

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.

TWELFTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

AUGUST 28, 2022
10:00 A.M.

Introduction to Today's Worship

Invited and inviting—that is the nature of the church. By God's grace in holy baptism we have a place at Christ's banquet table. When, by the power of that same Spirit, humility and mutual love continue among us, the church can be more inviting still.

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
@stjamesnc

Send Jeremy Jay any pictures and/or articles you would like to have posted at
jeremy@pbnjay.com



St. James YouTube Channel

Go to www.youtube.com and search for St. James Lutheran Church Concord NC and subscribe.

GATHERING

OPENING VOLUNTARY

Gabriel's Oboe

~Ennio Morricone

WELCOME

CHORAL CALL TO WORSHIP *Ev'ry Time I Feel the Spirit ~William Dawson*

*Congregational Responses in **Bold***

(Stand)

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

Blessed be the holy Trinity, ✙ one God, who forgives all our sin, whose mercy endures forever.

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.

Silence is held for reflection and self-examination

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.

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.

Amen.

(Stand)

Refrain

Lift high the cross, the love of Christ pro - claim till

all the world a - dore his sa - cred name.

1 Come, Chris - tians, fol - low where our cap - tain trod,
 2 All new - born ser - vants of the Cru - ci - fied
 3 O Lord, once lift - ed on the glo - rious tree,
 4 So shall our song of tri - umph ev - er be:

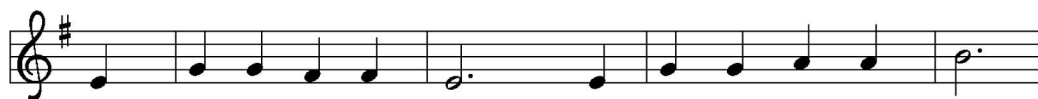
Refrain

our king vic - to - rious, Christ, the Son of God.
 bear on their brows the seal of him who died.
 as thou hast prom - ised, draw us all to thee.
 praise to the Cru - ci - fied for vic - to - ry!

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



- 1 Have mer - cy on us, Lord, and hear our sol - emn prayer.
2 Have mer - cy on us, Christ, and wash a - way our sin.
3 Have mer - cy on us, Lord; make sin and shame de - part.



We come to hear your liv - ing word; it saves us from de - spair.
Pour out your grace and make us whole that new life may be - gin.
Re - new us with your sav - ing pow'r; cre - ate in us new hearts!

CANTICLE OF PRAISE



This is the feast of vic - to - ry for our God.



Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia! lu - ia!



1. Wor - thy is Christ, the Lamb who was slain, whose
2. Pow - er, rich - es, wis - dom, and strength, _____ and
3. Sing with all the peo - ple of God, _____ and
4. Bless - ing, hon - or, glo - ry, and might be to
5. For _____ the Lamb _____ who was slain has be -



blood set us free to be peo - ple of God. *Refrain*
hon - or, _____ bless - ing, and glo - ry are his. *Refrain*
join in the hymn of all cre - a - - tion. *To Verse 4*
God and the Lamb for - ev - er. A - - men. *Refrain*
glorify his reign _____ Al - le - lu - ia! *Refrain*

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray, O God, you resist those who are proud and give grace to those who are humble. Give us the humility of your Son, that we may embody the generosity of Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

(Sit)

YOUNG DISCIPLES' TIME

Blessing of the Backpacks

WORD

FIRST READING **PROVERBS 25:6-7**

The book of Proverbs is part of a collection of writings known as wisdom literature. Wisdom literature gave directions to Israel's leaders and people for the conduct of daily life. Today's reading is about humility.

A reading from Proverbs, the twenty-fifth chapter.

Do not put yourself forward in the king's presence or stand in the place of the great; ⁷for it is better to be told, "Come up here," than to be put lower in the presence of a noble.

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

PSALM 112 (*Choir chants odd verses, Congregation chants even bold verses*)



- ¹Hallelujah! Happy are they who | fear the LORD
and have great delight in | God's commandments!
- ²**Their descendants will be mighty | in the land;**
the generation of the upright | will be blessed.
- ³Wealth and riches will be | in their house,
and their righteousness will | last forever.
- ⁴**Light shines in the darkness | for the upright;**
the righteous are merciful and full | of compassion.
- ⁵It is good for them to be gener- | ous in lending
and to manage their af- | fairs with justice.
- ⁶**For they will nev- | er be shaken;**
the righteous will be kept in everlast- | ing remembrance.
- ⁷They will not be afraid of any | evil rumors;
their heart is steadfast, trusting | in the LORD.
- ⁸**Their heart is established and | will not shrink,**
until they see their desire up- | on their enemies.

