

St. James Lutheran Church

*"Growing in Christ Through Worship, Learning,
Fellowship, and Service."*

Ring Out A Weekly Newsletter



FROM THE PASTOR



One of the buzzwords we hear a lot these days is *transparency* particularly as it pertains to openness and communication with others about what has been done, or is being done, or will be done, and therefore, keeping them in the loop and engaged.

And so, it is in the hope of being as transparent as possible and keeping you in the loop that I confess to those of you wondering when we will be able to re-gather for worship in the sanctuary...I don't know. The North Carolina Synod has recommended we not consider re-gathering until we are in the third stage of the governor's plan, and consideration of beginning stage three has been postponed to July 17th and may very well be postponed again if there is a spike in the statistics after the Fourth of July weekend. All that being said, it will probably be sometime in August (at the earliest) before we consider gathering in-person with specific protocols in place for physical distancing, masks, entering and exiting the worship space, etc... These protocols are currently being developed by our Health and Safety Committee.

If you are wondering when we can expect our life together return to normal (pre-Covid 19)...I don't know. All children and youth gatherings have been cancelled until school has resumed (and we don't know what that will look like yet); choirs and singing are particularly dangerous in the potential spread of the virus so our music will be limited; the same is true for fellowship meals, and greeting one another before and after church. I imagine that even after there is a vaccine, it will be a long while before many folks feel safe enough to

gather again in person. So while I am not particularly fond of the phrase, we are transitioning into a *new normal* where masks, safe distancing, meetings using social media, and on-line and drive-in worship will certainly play an important part in our life together.

[Continue Reading](#)



**HAPPY
INDEPENDENCE
DAY**
July 4, 2020

WORSHIP THIS WEEK - JULY 5



[Worship Bulletin July 5](#)

5th SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

The mystery of God's ways is sometimes hidden from the wise and intelligent. Jesus associates with those often excluded from the religious community. Like Paul, we struggle with our own selfish desires and seek God's mercy and forgiveness. We gather to be refreshed by Christ's invitation: "Come to me, all you that are weary." Gathered around word, water, and meal, we find rest for our souls.

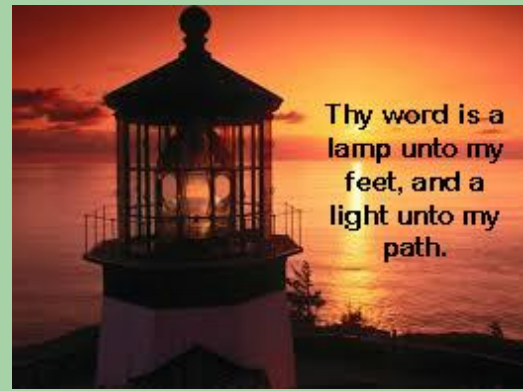
SCRIPTURE READINGS FOR THE WEEK

First Reading Zechariah 9:9-12

Psalm Psalm 145:8-14

Second Reading Romans 7:15-25a

Gospel Matthew 11:16-19, 25-30



Readings for July 5



Online Worship for Sunday, July 5 will be available on Facebook and YouTube at 9:30 a.m. on Sunday morning. An email with links will be sent when the online worship service is posted. You can open or print the bulletin and follow along with the service.



