



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.

REFORMATION SUNDAY

OCTOBER 30, 2022

10:00 A.M.

Introduction to Today's Worship

Rooted in the past and growing into the future, the church must always be reformed in order to live out the love of Christ in an ever-changing world. We celebrate the good news of God's grace, that Jesus Christ sets us free every day to do this life-transforming work. Trusting in the freedom given to us in baptism, we pray for the church, that Christians will unite more fully in worship and mission.

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 [youtube.com/@stjameslutheranconcord](https://www.youtube.com/@stjameslutheranconcord) and subscribe.

GATHERING

CHIMES OF THE TRINITY AND WELCOME

OPENING VOLUNTARY

Christ, Who Makes Us Blessed

Johann Seb. Bach

*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.

(Kneel or sit, as able)

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)

GATHERING HYMN

Praise, My Soul, the King of Heaven

PRAISE MY SOUL



1 Praise, my soul, the King of heav - en; to his feet your trib - ute bring.
2 Praise him for his grace and fa - vor to our fore-bears in dis-tress.
3 Ten - der - ly he shields and spares us; well our fee - ble frame he knows.
4 An - gels help us to a - dore him, who be-hold him face to face.



Ran - somed, healed, re - stored, for - giv - en, ev - er - more his prais - es sing.
Praise him, still the same for - ev - er, slow to chide and swift to bless.
In his hands he gent - ly bears us, res-cues us from all our foes.
Sun and moon bow down be - fore him; all who dwell in time and space.



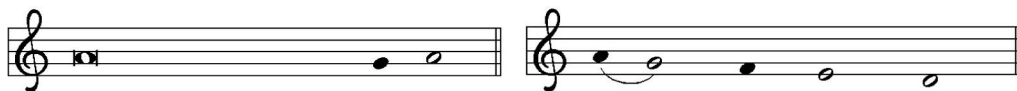
Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia! Praise the ev - er - last - ing King!
Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia! Glo - rious in his faith - ful - ness!
Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia! Wide - ly as his mer - cy flows.
Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia! Praise with us the God of grace.



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



In peace, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mer - cy.



For the peace from a-bove, and for our sal - vation, let us pray to the Lord.



Lord, have mer - cy.



For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the church of God,



and for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord.



Lord, have mer - cy.



For this holy house, and for all who offer here their wor-ship and praise,



let us pray to the Lord.

Lord have mer - cy.




Help, save, comfort, and de-fend us, gra-cious Lord. A - men.

CANTICLE OF PRAISE

Refrain




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!

To Stanzas *Last time*



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*
gun his _____ reign _____ Al - le - lu - - - ia! *Refrain*

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray, Almighty God, gracious Lord, we thank you that your Holy Spirit renews the church in every age. Pour out your Holy Spirit on your faithful people. Keep them steadfast in your word, protect and comfort them in times of trial, defend them against all enemies of the gospel, and bestow on the church your saving peace, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

(Sit)

YOUNG DISCIPLES' TIME CHILDREN'S CHURCH

Ann Blackwelder

FIRST READING *JEREMIAH 31:31-34*

The renewed covenant will not be breakable, but like the old covenant it will expect the people to live upright lives. To know the LORD means that one will defend the cause of the poor and needy (Jer. 22:16). The renewed covenant is possible only because the LORD will forgive iniquity and not remember sin. Our hope lies in a God who forgets.

A reading from Jeremiah, the thirty-first chapter.

The days are surely coming, says the Lord, when I will make a new covenant with the house of Israel and the house of Judah. ³²It will not be like the covenant that I made with their ancestors when I took them by the hand to bring them out of the land of Egypt—a covenant that they broke, though I was their husband, says the Lord. ³³But this is the covenant that I will make with the house of Israel after those days, says the Lord: I will put my law within them, and I will write it on their hearts; and I will be their God, and they shall be my people. ³⁴No longer shall they teach one another, or say to each other, “Know the Lord,” for they shall all know me, from the least of them to the greatest, says the Lord; for I will forgive their iniquity, and remember their sin no more.

