



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

Week of March 8, 2026

The Third Sunday in Lent

Introduction to Worship

In today's gospel the Samaritan woman asks Jesus for water, an image of our thirst for God. Jesus offers living water, a sign of God's grace flowing from the waters of baptism. The early church used this gospel and those of the next two Sundays to deepen baptismal reflection during the final days of preparation before baptism at Easter. As we journey to the resurrection feast, Christ comes among us in word, bath, and meal—offering us the life-giving water of God's mercy and forgiveness.

Watch the Live Stream:



[Download Bulletin](#)

The Week Ahead

Sunday, March 8

9:00 am Adult Sunday School
9:00 am Choir
9:30 am Children's Sunday School
10:00 am Worship

Monday, March 9

10:30 am Quilting

Tuesday, March 10

Noon Lively Leisures
6:00pm Congregation Council

Thursday, March 12

6:30 pm Choir

Sunday, March 15

9:00 am Adult Sunday School
9:00 am Choir
9:30 am Children's Sunday School
10:00 am Worship

HOLY WEEK

Sunday, March 29 - Palm Sunday

10am - Worship Service

Thursday, April 2 - Maundy Thursday

Laying on of the Hands & Holy Communion

Noon - Spoken Liturgy

7pm - Worship Service (with Choir)

Friday, April 3 - Good Friday

The Death of Our Lord

Noon - Worship Service

Sunday, April 5 - Easter Sunday

The Resurrection of Our Lord

9:45am - Prelude Music with Instrumentalists

10am - Holy Communion

[Church Calendar](#)

Sunday Ministries

LECTOR/INTERCESSOR

March 8 Christine Ruff
March 15 Barbara Albright

COMMUNION ASSISTANT

March 8 Kim Haberman
March 15 Samantha Hillegass

ACOLYTE

March 8 Volunteer
March 15 Ben & Ryan Kuly

GREETER

March 8 Volunteer
March 15

VIDEOGRAPHER

March 8 Volunteer
March 15

USHERS

Al Brown, Bill Hardister, Hunter Huss

BUILDING SUPERVISORS

Kim Haberman & Kenny Propst

ALTAR FLOWERS

March 8 Lent
March 15 Lent

Sign Up to Volunteer

Lector	Communion Assistant	Acolyte	Videographer	Altar Flowers
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Happy Birthday! 🎈

- March 10 - Jay Clemmer
- March 11 - Jeff Miller
- March 13 - Wendell Overby, Anne Michelle Swayney

Announcements

Lent at St. James
February 22 | March 1, 8, 15, 22

Featuring different settings of Kyrie eleison by composers:

Vierne | W. A. Mozart | Schubert
Durufle | McClure

Lenten Worship

Throughout Lent, the choir is sharing beautiful musical settings of Kyrie eleison by Vierne, Mozart, Schubert, Durufle, and McClure. These sacred pieces will be part of worship every Sunday through March 22.

Each Sunday, we will gather in prayer, reflection, and music as we journey toward Easter together.

Honor a loved one this Easter 🌿

Celebrate Easter by honoring your loved ones while helping to adorn our sanctuary with beautiful lilies and geraniums. Tribute names will be listed in the Ring Out newsletter and in the Easter Sunday bulletin.

Order Deadline: March 29, 2026

Cost: \$25 each

[Place your order online](#) or complete the insert in Sunday's bulletin.

Payments can be mailed to the church (PO Box 684, Concord, NC 28026), dropped off at the church office, or [made online](#).

Please pick up your flower of choice after Easter worship on April 5.

Cabarrus
Bilingual  Preschool
at St. James



Lively Leisures - Tuesday

Join us for a special March Lively Leisures on **Tuesday, March 10 at noon**. Our program guests will be Families First, our bilingual preschool partners on the first floor of the education wing.

Help St. James Serve *My Father's House*

St. James Lutheran Church will be providing meals for My Father's House Ministry on **Monday, March 23 and Tuesday, March 24**. We need your help!

If you can provide a side dish to complement the meals—ham on Monday or chicken strips on Tuesday—please contact Martha Matthews at 704-787-2180.

