



WEEKLY
Ring Out
NEWSLETTER



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

Week of Nov. 23, 2025

Christ the King - The Last Sunday after Pentecost

Introduction to Worship

Jeremiah's promise of the execution of "justice and righteousness in the land" finds ironic fulfillment in the execution of Jesus of Nazareth, the King of the Jews. It appears utterly contradictory that a king should be crucified with a criminal. This victory appears for all the world as humiliating defeat. Yet through the gate of death Jesus opens the door to paradise.

Watch the Live Stream:



[Download Bulletin](#)

The Week Ahead

Sunday, Nov. 23

9:00 am Adult Sunday School
9:00 am Choir
9:30 am Children's Sunday School
10:00 am Worship
11:00 am **Congregational Meeting**

Monday, Nov. 24

10:30 am Quilting
6:30 pm Bible Study

Tuesday, Nov. 25

6:30pm Choir

Thursday, Nov. 27

Thanksgiving - Church Office Closed

Sunday, Nov. 30

9:00 am Adult Sunday School
9:00 am Choir
9:30 am Children's Sunday School
10:00 am Worship
11:00 am **Advent Family Celebration**

Coming Up

Events:

Nov. 30: Advent Family Celebration ☐

Dec. 13: Carols by Candlelight ☐☐

Dec. 21: Cocoa, Coffee, & Cookies with the Children of St. James ☕

Dec. 24: Christmas Eve

5:30pm: Family Service

9:30pm: Musical Prelude

10:00pm: Candlelight Service

[Church
Calendar](#)

Sunday Ministries

LECTOR/INTERCESSOR

November 23 Gretchen Walker

November 30 Christine Ruff

VIDEOGRAPHER

November 23 LeeAnn Miller

November 30

COMMUNION ASSISTANT

November 23 Gretchen Walker

November 30 Kim Haberman

ACOLYTE

November 23 Noah Pittard

November 30

GREETER

November 23 Lois Marlow

November 30 Jean Beasley

USHERS

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

BUILDING SUPERVISOR

Wendell Overby

ALTAR FLOWERS

November 23 Debbie Davis

November 30

**Sign Up to
Volunteer**

Lector

Communion
Assistant

Acolyte

Videographer

Altar Flowers

Happy Birthday! ☐

Nov. 26 - Lauri Fowler

Nov. 28 - Kyleigh Hughes

Nov. 29 - Garrett Baker

Announcements



Register to Ring 2025!

St. James is proud to once again partner with the Salvation Army to ring bells and support those in need in our community. Join us on Thursday, December 4 and Thursday, December 11 at Sam's Club (2421 Supercenter Dr. NE Kannapolis NC 28083) for this meaningful tradition.

One-hour time slots are available; click below to sign up!

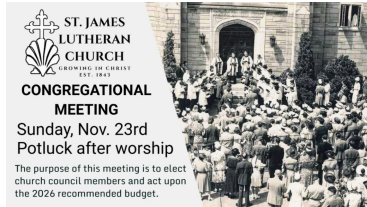
[Register to Ring!](#)



Cocoa, Coffee, & Cookies with the Children of St. James (Dec. 21)

Join us after worship December 21 for cocoa, coffee and cookies in the Fellowship Hall as the children of St. James tell us the Christmas story.

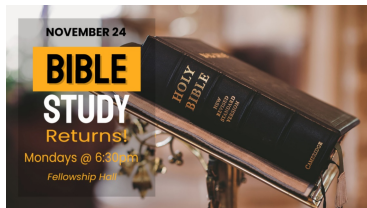
Reminders



Congregational Meeting This Sunday! (Nov. 23)

Don't forget—this Sunday, November 23, we'll gather in the Fellowship Hall after worship for our Congregational Lunch and Meeting. Please bring a dish to share!

During the meeting, we'll review and vote on the 2026 budget and elect four members to a three-year term on Church Council. This year's nominees are Tony Folino, Kim Haberman, Judy Hoekstra, Eric Olsen, and Gretchen Walker.



Bible Study Returns - Monday (Nov. 24)

Our study of Luther's Catechism has ended. A study of the Birth Narratives from Matthew and Luke will prepare us for Jesus' birth. We'll meet in the Fellowship Hall at 6:30pm for 4 weeks beginning Monday, Nov. 24.



Poinsettia Gifts Available for Order ☐

This Christmas season, you have the opportunity to give a beautiful red 6 ½" poinsettia as a gift to the church. These gifts help adorn our worship space during this holy season and can be given in memory or honor of loved ones.

Each poinsettia is \$25. A list of donors and those being memorialized or honored will be included in the gift list. Please print clearly to ensure names are displayed as intended.

[Click here to order online](#), or complete and return the order form in Sunday's bulletin.

The deadline to order is Sunday, Dec. 7.



This Week's Lesson...

Ezekiel's Responsibility - Ezekiel 33:7-16a

As we continue in the book of Ezekiel, we see his prophetic role continues. This time he will be called a "watchman" of the people of Israel, who are now in exile. Ezekiel is to warn the people of the approaching consequences for their sinful behavior. Today's lesson says that the path of righteousness is to be followed even in the face of suffering; walking in the path of the wicked will

result in destruction.