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

PSALM 46 (*Choir chants odd verses, Congregation chants even bold verses*)



¹God is our ref- | uge and strength, a very present | help in trouble.

²**Therefore we will not fear, though the | earth be moved,**
and though the mountains shake in the depths | of the sea;

³though its waters | rage and foam,
and though the mountains tremble | with its tumult.

⁴**There is a river whose streams make glad the cit- | y of God,**
the holy habitation of | the Most High.

⁵God is in the midst of the city; it shall | not be shaken;
God shall help it at the | break of day.

⁶**The nations rage, and the | kingdoms shake;**
God speaks, and the earth | melts away.

⁷The LORD of | hosts is with us; the God of Jacob | is our stronghold.

⁸**Come now, regard the works | of the LORD,**
what desolations God has brought up- | on the earth;

⁹behold the one who makes war to cease in | all the world;
who breaks the bow, and shatters the spear, and burns the | shields with fire.

¹⁰**“Be still, then, and know that | I am God;**
I will be exalted among the nations; I will be exalted | in the earth.”

¹¹The LORD of | hosts is with us;
the God of Jacob | is our stronghold.

SECOND READING 2 TIMOTHY 3:19-28

Paul's words stand at the heart of the preaching of Martin Luther and other Reformation leaders. No human beings make themselves right with God through works of the law. We are brought into a right relationship with God through the divine activity centered in Christ's death. This act is a gift of grace that liberates us from sin and empowers our faith in Jesus Christ.

A reading from 2 Timothy, the third chapter.

Now we know that whatever the law says, it speaks to those who are under the law, so that every mouth may be silenced, and the whole world may be held accountable to God. ²⁰For “no human being will be justified in his sight” by deeds prescribed by the law, for through the law comes the knowledge of sin. ²¹But now, apart from law, the righteousness of God has been disclosed, and is attested by the law and the prophets, ²²the righteousness of God through faith in Jesus Christ for all who believe. For there is no distinction, ²³since all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God; ²⁴they are now justified by his grace as a gift, through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus, ²⁵whom God put forward as a sacrifice of atonement by his blood, effective through faith. He did this to show his righteousness, because in his divine forbearance he had passed over the sins previously committed; ²⁶it was to prove at the present time that he himself is righteous and that he justifies the one who has faith in Jesus. ²⁷Then what becomes of boasting? It is excluded. By what law? By that of works? No, but by the law of faith. ²⁸For we hold that a person is justified by faith apart from works prescribed by the law.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

(Stand)

GOSPEL PROCESSIONAL *The Head that Once Was Crowned v. 1, 2*



- 1 The head that once was crowned with thorns is crowned with glo - ry now;
- 2 The high - est place that heav'n af - fords is his by sov'-reign right,
- 3 The joy of all who dwell a - bove, the joy of all be - low
- 4 To them the cross, with all its shame, with all its grace, is giv'n;



a roy - al di - a - dem a - dorns the might - y vic - tor's brow.
the King of kings, and Lord of lords, and heav'n's e - ter - nal light.
to whom he man - i - fests his love, and grants his name to know;
their name, an ev - er - last - ing name, their joy, the joy of heav'n.

HOLY GOSPEL JOHN 8:31-36

Jesus speaks of truth and freedom as spiritual realities known through his word. He reveals the truth that sets people free from sin.

The Holy Gospel according to Saint John, the eighth chapter.

Glory to you, O Lord.

Jesus said to the Jews who had believed in him, "If you continue in my word, you are truly my disciples; ³²and you will know the truth, and the truth will make you free." ³³They answered him, "We are descendants of Abraham and have never been slaves to anyone. What do you mean by saying, 'You will be made free'?" ³⁴Jesus answered them, "Very truly, I tell you, everyone who commits sin is a slave to sin. ³⁵The slave does not have a permanent place in the household; the son has a place there forever. ³⁶So if the Son makes you free, you will be free indeed."

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

GOSPEL RECESSIONAL *The Head that Once Was Crowned v. 3, 4*

(Sit)

SERMON

Pastor Craig

SOLO AT OFFERTORY

O! Had I Jubal's Lyre
Amber Romero, Soprano Soloist

George F. Händel

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

In gratitude and humility, let us join together in prayer on behalf of all of God's creation.

