

St. James Lutheran Church

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

Ring Out A Weekly Newsletter



WEEK OF APRIL 17



RESURRECTION SUNDAY: EASTER

The last enemy to be destroyed is death," Paul writes. Today Christ is risen, and we gather together with astonishment and joy. Christ is risen, and we have been set free from the bonds of death. Christ is risen, and we are forgiven. Christ is risen, and with the women at the tomb and Peter, we are amazed. Let us rejoice: Christ is risen indeed! Alleluia!

EASTER VIGIL WORSHIP 7:00 AM IN-PERSON & LIVESTREAM





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.

RESURRECTION OF OUR LORD VIGIL OF EASTER

APRIL 17, 2022
7:00 A.M.

Introduction to Today's Worship

The Easter Vigil is the ancient and powerful celebration of the new creation that springs from Jesus' open tomb. The lighting of the paschal candle; the singing of the ancient proclamation, which call the faithful to join the universe in new creation; the baptismal washing that buries us with Christ and raises us to new life - all these powerful actions draw us into the wonder of resurrection. The church gathers to hear the story from creation through exodus and the prophets, ending the liturgy with the first taste of the Easter celebration.

Easter Vigil Worship for April 17 will be live-streamed on YouTube beginning at 6:45 on Sunday morning. An email with the link will be sent on Sunday morning. You can also watch a recorded version later by visiting our YouTube page. You can open or print the bulletin and follow along with the service.

[WATCH THE LIVESTREAM](#)

In-Person Indoor Worship will be Sunday at 10:00 a.m.

[DOWNLOAD EASTER VIGIL BULLETIN](#)

EASTER DAY WORSHIP 10:00 AM IN-PERSON & LIVESTREAM



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RESURRECTION OF OUR LORD EASTER DAY

APRIL 17, 2022
10:00 A.M.

Introduction to Today's Worship

The last enemy to be destroyed is death, Paul writes. Today Christ is risen, and we gather together with astonishment and joy. Christ is risen, and we have been set free from the bonds of death. Christ is risen, and we are forgiven. Christ is risen, and with the women at the tomb and Peter, we are amazed. Let us rejoice: Christ is risen indeed! Alleluia!



Easter Day Worship for April 17 will be live-streamed on YouTube beginning at 9:45 on Sunday morning. An email with the link will be sent on Sunday morning. You can also watch a recorded version later by visiting our YouTube page. You can open or print the bulletin and follow along with the service.

In-Person Indoor Worship will be Sunday at 10:00 a.m.

[DOWNLOAD EASTER DAY BULLETIN](#)

[WATCH THE
LIVESTREAM](#)

SUNDAY SCHOOL



CHILDREN'S SUNDAY SCHOOL

Children's Sunday School with grades 3-6 in mind, from 9:00 – 9:45 in the Fellowship Hall. We will read a Bible story and perhaps work on a craft. Join us!

Also beginning April 17 (Easter Sunday), we will have **Children's church** during worship on the first and third Sundays of the month. It will be designed for children up to the second grade. We hope to expand to every Sunday as more volunteers are identified. Our youth director (Mike Holt) will be leading this ministry.

HOLY WEEK RESOURCES



Gethsemane

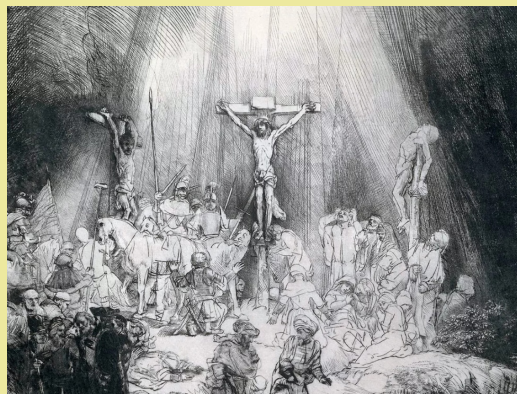
The grass never sleeps.
Or the roses.
Nor does the lily have a
secret eye that shuts until
morning.