⁹They have given freely to the poor, and their righteousness stands | fast forever; they will hold up their | head with honor.

¹⁰**The wicked will see it and be angry; they will gnash their teeth and | pine away; the desires of the wick- | ed will perish.**

SECOND READING *HEBREWS 13:1-8, 15-16*

The conclusion of the letter to the Hebrews contains suggestions for the conduct of a holy life, all of which are shaped by God's love toward us in Jesus Christ.

A reading from Hebrews, the thirteenth chapter.

Let mutual love continue. ²Do not neglect to show hospitality to strangers, for by doing that some have entertained angels without knowing it. ³Remember those who are in prison, as though you were in prison with them; those who are being tortured, as though you yourselves were being tortured. ⁴Let marriage be held in honor by all, and let the marriage bed be kept undefiled; for God will judge fornicators and adulterers. ⁵Keep your lives free from the love of money, and be content with what you have; for he has said, "I will never leave you or forsake you." ⁶So we can say with confidence, "The Lord is my helper; I will not be afraid. What can anyone do to me?" ⁷Remember your leaders, those who spoke the word of God to you; consider the outcome of their way of life, and imitate their faith. ⁸Jesus Christ is the same yesterday and today and forever. ¹⁵Through him, then, let us continually offer a sacrifice of praise to God, that is, the fruit of lips that confess his name. ¹⁶Do not neglect to do good and to share what you have, for such sacrifices are pleasing to God.

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

(Stand)

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



HOLY GOSPEL LUKE 14:1, 7-14

Jesus observes guests jockeying for position at the table. He uses the opportunity to teach his hearers to choose humility rather than self-exaltation. Jesus also makes an appeal for hosts to imitate God's gracious hospitality to those in need.

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

Glory to you, O Lord.

On one occasion when Jesus was going to the house of a leader of the Pharisees to eat a meal on the sabbath, they were watching him closely. ⁷When he noticed how the guests chose the places of honor, he told them a parable. ⁸"When you are invited by someone to a wedding banquet, do not sit down at the place of honor, in case someone more distinguished than you has been invited by your host; ⁹and the host who invited both of you may come and say to you, 'Give this person your place,' and then in disgrace you would start to take the lowest place. ¹⁰But when you are invited, go and sit down at the lowest place, so that when your host comes, he may say to you, 'Friend, move up higher'; then you will be honored in the presence of all who sit at the table with you. ¹¹For all who exalt themselves will be humbled, and those who humble themselves will be exalted." ¹²He said also to the one who had invited him, "When you give a luncheon or a dinner, do not invite your friends or your brothers or your relatives or rich neighbors, in case they may invite you in return, and you would be repaid. ¹³But when you give a banquet, invite the poor, the crippled, the lame, and the blind. ¹⁴And you will be blessed, because they cannot repay you, for you will be repaid at the resurrection of the righteous."

The Gospel of the Lord. **Praise to you, O Christ.**

SERMON

Rev. Tony Bradshaw

ANTHEM

When I Survey the Wondrous Cross

~Gilbert M. Martin

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.*

Almighty and ever living God, we pray for the church and its leaders. Uphold all deacons, pastors, and bishops who serve and teach your people, especially the Rev. Jerome Cloninger and our sisters and brothers in Christ at Macedonia Lutheran Church in Burlington, NC. Awaken in your church a spirit of invitation that reaches ever outward. Lord in your mercy,
hear our prayer.

We pray for the well-being of your creation and its inhabitants. Stir in us reverent awe for the beauty of the natural world, for oceans and lakes, rivers and streams, forests and deserts. Lord in your mercy,
hear our prayer.

We pray for the nations and peoples of the world. Sustain the efforts of those who pursue justice and equity for all. Defend and accompany all immigrants and refugees and all who are persecuted for their ethnic origin or religious beliefs. Lord in your mercy,
hear our prayer.

We pray for all who suffer in body, mind, or spirit, we pray. Be present with those who live in isolation or fear, especially those who are incarcerated or detained. Comfort all who are sick or grieving especially those whom we now name before you with our lips and in the silence of our hearts. Lord in your mercy,
hear our prayer.

We pray for this congregation and its ministries. Prepare children, teachers, and youth ministry directors for a new year of learning. Embolden our witness to invite others to the table. Lord in your mercy,
hear our prayer.