God our fortress, we pray for the church. Write your law of love on the hearts of your people, that we remain steadfast in our witness to your grace. Today, especially we pray for the Rev. Andrew Miller and our sisters and brothers in Christ at Old St. Paul's Lutheran Church, in Newton, NC. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

God our liberator, we pray for your earth. Bring new life to overused land and contaminated rivers. Reform and reorient our relationship with the environment, that we faithfully care for all of your creation. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

God, our refuge and strength, we pray for the nations. Where they are in an uproar, bring wise leadership and comfort for those in distress. Make wars to cease and peace to enter every land. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

God, our very present help in trouble, we pray for those in need. Show mercy to refugees and all fleeing from danger. Shelter any without homes. Calm all who are facing illness, surgery, or a new diagnosis especially those we name out loud or in the silence of our hearts. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

God our redeemer, we pray for our congregation. Bless all who are preparing for baptism or affirmation of baptism. Open their hearts to your Holy Spirit, teach them your word, and give them courage to proclaim their faith. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

God our stronghold, we give thanks for those who have gone before us in faith, especially Martin Luther and all reformers. Renew and reform us as we strive to continue in your word. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

With grateful hearts we commend our spoken and silent prayers to you, O God; through Jesus Christ, our Lord.

Amen.

(Stand)

GREAT THANKSGIVING

The Lord be with you. And al - so 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.

This musical score is written for a single melodic line on a treble clef staff. The key signature has three sharps (F#, C#, G#), and the time signature is common time (C). The melody consists of quarter and eighth notes, with some phrases spanning two measures. The lyrics are printed below the staff, aligned with the notes.

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, 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.

This musical score continues the hymn on a treble clef staff with the same key signature. It features a mix of quarter, eighth, and half notes. The lyrics are printed below the staff, with some words hyphenated across measures.

Holy, mighty, and merciful Lord, heaven and earth are full of your glory. In great love you sent to us Jesus, your Son, who reached out to heal the sick and suffering, who preached good news to the poor, and who, on the cross, opened his arms to all.

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 death, resurrection, and ascension, we await his coming in glory.

Pour out upon us the Spirit of your love, O Lord, and unite the wills of all who share this heavenly food, the body and blood of Jesus Christ, our Lord; to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit, be all honor and glory, 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!

(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

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.

ANTHEM AT COMMUNION

Panis Angelicus

César Franck, arr: Rutter

(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.

SENDING

BLESSING

God, who gives life to all things and frees us from despair, bless you with truth and peace. And may the holy Trinity, ☩ one God, guide you always in faith, hope, and love.
Amen.



1 A migh - ty for - tress is our God, a bul - wark nev - er
 2 If we in our own strength con - fide, our striv - ing turns to
 3 Though all the world with dev - ils fill and threat - en to de -
 4 God's Word shall stand a - bove the pow'rs, shall end all their thanks-



fail - ing; our help - er frees us from the flood of
 los - ing; the righ - teous one fights by our side, the
 your us, we trem - ble not, we trust God's will: they
 giv - ing. The Spir - it and the gifts are ours, for