Jesus said, wait with me.
But the disciples slept.

[Read the full Mary Oliver poem, *Gethsemane*.](#)

The Good Friday 5

From NPR Classical comes five musical Passion stories you must hear, ranging from Bach's *St. Matthew Passion* to Osvaldo Golijov's *La Pasión Según San Marcos*.



[Listen to the Good Friday 5.](#)

THE CROSS AND RESURRECTION BILLY GRAHAM'S FINAL MESSAGE



**REFLECT ON THE RESURRECTION AND
SHARE THE GOOD NEWS WITH OTHERS
THIS EASTER.**

Watch this month's Billy Graham TV Special to hear Billy Graham's final sermon on the event he centered his life and ministry around: the crucifixion of Jesus Christ. This inspiring message will help you as you prepare to celebrate His victory over death this Easter—and equip you to proclaim the Good News in your church, your community, and beyond.

[Watch Now](#)



**ON THE CALENDAR
THIS WEEK**

ON THE CALENDAR THIS WEEK

Saturday, April 16

10:00 am Love Feast on the Streets

1:00 pm Easter Egg Hunt

Sunday, April 17

7:00 am Easter Vigil Wrshp

8:15 am Breakfast

9:00 am Children's Sunday School

10:00 am Easter Worship

Monday, April 18

Church Office Closed

Sunday, April 24

9:00 am Sunday School

10:00 am Worship



BIRTHDAYS THIS WEEK

17-Apr Bill Fisher

17-Apr Laura Patterson

17-Apr Kirsten Ziegler

18-Apr Missy Hartman

19-Apr Mallory Horton

19-Apr Jackson Hughes

20-Apr Sondra Bryn

20-Apr George Hartsell

21-Apr Sydney Haberman

21-Apr Ryan Kuly

CHURCH NEWS

EASTER EGG HUNT **April 16**

There will be an “around the Church” Easter Egg Hunt on Saturday, April 16 at 1:00 pm. Please help with the egg hunt by donating the following items: empty eggs (plastic), filled plastic eggs, candy, stickers or small prizes to fill empty eggs. There will be a collection box at the Portico entrance. Please help by donating eggs and candy. We have invited our Preschool to join in the fun.



TIME AND TALENT

Have you ever thought, I would like to read the lessons, sing in the choir, help with Vacation Bible School? This is your chance to

let us know. If you have not completed a Time and Talent sheet for 2022, we ask that you complete one as soon as possible. These are used to match your interest on areas that you would like to serve. You can download below, pick up in the narthex or church office. Thank you for your service at St. James.



[TIME AND TALENT SHEET](#)

ALTAR FLOWERS

We have several dates open in the coming months. If you would like to place flowers on the altar you can use the link below, sign up on the flower calendar at the Portico entrance, or call the church office. (704-786-The cost is \$100 for two vases.



[RESERVE FLOWERS HERE](#)

Dates Available:

- April 24
 - May 1
 - June 12
-



EASTER 2022

IN MEMORY OF

GIVEN BY	IN MEMORY OF
Sylvia Corl	Madge and Byron Harrison Jake Whitaker and David Smith
Scott Foppiano	David and Betty Foppiano Deceased members of the Ceranti and Foppiano families Deceased members of the Lee family Deceased colleagues and friends
Kim Johnson	Mary Schornack Anthony Schornack Marie Schornack
Elizabeth Hurley	Sam and Catherine Petrea
Joan and Buddy McEachern	David Smith Sandra Faggart Cynthia Petrea
Amy and Mark Murphy	Carole Grady Sandra Faggart
Alex M. Patterson	Janet Patterson Mr. and Mrs. S. K. Patterson
John Patterson	Grandmothers
Lex and Laura Patterson	Mothers
Al and Dee Pieschel	Mau Kai and Harold Brannan Hildegard and Alfred Pieschel
Joyce Smith	My beloved, David Smith Jake Whitaker
James Steel	Clementine Locklear