There are opportunities for us to speak a watchman's words of warning and wisdom to those around us. God doesn't desire that anyone should perish. He punishes disobedience justly, but He is also gracious, merciful, and patient. He invites sinners to repent and find life in His Son. We have Good News to proclaim!

In Case You Missed It...



The Residents of Historic Concord & St. James Team Up for a Magical Evening in Downtown Concord

The Residents of Historic Concord will host their biennial Holiday Tour of Homes on December 13–14 in Downtown Concord. As part of this festive weekend, St. James Lutheran Church is delighted to partner with the event for a special evening on Saturday, December 13.

On Dec. 13 at 6:45 pm, the home tour trolley will make a special stop at St. James, offering guests the opportunity to attend *Carols by Candlelight* — a congregational sing-along featuring choirs, orchestra, and organ, sharing the story of Christmas through scripture and song.

Carols by Candlelight is a free event open to the public; a freewill offering will be received.

The Historic Concord Holiday Tour of Homes is a ticketed event hosted by the Residents of Historic Concord. [Click here for more information and tickets.](#)



Volunteer in 2026!

Our 2026 [Sunday Worship Volunteer Opportunities](#) are now open! We're looking for Communion Assistants, Lectors, Acolytes, and Videographers to help on Sundays.

Altar Flower dates are also available on a first-come, first-served basis.

Not sure where to start? Email us at info@sjnc.net for more information, training, or to connect with a volunteer team leader.

Upcoming Events

ADVENT FAMILY CELEBRATION

Sunday, Nov. 30th

11AM; after worship

Fellowship Hall

Lunch, Ornament Making, Indoor Tree
Decorating!

All ages welcome! – Let's celebrate the
hope and joy of Advent as a church family!



St. James Lutheran Church presents

Carols by Candlelight

A congregational sing-along
with full orchestra, choirs and organ

Saturday, December 13 - 7:00 p.m.

Admission is free; a freewill offering will be received.



COCOA, COFFEE, & COOKIES

with the Children of St. James

Dec. 21st - 11AM (After Worship)
Fellowship Hall

Enjoy the story of Christmas
told by the Children of
St. James



Partner News



Amazing Grace invites St. James participation in new initiatives...

1. Blessing Box in Rotary Square

Amazing Grace's Life Skills Lab program will be helping to keep the Blessing Box stocked every Tuesday and Thursday in partnership with the 1Can Organization.

You can join in this ongoing effort by donating non-perishable food or hygiene items. The red Blessing Box collection bin will remain on the Portico Counter and serve as a year-round ministry opportunity.

2. Children's Coat Drive

In partnership with the Cabarrus Partnership for Children, Amazing Grace will be collecting new or gently used winter coats for children in need. A collection box will be located in the Portico Hallway for this short-term drive.

Big Brothers Big Sisters Holiday Toy Drive

Each year, Big Brothers Big Sisters hosts a Holiday Gift Shop to help families in need choose gifts for their children. This year's event will take place Monday, December 15 at St. James and they are looking for both toys and volunteers.

If you are interested in assisting, visit links below.

[Volunteer to Sign Up](#)



In Our Prayers

Joyce Beaty

(Friend of the Marlow's)

Cecil Berry (Friend of Gretchen Walker)

Family of Michael Black

(Nephew of Patsy Black)

Patsy Black

Caroline Bost

Patrick Bryn (Son of Kirby & Sondra Bryn)

Angie Buchanan

Mike & Debbie Cagle

(Friends of Robert & Debbie Davis)

Noah Clifton

Bruce Coffey (Friend of Mark Murphy)

Karey Conrad (Friend of Dee Pieschel)

Jennifer Cook (Friend of Fonda Shumate)

Catherine Durst

(Daughter of Anne & Dee Hodges)

Nadine Filipak

(Friend of Al & Dee Pieschel)

Ed Frost (Friends of the Marlow's)

Tom Grady

Harriett Huss Hodge

Maureen Hollmeyer

Mary Frances Johnson

(Cousin of Francie Davis)

Karen Johnston (Friend of Judy Benz)

Ruth Lawler

(Friend of Dee & Al Pieschel)

John Ledford (Brother of Deb Black)

Barbara Merrell

Deb & Roger Myers

(Friends of Deb Black)

Stan Parnell

(Friend of Rob & Debbie Davis)

Becky Phillips

Al Pieschel

Lori Pittard

Tom Ridenhour

Secure Online Giving

Supporting your church is just a few clicks away! With [online giving](#), you can make a one-time gift, set up automatic recurring donations on the date you choose, and view your complete giving history.

Automated recurring gifts are a convenient way to provide our church with much-needed consistent support throughout the year. Thank you for your faithful generosity.



**Ways to
Give**

St. James Staff

Rev. Bill Ridenhour, Pastor [Email](#)

Jill Irvin, Financial Administrator [Email](#)

Dr. Kevin Estes, Director of Music Ministries & Organist [Email](#)

Holly Sloop, Communications Coordinator [Email](#)

Kathryn Radcliffe, Nursery Coordinator [Email](#)

Teresa Honeycutt, Custodian [Email](#)

Kim Haberman, Congregation President [Email](#)

Contact Us

☐ Phone: **(704) 786-0166**

☐ Website: www.sjnc.net

✉ Email: info@sjnc.net

Saint James Lutheran Church | 104 Union Street, South PO Box 684 | Concord, NC 28025 US

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