We give you thanks for all the saints who confessed God's name. May we cling to the promise of our risen Savior, Jesus Christ, the same yesterday, today, and forever. 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.**

(Stand)

HOLY COMMUNION

GREAT THANKSGIVING

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

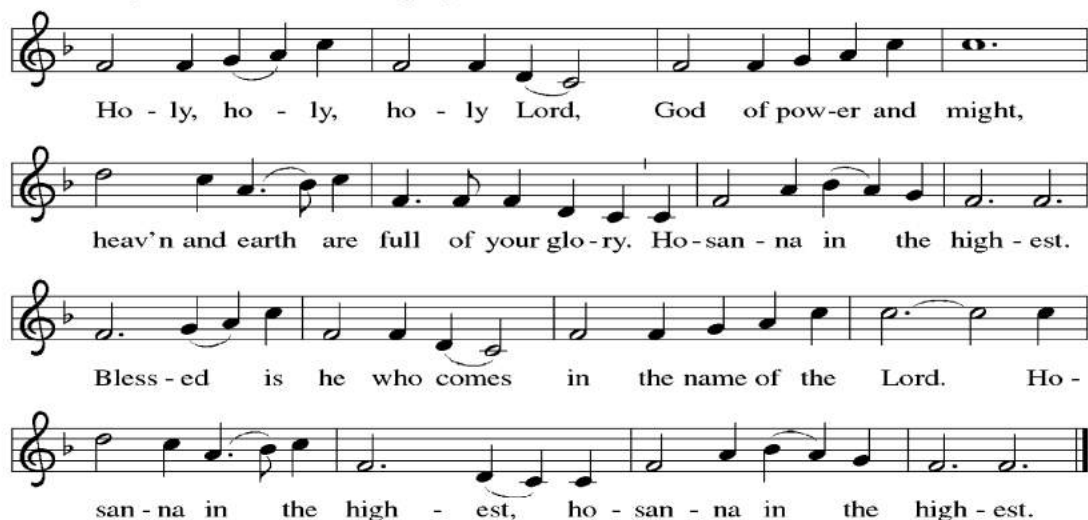
Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

It is indeed right, our duty and our joy, that we should at all times and in all places give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God, through our Savior Jesus Christ; who on this day overcame death and the grave, and by his glorious resurrection opened to us the way of everlasting life. 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, God of pow-er 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, ho - san - na in the high - est.

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.

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!

(Sit)

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

Choir and Congregation



1 O Lamb of God, you bear the sin of all the world a - way;
2 O Lamb of God, you bear the sin of all the world a - way;
3 O Lamb of God, you bear the sin of all the world a - way;



you suf-fered death our lives to save: have mer-cy now, we pray.
you set us free from guilt and grave: have mer-cy now, we pray.
e - ter-nal peace with God you made: give us your peace, we pray.

ANTHEM AT COMMUNION

O God, Beyond All Praising

~Gustav Holst, arr. Proulx

(Stand)

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.

ORDER FOR GODSPEED AND FAREWELL FOR A PASTOR

Ann Blackwelder, Council President: On July 1st of 2014 you began your ministry with us and on July 27th you were officially installed as pastor here at St. James.

Margaret Garrison: (Walk to the pulpit) You were invited into this pulpit. In this spot you have proclaimed the saving Gospel of Jesus Christ hundreds of times throughout these past eight years. This pulpit has not belonged to you; the saving message of Christ is not something one can possess, but only bear witness to. You have been a faithful occupant of this church's pulpit and messenger of the good news of God's love in Christ. As you leave this pulpit we thank God for your preaching ministry.

Thanks be to God!

The Jay Family: (Walk to the font) At this font you have presided at the Sacrament of Holy Baptism. Through the cleansing waters of baptism, we welcome new members into the family of Christ. The gift of new life in Christ belongs to God. The church is the custodian of this rite of welcome, and you have introduced this congregation to many new sisters and brothers in faith. You have presided as confirmands affirmed their baptismal promises during your years with us. As you leave this font, we thank you for your ministry surrounding baptismal promises.

Thanks be to God!

Kenny Propst: (Walk to the altar) At this altar you have presided at the Sacrament of Holy Communion. You have reminded us of the story of Jesus' beginning of this meal. You have provided instruction to those who would receive it for the first time. The meal is the Lord's, and this congregation has been provider of this meal to the baptized who seek to be fed with the living presence of Christ. You have presided over this meal so that it could be served in an orderly fashion. As you leave this table, we thank you for presiding at the sacrament of Holy Communion.

Thanks be to God!