IN HONOR OF

GIVEN BY	IN HONOR OF
Sylvia Corl	Michelle, Brent, and Mason Corl
Margaret Garrison	Pastor Tony and Deb Bradshaw My children and six grandchildren.
Ann and Will Gillon	Martha and Jimmy Summers
M. Samantha Hillegass	My wonderful family and friends
Elizabeth Hurley	My children and their families
Lex and Laura Patterson	Dads
Tom and Ann Ridenhour	Mary Beth Ridenhour
Todd and Gretchen Walker	Our children: Louise and Dylan Stubbs Miles Walker

SOCIAL MINISTRY

CCM FOOD PANTRY APRIL



This month we begin our third year of drive-through pantries as we continue to deal with the COVID pandemic. While currently the pandemic seems to be receding, at least temporarily, we will continue to operate our drive-through model here at the Crisis Center for at least the near future, as it is a more efficient and effective model. However, we are developing ways to enhance our ministry to our clients, including offering the opportunity for prayer if they desire it.

Donations can be dropped by the church during office hours. Pull up under the Portico and call the office. 704-786-0166

Our current big needs are:

- Dried Beans
- Canned Fruit
- Canned Carrots, Mixed Vegetables, and Potatoes
- Canned Chicken
- Toilet Paper
- Paper Towels

As always, we especially seek low sodium items, no-added-sugar items, and whole grain items.

CHURCHWIDE / COMMUNITY

COMMUNITY STATIONS OF THE CROSS

For over twenty years, area churches and individuals have participated in a Good Friday Stations of the Cross walk through downtown Concord or through the Logan community. This year's walk is scheduled for **April 15th at 3:30 pm**, and will last about 75 minutes.



The walk this year will begin at Grace Lutheran Church (corner of Chestnut and Tournament) followed by stops in the Logan community. St. James will be participating in the readings.

If we have inclement weather we will hold the program at Grace Lutheran Church.



EASTER MESSAGE FROM PRESIDING BISHOP ELIZABETH EATON

[View Video](#)

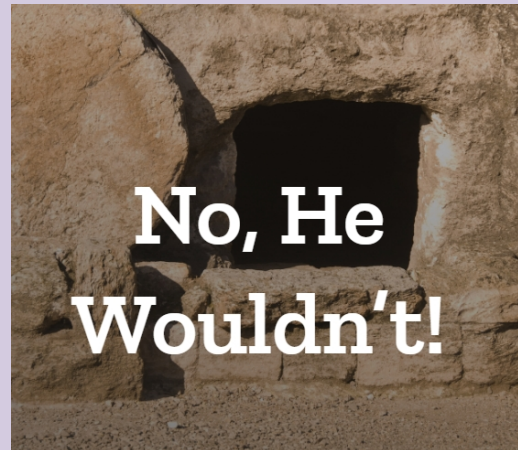
NO, HE WOULDN'T AN EASTER MESSAGE FROM BISHOP TIM SMITH

We were having a discussion—okay, an argument—in the Christian Education Committee of my first parish. I was wanting to commune children, and the chair of the committee was adamantly opposed.

The topic was unofficially tabled when she in frustration declared, “Jesus would roll over in his grave if we did that!”

I knew immediately something was very wrong with what she said, but in the heat of the argument the reason, embarrassingly, eluded me. “Jesus would roll over in his grave...Jesus would roll over in his grave?” As I walked across the parking lot to the parsonage, it hit me. “Wait! No! Jesus would NOT roll over in his grave because he’s not there! Easter!!!” How could I have been so obtuse about the very foundation of our faith?

The Christian Ed. matriarch, of course, knew better also. It was just a



euphemism, with Jesus as the subject for emphasis and because we were at church. Still, according to the way Luke will this month present that first Easter morning, confusion is the Easter norm. No risen Jesus appearances. No conversations in the garden. The women are doing the logical, normal thing in the face of death. Remember, anoint, grieve, bury. Dead people stay dead. Some foolish strangers ask, "Why do you seek the living among the dead? He is not here. He is risen!" How could anyone be so cruel?