St. James YouTube
Channel



St. James Facebook
Page

CHURCH NEWS



ON THE CALENDAR THIS WEEK

Sunday, July 5

9:30 am Online Worship Service

Wednesday, July 8

6:00 pm Youth Meeting - Zoom

7:00 pm Drive-In Worship

Thursday, July 9

6:30 pm Bible Heroes Pre - 2

7:00 pm Bible Heroes 3 - 5

Sunday, July 12

9:30 am Online Worship Service

11:00 am Pre-Confirmation

JULY 2020 CALENDAR

JULY 2020						
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1 6:00 pm Youth Online	2 6:30 pm Bible Heroes Pre-2 nd 7:00 pm Bible Heroes 3 rd - 5 th	3	4 Independence Day 
5 Pentecost 5 9:30 am Online Worship	6	7	8 6:00 pm Youth Online 7:00 pm Drive-In Worship 	9 6:30 pm Bible Heroes Pre-2 nd 7:00 pm Bible Heroes 3 rd - 5 th	10	11
12 Pentecost 6 9:30 am Online Worship 11:00 am Pre-Confirmation	13 6:00 pm Congregation Council	14 6:00 pm Pack Food Backpacks - Esther's Heart	15 6:00 pm Youth Online	16 6:30 pm Bible Heroes Pre-2 nd 7:00 pm Bible Heroes 3 rd - 5 th	17	18
19 Pentecost 7 9:30 am Online Worship	20 My Father's House	21 My Father's House	22 6:00 pm Youth Online 7:00 pm Drive-In Worship 	23 6:30 pm Bible Heroes Pre-2 nd 7:00 pm Bible Heroes 3 rd - 5 th	24	25
26 Pentecost 8 9:30 am Online Worship 11:00 am Pre-Confirmation	27	28	29 6:00 pm Youth Online	30 6:30 pm Bible Heroes Pre-2 nd 7:00 pm Bible Heroes 3 rd - 5 th	31	

BIRTHDAYS THIS WEEK

05-Jul Chase Crainshaw

08-Jul Judy King

10-Jul Casey Gale

10-Jul Jim Weisel

11-Jul Margaret Fink
11-Jul Jeremy Jay
11-Jul George Patterson
11-Jul Thomas Propst, Jr.



DRIVE-IN WORSHIP



JULY DRIVE-IN WORSHIP DATES

July 8 and 22

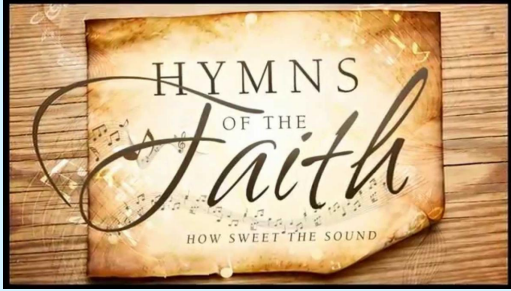
Join us on **July 8 and 22** at 7:00 pm for Drive-In Worship at St. James

CD MINISTRY

Do you know a member of St. James that doesn't have Internet access and would like to receive a CD of each week's worship service? Call or email the church office and let us know. 704-786-0166 or keith@sjnc.net. Make sure that they have a CD player and would be able to listen.



FAVORITE HYMNS



Several weeks ago we asked you to send in your favorite hymns. We are building a library of your favorite hymns on St. James' website. www.sjnc.net It is a work in

progress, so check back often to see what's new.

[Listen to Favorite Hymns](#)

TO THE GLORY OF GOD AND IN LOVING MEMORY OF



Charles R. Blackwelder

By Herbert and Kathleen Blackwelder

Richard Gribble

By Tom and Carole Grady

Carolyn Warren

By Tom and Carole Grady

SOCIAL MINISTRY

MY FATHER'S HOUSE

St. James / St. Johns Lutheran will be hosting My Father's House Ministry July 20-22. St. James will provide the dinner meals on Mon, July 20 and Tues, July 21. St. Johns is responsible for the night meal on Wed. July 22. The meals will be dropped off at the kitchen door of My Father's House Ministry around 5:30 those days. There are presently 14 people in the Ministry, 6 adults and 8 children. If you can provide an item for the meal on July 20 or 21, please let me know and I'll be glad to pick it up from your home. Thanks so much for your help with this needed Ministry. Sylvia (H)704-786-0296 (C) 704-425-8621





FOOD BACKPACKS

We are in need of a group of seven people to meet at Esther's Heart campus (4139 Zebulon Ave SW Concord 28027) on July 14 to pack backpacks for the upcoming two weekends. We will meet there at 6:00 p.m. and pack until done which will be approximately 8:00 p.m. We will be working outside under canopies so

consider the weather this time of year. If interested, please contact Juanita Fitts. 704-784-2265



VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

Looking for opportunities to volunteer with groups that serve those in need in our community. Check out these

groups that are looking for volunteers.

