people. I pray for God's grace and mercy as we journey that road together.

Love of neighbor and care for the most vulnerable among us is also at the heart of our plans for gathering again for in person worship. We do not want to place our most vulnerable sisters and brothers in the position of deciding whether or not to come to church.

So, while churches are exempt from orders limiting the size of mass gatherings, in keeping with the recommendation of the Governor of North Carolina, and the Synod Council of the North Carolina Synod of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America, the council of Saint James has agreed that we will not gather again for in-door worship until phase 3 of the Governor's Stay at Home Order (which at this point is around the first of July).

Committees are currently hard at work planning for our return - developing seating schematics to observe physical distancing recommendations, shaping a meaningful liturgy without a choir or hymns, and (at least initially) communion, and establishing written in-person protocols and implementation plans to insure as best we can, the safety of the community of faith. These steps are being developed in large part through documents provided by the NC Synod, the ELCA, and the Center for Disease Control, and I encourage you to review these documents on our website.

In the meantime, we are planning a drive-in worship opportunity for June, and will continue to offer on-line worship, plan outreach activities, make phone visits, use Zoom and other social media platforms to hold committee meetings, teach confirmation, gather with children and youth...being about the work of Christ, seeking to love the neighbor, seeing in the mirror dimly, knowing only in part, not knowing exactly where we are going, and yet prayerfully trusting in the one who knows our laments and our fears and our joys, the one in whom we are fully known.

Thanks be to God!

Tony Bradshaw

Pastor Tony



- ◆ **Ralph & Sandy Barnhardt**
- ◆ **Richard Benz**
- ◆ **Phyllis Harward**
- ◆ **Joan and Pat Mahoney**
- ◆ **Clary Phillips**
- ◆ **Doris Smith**
- ◆ **Cliff Caffrey**
- ◆ **Alex Patterson**
- ◆ **Alex Barnhardt**
- ◆ **Carole Grady**
- ◆ **Don Eng**
- ◆ **Bill Hardister**
- ◆ **Barbara and Dale Merrell**
- ◆ **Suzanne Clary Wright**, daughter of Barbara and Dale Merrell
- ◆ **Family of Mark Tunacik**, nephew of Mark Murphy
- ◆ **Family of Carolyn McEachern Warren**, sister of Buddy McEachern
- ◆ **Trina Ellis**, sister-in-law of Juanita Fitts
- ◆ **Family of Margaret Ann Parker**, mother of Angie Buchanan
- ◆ **Our homebound members**, *and all in need of prayer*

Health Care Professionals and First Responders

- ◆ **Deb Bradshaw** **Laurie Fowler**
- ◆ **DeeDee Gilbert** **Annette Propst**
- ◆ **Meagan Lambert** **Bradley Propst**
- ◆ **Sam Hurley**, *son of Elizabeth Hurley*
- ◆ **Lisa Snyder**, *friend of Debbie Wilkinson*
- ◆ **Julie Greathouse**, *friend of Lois Marlow*
- ◆ **Betsy Waselovich**, *sister of Golda Jay*
- ◆ **Kevin Burns**, **Stephanie Garrison**, *son-in-law and daughter-in-law of Margaret Garrison*
- ◆ **Jason and Stephanie Matthews**, *son and daughter-in-law of Martha Matthews*



- June 01 Jason KARTHEISER
- June 03 Nancy HOPKINS
- June 03 Jack NIVENS
- June 04 Thomas PROPST Jr
- June 04 Miles WALKER
- June 05 Mark DAVIS
- June 05 Joe WILSON
- June 07 Marvene ROSE
- June 09 Don ENG
- June 09 Gunter KLAUSS
- June 09 Grant WEISEL
- June 10 Linda HARTGEN
- June 10 Michael STRAHL
- June 11 Rachel LARKIN
- June 13 Terry SPLAWN
- June 15 Ann BLACKWELDER
- June 15 Anne EURY
- June 15 Nita JONES
- June 18 James RADCLIFFE
- June 19 Campbell OVERBY
- June 19 Katherine WEISEL
- June 20 Kara HARDISTER
- June 20 Jim MILLER
- June 20 Jeremy MONK
- June 21 Joann BRATTON
- June 22 Fuller BEASLEY
- June 23 Samuel HABERMAN
- June 25 Bill HARDISTER
- June 26 Tony MOSLEY
- June 26 Bailey PETERMAN
- June 26 Wilson PROPST JR
- June 27 Phyllis FREEMAN
- June 27 Phyllis HARWARD
- June 28 Kim HARWARD
- June 30 Rebekah HARDISON
- June 30 Luna HARDISTER

SUNDAYS IN JUNE

SUNDAY, JUNE 7, 2020 THE HOLY TRINITY



Though the word *trinity* is not found in the scriptures, today's second reading includes the apostolic greeting that begins the liturgy: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all. In the gospel Jesus sends his disciples forth to baptize in the name of the Father, and the Son, and the Holy Spirit. More than a doctrine, the Trinity expresses the heart of our faith: we have experienced the God of creation made known in Jesus Christ and with us always through the Holy Spirit. We celebrate the mystery of the Holy Trinity in word and sacrament, as we profess the creed, and as we are sent into the world to bear witness to our faith.

GOSPEL: MATTHEW 28:16-20

SUNDAY, JUNE 14, 2020 2ND SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST



Moses tells the Israelites that they are called to be a priestly kingdom and a holy people. Jesus sends out the disciples as laborers into the harvest. In baptism we too are anointed for ministry, sharing God's compassion with our needy world. From the Lord's table we go forth to proclaim the good news, to heal the sick, and to share our bread with the hungry.

GOSPEL: MATTHEW 9:35—10:8

SUNDAY, JUNE 21, 2020 3RD SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST



God does not promise that the path of the disciple will be easy. Jeremiah feels the pain of rejection from those who do not want to hear what he has to say. Jesus declares that his words may bring stark division. Even so, we need not be afraid for God accounts for each hair on our heads. Though we may experience rejection, frustration, division, and death, God's grace and love make us a new creation each day. Marked with the cross and filled with holy food, we are sent from worship to witness to Christ in the world.

GOSPEL: MATTHEW 10:24-39

SUNDAY, JUNE 28, 2020 4TH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST



The welcome of baptism is for all God's children. This baptismal gift sets us free from the power of sin and death. In today's gospel, Christ promises that the disciple who gives a cup of cold water to the little ones serves Christ himself. From worship we are sent on our baptismal mission: to serve the little ones of this world and to be a sign of God's merciful welcome.

GOSPEL: MATTHEW 10:40-42