



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



Ring Out - Week of Dec. 22, 2024

Fourth Sunday of Advent

Introduction to Sunday's Worship

Cradle and cross are inextricably connected on the fourth Sunday of Advent. Between a lovely tribute to the little town of Bethlehem and Mary's magnificent song of praise, the letter to the Hebrews reminds us in no uncertain terms that Christ's advent is for "the offering of the body of Jesus Christ once for all." It is the kind of tension in which the church always lives as when in holy communion—with high delight—"we

proclaim the Lord's death.”

[Download Bulletin Dec. 22nd](#)

The Nativity of Our Lord

Introduction to Christmas Eve

In winter's deepest night, we welcome the light of the Christ child. Isaiah declares that the light of the long-promised king will illumine the world and bring endless peace and justice. Paul reminds us that the grace of God through Jesus Christ brings salvation to all people. The angels declare that Jesus' birth is good and joyful news for everyone, including lowly shepherds. Filled with the light that shines in our lives, we go forth to share the light of Christ with the whole world.

[Download Bulletin Dec. 24th 5:30pm](#)

[Download Bulletin Dec. 24th 11:00pm](#)



Sunday Worship 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.

[Watch the Live Stream Dec. 22nd](#)

[Watch the Live Stream Dec. 24th 5:30pm](#)

Watch the Live Stream Dec. 24th 11:00pm

On the Calendar...

THIS WEEK

The Week Ahead

Sunday, December 22

8:45 am *Breakfast Service Program* ☺

9:00 am Choir

10:00 am Worship

Monday, December 23

10:30 am Quilting

Tuesday, December 24

Christmas Eve

5:30 pm **Family Christmas Eve**

10:30 pm **Musical Prelude**

11:00 pm **A Carol Mass**

Wednesday, December 25

Christmas Day

Office Closed

Sunday, December 29

9:00 am Adult SS

9:00 am Choir

9:30 am Children's SS

10:00 am Worship

SUNDAY

Sunday Ministries

LECTOR/INTERCESSOR

Dec. 22 Kim Haberman

Dec. 24 (5:30pm) Judy Hoekstra, Christine Lovelace, Ashleigh Matthews, Amy Whisnant

Dec. 24 (11:00pm) Margaret Garrison

Dec. 29 Christine Ruff

COMMUNION ASSISTANT

Dec. 22 Beth Huss

Dec. 24 (5:30pm) Ann Blackwelder

Dec. 24 (11:00pm) Elizabeth Hurley

Dec. 29 Christine Ruff

ACOLYTES

Dec. 22 Joshua Rinker

Dec. 24 (5:30pm) Noah Pittard, Kyleigh Hughes

Dec. 24 (11:00pm) Joshua Rinker, Jacob Rinker, Kyleigh Hughes, Jackson Hughes

Dec. 29 Samantha Hillegass

GREETERS

Dec. 22 Esther Circle

Dec. 29 Esther Circle

VIDEOGRAPHER

Dec. 22 Laurie Miller

Dec. 24 (5:30pm) Debbie Davis

Dec. 24 (11:00pm)

Dec. 29 Laurie Miller

DECEMBER USHERS

Mike Downs, Al Brown Jr.,
Sid Hughes, Bill Hardister,
Hunter Huss

BUILDING SUPERVISOR

Wendell Overby

ALTAR FLOWERS

Dec. 22 Kim Haberman

Dec. 29

Online Calendar



Happy Birthday!

23 Dec. - Lauren Irvin

25 Dec. - Bub Craver

26 Dec. - Todd Walker

28 Dec. - Beth Downs

Volunteer!

Please consider volunteering for a Sunday ministry or special event!



Lectors

Communion Assistants

Videographers



Altar Flowers

Special Events

Acolytes

Announcements

Congregational Breakfast - Sunday!

Start your Sunday with fellowship and joy! Join us this **Sunday, Dec. 22 at 8:45 a.m.** for a delightful continental breakfast and the company of your fellow saints of St. James. At 9:15am, our Sunday School children share the Christmas story through song—a beautiful reminder of the season's true meaning.



Join us!

Christmas Eve at SAINT JAMES

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 24TH

5:30 PM - FAMILY CHRISTMAS SERVICE

10:30 PM - FESTIVE MUSICAL PRELUDE

11:00 PM - CANDLELIGHT SERVICE

Tuesday, December 24th

5:30pm – “Family” Christmas Eve Service

A family-friendly service with carols, a simple communion rite, and an interactive reading of the gospel. Children will join Pastor Bill for a special moment at the nativity during the sermon.

10:30pm – Festive Musical Prelude

Arrive early to experience festive music with the St. James Choir and Director of Music Ministries and Organist, Dr. Kevin Estes.

11:00pm – A “Carol Mass”/Candlelight Service

A joyful celebration with a choral mass that replaces traditional liturgies with beloved carols. Join us for carols and communion at this candlelight service.