[Volunteer Opportunities](#)



CURRENT FOOD NEEDS - CCM

We continue to operate a drive-through pantry here at the Crisis Center, and almost all of our satellite pantries are back open, using a similar model. Food donations can be dropped off at the church during office hours.

Our current big needs are:

- Any kind of canned vegetables
- Any kind of canned beans
- Any kind of canned fruit
- Soup
- Rice
- Toilet paper and paper towels

As always, we especially seek:

- Low sodium items
- No-added-sugar items
- Whole grain items.

Right now, we have plenty of the following:

- Dried Beans
- Macaroni & Cheese
- Cereal
- Plastic Grocery bags

YOUTH & FAMILY NEWS

ONLINE YOUTH MEETINGS



All in-person Youth meetings and activities are currently cancelled. Online Zoom meeting will be held

Wednesdays at 6:00 pm Code: 468 883 755



YOUR FLAT JESUS HAS ARRIVED!

**HERE IS HOW TO GET YOUR FLAT JESUS
READY TO TRAVEL.**

Download Flat Jesus and then print a color copy using card stock. Cut out Flat Jesus and laminate if you would like. Then glue an extra-large popsicle stick to the back for added support.

The idea is to have fun. Jesus said that He will be with us to the end of the ages, so as a reminder that Jesus is always with us, take Flat Jesus with you wherever you go; grocery store, vacation, planting your garden for those in need, hiking, sitting on the beach, wherever you may go, and please, take a picture or two.

Send in your Flat Jesus pictures and we will post them on Facebook and possibly on the website. It will be interesting to see how far Flat Jesus will travel this summer and what all he will do.

Have a great summer. Be safe, wear your mask and we look forward to seeing the fun you and Flat Jesus are having. Enjoy!

Peace,
Mike

[Download Flat Jesus](#)

Wondering what to do over the summer? Here are a few family, youth and children activities to consider trying during our summer together. Click on the link below to see over 20 fun, family activities from Stargazing to Gardening, from Bird watching to Hiking.



[View Activities](#)

CHURCH RESOURCES

FACEBOOK PAGE

Want to see photos, events, news items on Facebook? Follow St. James on Facebook. Go to www.facebook.com and search for:

[@stjamesnc](#)



YouTube

YOUTUBE CHANNEL

**St. James Lutheran Church
Concord NC**

Go to the YouTube website. www.youtube.com then search for **St. James Lutheran Church Concord NC** Subscribe to St. James' YouTube channel where service videos and other videos from time to time will be uploaded. Once you subscribe, turn on Notifications so you will know when a new video is uploaded.

INSTAGRAM

Do you like photos and videos? Then follow [stjamesnc](#) on Instagram. Download the Instagram app on your smartphone or tablet, create an account and then search for St. James.





WEBSITE

Check out St. James website, www.sjnc.net. There you will find links to Church News, Events, Publications including bulletins, newsletters, and online worship services, and lots more.

Visit our website

ONLINE GIVING

You can manage your giving online! Giving online is easy and allows you to set up automatic recurring contributions or make a one time contribution and view your complete online giving history from anywhere you have access to the Internet. In a few short minutes, you can make a one-time gift or set up a donation that will process automatically on a recurring basis. Recurring donations are convenient and provide our church with much needed consistent support throughout the year.



The need for your giving and support continues, even though we have had to cancel gathering and corporate worship services.

Give Now

ST. JAMES STAFF

- **Rev. Tony Bradshaw**, Senior Pastor [Email](#)
- **Rob Keene**, Director of Music Ministries [Email](#)
- **Mike Holt**, Youth and Family [Email](#)
- **Jill Irvin**, Financial Administrator [Email](#)
- **Keith Sutton**, Parish Administrator [Email](#)
- **Cindy Cruse**, Hospitality Coordinator [Email](#)
- **Kathryn Radcliffe**, Nursery Coordinator [Email](#)
- **Kenny Propst**, Congregation President [Email](#)

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