Suggested items:

- Mac & cheese, mashed potatoes (Bob Evans style), baked beans, green beans, corn, noodle dishes, or vegetable casseroles
- Fruit
- Desserts—think kid-friendly 😊
- Rolls or cornbread
- Snacks for after-school tutoring: crackers, juice boxes, Capris, or fresh fruit

Martha will provide a headcount for each night to help with planning.

ADULT SUNDAY SCHOOL

This week's lesson...

Watching Our Consumption - Daniel 1:8-17

This quarter, we will be discussing the social teachings of the Christian Church. Today's lesson will focus on the Prophet Daniel and the challenges he faced after being brought to Babylon in captivity from Jerusalem. The main obstacle Daniel faced was remaining true to his faith by obeying the laws of the God of Israel and not following the pagan teachings of the Babylonians, especially dietary laws. Daniel asked if he could eat a diet radically different from what was ordered by the Babylonians, and God proved Himself faithful to Daniel by giving him superior health compared to the others! Today's lesson isn't about diets; it's about remaining true to our faith and letting us be a light to others! Look forward to seeing you on Sunday!

In Case You Missed It...



March Supply Drive to Support Cabarrus County Animal Shelter 🐾

St. James Social Ministry Committee is launching a supply drive throughout the month of March to support the Cabarrus County Animal Shelter.

Needed items:

- Paper towels
- Blankets (not stuffed or quilted)
- Canned chicken breast
- Dawn dish soap
- Liquid Tide detergent

Place donations on the counter under the Animal Shelter board in the portico. Questions? Contact Samantha Hillegass.



Sonshine Backpack Food Drive 🥫

We're continuing our quarterly partnership with Sonshine Backpacks to provide weekend food for local children in need.

Requested items:

- Shelf-stable milk
- Cereal / oatmeal
- Mac & cheese
- Canned pasta, soup, vegetables, fruit
- Granola bars
- Juice
- Popcorn
- Pudding

Please place donations on the back kitchen counter by Sunday, March 29.

Questions? Contact Sylvia Corl or Gretchen Walker.



WELCA Cabarrus/Stany Spring Conference



When: Saturday, March 21, 2026

Where: St. John's Lutheran Church

Registration: 8:30–9:00 a.m.

Gathering: 9:00 a.m.–12:30 p.m.

Cost: \$12

Registration deadline: March 16

Lunch & Program: “We Stand for Her” – In memory of Maxine Amos, led by Prairie Rose Seminole. Learn how to stand for justice for Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women and Girls.

[Click here for more information including registration.](#)

In Our Prayers

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

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)

Phyllis Freeman

(Mother of Fonda Shumate)

Ed Frost (Friends of the Marlow's)

Jeff Gilbert

Tom Grady

Ryan Hardister

(Son of Bill & Reggie Hardister)

Harriett Huss Hodge

Maureen Hollmeyer

Hunter Huss

Dale Johnson (Friend of Dale Merrell)

Mary Frances Johnson

(Cousin of Francie Davis)

Karen Johnston

(Friend of Judy Benz)

Mary Anne Lanahan

(Aunt of Francie Davis)

Ruth Lawler

(Friend of Dee & Al Pieschel)

John Ledford (Brother of Deb Black)

Family of Don Matkins

(Brother-in-law of Margaret Garrison)

Barbara Merrell

Deb & Roger Myers

(Friends of Deb Black)

Dave Olsen (Friend of Patsy Black)

Stan Parnell

(Friend of Rob & Debbie Davis)

Becky Phillips

Al Pieschel

Lori Pittard

Tom Ridenhour

Lori Ruff (Mother of Christine Ruff)

Ruby Tyer (Niece of Beth Huss' Friend)

Jesse Woodard (Son-in-law of Beth Huss)



Meal Train Opportunity

The Meal Train for St. James member Jay Clemmer is ongoing. Volunteers are invited to [sign up for dates](#) that work best for them.

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

Volunteer!

Assisting in Worship

[Sunday Worship Volunteer Opportunities](#) are now open! We're looking for Ushers, Greeters, 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.

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

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