LeeAnn Miller: (Walk to the top of the chancel steps) Standing in front of this congregation you had led services where we thanked God for people who had died. You led us in the midst of grief while we expressed gratitude for God's gift of life. You proclaimed the Good News of the resurrection of Jesus Christ and encouraged the community with the comfort of the gospel. As you leave this sanctuary, we thank you for being with us in our times of loss and in our times of joy and celebration.

Thanks be to God!

Joseph Beasley: (Hold up keys) When you came here in 2014 you received keys to this building. You had a study here to do your work of reading and preparing, to meet people for small talk and big conversations. Your study has been a place of prayer and preparation. As you return your key, we thank you for your prayers, your diligent preparation, and your careful listening.

Thanks be to God!

Ann Blackwelder, Council President: Pastor Tony and Debbie, you have been part of this church family, sharing your gifts for the sake of Christ's mission in our community. As you now retire and leave this place, we send you forth with our blessings. Please kneel to receive our prayers:

Gracious God, we thank you for Pastor Tony and Debbie and for our life together in this congregation and community. As they have been a blessing to us, so now send them forth to be a blessing to others; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

BLESSING

Almighty God, Father, ☩ Son, and Holy Spirit, bless you and raise you to life, both now and forever.

Amen.

CHORAL BENEDICTION *The Lord Bless You and Keep You* ~John Rutter

SENDING HYMN *A Mighty Fortress is Our God* (Next Page)

DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Serve the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

CLOSING VOLUNTARY

War March of the Priests—from Athalie ~Felix Mendelssohn

The Liturgy Has Ended; The Service Begins!

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1 A might - y for - tress is our God, a sword and shield vic -
 2 No strength of ours can match his might! We would be lost, re -
 3 Though hordes of dev - ils fill the land all threat -'ning to de -
 4 God's Word for - ev - er shall a - bide, no thanks to foes, who

to - rious; he breaks the cruel op - pres - sor's rod and
 ject - ed. But now a cham - pion comes to fight, whom
 your us, we trem - ble not, un - moved we stand; they
 fear it; for God him - self fights by our side with

wins sal - va - tion glo - rious. The old sa - tan - ic foe
 God him - self e - lect - ed. You ask who this may be?
 can - not o - ver - pow'r us. Let this world's ty - rant rage;
 weap - ons of the Spir - it. Were they to take our house,

has sworn to work us woe! With craft and dread - ful might
 The Lord of hosts is he! Christ Je - sus, might - y Lord,
 in bat - tle we'll en - gage! His might is doomed to fail;
 goods, hon - or, child, or spouse, though life be wrenched a - way,

he arms him - self to fight. On earth he has no e - qual.
 God's on - ly Son, a - dored. He holds the field vic - to - rious.
 God's judg - ment must pre - vail! One lit - tle word sub - dues him.
 they can - not win the day. The king - dom's ours for - ev - er!

SAINT JAMES LUTHERAN CHURCH

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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

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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

29-Aug Eva Horton
29-Aug Marcia Klauss
30-Aug Carson Crainshaw
30-Aug James Hughes
30-Aug Hunter Huss
30-Aug Donna Sloop
01-Sep Kathleen Francus
02-Sep Kathryn Radcliff
03-Sep Ken Hardison
03-Sep William Propst

CALENDAR THIS WEEK

Sunday, August 28
9:00 am Children's Sun. Sch
10:00 am Worship
11:30 am Retirement Lunch
for Pastor Tony

Monday, August 29
10:30 am Quilters Group

Wednesday, August 31
7:00 pm Parish Choir

Sunday, September 4
10:00 am Worship

ASSISTING IN WORSHIP

Lector/Intercessor:
Betsy Ellington-Boynton

Communion Assistant:
Tom Ridenhour

Acolyte/Crucifer:
Casey Gale

Bookbearer:
Isaac Jay

Ushers:
Wendell Overby, Frank
Irvin, Tony Folino, Nick
Lovelace, Jason Pittard

Building Supervisor:
Chip and Ann Blackwelder

FLOWERS: The flowers
today are given to the Glory
of God and in honor of the
ministry of Pastor Tony
Bradshaw at St. James and
in honor of his wife, Debbie.

OUR STEWARDSHIP
Contributions and Receipts
for August 21, 2022
\$4,982.51
(\$7,371.00 needed for weekly)

PRAYER LIST

- ♦ Macedonia Lutheran
Church, Burlington, NC
- ♦ Jimmy Summers
- ♦ Patsy Black
- ♦ Martha Summers
- ♦ Jo Eng

*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*