□ **Musical Prelude!** □

Don't miss the Musical Prelude on Christmas Eve! Starting at **10:30 p.m.**, enjoy festive performances by the Parish Choir, Brass Ensemble, and Organ of St. James, all under the leadership of Dr. Kevin L. Estes.



Experience beautiful music by Mendelssohn, Rutter, Handel, Vivaldi, Schubert, and more!

Ministries

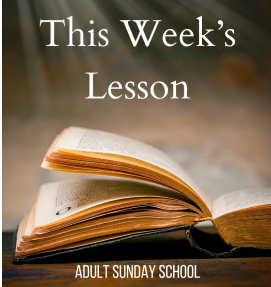
Salvation Army Meal Week 2025

The first Salvation Army Meal Week of 2025 is coming up! St. James is committed to cover **Sunday 1/19/25 through Saturday 1/25/25, 7 dinners**. The Salvation Army Night Shelter (located at intersection of Patterson Ave and Ashlyn Dr here in Concord) feeds, rests and showers some 40 homeless members of our community, many of them partial or entire families, 7 days a week. As part of our local benevolence and mission, St. James members sponsor evening meals at the shelter for these folks in need. These meals, whether homemade or purchased, should be delivered to the shelter by 6PM, and sponsors have the option of staying to help serve or drop off. Reimbursement for some or all the meal costs is available through the Social Ministry Committee. **[PLEASE sign up to sponsor on of these meals.](#)**



Adult Sunday School

The Congregational Breakfast program will take place in lieu of Adult Sunday School on Sunday, Dec. 22nd.



Youth Friday Night @ The Movies - Jan. 10

Middle and High School Youth

Join us for a fun movie night at St. James in the Flex Room on **Friday, January 10, from 7:00 – 9:15 p.m.**

We'll have pizza, cornhole, and screen a movie - TBA!

Bring a friend, kick back, and enjoy the evening! [RSVP](#) to help us plan!



□ Thank You! □





CHRISTMAS POINSETTIA GIFTS

Ed and Betsy Ballard
 In Honor of: Ed Ballard
 Our 7 grandchildren
 Our 4 children
 Our 3 great grandchildren
 In Memory of: Lee David Ballard

Ralph Barnhardt
 In Honor of: Jon & LeeAnn Miller
 Hollis & Rebecca Miller
 Avery Miller
 In Memory of: Sandy Barnhardt
 Alex Barnhardt

Fuller and Jean Beasley
 In Honor of: Robert Henry Beasley
 Simon James Lovelace
 Naomi Elizabeth Lovelace
 In Memory of: Joe and Betty Fries
 Fisher and Margaret Beasley

Margaret Garrison & George Brinkman
 In Memory of: Reverend and Mrs. George R. Whittecar

Pam and Al Brown
 In Honor of: Margaret Clark
 In Memory of: James Earle Clark, Mary Brown, and
 Alfred Brown

Jeff and Kelley Carpenter
 In Memory of: Isolee and Grady Carpenter

Kim Haberman and Kelly Carpenter
 In Honor of: Dr Kevin Estes and the Parish Choir
 Pastor Bill Ridenhour
 In Memory of: Our parents, Jo and Don Eng

Jeffrey Koenig and Ashley Cline
 In Honor of: Our friends who have passed this year
 In Memory of: Callie Koenig and Violeta Zadwarny

Sylvia H. Corl
 In Honor of: Brent, Michelle and Mason Corl
 In Memory of: Madge and Byron Harrison, Jake
 Whitaker, David Smith and Marc Sloop

Matthieu Devaux
 In Honor of: Judy McNulty



CHRISTMAS POINSETTIA GIFTS

The Estes Family
 In Honor of: The choir, congregation and Pastor Ridenhour for welcoming our family to St. James

Ann & Will Gillon
 In Memory of: Mamie & John Bullock and Elizabeth &
 Leonard Gillon

Bill and Reggie Hardister
 In Memory of: Bill Hardister Sr. and Carr Peeler Jr.

M. Samantha Hillegass
 In Honor of: Thank God for our beautiful church "St. James Lutheran" and the wonderful people who make it work

Frank and Jill Irvin
 In Memory of: Bill and Ernestine Irvin
 Keith and Peggy Fink

Jeanette Jackson
 In Honor of: "The Hopeless:" You are never alone"
 In Memory of: My son Zachary Scott Michael
 Mr. Harold Vandiver and Mr. HT Jackson

Michael & Cindy Korinko
 In Memory of: Michael & Cindy Korinko's parents

Joan and Patrick Mahoney
 In Memory of: Ethel, Phyllis and Robert Hertzler
 Vera, Peg and Philip Mahoney

The Marlow Family
 In Memory of: Jimmy Clark Marlow Sr.