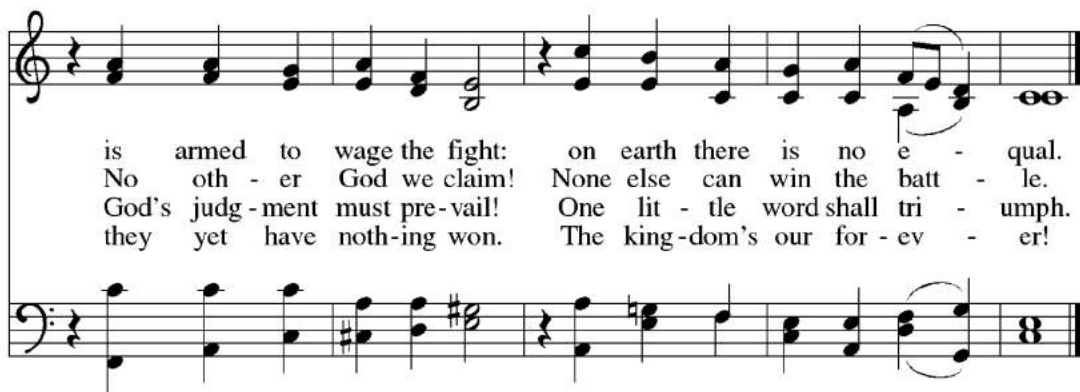


mor - tal ills pre - vail - ing. For still our an - cient foe,
 one of God's own choos - ing. You ask who this may be:
 can - not o - ver - pow'r us. Though Sa - tan rant and rage,
 God with us is liv - ing. Let goods and kin - dred go,



for - sworn to work us woe, with guile and dread - ful might
 Christ Je - sus, it is he, the Lord of hosts by name.
 in fierc - est war en - gage, this ty - rant's doomed to fail;
 this mor - tal life al - so; though all of these be gone,





is armed to wage the fight: on earth there is no e - qual.
 No oth - er God we claim! None else can win the batt - le.
 God's judg - ment must pre-vail! One lit - tle word shall tri - umph.
 they yet have noth-ing won. The king-dom's our for - ev - er!

DISMISSAL

Go in peace, with Christ beside you.

Thanks be to God.

CLOSING VOLUNTARY

Fest-Hymnus

Carl Piutti

The Liturgy Has Ended; The Service Begins!

UPCOMING EVENTS

Sign Up on St. James Webpage: <https://sjnc.net/sign-up-now>

TRUNK OR TREAT: *October 30, 4:30—6:00 pm*

WEDNESDAY NIGHTS TOGETHER: *November 9, 30 5:30 pm*

RISE AGAINST HUNGER: *November 12, 10:00 am*

OPERATION CHRISTMAS CHILD BOXES DUE: *November 13*

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SAINT JAMES LUTHERAN CHURCH

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The Rev. Elizabeth Eaton...Presiding Bishop
The Rev. Dr. Timothy M. Smith.....Bishop

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Director of Music scott@sjnc.net

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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

30-Oct Adam Hartman
30-Oct Jackson Propst
01-Nov Juanita Fitts
02-Nov Mary Elizabeth Stewart
02-Nov Patricia Weisel
03-Nov David Cruse
03-Nov Kerri Kiker
04-Nov David Klein

CALENDAR THIS WEEK

Sunday, October 30
9:00 am Sunday School
9:15 am Parish Choir
10:00 am Worship
11:15 am Handbells Interest Meeting
4:30 pm Trunk or Treat

Monday, October 31
10:30 am Quilter's Group

Tuesday, November 1
10:30 am Mary Mag. Circle
5:00 pm Executive Comm.
6:30 pm Property Comm.

Wednesday, November 2
2:00 pm Staff Meeting
6:00 pm Handbells
7:00 pm Parish Choir
9:30 pm College Online

Sunday, November 6
9:00 am Sunday School
9:15 am Parish Choir
10:00 am Worship
4:00 pm Youth Gathering

CONGRATULATIONS!
Naomi Elizabeth Lovelace was born Monday October 24. Everyone is at home and doing well. Big brother, Simon is very proud. Thank you for your continued prayers!

OUR STEWARDSHIP
Contributions and Receipts
for October 23, 2022
\$3,961.75
(*\$7,371.00 needed for weekly*)

PRAYER LIST

- ♦ Old St. Paul's Lutheran Church, Newton, NC
- ♦ Jimmy Summers
- ♦ Martha Summers
- ♦ Patsy Black
- ♦ Tom Grady
- ♦ Alex Barnhardt

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

ASSISTING IN WORSHIP

Lector/Intercessor:
Frank Irvin

Communion Assistant:
Ann Blackwelder

Acolyte/Crucifer
Jodi Ramirez

Torch Bearer/Bookbearer:
Jason and Noah Pittard

Greeter:
Barbara Albright

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

Building Supervisor:
Wendell Overby

Videographer:
Kenny Propst