Unless... No, it's all too puzzling, too impossible. Still, we do wonder in our deepest moments and in our darkness, "Where, if anywhere, might I find meaning, purpose, and hope in a world that reeks of betrayal, broken relationships and dreams, maniacal autocrat invasions, global pandemics, guilt, grief, fear, death?" Searching desperately for somewhere hopeful to land in a world gone mad yet wondering if the angels and the old country song might be right, that in following this Jesus, we've sadly been "looking for love in all the wrong places."

It would almost be better never to have believed him, never to have followed, never to have hoped. If by some miracle the angels are right, we have to face something infinitely more difficult than death: Life. Changed life at that. It's not the change itself that's paralyzing. It's the loss that comes with that change. Like the cycle of domestic abuse teaches us, we'd rather return to familiar pain than to venture into the unknown. I'd rather be driving the bus as it goes over the cliff than trust someone else to drive it. We neither expect nor welcome surprises like Easter. Better to have Jesus safely and predictably anointed for burial and sealed in the tomb than to have him on the loose out there up to who-knows-what and expecting me to follow him there!

The whole point and centrality of Easter—not just in our liturgical year but in our very lives—is that God has done and is doing a new thing, bringing life out of death, and business as usual is at best denial and at worst unbelief. Our world, our politics, our culture, are undeniably changing at light speed. So is our church. And in the dark, we wander in a stupor doing the only thing we know to do. We bring spices to the tomb. Remember. Anoint. Grieve. Bury.

It's totally understandable, if sad, except for that one little detail my Christian Education chair and we as the whole church forget. Easter! He's not here! He is risen! And angels who chide us, "Why, Church, do you seek the living among the dead?" Why is your cemetery fund 1000 times greater than your mission budget? Who are you worshipping anyway? What are you so afraid of?

I'm fully trusting and invite you to do the same. Because of Easter's promise, neither Jesus, nor the Church, nor any of us as individuals

are consigned to rolling over in our graves. If love wins, then life, abundant life, wins. But somebody other than me or you is driving that bus.

Easter's rich blessings, hope, assurance, and life be with you this week and always!

Bishop Tim Smith, NC Synod

Love Feast on the Streets

Supporting our Homeless Community
in Cabarrus County
**Free meal, hot showers,
haircuts, treat bags, clothes and
light grocery to go.**

DATE: Saturday
April 16, 2022

TIME: 10:00am

**PLACE: St. James Lutheran
Church**

*104 Union Street South
Concord, NC 28025*

Every 3rd Saturday beginning in May



**Hosts: Leah's Hopes and Dreams &
Esther's Heart for Transformation Ministry, Inc**



If you would like to volunteer to help with this monthly event, contact Mark Murphy.



OPPORTUNITY HOUSE SUPPLIES

Opportunity House has need of supplies for their ministry. Donations can be left at the Portico Entrance.

- Paper Towels
- Toilet Paper
- Laundry Soap
- Men's Casual Shoes
- Trash Bags (large, up to 60lbs)
- Backpacks (do not have to be new, but in good condition)

YOUTH MINISTRY



UPCOMING DATES

20-Apr 9:30 pm College Online

24-Apr 4:00 pm Youth Gathering

27-Apr 9:30 pm College Online

No Youth Gathering on April 3, 10 or 17

CHURCH RESOURCES

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.



[Give Now](#)

ST. JAMES STAFF

- **Rev. Tony Bradshaw**, *Senior Pastor* [Email](#)
- **Keith Sutton**, *Parish Administrator* [Email](#)
- **Jill Irvin**, *Financial Administrator* [Email](#)
- **Scott F. Foppiano**, *Organist / Director of Music* [Email](#)
- **Mike Holt**, *Youth and Family* [Email](#)
- **Kathryn Radcliffe**, *Nursery Coordinator* [Email](#)
- **Ann Blackwelder**, *Congregation President* [Email](#)

[View as Webpage](#)

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Church Email info@sjnc.net