Martha and Dan Matthews
 In Honor of: Jason, Stephanie, Trevor, Ashleigh, Evelina, and
 Patrick Matthews
 In Memory of: Helen and Mickey McGee and Jake McGee

Trevor and Ashleigh Matthews
 In Honor of: Evelina Matthews
 Dan and Martha Matthews

Joan and LB McEachern
 In Memory of: Lyn McEachern

Dale and Barbara Merrell
 In Honor of: Our parents
 In Memory of: Our parents

Kim and Betty Miller
 In Honor of: Charlie, Lori, Jason, Noah, Riece Pittard
 Kasey, Natasha, Rebecca, Sophie, Valerie,
 Lana, Keagen Miller



CHRISTMAS POINSETTIA GIFTS

Kellie, Stevie, Harrison, Averie Cate, & Charlie Miller
 In Honor of: Chip and Ann Blackwelder

Eric and Lindsey Olsen
 In Memory of: Kenneth and Angela Olsen
 Michael and Debby Landers

Laura, Wendell, Mason and Campbell Overby
 In Memory of: Don and Sandra Faggart

Lex, Laura and John Patterson
 In Memory of: Mr. and Mrs. SK Patterson
 Mr. and Mrs. Alex M Patterson
 Mr. and Mrs. Jack Cooper

Al and Dee Pieschel
 In Honor of: Birth of our Lord
 Our Friends and Family

Lori and Charlie Pittard
 In Honor of: Kim and Betty Miller
 In Memory of: JB and Nancy Pittard &
 our grandparents

Annette and Kenny Propst
 In Honor of: Bradley and Ashley, Andrew,
 Jenny and Teddy

Patty Propst
 In Memory of: Jimmy Propst

Anne Reading
 In Honor of: St. James congregation
 In Memory of: Mr. & Mrs. William M. Reading

The Rinker Family
 In Memory of: Henry Rinker

Sis
 In Honor of: Mom & Pop Becker

Joyce Smith
 In Memory of: David Smith, Jake Whitaker, Marc Sloop,
 and Loretta Fulco

Amy and Terry Splawn
 In Memory of: Ty and Phyllis Harward

Theresa and Jim Steel
 In Honor of: The Glory of God

Cheryl Webb
 In Honor of: My children and grandchildren

The Whisnants
 In Memory of: Ruth Whisnant
 Tyler Young



In case you missed it...

Change for Change - Congrats to our Sunday School Children!

Congratulations to the Sunday School children for collection \$200.00 to purchase 4 goats from the ELCA Good Gifts catalog. The goats will provide fresh milk for daily nutrition for children and their families. Goats can go where other animals can't, surviving in some of the world's most challenging terrain and unreliable climates.



Ushers Needed for 2025

We have few teams of ushers that are still in need of people. If you are able and willing to serve as an usher in 2025, please reach out to [Gretchen Walker](#).

Reminders:

2025 Sign-Ups Available!

Please consider signing up for an upcoming Sunday ministry. Dates for 2025 are now available! Refer to the Volunteer section of this email or, [visit the website](#).

Volunteer opportunities



Acolytes Needed!

Please consider signing up to acolyte at an upcoming service.

All may serve - youth or adult! Just need to be able to carry the cross.

[Click here to sign up for an open date!](#)

Prayers & Considerations

New Dates Added!

Member Meal Train Opportunity

[Click here to support a meal train for Jay Clemmer.](#)



IN OUR PRAYERS

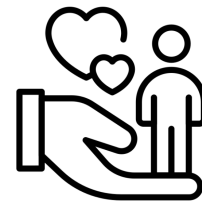
Brad Baker
Joyce Beaty (*Friend of the Marlow's*)
Angie Buchanan
Mike & Debbie Cagle
(*Friends of Robert & Debbie Davis*)
Noah Clifton
Bruce Coffey (*Friend of Mark Murphy*)
Karey Conrad (*Friend of Dee Pieschel*)
Emma DePaulis
Anne Fridlund
Ed Frost (*Friends of the Marlow's*)
Tim Gibson (*Friend of Deb Black*)



Tom Grady
Linda Jones
(*Family of Barbara & Dale Merrell*)
Annaleah, Michael, & Preston Morrow
(*Friends of Shannon Nesbit*)
Jan Phillips
(*Family of Brownie Brown*)
Tom Ridenhour
Kristin Rinker, Jeanie Martin &
the Martin Family
Geoff & Pam Seige
(*Friends of Robert & Debbie Davis*)

Overnight Sitter Opportunity

Debbie Davis is looking for a sitter for the overnight hours for her mother. Paid position. Contact Debbie at 704-795-8743.



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.



Ways to Give

Keep in touch!



Follow St. James on [Instagram](#) & [Facebook](#)!

Be sure to tag [@stjamesnc](#) when posting so we may share!

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](#)

Debbie Davis, *Congregation President* [Email](#)

[View as Webpage](#)

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